



**MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council  
held on  
Thursday 28 September 2017 commencing at 7pm at Cullompton Town Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Iain Emmett (in the chair)

Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Daniel Barnes, James Buczkowski, Gordon Guest, Camille Harrison, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Liza Oxford-Booth, Rachel Sinclair, Martin Smith and Mike Thompson

Also in attendance: Cllr John Berry (DCC) and one member of the public.

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk.

- 75. APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from: Will Jones (personal) and Richard Thorne (personal).
- 76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None at this stage of the meeting.
- 77. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: To receive questions from member of the public present at the meeting:**
- (i) **Mr Chris Snow** asked when the John Tallack Centre accounts will be presented to the Council and a cheque handed over.
- It was explained that the draft accounts had been considered by the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee but had been deferred for clarification.*
- 78. MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 24 August 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.
- 79. RESIGNATION:** It was noted that the Council now has a vacancy due to the resignation of Karl Busch.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council sends a letter of appreciation to Cllr Karl Busch for his work during his time as a Town Councillor. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

**80. REPORTS**

- (i) **Town Mayor:** Involved in the opening of two refurbished play areas in the town, great to see the children playing on the new equipment at Tufty Park and Head Weir Road play area. Many of the sponsors also attended the openings including: Viridor, Tesco and Gregory

Distribution. He encouraged the Councillors to take a look at the results of the leat and path clearing between Higher Mill and Middle Mill carried by a group of young people from the National Citizens Service.

- (ii) **Police:** PC Adrian Legg introduced himself and discussed the latest crime figures with members. Cllr Mike Thompson expressed concern about illegal parking in the town centre, PC Legg explained that parking enforcement was not a police priority at present and this situation was unlikely to change.

He also explained that the police do not have the resources to patrol the streets in the same way as they used to. In response to a question from Cllr Eileen Andrews he confirmed that Cullompton does not appear to have a drug problem at present.

*PC Legg left the meeting.*

(iii) **County/District Councillors:**

(a) **Devon County Councillor John Berry's report included:**

- Visited the local Children's Centre and pre-school, all doing a very good job and things looking very positive. Excellent transformation of the JT Centre for use by the Children's Centre, very pleased and numbers increasing.
- Issue with scaffolding outside the Manor as the licence had expired but a new licence has now been issued.
- M5 will be closed between 17 November and 12 December, between the hours of 18:00 and 10:00 for the installation a new cycle bridge over the M5. Cullompton's main street will become part of the diversion route. Need to ensure that temporary prohibition of waiting/loading and unloading in Fore Street is enforced.
- DCC has designed plan for a shared footway/cycleway across the M5 junction. MDDC submitting bid for funding to pay for these improvements.

Concern that the Town Council was not told about the plans until the beginning of this week, would like input into the design as pedestrians will still need to walk across the M5 slip road and MSA access road.

It was suggested that DCC are asked to change the timings so that the M5 is not closed during peak traffic times i.e. closure should be 18:00 – 8:00 instead of 18:00 – 10:00.

**NOTE:** Cllr Rachel Sinclair declared a personal interest in respect of the following discussion as her partner works for Gregory Transport.

It was reported that a meeting with Gregory Transport, due to take place on Friday 29 September, to discuss improvements to the access from Kings Mill Road onto Station Road has been deferred.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter is sent to the Chief Executives of both Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council to request that they attend the next meeting of the Town Council to explain why the Town Council was not consulted about the design of the M5 junction improvements i.e. the proposed shared pedestrian/cycleway as local people could have a beneficial input into the

design of the bridge. Copy to be sent to Neil Parish MP. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- DCC meeting on 5 October to discuss a number of matters including request that DCC digs into its reserves to compensate schools for loss of education funding, opposition to a reduction in the number of PCSOs and initiative for 20mph residential area zones.

(b) **Mid Devon District Councillor Eileen Andrews** reported that MDDC has decided against reopening the Cullompton Customer Service Surgery at the Hayridge, she made it clear that she was not happy about the decision.

(iv) **Any other reports:** None

#### 81. BUSINESS AND FINANCE:

(i) **To approve payments for August 2017**

**RESOLVED:** That payments totalling £37,172.90 for August 2017 are approved. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

(ii) **To review and note Financial Statements for August 2017:** Noted.

**NOTE:** Clerk to email Cllr Mike Thompson with breakdown of payroll expenses listed in column one of Income & Expenditure account.

82. **COMMITTEES:** To receive the Minutes of the following Committee and Working Group meetings and approve the recommendations contained therein:

- (i) **Planning & Licencing Committee** meetings held on 24 August and 14 September: Noted
- (ii) **General Purposes Committee** meetings held on 1 August and 5 September: Noted
- (iii) **Market Committee** meeting held on 23 August: Noted
- (iv) **Policy Review Working Group** meeting on 5 September including recommendation to approve revised Health, Safety & Welfare policy statement.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Policy Review Working Group meeting held on 5 September 2017 are noted and the revised Health, Safety and Welfare policy statement is approved. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

(v) **S106 & Development Working Group** meeting on 6 September: Noted

(vi) **Community Wellbeing Committee** meeting on 12 September: Noted

(vii) **Christmas Lights Event Working Group** meeting on 13 September: Noted

(viii) **Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee** meeting on 19 September: Noted

(ix) **St Andrews Car Park Working Group** meeting held on 12 September

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the St Andrews Car Park Working Group are noted and the recommendations are approved as follows:

1. In order to make the car park cost neutral and ensure that there is no additional cost to the Council Tax payer make a small charge for vehicles to park in the car park.
2. As Forge Way is a long stay car park (£2 for up to 10 hours between 8am and 6pm), St Andrews to remain a short stay shoppers car park but with overnight parking.

3. Charges:

30 minutes free, to allow people to take/collect children to/from school and run short errands.

8am – 6pm: £1 for two hours, maximum stay 4 hours i.e. £2.00 for maximum 4 hour stay.

Blue badge holders an additional 30 minutes

6pm – 8am £1 overnight or part there of

Also sell annual permits (car window stickers to be provided):

6pm – 8am: £150.00 (limit of 15 passes)

8am – 6pm: £250.00 (limit of 5 passes)

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Charges as recommended are approved with the proviso that a review is carried out after it has been operating for six month. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.
2. That a limit of five annual daytime permits and fifteen annual overnight permits are sold to ensure that there is plenty of room in the car park for shoppers. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Rachel Sinclair.
3. That either Devon County Council or Mid Devon District Council is contracted to manage and enforce the car park on behalf of the Town Council, dependant on which is able to provide best value for money, decision about which authority to enter into a contract with to be delegated to the St Andrews Car Park Working Group with the proviso that, should they decide that neither authority can provide value for money (cost neutral), then bring it back to the Council. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Martin Smith.

**83. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**NOTE:** Cllr Rachel Sinclair declared a personal interest in respect of the parking restrictions proposed for Brook Road as she works at the Aldi Store close by.

**(i) Devon County Council, traffic regulation consultation: To approve response to the proposed changes as per the advertised Amendment Order:**

Discussion with regard to the proposals for Willand Road and Fore Street. It was suggested that the restrictions for Willand Road should extend further along the road, northwards and also be extended to include the opposite side of the road.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the Council recommends that DCC considers alternative arrangements for Fore Street i.e. move the parking restrictions and loading/unloading bays to the opposite side of the road and the restrictions for Willand Road are extended northwards further along the road to improve visibility and along the opposite side of the road. Request confirmation that an amended Traffic Order will be issued for Willand Road.
2. That the Council writes to DCC Highways to ask what they are going to do to ensure that traffic is able to flow through Cullompton's main streets during the M5 closure. Offer DCC the Council's CCTV IP address so that they can monitor traffic flows. Copy to Neil Parish. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

As the time is 9pm it was

**RESOLVED:** To continue with the meeting in order to complete the agenda. Proposed Cllr Eileen Andrews, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

(ii) **Devon County Council: Suggestions for discussion topics for highway conference to be beheld at Willand Village Hall on Friday 10 November.** It was agreed to suggest the following topics for discussion:

- Preparation of Emergency/Masterplan for freeflow of traffic when M5 or other major roads are closed.
- Pavement safety, repairs to pavements to ensure that paving slabs etc. do not become trip hazards.
- New development: road widths, to ensure that new road design is appropriate to enable hassle free collection of refuse, deliveries etc.
- Pedestrian safe zones (20mph) and how these will be enforced.
- Improved consultation with Town and Parish Councils when carrying out road improvements.
- Safe cycle routes to school.
- Making pedestrian crossings more visible.

**84. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) Mid Devon District Council: Newsletter.
- (ii) Member of the public: Thank you for the newly refurbished Tufty Park.
- (iii) Devon Association of Local Councils: Newsletter.
- (iv) Devon Air Ambulance: Newsletter.
- (v) Mid Devon District Council: Review of closure of Cullompton & Crediton's Customer Service Surgeries.
- (vi) Devon Communities Together: Health & Wellbeing, Working for our Communities, meeting at 2pm on 12 October in Exeter.
- (vii) CHAT: Launch of new hub for housing help, 10 October 4pm-7pm.

**85. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 26 October 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_