



**MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council
held on**

Thursday 14 December 2017 commencing at 6pm at Cullompton Town Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Iain Emmett (in the chair)

Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Daniel Barnes, James Buczkowski, Gordon Guest, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Lloyd Knight, Liza Oxford-Booth, Martin Smith, Rachel Sinclair*, Mike Thompson and Richard Thorne.

Also in attendance: Cllr John Berry (DCC) and four members of the public.

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk.

*in attendance for part only of the meeting

The Town Mayor welcomed new Councillor Lloyd Knight to the meeting.

114. APOLOGIES: were received and accepted from Cllr Will Jones (personal).

115. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: To receive declarations of declarable pecuniary and personal interests from members present.

- (i) **Cllr James Buczkowski** declared a personal interest in respect of the youth provision items as he is a trustee of a local youth organisation.
- (ii) **Cllrs Martin Smith and Richard Thorne** declared a personal interest in respect of youth provision items as they are trustees of the John Tallack Youth & Community Centre.
- (iii) **Cllr Rachel Sinclair** declared a personal interest in respect of youth provision items as her daughter attends the youth club at the John Tallack Centre.
- (iv) **Cllr Mike Thompson and Cllr Janet Johns** declared a personal interest in respect of item relating to one-way traffic system as they own properties which will be affected by the proposals.
- (v) **Cllr Daniel Barnes** declared a personal interest in respect of the youth provision item as he is involved with the Youth Council.

116. PRESENTATION BY AND DISCUSSION WITH SAM THOMAS AND GARETH SORSBY FROM THE YMCA REGARDING FUTURE YOUTH PROVISION IN CULLOMPTON

The verbal report included the following information:

- 269 individuals attended the Monday sessions during 2017 and 90 attended the Thursday sessions.

- Average 24 young people on Mondays and 13 on Thursdays but numbers now on the increase as several young people have recently successfully made the transition up from the Monday Club (Yrs 7-8) to Thursdays (Yrs 9-11).
- 43 Monday sessions and 44 Thursday sessions held during 2017 (contracted for 42 sessions)
- Successful partnership with music and arts group has led to the formation of a youth band.
- Trying to encourage the young people that hang about outside the Centre on youth club nights to come in.
- Open access with no entry fee to encourage young people into the Centre. Numbers dropped when an entry fee was introduced and a decision was made to drop the entry fee and focus on increasing attendance.
- Would like to start the Monday Club earlier, currently 7pm-9pm, which is quite a late finish for the younger members.
- Sexual health and guidance is an essential element for the older group.
- Curriculum developed with structured activities which will evolve further next year.
- Budget costs increasing but don't envisage increasing the cost to the Council next year.
- In response to a question it was explained that youth workers do visit the skatepark to encourage young people to attend the club but haven't yet extended this to the town centre.
- In response to questions about the impact if it was decided to withdraw the funding and the ultimate aim, it was explained that the youth club is part of the wider fabric of a learning platform and will only see the difference over a 5 year period e.g. health outcomes, safe guarding issues and school attendance. The ultimate aim is to provide somewhere for young people to go where there is always someone to talk to (not just on Mondays and Thursdays).

The Town Mayor thanked the YMCA representatives for attending and they left the meeting.

117. YOUTH PROVISION: To consider future youth provision in Cullompton, including ways to engage with young people and whether the Council wishes to continue to support youth services financially.

Discussion included:

- Two issues, first to consider whether to continue to support youth services financially and the second to consider the most effective means to do this and whether to continue to use the YMCA.
- There was a feeling that, if the Town Council doesn't continue to fund the youth service, nobody will.
- There was an acceptance that paying over £200 per session for the youth club provision is difficult to justify for the small numbers attending. There are other youth groups in the town that don't receive support from the Town Council, is this fair?
- There are a small number of vulnerable young people being supported by the YMCA and their needs should be taken into account.
- Cllr Martin Smith reported that there is another youth group willing to provide services from October 2018, more evenings per week at a lower cost.
- The YMCA has gradually built up the trust of the young people and any change will mean starting again to build up the young people's feelings of safety and security.
- It was generally accepted that there is a need for youth services in Cullompton but difficult

to know if Cullompton is getting the right provision, need to make a judgement based on evidence.

- There is a proposal to set up a 'milk bar' in the town centre for young people but this will only open in the evenings if volunteers come forward.
- Happy to support the youth service but there has got to be an aim for it to become financially independent of the Council.

RESOLVED

1. That the Council includes £19,500 in its budget to support youth services during 2018/19. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth.

NOTE: Recorded vote requested by Cllr Mike Thompson, voting was as follows:

FOR: Cllrs Eileen Andrews, Daniel Barnes, Iain Emmett, Gordon Guest, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Lloyd Knight, Liza Oxford-Booth, Rachel Sinclair, Martin Smith and Richard Thorne.

AGAINST: Cllr Mike Thompson

ABSTAINED: Cllr James Buczkowski

2. That the Council sets up a working group, to work with John Tallack Youth & Community Centre trustees, to look at alternative youth providers and find ways to improve the service and generate funding with a view to making the youth provision self-funding and independent of the Council. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

NOTE: Recorded vote requested by Cllr Mike Thompson, voting was as follows:

FOR: Cllrs Eileen Andrews, Daniel Barnes, Iain Emmett, Gordon Guest, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Lloyd Knight, Liza Oxford-Booth, Rachel Sinclair, Martin Smith and Richard Thorne.

AGAINST: Cllr Mike Thompson

ABSTAINED: Cllr James Buczkowski

118. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

(i) Member of the public asked that the map of the proposed one-way system is extended to show its full extent.

(ii) Member of the public requested that the public are made aware of changes to dates/times of meeting, suggest that this information is placed on the electronic notice board.

Clerk to investigate and report back to the members of the public that had raised the questions.

119. **MINUTES.** The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 23 November 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

120. REPORTS

(i)Town Mayor: Report included:

- Congratulations to Cllr Eileen Andrews on her Devon Live Good Neighbour award which demonstrates all she has done for others in the town over many years.
- Christmas Festival event was very successful.
- Visited the three local schools to present prizes for Mayor's Christmas card competition.
- Pleased to be invited to inauguration of new vicar of Bradninch Ollie Mears, his role will include outreach work on the new housing estates in Cullompton.
- Recently heard about a "extra mile" initiative to encourage motorists to come into the

town rather than visit the Motorway Services Areas.

(ii) Devon County Councillor John Berry distributed a written report to all those present, resurfacing of pavements in Fore Street, closure of hospital beds and education funding were discussed.

(iii) Mid Devon District Councillors Rosemary Berry and Nikki Woollatt had sent written reports: Great to hear that the Exe Valley Leisure Centre is to have a new dance studio but why not Cullompton or Crediton?

(iv)Police: None

(v)Town Team: Circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

(vi)Any other reports:

- **Clr Gordon Guest** reported that a new countryside park has recently been opened in Dawlish. It is joint partnership venture using s.106 funding and shows that elsewhere district councils are getting together to share funding and strategic ideas about leisure facilities.

He reported a recent meeting with MDDC Planning Officers to discuss the process for completion of the Neighbourhood Plan. Once completed the district council will organise a 6 week consultation followed by a referendum. This means that it is likely the Plan process will go into the next financial year. He offered to prepare a written report.

121. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

i. To approve payments for November 2017

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £29,321.34 for November 2017 are approved. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Gordon Guest.

ii. To note financial statements for November 2017: Noted

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

- St Andrews Car Park Working Group** meeting held on 17 November: Noted
- Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee** meeting held on 21 November: Noted
- Christmas Lights Event Working Group** meeting held on 4 December: Noted
- S.106 & Development Working Group** meeting held on 6 December 2017: Noted
- Gift of A Burrow for Allotments** meeting held on 29 November 2017: Noted

123. MOTIONS PUT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS

- That the Council writes to the Cullompton Festival Event Working Group to formally thank each of them for their hard work and dedication which resulted in a spectacular festival for the town: Councillor James Buczkowski**

RESOLVED: That the Council writes to the Cullompton Festival Event Working Group to formally thank each of them for their hard work and dedication which resulted in a spectacular festival for the town: Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Daniel Barnes.

ii. **That the Council holds two full council meetings each month:** Councillor Mike Thompson

RESOLVED: That the Council holds two full council meetings each month: Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Rachel Sinclair.

Cllr Rachel Sinclair left the meeting

iii. **That the Council requests the Highway Authority to introduce a one-way system through Cullompton's main streets: Councillor Martin Smith.** Following much discussion it was

RESOLVED: That the Council requests the Highway Authority to introduce a one-way system through Cullompton's main streets: Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Gordon Guest (majority decision)

RESOLVED: That, as the time is 9pm, the meeting is extended for a further 10 minutes to complete the agenda. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

124. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

NOTE: Cllr Eileen Andrews declared a personal interest in respect of the following item as she is a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

i. **Cullompton Neighbourhood Plan: To receive letter of support from Mid Devon District Council:** Noted.

ii. **To approve working towards Cullompton becoming a Dementia Friendly town.** Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth explained that the Council will be expected to complete three actions in order to become a Dementia Friendly town and she is willing to take the lead on this.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council joins the Culm Valley Dementia Action Alliance and works towards Cullompton becoming a Dementia Friendly town.

iii. **Lloyds Bank: to receive notification that the Cullompton Branch of Lloyds Bank will close from 19 April onwards.** Noted

125. CORRESPONDENCE

i. Devon Air Ambulance: Newsletter: Noted

ii. Willowbank Primary School: Stakeholder consultation on proposed academy conversion: Noted

iii. Member of public: Concern about vehicles mounting the pavement on the Tiverton Road/High Street junction, only a matter of time before someone is injured: Noted

iv. Mid Devon District Council: Newsletter: Noted

v. Friends of Cullompton Library: Thank you for grant. Noted

vi. Mid Devon District Council: Request to hold funfair on land at Meadow Lane. *Recommend refusal as there are more appropriate locations.*

126. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Thursday 18 January 2017 at 7pm (NW Development planning proposals) and
Thursday 25 January 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

DRAFT