

APPENDIX A



**Minutes of a meeting of Cullompton Town Council held at Cullompton Town Hall on
Thursday 22 March 2018 commencing at 7pm**

Present: Cllr Iain Emmett (in the chair) and Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Jordann Barge, James Buczkowski , Gordon Guest, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Lloyd Knight, Liza Oxford-Booth, Rachel Sinclair, Martin Smith and Mike Thompson

Also in attendance: Cllr John Berry (DCC), Cllr Rosemary Berry (MDDC) and approximately 20 members of the public and one member of the press.

Judy Morris (Town Clerk)

- 174. APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Richard Thorne (personal) and Cllr Terry Snow (MDDC).

RESOLVED: That the first two items at Agenda Item 9 are brought forward to the beginning of the meeting (immediately after Public Question Time) in order that the members of the public present at the meeting can listen to the debate and then leave the meeting if they wish to. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

- 175. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Cllrs Iain Emmett and Mike Thompson declared a personal interest in respect of discussion relating to flooding in Willand Road as they have both spoken to the land owner.

- 176. PRESENTATION: KAREN NOLAN FROM INVOLVE RE: SETTING UP A CULLOMPTON COMMUNITY CONVERSATION**

Karen introduced herself as the Chief Officer of Involve, an organisation which supports local voluntary organisations. She asked for the Council's support for an initiative around a community conversation to discuss the provision of health and wellbeing services in the Cullompton area and find out what the needs are within the community.

Representatives from the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital will be invited, along with local GPs, Councillors and other health and wellbeing service providers to have a conversation about what the town wants/needs.

In response to a question from Cllr Rosemary Berry, Karen confirmed that Involve are looking for a voluntary trustee to represent the Cullompton area on their board.

RESOLVED: That Cullompton Town Council supports the Involve initiative to set up a Cullompton Community Conversation. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

- 177. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: To receive questions from member of the public present at the meeting.**
- (i)** Chris Snow asked why the Town Council had not implemented its emergency plan during the recent snow conditions and why there was no payment in February 2018 from the Farmers' Market towards the erection of market stalls.

The Clerk explained that the Town Council would only implement its emergency plan if requested to do so by the other agencies and no such request was received and assured Cllr Snow that the Farmers' Market make a regular contribution towards the cost of erecting the market stalls.

(ii) **Tim Manning** discussed the recent flooding along the B3181 between Cullompton and Willand.

The Town Mayor thanked Tim Manning and his Father for clearing the flooding and it was noted that Devon County Council Highways need to find a long term solution to the problem.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders are suspended and the meeting closed to enable members of the public to speak during the following item. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

NOTE: Cllr Rachel Sinclair declared a personal interest in respect of the following discussion as her partner used to work for Gregory Distribution (he no longer works for them).

178. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

i. Proposals to improve J28 of the M5, discussion to include:

- Access to a re-opened railway station
- Removal/alteration of roundabouts
- Traffic lights
- Pedestrian footbridge
- Pelican crossing
- Right-hand turn (separate slip road) to Millennium Way

ii. To consider design for improvement of junction with Higher Kings Mill Road

Discussion included:

- It can take up to half an hour to travel from Stoneyford to the M5 junction at peak times.
- Clarification required as to whether the pavement on the south side of the junction will remain. The majority of pedestrians coming into Cullompton from Culm Lea/Stoneyford walk on the south side as there are less junctions to cross.
- There will be six roads for pedestrians to cross and the south exit slip road will have three lanes and be far wider than it is at present making it extremely difficult for pedestrians to cross.
- There needs to be a controlled crossing point for pedestrians.
- There needs to be provision for bus pull-in at the Weary Traveller to lessen the impact of the bus impeding traffic flows.
- Railway bridge: Check width and weight limit.
- Alterations to the Junction are not going to have much impact on the current traffic congestion, not much will change until there is another junction somewhere else.
- Traffic lights required on the Kings Mill junction.
- Gregory Distribution would like to be involved as much as possible in the discussions as it can take their wagons up to 45 minutes to get out of Higher Kings Mill Road at peak times.
- Concern that local people are not being consulted as they have the local knowledge.
- Highways England and Devon County Council Highways Department need to work together to get a design that works for everyone.
- Install a footbridge across the M5 and railway line, with ramp access for disabled/pushchairs to ensure safety for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Roundabout doesn't work
- Crossing point for pedestrians at Mole Valley Farmers.
- The real problem is that one car parking inconsiderately in the town's main street can cause

tail backs.

- Get rid of traffic lights at Station Road/Higher Street junction and alter the priority.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council organises a public meeting, before parliament's summer recess, invite local MP and representatives from Highways England, DCC Highways and MDDC Planning to look at all the highways matters and roads associated with Junction 28 of the M5 motorway. Involve all interested parties including local businesses. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Lloyd Knight.

**Town
Clerk**

NOTE: Also invite representatives from the neighbouring parish councils to attend.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders are re-instated and the meeting is reopened.

179. MINUTES the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 March 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

180. REPORTS

i. **Town Mayor:** The Town Mayor reported that two new businesses had recently opened in the town centre, successfully filling vacant premises. Attended Commonwealth Day flag raising ceremony at MDDC recently, very well attended service.

ii. **County/District Councillors:**

(a) Mid Devon District Councillor Rosemary Berry's report included the following:

- Local Plan consultation, response by 11 April.
- Mid Devon Destination Management Plan: Looking for ideas for the website.
- National Planning Policy Framework: Consultation, closing date 10 May 2018.
- Involve: Looking for trustees from the Cullompton area.
- Lord Lieutenant of Devon: the Queen's representative in Devon, arranges royal visits etc.
- Scam letter from energy saving grants: be careful.

(b) Devon County Councillor John Berry's report included the following:

- Highway resurfacing Colebrook Lane, hope to carry out early summer.
- School places: 94% of Devon children offered first choice of school.
- Recycling: wash, squash and pop top back on.
- DCC looking for roundabout sponsorship to generate income.
- White lines in Cullompton area to all be repainted this year.
- Lack of 30mph signs along Station Road (the town side of the M5).
- Hele road to be closed for up to 6 months for bridge repair work, this will impact on bus route. Stagecoach are aware of the problem and will let us know what they intend to do.

(c) Mid Devon District Councillor Eileen Andrews reported that she had spoken to the Planning Officers about aspects of the Local Plan and was disappointed that she had been unable to get any answers.

iii. **Police:** None

iv. **Town Team:** Town Team Vice-Chairman Cllr Lisa Oxford-Booth reported that the Team has met earlier that day and discussed a number of issues, including:

- Review of membership.
- SpringFest: going well, looking for help distributing leaflets etc.
- Markets: ways to improve footfall.
- Dementia awareness sessions being held at the Community Centre.
- Progressing to become a CIO.

v. **Any other reports.**

- (a) Local Plan response: Cllr Gordon Guest reported that he had drafted a response which will be forwarded to members for comment before the next meeting on 5 April.

181. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

i. To approve payments for February 2018

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £26,728.94 for February 2018 are approved and paid. Proposed Cllr Janet Johns, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

ii. To note financial statements for February 2018: Noted

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

- i Community Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 15 February: Noted
- ii Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 20 February: Noted
- iii General Purposes Committee meeting held on 27 February 2018

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 27 February 2018 are noted and the recommendation “ To adopt the Allotment Policy with the inclusion of a clause recommending Personal Liability Insurance should be held by individual tenants” is approved. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

- iv S.106 & Development Working Group meeting held on 21 February. Noted
- v Planning & Licencing Committee meeting held on 22 February. Noted
- vi NW Extension Community Building meeting held on 8 March. Noted
- vii Traffic & Environment Working Group meeting held on 9 March. Noted

NOTE: Cllr Eileen Andrews made comment that she was disappointed that:

- Parking restrictions in Willand Road still not completed.
- Paving slabs in Fore Street not yet replaced with tarmac.
- No action to be taken to resolve highway danger in Ways Lane.
- No support for traffic light system in Fore Street.

Cllr Rachel Sinclair left the meeting

RESOLVED: That, as the time is 9pm, that the meeting is extended for a further 15 minutes to complete the agenda. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

183. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

(i) Proposal to replace existing public toilet building with a small uni-sex facility: To approve adoption of a new public toilet facility once it has been constructed. Concern about lack of information about long term maintenance and legal issues with regard to transfer of the building.

RESOLVED: That the Council expresses an interest in adopting a new toilet facility, subject to further details being received. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

Town Clerk

184. MOTIONS PUT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS

i **Cllr James Buczkowski:** That the Council writes to Devon County Councillor and Cllr John Berry, demanding that action is taken immediately to prevent the B3181 between Cullompton and Willand continually flooding. Pointing out that it is becoming more of a regular occurrence and makes the road dangerous and impassable and noting that it is:

- (a) A main commuter route (in part due to congestion at J28).
- (b) It is a diversionary route used if the M5 is closed between J27 and J28.
- (c) Also noting that NO action is taken by highways when it does flood.

Town Clerk

RESOLVED: That the Council writes to Devon County Councillor and Cllr John Berry, demanding that action is taken immediately to prevent the B3181 between Cullompton and Willand continually flooding. Pointing out that it is becoming more of a regular occurrence and makes the road dangerous and impassable and noting that it is:

- (a) A main commuter route (in part due to congestion at J28).
- (b) It is a diversionary route used if the M5 is closed between J27 and J28.
- (c) Also noting that NO action is taken by highways when it does flood.

Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

NOTE: Copy of letter to be sent to Willand Parish Council.

185. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Devon & Cornwall Police: Invitation to send one representative to a meeting at Cullompton Police Station on Wed 25 April at 6.30pm to explain the role of the Neighbourhood Team within the community. Cllr Martin Smith to attend.
- ii. Devon County Council: St Andrews car park, new parking charges.
- iii. North & Mid Devon Building Control: Building Regulations certificate for stairlift.
- iv. Cullompton Family Centre: Grant report form
- v. Cllr Richard Thorne: Notice of resignation from 11 April 2018.

186. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 5 April at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm

SIGNED:

DATE:

