



Minutes of a meeting of Cullompton Town Council held on Thursday 27 September 2018 commencing at 7pm at Cullompton Town Hall

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

Also in attendance: 8 members of the public plus one member of the press.

Judy Morris: Town Clerk

It was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

70. APOLOGIES received and accepted from Cllr Gordon Guest (personal).

NOTE: That Cllr Mike Thompson requested that it be noted that he had a concern that the Deputy Town Mayor had not provided sufficient explanation of his absence for the past 5 months.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

- Cllr Eileen Andrews declared a personal interest in respect of Item 79(ii) as she is Vice-Chairman of the Cullompton Community Association.
- Cllr Will Jones declared a personal interest in respect of Item 79(ii) as his family owns land adjacent to the proposed relief road route.
- Cllr Iain Emmett declared a personal interest in respect of Item 79 (iii) as he is a riparian owner of the leat bank.

72. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

- Cathy Penharris asked “Does the Town Mayor already know the route of the relief road and if not why has he put forward the Motion 10 (ii), which by the way has not been mentioned to the CCA Committee when there is already a motion agreed by the Town Council, also when the consultation is over half way through. Why does he keep mentioning replacement land that could be offered to the CCA that is not council owned but privately owned. Why when being interviewed by Devon Live did he say the CCA was in denial and why has he been quite aggressive in social media posts about the CCA. As the lines are rather blurred is he speaking on behalf of the Town Council or as an individual?”

The Town Mayor explained his reasons for making his statement and confirmed that any views he may have expressed on social media were his own personal views.

- Ralph Taylor asked if the Council had a Road Traffic Development Policy. If so then what is it as, so far, all the highway schemes appear to be unconnected and disjointed?

It was explained that the Town Council has no direct responsibility for traffic and highways and is only a consultee. When invited to make comment the Town Council tries to provide as much direction and influence as it can. A Master Planning exercise for Cullompton will be undertaken by MDDC in the near future.

It was further stated that the Council has always put its thoughts forward with regard to transport arrangements for the town but has been failed by developers, planners and highways.

- **Chris Snow** asked why the Town Council van was being driven onto the pavement when erecting the marquees for the market and also when the John Tallack Centre accounts were finalised. He also raised concerns about the Deputy Town Mayor's lack of attendance at meetings. *Town Clerk will investigate and respond directly to Mr Snow.*

73. MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 23 August 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

74. REPORTS

(i) Town Mayor: Report included:

- Attended Garden Village Governance Board meeting which included a briefing on the Master Plan consultation which will start in January 2019, hope to have Garden Village website ready in 6-8 weeks, clarified that the name of the Garden Village will become part of the consultation. It was made clear that the name Culm Garden Village was not acceptable.
- Attended Dementia Awareness Session and learnt a great deal about living with dementia.
- Attended CCA meeting last week, had asked for two items to be included on the agenda but they did not appear. Cllr Eileen Andrews offered to investigate.

(ii) District and County Councillors: Mid Devon District Councillors Eileen Andrews and Nilkki Woollatt both submitted written reports which were circulated to all Councillors present and were noted. Cllr Eileen Andrews reported her disappointment that she had not been successful in finding a way to fund a community bus for Cullompton. Cllr Lloyd Knight thanked Cllr Eileen Andrews for obtaining the information and offered to assist her to find out if anything can be done.

(iii) Police: None.

(iv) Transparency Act Audit review: Update: Cllr Kerry Baldwin reported that a report has been drafted and will be submitted to the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee for review.

RESOLVED: That a vote of thanks is recorded to Cllr Kerry Baldwin for giving up her time to carry out the review.

(v) Any other meeting reports: None

75. **RESOLUTIONS:** List reviewed and noted.

76. **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

(i) **Payments: To approve payments for August 2018.**

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £27,980.04 for August 2018 are approved. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

(ii) **Financial Reports: To receive Financial Reports for August 2018:** Noted

(iii) **Communities Together Fund: To consider support for grant application from the Walronds Preservation Trust for purchase of PA System.**

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the Walronds Preservation Trust's grant application to the Communities Together Fund for £500 towards the cost of a PA System. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Jordann Barge

(iv) **Flag poles: To consider purchase of two no. flagpoles to be erected either side of War Memorial**

RESOLVED: That the Council purchases two no. flagpoles to be erected either side of the War Memorial, at a cost of approximately £650, subject to approval of flag flying protocol. Funding for the flag poles to come from the Community Event budget. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth.

77. **COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS: To receive the Minutes of the following Committees and Working Groups and approve the recommendations contained therein:**

(i) **Planning & Licensing Committee** meetings held on 23 August and 13 September: *Noted*

NOTE: Concern raised that the PFP Committee had given approval for a member of staff to take on the role of administrator for the Neighbourhood Plan. Also would like clarification of whether the Plan will become invalid when the revised National Policy Framework comes into effect in January 2019.

(ii) **Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee** meetings held on 21 August and 18 September: *Noted*

(iii) **Christmas Lights Event Working Group** meeting held on 3 September 2018. *Noted*

(iv) **Town Team meeting** on 6 September 2018. *Noted*

(v) **Town Centre and Economic Development Committee** meeting held on 6 September and 12 September. *Noted*

(vi) **Gift of A Burrow for Allotments Sub-Committee** meeting held on 11 September: *Noted*

(vii) **Community Wellbeing Committee** meeting held on 11 September: *Noted*

(viii) **Policy Review Working Group** meeting held on 13 September 2018 including the following recommendations:

(a) That the revised model Standing Orders, as amended, are approved by the Council to replace the current Standing Orders.

- (b) That the new IT and Email Policy is adopted by the Council to replace its current Email policy.

RESOLVED: That approval of the revised Standing Orders and new IT and Email policy is deferred until the next meeting in order to:

1. Receive a summary of the changes to the Standing Orders. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns and
2. ask solicitor to review IT and Email policy. Proposed Cllr Jordann Barge, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

(ix) **Youth Services Working Group** meeting held on 14 September. Noted

78. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

- (i) **Litter Bins: To receive plan of litter bin locations:** Noted
- (ii) **Resurfacing and repair pavements: To confirm support for proposal to resurface the footway between 22-66 Fore Street and general repairs to other sections of footway.**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Council supports the proposal to resurface the footway between 22-66 Fore Street and general repairs to other sections of footway. Proposed Cllr Janet Johns, seconded Cllr Kerry Baldwin.
2. That the Council finds out about obtaining a bye-law to stop vehicles parking on the pavement, clarify what it covers. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

(iii) **Youth Strategy: To consider and approve.**

RESOLVED: That the Youth Strategy is deferred to the PFP Committee for review.

79. MOTIONS PUT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS

- (i) **That the Town Council supports the Culm Valley in Business request that a one-way system is put in place through the town's main streets when work is carried out on the gas main (Cllr Gordon Guest).**

NOTE: As Cllr Gordon Guest was not in attendance this item was deferred until the next meeting.

- (ii) **That the Council supports the provision of an Eastern Relief Road to reduce congestion, pollution and improve safety for pedestrians in Cullompton town centre. Additionally, support for the proposal that provision is made for the replacement of sports facilities and replacement of any land lost due to the construction of the road which is supported by both Cullompton Town Council and the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. This support to be formally communicated to both Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council (Cllr Iain Emmett).**

RESOLVED: That the Council requests a meeting with Devon County Council and Mid Devon District Council to be held as soon as they have the results of the consultation. Also invite the road design contractor to the meeting. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (iii) That the Council organises a meeting of all land owners with responsibility for the maintenance of the Town Leat to discuss said responsibilities and agree a way forward (Cllr Iain Emmett).**

RESOLVED: That the Town Council organises a meeting of all land owners with responsibility for the maintenance of the Town Leat to discuss said responsibilities and agree a way forward. Proposed Cll Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Lloyd Knight.

- (iv) That the Council publishes an apology to the young people of Cullompton for failing to provide a youth provision for four weeks, due to the withdrawal of the YMCA contract and poor handover management of the handover from Young Devon. (Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth).**

Discussion about various aspects of funding for youth provision, including debate about whether the Council was at fault for the 4 week gap in provision of youth sessions. It was reported that the John Tallack Centre trustees are not willing to take responsibility for youth provision, they will only run and manage the building.

NOTE: Voting was 3 for and 5 against the motion with 2 abstentions and the motion fell.

RESOLVED: That as the time is now 9pm that the meeting is extended by 15 minutes to complete the agenda. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

- (v) That the Council consults with the Cullompton residents as to how they feel about the council continuing to fund a youth provision from April 2019 (Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth).**

Discussion about whether the Council should consult in order to obtain a general consensus on the public's spending priorities for all council services and not just the youth service.

RESOLVED: That this item is deferred to the PFP Committee for consideration.

80. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i)** Devon Association of Local Councils: Annual Report: *Noted*
- (ii)** Member of the public: Concern about plans to construct a relief road through the CCA Fields: *Noted*
- (iii)** Member of the public: Concern about 'heavy handed' approach to parking enforcement in Hayridge car park: *Noted*
- (iv)** School Pastors: Invitation to a service of celebration when the School Pastors will be commissioned on Wednesday 10 October: *Noted*
- (v)** Member of the public: Concern about change of use of shop unit to undertaker and Chapel of Rest. *Town Mayor explained that this proposal will be dealt with as part of the planning process. It has been suggested that the applicant invites nearby residents to a meeting to explain his proposals.*

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 25 October 2018.

NOTE: It was agreed that the Council will not hold a full council meeting on 11 October and, instead, the MDDC Housing Officers will be invited to make their presentation about Affordable Housing to

the Planning Committee meeting due to be held on the same date. All Councillors are welcome to attend the Planning Committee meeting to hear the presentation.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____