



Town Centre & Economic Development Committee
held on
Thursday 4 October 2018 commencing at 7pm

DRAFT MINUTES

Membership: Councillors: Eileen Andrews, Jordann Barge, Daniel Barnes, James Buczkowski, Iain Emmett, Gordon Guest, Janet Johns, Liza Oxford-Booth and Martin Smith.
Dorothy Anderson (Cullompton Farmers Market)
Naomi Lihou (Street Market)

Those Present: Councillors Iain Emmett, Janet Johns, Jordann Barge (Chair), Dorothy Anderson, Liza Oxford-Booths, Naomi Lihou
Councillor Lloyd Knight, 3 members of the public
The Assistant Town Clerk (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Eileen Andrews (medical), James Buczkowski (Personal).
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declaration of disclosable pecuniary or other interests made. Councillors were reminded of the need to declare such an interest immediately it becomes apparent.
3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** To receive questions from members of the public present at the meeting. None received from the members of the public present.
4. **MINUTES:** The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 September 2018 and 12 September 2018 were adopted as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed as such. Proposed Councillor Janet Johns, seconded Councillor Iain Emmett.
5. **RESOLUTIONS:** To review actions from previous meeting.
 - Iain Emmett reported that there is anecdotal evidence that the Electric Nights markets in Tiverton are doing nothing to enhance the economy of the town – there are lots of people about but the foot fall and takings of the traders in the town have not been increased prompting a short discussion on what shops are open in the evening in Cullompton.
 - Brief discussion on the proposed mural at the southern end of Fore Street. Naomi Lihou suggested that the shop front renewal grant could be investigated in terms having the surface re-rendered.
 - MDDC should be chased re: parking for market traders in Forge Way.

6. **FINANCE:** To review Income & Expenditure account. Noted.

7. **TOWN CENTRE ENHANCEMENT AND REVITALISATION**

(i) Mural: To receive update report. Noted.

(ii) Rural Digital Access Points: to receive update report. Noted. Jonathan Reynolds to be asked to make contact with the DWP.

(iii) To consider letter from town centre trader and agree any action to be taken.

- There was general understanding at the frustration expressed in the letter. In addition, there was frustration expressed that the town had tried and failed, twice, to secure Heritage Lottery Funding. New funding requests to Historic England depend on the viability of the proposed Eastern Relief Road.
- It was noted that the matter is not a matter only of the Relief Road – it's about the offer, the look, the parking.
- Mrs Beckett stated that there has been a decrease in footfall since the introduction of parking charges at St Andrew's Car Park. She suggested that there should be a complimentary parking period of 2 hours as the town centre is having to compete with out of town shopping centres that offer free parking.
- Iain Emmett stated that Tesco car park can be used for up to 3 hours at no cost although it was considered that people were unlikely to park at Tesco and walk into the town centre.
- It was noted that the parking charges will be reviewed in 6 months from their introduction but that the car park should, in some measure, contribute to its upkeep; these revenue costs include annual Business Rates on the site and capital costs include periodic resurfacing. It was suggested that it could be considered unfair to expect the entire population of Cullompton, via the Precept, to fund the running of the car park whilst it remains largely free to those that use it.
- Suggestion that the flag and tree holders could be used to hold flags and banners all year round – perhaps the schools could design them. Costs would be limited the production of final designs and ongoing maintenance and replacement of the produced flags.
- Ideas from the letter should be noted on the Action Plan as follows:
 - Banners and flags on buildings in the Xmas tree holders.
 - Naomi Lihou could be asked to provide a quotation to supply hanging baskets for 2019.
 - Organise a window box competition amongst residents in Fore Street, possibly in time for judging at SpringFest 2019.

RESOLVED: That households are invited to participate in a Christmas Decoration competition to coincide with the Christmas Festival. FaceBook will be the primary publicity tool. Mrs Westaway is to be asked to include details of the competition in the Christmas event programme. Proposed Councillor Janet Johns, seconded Liza Oxford-Booth.

8. **MARKETS**

(i) Income and Expenditure report. Noted.

(ii) To receive update report for street market.

- Trade as been down on previous weeks. There needs to be 6 gazebos erected every week without fail to increase the size and roofline of the market. Backs and sides need to be erected on request.
- Parking for traders is becoming quite an issue and requires a quick response.
- More traders required.

(iii) Report from Tiverton Market Manager: to consider (Appendix H). This report was considered to be useful but points out many things that the council and traders are already aware of. Jordann Barge is willing to talk to the Exeter market traders to gauge interest in attending Cullompton.

RESOLVED: That this report is brought to the next meeting for more detailed consideration. Proposed Jordann Barge, seconded Janet Johns.

(iv) Replacement of gazebo canopies: To consider estimates.

RESOLVED: To spend no more than £500 on 6 gazebo canopies. The preferred option is for brightly coloured canopies, if they fit, but dark blue and dark green should be purchased from the original supplier. Proposed Councillor Iain Emmett, seconded Councillor Janet Johns.

(v) To receive verbal update report for Farmers' Market (Dorothy Anderson).
Nothing much to report. Pop-up market in the 5th Saturday in September at the Tesco car park. The results of the Food and Drink awards will be brought to the next meeting.

(vi) Any other market matters. Nothing to report.

9. ST ANDREWS CAR PARK

- (i) Parking of large vehicles: To review whether any action is required at the present time. No action is required at this time.
- (ii) Any other car park matters. Charging is to be reviewed at the 6-month point following implementation of car parking charges.

10. PUBLIC CONVENIENCE

- (i) Community toilet scheme: to review success of scheme and determine whether any action is required. Cullompton Town Council has managed to enrol two more traders – Black Beauty and Hannah's. Naomi Lihou suggested more publicity.
- (ii) Development of public convenience site: To consider whether any action is required following meeting held on 12 September 2018. Town Clerk to chase.

11. CORRESPONDENCE: Any correspondence received after the date of this agenda.

The letter from the Post Office is to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 1 November 2018 at 7pm.