

APPENDIX A



Minutes of a meeting of Cullompton Town Council held on Thursday 13 December 2018 commencing at 7pm at Cullompton Town Hall

Present: Cllr Iain Emmett (in the chair) and Cllrs: Kerry Baldwin, Gordon Guest, Janet Johns, Kate Haslett, Will Jones, Lloyd Knight, Liza Oxford-Booth, Michael Oxford, Mike Thompson and Aisha Troake*.

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

Judy Morris: Town Clerk

*In attendance for part only of the meeting

It was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

116. APOLOGIES received and accepted from Cllr Eileen Andrews (personal).

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth declared a pecuniary interest in respect of the Council vacancy as the applicant for the vacant seat is her husband.

118. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: None.

119. MINUTES:

(i) The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 15 November 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth.

(ii) The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 22 November 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Gordon Guest.

NOTE: Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth declared a pecuniary interest in respect of the following item and did not vote

120. COUNCIL VACANCY: To consider applications for co-option to fill the vacancy due to the resignation of Daniel Barnes and James Buczkowski: One application received from Michael Oxford, Michael made a short presentation to the Council and a paper vote was taken.

RESOLVED: That Michael Oxford is co-opted to fill the vacancy left by Cllr Daniel Barnes.

NOTE: Michael Oxford signed the Declaration of Office and joined the Council.

121. REPORTS

(i) **Town Mayor:** Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked everyone involved in making the Christmas Lights switch-on event the excellent community based event that it was. Excellent feedback on social media. It was suggested that Cullompton could share experiences and lanterns with other towns.

He asked Councillors to use their microphones when speaking and also to wait until one person had finished before speaking. He explained that the PFP Committee are hoping to arrange for the microphone system to be upgraded to include microphones with on/off switch. It should also be possible to record meetings directly from the microphone system.

(ii) **District and County Councillors:**

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

- DCC awarded £18.75m additional funding for road repairs.
- New bus shelter to be installed for Falcon bus opposite Weary Traveller.
- Meeting with DCC Highways Officer to discuss installation of pipe down the middle of Brook Road to resolve a flooding problem.
- County Line Drug Gangs: Police consider this to be a serious threat to vulnerable people and young people in rural areas. Dealers are coming from the large cities such as Liverpool and are now targeting rural towns and villages such as Cullompton. Police looking for help from local people to keep an eye open for anything unusual and report to Police.
- He had met with Stagecoach Bus Company to walk the new route for buses through the Kingfisher Reach estate. He has objected to the proposed changes to the bus route and hopes that request for just one bus an hour to pass through the estate, rather than two, will be adhered to.
- Cullompton Community College will be increasing the number of classrooms.

Cllr Mike Thompson suggested that Cllr Berry makes DCC Parking Enforcement Officers aware that they should 'brush up' on the legislation relating to parking on pavements. Whilst he appreciates that parking on pavements is an issue that needs resolving the Parking Enforcement Officers do not have any powers to issue tickets.

In response to a question from Cllr Janet Johns about Parking Enforcement Officers visiting Cockpit Hill at about 6pm on a Friday evening, Cllr John Berry explained that this is a problem as not within their working hours.

Cllr Gordon Guest asked "*who is responsible for enforcing parking on pavements as both the Police and DCC Enforcement Officers appear to be saying that "it's not us"*". Cllr Mike Thompson explained that the police can deal with a wilful obstruction, bearing in mind that parking close to a pedestrian crossing can also be dealt with by a Police Officer.

(b)Mid Devon District Councillor Rosemary Berry had submitted a written report which was circulated to all members present at the meeting.

(iii) Police: None

(iv) Any other meeting reports: Cllr Mike Thompson reported that at a recent meeting of the Traffic & Environment Working Group there had been discussion about traffic flows in/out of the Tiverton Road junction. DCC Highways aware of the problem and will look at the on-line survey. Consider removing the on-street parking bays in Tiverton Road.

122. RESOLUTIONS: List to review: Noted.

123. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

(i) Payments: To approve payments for November 2018

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £32349.94 for November 2018 are approved. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

(ii) Financial Reports: To receive Financial Reports for November 2018: Deferred until the next meeting as the PFP Committee has not met to review. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

(iii) Budget and precept: To consider 2019.20 budget and approve precept

Cllr Mike Thompson reported that a member of the public had circulated an email to a number of Councillors expressing concern about the Council's budget. He had expected that the Clerk would bring the email to the meeting for members to consider. The Clerk explained that she had not received such an email and Cllr Mike Thompson requested that the item be deferred until the letter had been received and circulated to all Councillors. There was no seconder for the motion and it fell.

Discussion about grass cutting, Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth considered that Mid Devon District Council should be thanked as they had done a far better job of grass cutting this year than they did last year. Cllr Mike Thompson explained that this was due to them now having different machinery. He accepted that they had done a very good job but would object to any increase in the budget for grass cutting.

Cllr Gordon Guest explained that the reality is that if the Town Council doesn't pay for the roadside verges to be cut then the grass won't get cut. Cllr Mike Thompson considered that this was 'double taxation'.

RESOLVED: That the 2019.20 budget as presented to the Council is approved and the Council's precept for 2019.20 is set at £369,600 which will mean an increase of approximately 5%. This means that the average Cullompton Band D Council Tax payer will pay an additional £5 per year. Proposed Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth, seconded Cllr Janet Johns

Cllr Mike Thompson requested a recorded vote:

For: Cllrs: Iain Emmett, Kerry Baldwin, Gordon Guest, Janet Johns, Kate Haslett, Will Jones, Lloyd Knight, Liza Oxford-Booth, Michael Oxford and Aisha Troake.

Against: Cllr Mike Thompson.

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

(i) Cemetery & Town Hall Committee meeting held on 27 November: Noted

Cllr Gordon Guest asked that it be noted that the Committee had agreed to increase burial fees by 10%.

(ii) Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 22 November: Noted

(iii) Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 20 November

RESOLVED:

1. That the Minutes of the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 20 November 2018 are noted and the following recommendations are approved:

(a) That the Council nominates five Councillors, to include Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor, to become signatories on all council bank accounts, including the registered charity Gift of A Burrow for Allotments (note existing signatories are: Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Gordon Guest and Iain Emmett).

(b) That the council makes grants payments of £150 each to 3rd Cullompton Brownies and 1st Cullompton Rainbows. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

(c) That the revised Model Publication Scheme is approved. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth

NOTE: Clerk to check the title of the revised Model Publication Scheme document.

2. That the signatories on all Council bank accounts, including Gift of A Burrow for Allotments will be any two from five as follows:

Existing: Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Iain Emmett and Gordon Guest

Plus: Cllr Kerry Baldwin, proposed Cllr Will Jones, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett and Cllr Lloyd Knight, proposed Cllr Kerry Baldwin, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

(iv) Christmas Lights Event Working Group meeting held on 28 November: Noted

125. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

(i) Speed Watch Scheme: To consider sites to be authorised: Police had suggested Tiverton Road, Swallow Way (South), Willand Road and Honiton Road as suitable sites for Speed Watch Scheme in Cullompton.

RESOLVED: That the Council supports Tiverton Road, Swallow Way (South), Willand Road and Honiton Road as suitable sites for Speed Watch Scheme in Cullompton but would also like Police to consider adding: Meadow Lane, Langlands Road, Exeter Road/Exeter Hill, Cockpit Hill and Millennium Way.

(ii) Parking Enforcement:

- (a) **To receive response from Devon County Council with regard to legislation relating to parking on pavements:** Cllr Mike Thompson expressed surprise at the DCC response as the information provided is incorrect.
- (b) **To consider supporting request from Town Team that DCC Parking Enforcement is asked to carry out a two week “blitz” on illegal parking in the town’s main streets to make people feel better about the town centre.** Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth explained that the Town Team will make the request if they have the support of the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council supports the request from the Town Team that DCC Parking Enforcement is asked to carry out a two week “blitz” in the town centre to monitor and control the parking situation. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Lloyd Knight.

- (iii) Swallow Way: To review road report:** It was explained that the report was produced in 2016 and sent to DCC Highways who had rejected it.

RESOLVED: That the 2016 Highway Report, produced by MBC Traffic Engineers and Transport Planners, is resubmitted to Devon County Council’s Highways Department for consideration. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

NOTE: Cllr Mike Thompson suggested that a link to the video on the Kingfisher Reach Facebook page is also sent to DCC’s Highways Department.

- (iv) S106 governance arrangements consultation: To approve response to Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) consultation, closing date for response 4 January 2019**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Council supports the revised arrangements for the spending of s.106 financial contributions but hopes that MDDC will do more than just consult with the Town and Parish Councils and that MDDC will also take on board the comments.
2. That Town and Parish Councils should receive regular updates about what s.106 funding is available and when it needs to be spent by. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (v) Procedure for managing illegal encampments: To approve response to MDDC consultation, closing date for response 7 December 2018**

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the procedure for managing illegal encampments. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth.

126. MOTIONS PUT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS

- (i) That the bus stop in Tiverton Road, in front of the Upcott Field, is moved further along the road to make it more visible and enable easier access on/off buses. (Councillor Kate Haslett).**

Cllr Mike Thompson reported that the matter of moving the bus stop had been discussed by the Traffic & Environment Working Group and that it is intended to move the bus stop further along Tiverton Road where there is a wider pavements.

RESOLVED: That DCC is asked for a copy of the plan showing where they intend to relocate the bus stop in Tiverton Road to. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

Cllr Aisha Troake left the meeting.

(ii) That the Town Council, through the Youth Services Working Group (YSWG), collaborates with other organisations in the town who work with and specialise in provision for young people, to put in place a five year Youth Strategy for the town (Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth).

Cllr Mike Thompson felt this this matter should be referred to the PFP Committee as the group's terms of reference state that they report to the PFP Committee. It was felt that, as this matter needs to be addressed fairly swiftly in order to have some youth provision in place when the current agreement ends at the end of March 2019, it would be prudent to make the decision now to enable the Group to start moving matters forward.

It was also noted that Police concerns about County Line drug gangs provide a compelling argument about the need for a youth strategy for Cullompton.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council, through the Youth Services Working Group (YSWG), collaborates with other organisations in the town who work with and specialise in provision for young people, to put in place a five year Youth Strategy for the town. Proposed Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

NOTE: Cllr Mike Thompson requested a recorded vote. Voting was as follows:

For: Cllrs: Iain Emmett, Kerry Baldwin, Gordon Guest, Janet Johns, Kate Haslett, Will Jones, Liza Oxford-Booth and Michael Oxford

Against: Cllr Mike Thompson.

Abstained: Cllr Lloyd Knight

(iii) The YSWG identifies what the Cullompton youth provision could look like from April 2019 in order to inform tender applications for youth providers early in 2019 (Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth).

RESOLVED: The YSWG identifies what the Cullompton youth provision could look like from April 2019 in order to inform tender applications for youth providers early in 2019. Proposed Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth, seconded Cllr Gordon Guest.

(iv) That the YSWG meets with Young Devon to discuss their recent report to Council (Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth).

RESOLVED: That the YSWG meets with Young Devon to discuss their recent report to Council. Proposed Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth, seconded Cllr Gordon Guest.

(v) To consider whether, going forward, the YSWG could report back to full Council for matters such as the youth strategy (Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth).

RESOLVED: That the Youth Services Working Group report back to full Council for matters such as the youth strategy. Proposed Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

(vi) Tiverton Road/High Street junction: to consider how to resolve problem of traffic backing up when a vehicle intends to turn in/out of Tiverton Road (Cllr Mike Thompson).

Cllr Mike Thompson reported that this matter was discussed at a recent meeting of the Traffic & Environment Working Group. Suggestion of traffic lights and yellow box at the Tiverton Road/High Street junction.

Concern also about the dangerous situation of people being 'squeezed' on the pavement when large vehicles such as lorries and buses turn in/out of the junction. Also what happens when Cullompton's main streets are used as diversionary route when M5 is closed and traffic waiting to turn into Tiverton Road is impeding the traffic flow.

RESOLVED: That the Council requests a trial with temporary traffic lights at the Tiverton Road/High Street junction for a couple of weeks to understand how it would work. Also temporary video camera to film the junction. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Kerrie Baldwin.

127. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Mid Devon District Council: Newsletter - *Noted*

(ii) Cullompton Scout Group: Thank you and congratulations for a wonderful Christmas Festival - *Noted*

(iii) Devon County Council: Installation of bus shelters – Clerk reported that the bus shelter advertising company Fernbank will replace the bus shelters in Exeter Road, close to Cullompton Community College and in Fore Street, in front of the Baptist Church and also install a new bus shelter in the Lower Bullring, in front of the Hayridge car park.

Discussion about asking developers to provide bus shelters as a condition of s.106 Agreement, also refuse bins.

(iv) Community Wellbeing Committee: The hedge and trees between and in front of the Tiverton Road allotment site and the Upcott Field require cutting back urgently. Consider where the funding will come from to pay for this. Agenda item for the next Council meeting.

128. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

RESOLVED: To hold the next full Council meeting on Thursday 10 January 2019.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____