



**Minutes of Town Centre & Economic Development Committee meeting
held on Thursday 7 March 2019 commencing at 7pm in Cullompton Town Hall**

Present: Cllr Jordann Barge (in the Chair), Cllr Iain Emmett, Cllr Janet Johns, Sarah Jones (Farmers' Market) and Naomi Lihou (Street Market).

Also in attendance: Cllr Ian Findlay

Judy Morris: Town Clerk

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs: Eileen Andrews (personal), Lloyd Knight (personal) and Liza Oxford-Booth (personal).
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Sarah Jones and Naomi Lihou declared a personal interest in respect of discussion relating to markets as they run stalls at the markets.
3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** None
4. **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 February 2019 were approved and signed as a true and correct record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.
5. **RESOLUTIONS:** Noted.

Notes:

Mural: Clerk reported that she had received no response from a mural artist she had been recommended to contact. Details for an alternative were provided for the Clerk to contact.

Bus shelters: 3 no. bus shelters recently erected, 2 no. to replace existing and one new shelter at Lower Bullring (in front of Hayridge car park). The shelters are second hand but the company has confirmed that they will be refurbished in situ.

Tree grilles: Clerk reported that South West Civis have stated that to remove the 24 no. tree grilles and make good the surrounding area is approximately 2-3 weeks work. It was agreed to wait until the pavement works have been completed and then prioritise which grilles should be removed.

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

7. **MARKETS**

- (i) **Income and Expenditure report:** Noted.

- (ii) **Street Market report:** All running smoothly, 4 large storage boxes have been purchased to store the gazebo sides and backs. One box is left at the market so that any trader requiring a side or back has access to them. Currently there is usually the fish van plus four regular stalls, a couple of enquiries but nothing definite.

The Council has received an approach about hiring the Town Hall every Wednesday morning, this will mean that the Town Hall will no longer be available should an alternative location ever be needed for the street market, however it will bring more people into the town centre and more footfall at the market.

- (iii) **Erection and dismantling of gazebos for Farmers Market:** The agreement to subsidise the cost of the erecting/dismantling the gazebos for the Farmers Market comes to an end on 31 March 2019. (Resolved at 5 July 2018 meeting: “that, for a transitional period between 1 October 2018 and 31 March 2019, the Council will pay the difference, from its Market budget, between the £35 contribution towards gazebo erection and dismantling costs currently paid by the Farmers’ Market and the actual cost of £25 per hour”).

RESOLVED: That the Council extends the existing arrangement to subsidise the cost of erecting/dismantling the gazebos for the Farmers Market for a further 6 months from 1 April 2019. To be re-assessed September 2019. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (iv) **Farmers’ Market: To receive verbal update report: Sarah Jones reported:**

- It has been decided not to hold a pop-up market at Tesco car park on 29 March.
- Farmers’ Market traders will book stalls at the Festival Market on 29 June, there will be no separate Farmers’ Market.
- The SpringFest market will be held in Higher Bullring, Devon County Council will charge £200 for the order to close the parking spaces but Cllr John Berry has agreed to make a grant of £200 from the Locality Budget.
- Recently lost 2 traders and finding it difficult to get new traders.

- (v) **Any other market matters:** None

8. TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- (i) **Social Enterprise places and funding opportunities: to discuss:** Clerk reported that towns where social enterprise is thriving can register as a Social Enterprise Place. The programme aims to promote, raise awareness, and build the markets for social enterprise at a local and national level. Monitor ways that local social enterprises can support each other.
- (ii) **Any other issues impacting on town centre viability:** Discussion ensued about ways to regenerate the high street and support local business. This included shared space retail units and website sales, buying and delivery service. Consider how the Masterplanning exercise can be used as a means of finding out what people want.

9. ST ANDREWS CAR PARK

- (i) **To receive update report:** Report circulated with agenda and noted.
- (a) **Widening the entrance:** Consider next time the car park is resurfaced.
- (b) **Fencing:** Site visit to be carried out to assess whether access is being obtained to neighbouring properties and decide if any action is needed.

(c) **Finance:** Discussion about use of car park revenue, Clerk to investigate whether income from car parking can be used for town centre regeneration.

10. **CCTV: To review progress to-date and agree way forward:** It was acknowledged that Aspen Properties is not able to grant permission for CCTC camera to be fixed to their premises. Discussion about how the Lower Bullring end of the town centre can be provided with CCTV coverage.

RESOLVED: Clerk to approach Cullompton United Charities and Norton Opticians to enquire whether they would be willing to grant permission for a CCTV camera to be fixed to their buildings. This could be by means of an arm to provide good coverage of the area.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

12. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 4 April at 7pm.

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