

APPENDIX A



Minutes of Cullompton Town Council meeting held at Cullompton Town Hall on Thursday 25 July 2019 commencing at 7pm

Present: Town Mayor Cllr Lloyd Knight (in the chair), and Cllrs: Kerry Baldwin, James Buczkowski, Mel Davey, Robert Dietrich, Ian Findlay, Kathryn Haslett, Janet Johns, Ian Morton, and Martin Smith

Also in attendance: Cllr John Berry (MDDC/DCC) plus 1 member of the public.

Judy Morris: Town Clerk

It was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

49. APOLOGIES: Received and accepted from: Cllrs. Eileen Andrews (unwell), Gordon Guest (personal) and Will Jones (personal).

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: To receive declarations of pecuniary and personal interests from members present:

- Cllr Ian Moreton declared a pecuniary interest in respect of planning application no. 19/0115/HOUSE as he is the applicant.

51. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- Ashley Hellier explained his concerns about
 - (i) people cycling on the pavement, particularly as a pedestrian was knocked to the ground recently and an ambulance was called.
 - (ii) Illegal parking in Church Street.
 - (iii) Recent incident in which a vehicle was parked across the pavement in Fore Street and he was required to walk into the road to get around it.

The Clerk offered to contact the Police and Devon County Council Enforcement Officers to establish what action can be taken.

52. MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 June 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

53. RESOLUTIONS: Noted.

NOTE: It would be helpful if District Councillors could attend the Town Council meeting in order to exchange and discuss issues and ideas.

54. COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS: To consider and approve any changes to the membership of Committees and Working Groups:

NOTE: It was reported that, due to unforeseen circumstances, Cllrs Liza Oxford-Booth and Michael Oxford resigned from the Council with effect from 24 July 2019. This will have an impact on Committee membership.

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RESOLVED: That letters of thanks are sent to both Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth and Cllr Michael Oxford for the help and support that they have provided to the Council during their time as Councillors. Proposed Cllr Lloyd Knight, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

RESOLVED: That the Committee and Working Group membership is amended as follows: (Proposed Cllr Lloyd Knight, seconded Cllr Janet Johns

Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee	Eileen Andrews James Buczkowski Kerry Baldwin Ian Findlay Gordon Guest
Cemetery and Town Hall Committee	Kerry Baldwin James Buczkowski Mel Davey Robert Dietrich Janet Johns Will Jones (ex-officio) Lloyd Knight (ex-officio)
Planning & Licensing Committee	Eileen Andrews Mel Davey Gordon Guest Kate Haslett Janet Johns Martin Smith Lloyd Knight (ex-officio) Will Jones (ex-officio)
Town Centre and Economic Development	James Buczkowski Mel Davey Ian Findlay Janet Johns Martin Smith
Community Wellbeing Committee	Eileen Andrews Mel Davey Ian Findlay Gordon Guest Janet Johns Ian Moreton Lloyd Knight (ex-officio) Will Jones (ex-officio)
Gift of A Burrow for Allotments Sub-Committee – reports to Community Wellbeing Committee	Eileen Andrews Mel Davey Ian Findlay Gordon Guest Janet Johns Ian Moreton Lloyd Knight (ex-officio) Will Jones (ex-officio)
Appeals Sub-Committee	Kate Haslett Will Jones Robert Dietrich Martin Smith
Audit Sub-Committee	Kerry Baldwin

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(Reports to Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee)	Ian Findlay Martin Smith Lloyd Knight (ex-officio)
Christmas Lights Event Working Group (Reports to Community Wellbeing Committee)	Kate Haslett Janet Johns Mel Davey
Climate Change Working Group (Reports to Full Council)	Kate Haslett Ian Moreton Lloyd Knight (ex-officio)
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (Reports to Planning & Licencing Committee)	Eileen Andrews Gordon Guest Lloyd Knight (ex-officio) Martin Smith
Policy Review Working Group (Reports to PFP Committee)	Eileen Andrews Kerry Baldwin Ian Findlay Lloyd Knight (ex-officio)
Youth Services Working Group (Reports to Full Council)	Ian Findlay Kate Haslett Martin Smith

It was further

RESOLVED: That

- Cllr Kate Haslett will replace Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth as the Council's Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign representative.
- Cllr Ian Findlay will replace Cllr Liza Oxford Booth as the Council's Culm Valley in Business representative.
- Cllr Ian Findlay to become a Council representative on the Culm Valley Dementia Alliance to replace Cllr Liza Oxford-Booth.
- It was noted that Cllr Mel Davey has resigned as the Council's representative on the Cullompton Pub Watch Scheme.

Resolved Cllr Kerry Baldwin, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

55. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS: To approve schedule of meetings for 2019/20

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of meetings as attached to the Agenda at Appendix D is approved: Proposed Cllr Janet Johns, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

56. REPORTS

- (i) **Town Mayor's Report:** The Town Mayor's written report was circulated to all Councillors present and noted.
- (ii) **Police Report:** None – Clerk reported that she has been informed by the Police that it was no longer policy to attend Council meetings and that crime statistics can be downloaded from their website.

RESOLVED: That the Council contacts the Devon Crime & Police Commissioner, with a copy to the area inspector, requesting that a Police Officer regularly attends Council meetings in order that Councillors, as the representatives of the local people, understand what the local police are dealing with. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Lloyd Knight.

(iii) **County/District Councillor Reports.**

- **Mid Devon District Councillor Nikki Woollatt** had submitted a written report which was circulated to all members present and noted.

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- **Mid Devon District Councillor Eileen Andrews** had apologised for not being able to send a report due to ill-health.
- **Devon County Councillor/Mid Devon District Councillor John Berry** gave a brief report which included:

Devon County Council: Received awards for customer service, looking at highway safety defects and how they can be resolved, attending hearing relating to A303 improvement, awarded £100m from central government for Special Needs provision and hoping for another £12bn over the next 5 years, need to increase the wages of carers in order to attract enough carers, grants given to local projects such as Walronds, Childrens' Centre, Ace Majorettes, Cullompton Disability Group and Cullompton Pre-School. Cullompton Pre-School has been shortlisted for a national award.

Mid Devon District Council: Setting targets with an aim to reduce carbon footprint, local economy group looking at Culm project area, bid submitted to Historic England for grant funding to improve Cullompton town centre, planning applications for Siskin Chase and NW extension to be considered at MDDC Planning Committee meeting next week.

In answer to a questions about what had been done to resolve the domestic refuse problem in New Cut he explained that he was unsure but will find out what action is being taken.

- (iv) **Cullompton High Streets Heritage Bid: Report of meeting held on 4 July:** Noted.
- (v) **Cullompton Community College: Expansion and pupil places meeting held on 4 July:** Noted
- (vi) **Any other reports:** Cllr Ian Morton reported his attendance at two climate change workshops, one of which he had found particularly worthwhile.

57. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- (i) **Payments:** To approve payments for June 2019

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £37,727.65 for June 2019 are approved. Proposed Cllr Ian Findlay, seconded Cllr Kerry Baldwin

- (ii) **Financial Reports:** To receive Financial Reports for June 2019 as follows:
 - (a) **Bank Reconciliation:** Noted
 - (b) **Balance Sheet:** Noted
 - (c) **Income & Expenditure Account:** Noted

58. PLANNING

- (i) To consider and make comment on planning applications received for Cullompton 21 and available to view at the [Planning Portal](#) as follows:

NOTE: Cllr Ian Morton declared a pecuniary interest in respect of the following planning application as he is the applicant and withdrew from the meeting whilst the application was discussed.

- (a) **19/01115/HOUSE: Replacement of 4 windows on front elevation at 3 Gravel Walk**

RESOLVED: That as the applicant is a member of the Council and therefore known to all Councillors, that the Council will accept the recommendations of the Planning Officer. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (b) **19/01127/FULL: Conversion of swimming pool and store to 2 dwellings at Land & Buildings at NGR 302045 104065 (Westcott Park).**

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval of planning application no. 19/01127/FULL with the proviso that surveys are carried out to establish whether the land is contaminated. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (ii) **To receive planning determinations and consider any other planning matters:** None
- (iii) **To consider applications from neighbouring Parishes:** None

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

- (i) **Planning Committee meetings held on 27 June 2019 and 11 July:** Noted
- (ii) **Town Centre & Economic Development Committee** meeting held on 4 July, including approval of the Committee's terms of reference as contained in the Minutes.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Centre & Economic Development Committee meeting held on 4 July are noted and the Committee's terms of reference as contained in the Minutes are approved. Proposed Cllr Janet Johns, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

(iii) **Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 11 July**

NOTE: Cllrs Martin Smith and Janet Johns declared a personal interest in respect of the following item as they are both members of the Town Team and did not vote.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 11 July 2019 are noted and the recommendation "*That the balance of £5830.89 is transferred from the Town Council's accounts to the Town Team. Remind the Town Team that, as this is public money, there is an obligation to have a yearly independent inspection of the accounts carried out*" is approved. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Lloyd Knight

(iv) **Climate Change Working Group** meeting held on 15 July

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Climate Change Working Group are noted and

- (i) The Working Group's terms of reference are approved as contained in the Minutes (Proposed Cllr Ian Morton, seconded Cllr Lloyd Knight) and
- (ii) that Cullompton Town Council signs up to the Devon Climate Declaration. (Proposed Cllr Ian Morton, seconded Cllr Robert Dietrich).

60. MOTIONS PUT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS:

- (i) **That Cullompton Town Council writes to the Devon & Somerset Fire Service opposing all of the cost cutting/safer together programme proposals** (Cllr James Buczkowski).

RESOLVED: That this item is considered in conjunction with Item 61(i) below.

Cllr Buczkowski considered that the 'redistribution of resources' is merely a cost cutting exercise in which 33 communities will lose resources and only 1 will gain. The Fire Service says that the money saved will be put into preventative measures but don't say how the money will be spent.

Discussion ensued, concern about how the loss of second appliances at Tiverton and Wellington will impact on Cullompton. When there is a situation requiring two appliances then the Cullompton appliance will be called out and Cullompton will be left without cover.

The statistics show a substantial reduction in call-outs but is this because the way in which call-outs are reported has been changed?

61. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT:

- (i) **Devon & Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service: To consider and approve response to the proposed changes consultation:** Seven options listed.

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RESOLVED: That Cullompton Town Council objects to all seven options listed in the consultation options summary as all the measures listed will have a detrimental impact on Devon as a whole. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Ian Findlay.

- (ii) **Post Office: To receive response re temporary closure of Post Office:** It was noted that there is an informal meeting with the Post Office on 26 July to update Councillors on the current situation and find out the possible options for a way forward.

RESOLVED: That Cullompton Town Council will investigate all possible avenues to facilitate the re-opening of a Post Office in Cullompton. Proposed Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

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

- (i) **Response by Councillors to contact made via social media:** Clerk read an email from a member of the public complaining at the Town Mayor's lack of response to a contact the member of the public had made via social media. *The Town Mayor confirmed that he had responded to a question posed by the member of the public via social media. Discussion about the expectation that a Councillor responds to questions in this way. It was considered that, if a member of the public requires a formal response to a question then the question should be sent to the Town Clerk or to the Councillor's Town Council email address.*

RESOLVED:

1. That a vote of confidence in the Town Mayor is formally recorded in the Council's Minutes. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Kerry Baldwin.

2. That the Clerk responds to the member of the public explaining that, in future, if they require a formal response to a question then the most effective means of achieving this is by contacting the Town Clerk or sending an email to a Councillor's formal Town Council email address.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 8 August 2019 at 6pm (NW Extension and Garden Village, to include site visit) (Planning & Licensing Committee) and Thursday 22 August at 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed Date