



Town Clerk: Miss Joy Norris MSc ACG

The Town Hall, 1 High Street, CULLOMPTON, EX15 1AB

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**Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council
held on Thursday 27 January 2022 commencing at 19:00 hrs**

Present

Chair: Councillor K Haslett

Councillors: J Buczkowski, A Connolly, M Dale, R Dietrich, J Johns, L Knight and M Smith

In attendance

Note: Councillors attending by remote access are not able to participate nor vote in the meeting

Officers: J Norris (Town Clerk)

No members of the public attended the meeting

467. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor announced that she had received the resignations of Iain Emmett and Michelle Rowe. The Mayor also said that it was intended to call a meeting of the consultation working group to look at the Mod Devon District Council's Parish Review consultation

468. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrews and Guest.

469. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest were made regarding any items on the Agenda at this stage of the meeting.

470. Public Participation

This agenda item allows members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to Cullompton; up to 3 minutes will be allowed for each person.

No matters were raised not had any emails been received.

471. Minutes

To confirm the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2022 as a correct record. (Supporting Paper A to the Agenda)

RESOLVED that the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2022 be confirmed as a correct record

472. Action List

The Action List relating to the Town Council was received and reviewed. (Supporting Paper B to the Agenda)

473. Payments for Approval

The accounts due for payment were examined. (Supporting Paper C to the Agenda)

RESOLVED that the invoices due for payment as presented, with the exception of the invoice from SparkX, totalling £2,193.51 gross and the direct debits and standing authorisation items totalling £89.55 be approved.

474. Vote of Thanks

Consideration was given to a formal vote of thanks for the work of former Councillors.

RESOLVED

- (i) To send letters formally thanking Martin Beckwith, Iain Emmett and Michelle Rowe for their work as Town Councillors.
- (ii) Ask the above mentioned Councillors if they would be willing to provide feedback on their experience as a councillor and what the Council could do to improve that experience

475. 2022/2023 Budget

Consideration was given to the Town Council's budget and financial plans for 2022/2023. (Supporting Paper D to the Agenda)

RESOLVED

- (i) That the expenditure budget for 2022/2023 is £501,350 made up as follows:
 - Community Wellbeing Committee £49,600
 - Town Centre & Economic Development Committee £25,100
 - Resources Committee £335,500
 - Cemetery & Town Hall Committee £91,150
- (ii) That the expenditure budget is funded as follows:
 - Forecast Income £33,320
 - Precept £468,030
- (iii) That the earmarked reserves for 2022/2023 are designated as follows:

Code	Description	Fund as at 27.01.2021	Funds to be added for 2022/2023	Notes
New	Leat Repairs		£2,000	To be moved from code 4910
340	General contingency	£5,000	0	
380	Election contingency	£5,000	0	
352	Staffing contingency	£12,000	0	
364	Swimming Pool Development Order	£9,000	0	
322	Cemetery paths / projects	£16,173	0	

328	Play Area Fund	£8,613	0	0
329	Play Equipment	£2,000	0	
332	St Andrews Car Park	£9,000	£1,000	
334	Tech Fund	£4,308	£15,000	
338	Townscape Heritage Project	£25,000	0	
356	Equipment Replacement	£2,000	£500	
330	Railway Feasibility	£10,000	£10,000	
358	CCTV	£3,500	£1,000	
320	Market (Gazebos and equipment)	£5,000	£5,000	
324	Street Furniture	£2,500	£2,500	
336	Skatepark benches	£5,000	0	
342	Allotments	£8,119	£2,500	
	Total	£132,213	£39,500	

(iv) That the additions to the earmarked reserves are funded as follows:

Precept £13,970

General Reserve £25,530

(v) That the Town Council maintains a minimum general reserve of £225,000

476 **2022/2023 Precept**

Consideration was given to the Town Council's precept for 2022/2023. (Supporting Paper E to the Agenda)

RESOLVED

(i) that the Cullompton Town Council precept for the year 2022/2023 is £482,000

(ii) that the amount of money to be requested from Mid Devon District Council is a precept of £482,000.

477 **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022**

Consideration was given to arrangements for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Supporting Paper F to the Agenda)

RESOLVED

(i) that a Working Group is set up and invitations are sent to as many local groups as possible with the first meeting being held either week commencing 14 or 21 February 2022

(ii) That Councillor Dale be elected as Chair of the Working Group

(iii) that the remit of the working group includes producing a list of events taking place in the parish of Cullompton to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee and obtaining suggestions for a permanent way of marking the jubilee.

478. **Christmas Working Group Organisational Learning**

The Community Wellbeing Committee has resolved to set up a Working Group to review the Christmas 2021 event arrangements, with the purpose of identifying any organisational learning; Councillors are invited to volunteer to participate in the Working Group.

479. Youth Services Provision

To receive an update following the Youth Services Working Group meeting scheduled for Friday 14th January 2022, with particular regard to youth service provision with effect from 1 April 2022. (Supporting Paper G)

RESOLVED

- (i) to reaffirm the Town Council's commitment to providing a youth service in Cullompton
- (ii) That quotations are sought for the provision of youth services, based upon the current provision, with effect from 1 April 2022(to be facilitated by the Youth Services Working Group reporting to the Community Wellbeing Committee.)

480. Members Questions

This agenda item gives Councillors an opportunity to ask questions which are relevant to the work of the Council.

- Councillor Smith told the meeting that he is now a director of the Community Centre and the Town Clerk advised that he should update his Register of Interest form.

481. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that in accordance with the 1960 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act to exclude the public and press during consideration of:

- Agenda Item 16, Invoice for Christmas Lights, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature (financial information, items potentially subject to legal advice and negotiation).
- Agenda Item 17, Debtors, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature (financial information, items potentially subject to legal advice and negotiation).

The reports relating to these items had been withheld from public circulation and deposit.

482. Invoice for Christmas Lights

Consideration was given to the invoice received for the Christmas Lights. (Supporting Paper H confidential for Councillors only).

RESOLVED

- (i) To notify SPARKX that the invoice is in dispute as the contract was not fulfilled as per the schedule of works in the quotation document which was accepted by the Town Council
- (ii) That any further matters regarding the SparkX invoice are delegated to Resources to deal with.

483. Debtors

Consideration was given to recommendations from the Resources Committee regarding monies owed to the Town Council. (Supporting Paper I Confidential for Councillors only)

RESOLVED agreed to write off the sum of £40.00 owing on invoice aL10187

The Meeting closed at 20:22hrs