



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 28 April 2022 commencing at 19:00 hrs

Present

Chair: Councillor K Haslett

Councillors: J Buczkowski, M Dale, R Dietrich, J Johns, L Knight, M Smith and C Snow

In attendance

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

County & District Councillors: J Berry

Officers: J Norris (Town Clerk)

Representatives from Mid Devon District Council (in the Town Hall and by remote access);
Representatives from English heritage (by remote access)

3 Candidates for Co-option

2 members of the public attended the meeting in the Town Hall and 2 members of the public by remote attendance.

527. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor did a roll call of Councillors present in the Town Hall and welcomed the candidates for co-option.

The Mayor made a number of announcements which included:

- The Mayor and Clerk has attended a Ground Breaking at the McCarthy Stone development site
- A letter from Bell-Cornwell on behalf of their client Barrett David Wilson Homes had been forwarded to all Town Councillors
- The Cullompton Housing project at St Andrews has been nominated for a housing award
- The Jubilee keepsake for primary school children has been ordered an example of which is available for view this evening
- There has been a request for an extraordinary Town Council meeting to discuss the arrangements for replacing the Town Clerk following her resignation, which has been provisionally scheduled for 11 May in the Town Hall at 19:00 hrs, then depending on decision regarding the Working Group at Agenda 13 the Working Group can follow-on from the meeting.

528. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrews, Connolly and Guest.

529. Declarations of Interests

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

- Cllr Buczkowski declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, Co-Options, as 2 of the applicants are known to him and the third had emailed to introduce themselves.
- Cllr Buczkowski declared a personal interest in agenda item 9(iii) Planning Applications as he lives on Tiverton Road.
- Cllr Haslett declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, Co-Options, as 2 of the applicants are known to her
- Cllr Haslett declared a personal interest in agenda item 9(ii) Planning Applications as she had met Mr Rowe with regard to his planning application
- Cllr Johns declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, Co-Options, as all of the applicants are known to her
- Cllr Smith declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, Co-Options, as 2 of the applicants are known to him
- Cllr Smith declared a personal interest in agenda item 11, Grant Applications, as he is a member of the Town Team
- Cllr Snow declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, Co-Options, as 2 of the applicants are known to him

530. Public Participation

This agenda item allows members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to Cullompton.

An Email had been received regarding parking at the McCarthy Stone development and the Town Council's decision not to support the removal of a section of double yellow lines on Willand Road.

The Mayor responded that the developer will be contacted regarding the contractor parking and the minutes about the removal of double yellow lines sent to the correspondent.

Speaker 1

The Speaker explained the role of the Town Team and gave examples of projects they have been involved with. The speaker requested the help of the Town Council to recruit volunteers to the Town Team.

The Mayor responded that an email would be sent to all Town Councillors.

Speaker 2

The Speaker said he was speaking about agenda no 9(iii) the North West Extension Spine Road delivery Schedule and asked if the Town Council would consider drafting a petition to be submitted to Mid Devon District Council along the lines of the road needs to be completed before housebuilding is started.

The Mayor responded that they had a copy of the MDDC petition scheme but it may be quicker for a member of the public raise and submit a petition.

531. Minutes

To confirm the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2022 and reconvened on 31 March 2022 as a correct record. (Supporting Paper A to the Agenda)

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2022 and reconvened on 31 March 2022 until the next meeting.

532. Co-Options

To consideration was given to the written applications to fill the 3 vacancies in South Ward and 1 vacancy in the Outer Ward. (Supporting Paper B to the Agenda)

(Note: The agenda item incorrectly stated the wards in which there are vacancies)

Each Candidate was invited to speak to introduce themselves and say why they would like to be a Town councillor and Councillors were given the opportunity to ask the candidates questions.

19:17hrs it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to enable each candidate to speak.

19:24hrs Standing Orders were re-instated

RESOLVED that there being 3 vacancies in South Ward and 3 candidates namely, Ian Findlay, Shaun Holvey and Michael Thompson in accordance with legislation and the Town Council's policy the Council formally declares the 3 South Ward vacancies filled by Ian Findlay, Shaun Holvey and Michael Thompson.

533. Action List

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

Updates since the action list was published were provided, namely:

- A letter has been emailed (and posted) to MDDC regarding the proposed 3 weekly waste collections and asking for a person to attend and explain the proposals to the Community Wellbeing Committee on 17 May
- The jubilee beacon has been ordered, the Scouts have offered to light and supervise the burning of the beacon a location will be considered during a site visit to the Cemetery tomorrow morning
- On-street parking enforcement data has been requested from Devon County Council for the year 01.04.21 – 31.03.22

534. Payments for Approval

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

RESOLVED

- (i) that the payments for approval as presented, with the exception of the payment to the YMCA, totalling £5274.72 gross and the direct debits and standing authorisation items totalling £592.26 be approved.
- (ii) That the payments for the jubilee keepsakes and the jubilee beacon be approved but the order for the beacon is held until it has been confirmed the church do not already have one.

535. Recommendations from the Planning and Licensing Working Group

Note: Full details of planning applications can be seen by accessing <https://planning.middevon.gov.uk/online-applications/> and providing the planning reference number.

Recommendations were received from the Planning and Licensing Working Group. (Supporting Paper E to the Agenda)

- (i) **Land at NGR 302186 108607 (North of Rull Lane) (22/00481/MARM).** Reserved matters for the erection of 190 dwellings together with associated infrastructure following outline approval 17/01170/MOUT

RESOLVED to comment that many of the houses look the same on the plan and appear to be very uniform in their design; this is not dementia friendly. It is suggested that there should be more of a mixture of shapes sizes and orientation.

- (ii) **Land and Buildings at NGR 302094 104175 (Westcott Park), Westcott (22/00642/MFUL).** Erection of 21 dwellings with associated open space, landscaping and infrastructure.

RESOLVED that no comments be submitted regarding this application.

Note: Councillor Buczkowski stated that with the Mayor he had met Mr & Mrs Rowe to discuss a complaint but that it was unrelated to the application under discussion.

- (iii) **North West Extension Spine Road Delivery Schedule**

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Town Council takes a lead in the compilation of a petition to the effect that the spine road from Rull Lane / Willand Road to Tiverton Road be constructed/laid first at the very least for construction traffic before any houses are built
- (ii) That a planning consultant is appointed to advise on the legality of the 106 agreement and review the numerous applications to ensure that they conform to the Neighbourhood Plan and advise the Council appropriately and represent it if necessary.
- (iii) That a budget of £5,000 is made available, funded from the general reserves, for paying the consultant's fees
- (iv) That a traffic management and traffic flow report is required as part of the planning application; such report to cover Junction 28, Millenium Way, Willand Road, Tiverton Road and Fore Street.

536 **Agenda Order**

It was proposed and seconded that Agenda No 18, Heritage Action Zone Public Realm Project should be moved up the agenda.

A recorded vote was requested.

Voting For: Councillors Haslett, Johns and Smith

Voting Against: Councillors Buczkowski, Dale, Dietrich, Knight, and Snow

The proposal fell.

537. Grants Budgets

Consideration was given to bringing forward the underspend on the 2021/2022 grants budgets for use in 2022/2023. (Supporting Paper F to the Agenda)

RESOLVED to increase the 2022/2023 grants budget held by the Resources Committee (code 4075) and the Community Events budget (account 4165) held by the Community Wellbeing committee by the amount underspent on those budgets in 2021/2022.

538. Grant Applications

Consideration was given to grant applications referred from the Resources Committee. (Supporting Paper G to the Agenda)

Note: 20:29hrs

RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned for 5 Minutes to check the resolution from the Resources Committee regarding grant applications.

At 20:32hrs it was further **RESOLVED** the meeting be reconvened.

The Mayor confirmed that the draft minutes of the Resources Committee held on 14 April 2022 did not refer to a grant of £1,000 to be made for the jubilee event.

RESOLVED

- (i) That Bradinch Youth Club be awarded £250.00 from the Youth Service budget towards the cost of running youth sessions
- (ii) That the Town Team Festivals Committee be awarded £250.00 from the Community Events budget to assist with the cost of promoting the spring and autumn festivals
- (iii) That the John Tallack Centre be awarded £400.00 from the youth service budget toward s the cost of an outdoor table tennis table plus equipment
- (iv) That The Town Team be awarded £200.00 from the Community Events budget towards the cost of erecting and dismantling the gazebos
- (v) That the Community Wellbeing Committee is asked that at their next meeting consideration is given to making a grant of £1,000 to the Town Team in support of the jubilee event and commemorative booklet

539. Town Event Power Supplies

Consideration was given to recommendations from The Community Wellbeing Committee for the funding of independent power supplies in the Higher Bullring. (Supporting Paper H to the Agenda)

RESOLVED

- (i) That the power supplies in the higher Bullring should be sorted as a priority
- (ii) That an additional pillar is installed (to replace the supply which is currently courtesy of Ingleby House)
- (iii) That there is an additional power supply from the lighting column outside The Old Manse
- (iv) That the expenditure for (i) to (iii) above is funded from the Christmas Lights budget, The Town Maintenance budget , the Town Maintenance EMR and the Street Furniture EMR

- (v) That the Assistant Town Clerk is given delegated authority, following consultation with the Mayor to implement all further work and make decisions to achieve the required outcomes.

540. Streamlining the Meeting and Decision-Making Structure

This agenda item was to consider forming a task and finish group to review the current meeting and decision-making structure in the light of current Councillor and Officer capacity. (Supporting Paper I to the Agenda)

541. Covid – 19 Mitigations

The Covid mitigations in place for meetings held in the Town Hall were reviewed. (Supporting Paper J to the Agenda)

RESOLVED to remove the screens that have been put in place between Councillors and resume the former lay out used for meetings.

542. Extension of Meeting

20:55hrs

RESOLVED to extend the duration of the meeting until 21:15hrs

543. Apologies For Absence

To consider formally accepting apologies for absence from Councillor Andrews and Guest. (Supporting Paper K)

RESOLVED to formally accept apologies for absence from Councillors Andrews and Guest for a period of 6 months on health grounds.

544. Members Questions

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

The following matters were raised:

- Why has the Town centre & Economic Development Committee's recommendation regarding market fees not being included on the Council Agenda?
- Why has it taken 4 weeks for the Resources Committee recommendations to be considered by Council

545. 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 18, High Street Heritage Action Zone Public Realm Project on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature (item at a pre-consultation stage).

546. High Street Heritage Action Zone Public Realm Project

Councillors received a presentation on the Public Realm Project and the proposed timetable. This was prior to the proposed scheme being considered by the Mid Devon District Council Cabinet and agreed for general consultation.

The meeting closed at 21: 45hrs

