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MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF CULLOMPTON TOWN COUNCIL
DATED THURSDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7:00PM
AT CULLOMPTON TOWN HALL

PRESENT:

Councillors: E Buczkowski, J Buczkowski, Dietrich, P James, P Regardsoe, T Spring, J Sandford, M Thompson (Chair)

Officers: Deputy Clerk, Finance Officer, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: District Councillors M Fletcher, L Knight
1 Member of the Public

C23/102 Apologies for Absences. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Councillor J Berry, Councillors J Johns.

C23/103 Resignations. The resignation of Matthew Dale was noted.

C23/103 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations. The following Declarations of Interests were made:

Councillor J Buczkowski declared an ORI as a in Agenda items 16 and 19 (Minutes C23/116 and C23/119) and Agenda item 7.2 (Minute C23/107.2) as he is an elected member of Mid Devon District Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance.

Councillor E Buczkowski declared an ORI in Agenda items 16 and 19 (Minutes C23/116 and C23/119) and Agenda item 7.2 (Minute C23/107.2) as she is an elected member of Mid Devon District Council.

It was noted that a Dispensation has previously been granted to Councillor J Buczkowski and he will be making use of this Dispensation this evening.

C23/104 Member Questions. The following questions were asked by members:

Councillor M Thompson informed the meeting that he had attended a Civic service in Crediton and attended the Northcott Theatre for the annual Police Awards; he was pleased that there was recognition of the work of Constable Adrian Legg of Cullompton. He has also selected, from a large number of excellent entries, the winner of the annual Mayoral Christmas Card Competition.

Councillor J Buczkowski asked the Chair about the misleading, scurrilous and vexations claims made by a member of this Council on a public Facebook page of which the Chair and the said Councillor administer, manage and moderate; one of the posts was quoted "The precept will go up massively in the Town Council by, I reckon, another 25% or more..." Given that the Council has not even set a draft budget, let alone the precept levy, these statements can only be declared as an intentional falsehood intended to mislead and vex our residents. Will the Chair take this opportunity to firmly condemn Councillor Snow for making these baseless and false statements and

go further and assure our residents that there is absolutely no intention to raise the precept by 25%. *The Chair responded that Facebook post was put there without his knowledge but that he was aware of it. He had spoken to the Clerk briefly about Facebook issues and that they will be addressed in due course. He stated that he could not guarantee that Council Tax would not go up as the budget hasn't been discussed fully; if we can keep it [the precept] down low, great, but if it has to go up then we'll negotiate by how much.*

Councillor J Buczkowski spoke to the High Street Action Zone funding and the Town Council's contribution towards it; this project is not just the works to the public realm but also includes the Shop Front scheme and the Cultural Consortium. At the last meeting, a number of unfounded and factually incorrect comments were made by members of this Council including the Chair regarding the history of the project and the financial contribution to be made by the Council. All members have been provided with documentary evidence of its support for this financial contribution and that the amount has been included in the budget over a number of years. Has the Chair considered the reputational damage to this Council that these false and baseless comments have made and the potential effect on potential future joint grant applications and will the Chair now apologise and retract his statements? *The Chair stated that he has no reason to apologise and that it was through his efforts, and the Town Clerk's, that evidence was discovered that the Council had agreed to give time and office space to the scheme.*

Councillor J Buczkowski asked about the number of meetings that the Chair had had with Officers, particularly the frequency and duration of these meetings, whether or not these meetings were conducted on an appointment basis, the content of these meetings and whether or not they are Minuted. *The Chair stated that he had had one or two private meetings to discuss certain matters that are to go before another Committee. He stated that he [Councillor J Buczkowski] had seen a letter that the Chair had put out requesting a delay in certain actions, and he has asked the Clerk to seek legal advice on certain matters; there are no minutes, it was a private meeting to try to address and mediate problems that were developing and will develop further if they are not handled carefully.*

Councillor P James asked whether or not he would speak with Councillor Snow regarding the comments he makes on Facebook. *The Chair responded that Councillor Snow is aware of the concern over his comments; the Chair has spoken with the Clerk. There is a process currently taking place and that Councillor J Buczkowski is aware; it is an issue that's ongoing that he is trying to address.*

Councillor J Buczkowski stated in response that he is only aware of a formal complaint that has been made against a member of staff and that is totally unrelated to the scurrilous and vexatious comments made on a public forum. *The Chair refused to answer this point directly other than to say that he had spoken to the Clerk about the matter in an attempt to resolve it without any nastiness.*

Councillor R Dietrich asked whether the Higher Bullring would be open for the Christmas Lights switch on. *The Deputy Clerk responded that, whilst the works would not be completed, there would be as much of the Higher Bullring available as possible.*

Mid Devon District Councillor M Fletcher submitted his District report. The detail of this report is at the Appendix to these minutes.

C23/105 Public Question Time.

Speaker 1 – He stated that he had noted that the junction of Swallow Way and Tiverton Road had been completed but that parking at this location is extremely inconsiderate and the corner is effectively blind. Even though part of the road is unadopted, urgent action is required before a serious accident happens. *The Chair responded that Swallow Way was discussed at a recent meeting with the Police and Devon County Council; the Police will conduct door knocks as necessary. Councillor J Buczkowski reported that, whilst Devon County Council agree that it is potentially dangerous, as it's unadopted they can take no action; however, as part of the adoption process, a safety survey will be conducted by the developer. PC Legg is also aware and will conduct door knocks as necessary to educate those responsible for dangerous parking.*

C23/106 RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Full Council of 28 September 2023 are adopted once amendments had been.

C23/107 Finance. To consider and note the payments, receipts and invoices. To consider other financial matters including the bank reconciliation. It was:

1. **RESOLVED** to note the Bank Reconciliations up to 31 October 2023.

Councillors E and J Buczkowski departed the meeting having declared an interest.

2. **RESOLVED** to defer payment of £25,000 to MDDC in respect of the Heritage Action Zone project until such time as the legal advice has been confirmed.

Councillors E and J Buczkowski rejoined the meeting.

3. **RESOLVED** to note the payments made under delegation, receipts received and approve the Council payment list. It was noted that the payment list should be redacted in future.
4. **RESOLVED** to note the budget to date and approve any virements between budgets and/or reserves.
5. **RESOLVED** to note the LGS Pay Award 2023-2024 to date 1 April 2023 and related overtime payments.
6. **RESOLVED** that Article 2.5 of Financial Regulations is clarified to read:

“2.5 The internal auditor shall be appointed by the Council and shall carry out the work in relation to internal controls required by the Council in accordance with proper practices. The Town Clerk shall have no delegated authority in the appointment of the auditor.”

C23/108 Planning Matters.

RESOLVED that the Town Council engage specialist planning and legal support to properly prepare a response to planning application 23/01440/MOUT on behalf of the residents of Cullompton to ensure that the long standing principle of the delivery is of the Eastern Relief Road before developments at East Cullompton commence is adhered to.

C23/109 Governance. To decide the following Governance matters:

1. The matter of additions to the Committee membership list was **DEFERRED**.
2. There were no volunteers

C23/110 Letter of Support for the Cullompton Festival Steering Group.

Councillors E and J Buczkowski declared an interest in this item and left the meeting chamber.

RESOLVED that a letter of support is written to the Festival Steering Group for a grant application for Springfest 2024.

Councillors E and J Buczkowski rejoined the meeting.

C23/111 Mayoral Chain.

RESOLVED that the Mayoral Regalia remains unchanged at this time.

C23/112 Parking Restrictions.

RESOLVED that a consultation takes place in terms of parking restrictions in the form of double yellow lines, not just at Duke Street, Swallow Way and Knowle Close, but at other potential locations in Cullompton.

C23/113 Road Warden Scheme.

RESOLVED to inform the Highway Authority that the Council wishes to sign up to the Road Warden Scheme for a trial period of 12 months.

C23/114 Forward Plan.

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan is noted.

C23/115 RESOLVED that, in accordance with the [Public Bodies \(Access to Meetings\) Act 1960 Section 1\(2\)](#), the public and press are excluded from the meeting as disclosure is considered prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

C23/116 Town Hall Window Replacement Project.

RESOLVED that the window replacement project is deferred for the time being.

C23/117 Relocation of Office Space.

RESOLVED to defer this matter until further information is available. A site visit with Councillors to the Hayridge Centre to view the available space is to be arranged.

C23/118 Devolution of Services.

Councillors E and J Buczkowski departed the meeting after Councillor J Buczkowski made a short statement.

RESOLVED that Cullompton Town Council is not willing to accept further devolved services from Mid Devon District Council at this time.

C23/119 Contractor Services Review – Enforcement from DCC/Grass Cutting Contract with MDDC.

RESOLVED that the cutting and maintenance of grass verges will be taken back in house.

RESOLVED that parking enforcement remains with DCC to be considered again when further information and a cost/benefit analysis is conducted.

Meeting closed at 21:00.

An update on devolution:

A deal for devolution in Devon is continuing. This is in place to ensure fairer funding for Devon as a whole and means we can decide how the money in the County is spent. Plymouth have pulled out of the deal, but the County and Districts are still progressing.

Rail Ticket Office Closure U-Turn

Following a move by Cabinet, a representation on closing ticket offices was submitted to state our anger at the proposal, since the submission it has now been decided to not progress with the ticket Office closures which is great news. Mid Devon Liberal Democrats are delighted they have played a part in the Governments U-Turn and our local railway ticket offices will remain open.

Remembrance Day

Representatives from Mid Devon District Council laid wreaths at memorial services on 11th November. Cllr Frank Letch (Chairman of the Council) attended Tiverton, Cllr Gwen Duchesne (Vice Chair of the Council) attended Crediton, & Cllr Luke Taylor (Leader of the Council) attended Cullompton.

Mobile Libraries

We are disappointed that despite our efforts to ensure Devon County Council secures our vital mobile library service by the combining the service with others such as community banking, our suggestions have not been listened to with the County voting to stop the vital service from February 2024.

Housing & Property Services Update

New policies have been adopted following legal enactments Damp and Mould plus recharges.

Damp and Mould Policy

The new Damp and Mould Policy was recommended to Cabinet on 26th September and taken to Full Council on 1st November where it was approved unanimously. This is essentially a 'zero tolerance' policy showing that Mid Devon Homes is committed to swift action to remedy any incidence of damp and mould in Mid Devon Homes.

Recharges Policy

The Mid Devon Homes Recharges Policy seeks to define the circumstances in which it will seek to recover its costs arising from carrying out work to address issues that are normally the responsibility of the tenant. For example, this would include damage repairs, pest control, cleaning, and clearances. As far as possible, the Council aims to recover such costs from the tenants concerned, in fairness to residents who meet all their responsibilities under their Tenancy Agreement. The updated policy was recommended to Cabinet at the Homes policy development group on 26th September and approved by Cabinet on 17th October.

Tenant Involvement and Engagement Action Plan

This new plan developed by the Council was noted by the Homes Policy Development Group on 26th September. It sets out a comprehensive plan that shows a commitment to helping tenants to be more involved in their communities and to communicate well with Mid Devon Homes. This will benefit all tenants in very many ways, that will also be reflected in improving tenant satisfaction ratings.

Regulator of Social Housing Fees Regime

On 26th September, the Homes Policy Development Group was asked by Mid Devon District Council officers to express its views on a proposed regime for fees payable to the Regulator of Social Housing that would be expected to cost the Mid Devon District Council Housing Revenue Account more than £20,000 per annum. The demands under the new regulation scheme already cause Mid Devon District Council significant additional expenditure that is not compensated by any additional central government funding. The Council bears increased costs to comply with regulation and would have to pay for being regulated. The Homes Policy Development Group unanimously agreed that the proposed fees were unreasonable, and it would 'wholly dispute' the proposal, this view to be considered by Officers when responding to the consultation.

Tenant engagement continues with drop in events at Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton both physically and online. Impromptu events are also held, for example, Tesco entrance at Cullompton.

Successful neighbourhood walks were conducted this autumn with councillors able to participate and engage. The first construction of Ready to Move Homes started at St Andrews estate in Cullompton. Meetings with residents and parish councillors have proven to be successful about planning applications for Ready to Move projects in Bampton and Sandford.

Best garden vouchers were awarded to the winning tenants, in various categories throughout the district.

Networking with other Local Authorities around social rented and affordable property construction and acceleration of construction were productive - it appears we are more positive and further advanced than most.

Waste & Environment Update

The waste team has provided a detailed report showing the contents of our residual (Black bins) waste. 50% of which could be recycled by our residents with no extra cost to the council. The non-collection of side waste and the steps being taking to educate and support the public before enforcement action is taken should see our recycling rates increase. Attending the Devon authorities strategic waste committee, representing Mid Devon, highlighted Mid Devon's success over the last year with increased recycling and a reduction in residual waste. Looking forward to working with our Neighbouring authorities to improve our recycling rates and reduce waste overall across Mid Devon and the county.

Since the launch of the binit 123 initiatives in October 2022, recycling rates in the district have increased by 4.5%, showcasing the program's positive impact. However, there remains a need for continued education to enhance resident recycling habits.

To fortify the commitment to environmental sustainability, the Net Zero Advisory Group has been reinstated to ensure the journey to achieving net-zero goals by 2030 maintains momentum.

Mid Devon District Council has been actively collaborating with the Devon Energy Planning Group, bidding for Green Grants, and expanding Electric Vehicle Charging points to contribute to the region's eco-friendly infrastructure.

We have extended invitations to the Environment Agency and SWW to address the issue of invasive species like Himalayan Balsam in waterways.

Devon County Council have opened consultation on £7 million Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funding to enhance electric vehicle charging accessibility in the district. We urge Town and Parish Councils to support their communities in obtaining LEVI funding, focusing on street-level, amenity or community car parks, and strategic hubs. Consideration is also given to using renewable energy for EV charging, especially in village halls equipped with solar panels.

As we seek local perspectives on climate change, collaboration with the Planning Policy Advisory Group on Housing Energy Efficiency is a priority.

Progress on the Exe Valley Solar array is imminent, and plans for six additional ZedPods in the district are underway, with locations to be confirmed.

Mid Devon District Council is actively working on decarbonisation initiatives at Culm Valley Sports Centre following successful projects at Exe Valley and Lords Meadow Leisure Centres.

Mid Devon District Council has now ceased to side waste collection from October 1, 2023, this has been accompanied by a robust communication strategy with the objective of further increasing recycling rates.

We have also proposed delegating authority to the Environment and Enforcement Manager for fly-tipping offenses and amending the policy for flexibility in Fixed Penalty Notice amounts to allow for more suitable fixed penalty notice amounts as an attempt to combat fly tipping in the district, particularly commercial fly-tipping.

3 Rivers Development Update:

St. Georges Court, Tiverton:

The build has been completed with councillors and officers recently visiting the site along with the Cabinet member for Housing, Finance, and the Councils S151 officer to view the completed site.

Officers are now working to bring the site into the HRA; this includes affordability and value for money assessments, from both the HRA and General Fund, along with a schedule of works that will need to be completed for the site to be opened up for tenants and the ambition is for this to be as soon as possible and the aspiration is for the site to be formally brought into the HRA by January.

Haddon Heights, Bampton:

Work is progressing well on this stunning development, The cabinet member for finance has recently visited, along with the Councils s151 officer and company directors, and has seen the quality of the work and a very desirable development being delivered. Work is expected to be completed and the site fully finished by the end of the year.

Market interest in the properties is strong, and we envisage this to turn into strong sales, indeed a few offers have been made and sales progressing.

Soft Closure:

In terms of the actual company, close liaison is occurring between the Council and the Directors regarding the managed closure of the company. The Cabinet Member for Finance, along with the Leader, Chief Executive, and Council's s151 officer recently met with the Directors to discuss the closure and agree a clear pathway forward.

The Company has sought professional advice and produced a detailed plan for the closure that includes important considerations such as project completion, warranties, accounting, HR, and legal matters; this includes extending the filing deadline for the 2023 company accounts.

Target for the Company to cease trading is 31st March 2024, and formal closure will follow subject to legal and accounting processes, likely in Q4 of 2024/25.

It's worthy to note that focus has been given to and urgency expressed, on the need to reduce the operating overheads of the Company as soon as possible, and from 31st March 2024 these are expected to be reduced to legal and accountancy only.

Further impairments / write offs to close the company are currently expected to be in the region of £3.7m based on a range of prevailing assumptions and will need to be funded from several drawings from existing earmarked reserves.

Quarter 2 2023/24 Outturn performance (to 30th September 2023):

The forecast General Fund over spend for the current year is £196k after transfers to and from Earmarked Reserves; this is a significant improvement and saving against the budget agreed by Full Council in February which forecast and approved an overspend of £1,025k funded by £400k vacancy savings and a £625k reduction of the General Reserve. So, we have effectively delivered an £800k underspend against budget; this is a remarkable achievement and members should acknowledge the hard work of officers in this delivery; we do not need to look very far for Councils who are facing serious financial difficulties.

A full report on Q2 (General Fund, Capital Programme, HRA and Treasury Management) was presented to Cabinet on 14th November and is available to view as part of the meeting pack.

Medium Term Financial Plan

Medium Term Financial Plan and 2024/25 Budget Process: This is on-going, with the first round of savings having been recommended by our Policy Development Group's and accepted by Cabinet, the current round of Policy Development Group's is reviewing Fees and Charges and will make recommendations on these to Cabinet.

As recently briefed to all members, there is a significant deficit in next year's budget which continues into the later years of the Mid Term Finance Plan, all members are encouraged to come forward with ideas to either further reduce expenditure, streamline services, or generate income.

2024/25 Tax Base:

Cabinet was asked to approve the District Wide Council Tax Base at its meeting on 14th November, full details available as part of the meeting pack.

Parish / Town Specific Tax Bases have been sent to Clerks, this will be of interest if you are involved in setting the Parish / Town Budgets and Precepts.

Forward plan / what's coming up in Finance.

Work will continue in relation to 3 Rivers, 2024/25 Budget and our Medium-Term Financial Plan, in addition to this we'll be working on S106 Governance*, BR Tax Base*, 2024/25 Capital Strategy*, 2024/25 Treasury Strategy*, Outstanding Audit Actions (Including Emergency Planning), Income Generation, 2022/23 Accounts and Audit. *Items marked with an asterisk will be brought before a Cabinet meeting in the near future.*

Launch of My Mid Devon

Mid Devon District Council has launched its Customer Portal (My Mid Devon), with over 1000 people registering for regular use in the early days. Currently its most popular service is the ability to check waste collection arrangements and report any issues. It is also possible to request an email reminder of the day and which waste to put out. Now 30% of the calls to the Council are regarding waste and it is hoped the new Portal will reduce this significantly.

Annual Residents Survey

The annual Residents Survey is live online, and it is your opportunity to have a say in service delivery and budget priorities for Mid Devon in 2024/ 2025. It is available until 13th December, please fill it in and make sure we know what is important to you.

Planning & Economic Regeneration Update

Mid Devon District Council has been working with three other local authorities to produce a sub-regional strategy centred around Exeter. Prior to publication as a 'Joint Strategy' this proposed publication will be considered at Mid Devon District Council Cabinet in December. As a 'headline' document it incorporates detail work underpins the 12+-years progress of Culm Garden Village, east of Cullompton, the new local commuter Cullompton Station with planned opening in September 2025, the Mid Devon priority for the Cullompton High Street Relief Road, and the most recent Prime Ministerial promise replacement of M5 Junction 28. Together with the £1.1m public realm improvement project in the Bullring, led by Historic England, Cullompton has an exceptionally bright future.

Not to be overlooked Crediton to the west has a new draft Masterplan. This draft will be considered at the December Mid Devon District Council Cabinet, prior to public consultation release. The plan focuses upon the town centre and will inform the new Local Plan scheduled for adoption in 2026. Soon Tiverton will enter the Masterplan process. All will inform the new Local Plan for Mid Devon. This new Local Plan will include land identified for homes and employment. It will also include the Neighbourhood Plans of Parish Councils. All this planning activity is stimulating exciting new ideas and concepts that include recognition of climate change, betterment of our living environment, biodiversity, and the recovery of nature.

Reporting on carbon impacts associated with all committee reports approved by Environment Policy Development Group and Full Council for Cabinet. Sustainable Tiverton video address - well attended by Members - bodes well for future community engagement. Mid Term Financial review input. Landscape Character workshop and dialogue with Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership.

Economy Policy Development Group Update

The Economy Policy Development Group is now putting an emphasis on the importance of coming up with credible and economically viable proposals that would encourage use the districts car parks and look for other option to increase income, these include:

- To look at a 3-hour tariff option being brought in alongside the current 1- and 2-hour rates to encourage more visitors and residents to spend longer in the towns.
- To look at how empty car spaces were utilised, for example, trial cheaper rates for certain spaces to see if they were used.
- To look at ways to incentivise permits, for example, car sharing, monthly debits with a particular focus on business.
- To get Christmas parking for the year ahead signed off and, in the budget, for example, arrangements for Christmas parking 2024 to be agreed when the 24/25 budget was set and agreed by full Council.
- To review Tiverton Disability Access – including Kerbside and Disabled Spaces.
- To examine Market permits being issued to traders on special events, which then prevented shoppers from being able to park.

Also, the Eden Project at Junction 27 now looks unlikely to happen. Over the last 2 years officers have sought to engage with various landowners, promoters and interested parties and The Eden Project were granted a significant amount of funding, via Government, to explore options around the development of a new tourist destination called Eden Grounds. That work was completed and determined that whilst a destination was attractive to Eden as an operator, it was not viable for the business to support the level of capital investment required to deliver an attraction at junction 27 and that it would therefore require facilitation by landowners or other operators across the site. This is a disappointing conclusion to all the work that has been done over several years to try and bring a significant tourist attraction to this site.

Audit Updates

Since its current formation in May has considered the historical reports on major financial issues from the previous administration as well as the current proposals taken to minimise the effect on the public purse, whilst the governance of the past may or may not have been satisfactory for several genuine reasons the matters prior to May have now been closed. The coming plans for expenditure will be considered impartially to ensure the governance is correct and ensure any risk to the council is recognised, discussed, and properly evaluated. Among several matters on the committees work programme is the cost of the net zero projects to identify the actual cost about its impact on other public services, the net zero projects are of high importance but will still be evaluated with regard to any risk to the council and its services.

Updates on Community

It was with great pleasure that Mid Devon Leisure were runners up, out of 27 academies, in the star Swim Academy of the Year. The award reflects how we implement innovative learn to swim strategies that have expanded the opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to learn a key life skill. The judges also looked at how best practices in swimming teaching through training, education and career development are delivered. The Leisure Centre's had an Open Day - which was held on Saturday 14th October at each site joining offers and lots of different activities. We signed up 45 new members on the day. We also had a tour around all three leisure centres as Councillors that was impressive. We are looking at doing one in the New Year as District Councillors. We will hopefully have the heat source pumps online in Lords Meadow by then.

Cabinet has taken important steps towards securing the future of our leisure services. In recent debates we considered how we can encourage greater participation and increased activity amongst young people by giving access to our leisure centres an affordable rate. This is particularly important given the life-long health benefits early access to health, fitness and sports can provide. This is something that Mid Devon Leisure is uniquely positioned to deliver due to the high quality of its pools and courts, fitness equipment and instructors amongst its peers.

Inflation affects us all. Whilst funding the service to ensure it continues to deliver that high quality, we needed to be confident we do not put barriers up that prevent low-income users from accessing these services, and we must ensure we don't pass on the increasing costs of the service to those least able to afford it.

Mid Devon Leisure will continue to support those members of the community accessing means tested benefits via Concessionary discounting to pay and play fees and charges, in addition to discounted membership opportunities. And staff have already identified new services to offer that cater to younger people and help increase access to physical activity in fun and collaborative ways.

Additionally, we have also committed to making it easier for care leavers to access our leisure services by agreeing to offer care experienced young people (up to the age of 25) a leisure membership at an effective 100% discount rate.

We were the first district council in Devon to exempt care leavers from paying Council Tax, and this is the latest part of a wider package of support intended to provide care leavers with the best possible start in their adult lives.

By supporting the leisure pricing strategy, we have created stability that allows staff to innovate services further while remaining competitive and reflecting the cost-of-living challenges our community faces. The change in national VAT treatment for Council-run leisure services will allow us to absorb inflationary increase for general memberships and hold down increases for Concessionary users. That is a significant reinvestment in our service users. Our proposed pricing is highly competitive and protects our ability to deliver new and innovative improvements to the way people across the district can access fitness, leisure, and community sports.

This Council will now start to work on an ambitious plan to develop these improvements.

Mid Devon District Councillor L Knight informed the meeting that he, and other Mid Devon District Councillors had met with residents to discuss matters around the recent flooding in Cullompton. Notes had been taken of this meeting and would be circulated. *The Chair requested feedback from that meeting.*