



**Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday, 1 July 2025
at 19:00 at Crediton Library, Belle Parade, Crediton, EX17 2AA**

Present: Cllrs Steve Huxtable, Guy Cochran, Giles Fawssett, Vix Frisby, John Downes, Paul Perriman, Joyce Harris and Rachel Backhouse

Apologies: Cllrs Liz Brookes-Hocking, Jim Cairney and Natalia Letch

In Attendance: Penni Tearle, Chair of Boniface Allotments Association
2 members of public

Minute Taker: Emma Anderson

MINUTES

2025/046 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Cllr Huxtable opened the meeting at 19:00, and members introduced themselves.

2025/047 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following questions were raised by members of the public:

- When is the renovation work at Old Landscore School going to start, what renovations are proposed, and how much time has the council allocated to it? Cllr Huxtable advised that an answer would be provided in writing by the end of the week.
- Is there anything in place to ensure standalone toilet blocks in the park will be protected from vandalism? Cllr Huxtable confirmed that Crediton Town Council (CTC) will take steps to reduce the risk of vandalism, but this cannot be guaranteed.
- When will the bus shelter be installed at Redlands? CTC office is awaiting an update.
- When will the CREDITON signs be replaced? Deputy Clerk confirmed that CTC is awaiting the quote from DCC Highways contractors to replace like for like; it is hoped that the quotes will be available at the next meeting.
- Have the tables on the town square been cleaned in the last three years? Cllr Huxtable confirmed that we would ask Turnings Tides when this has been done.

Cllr Backhouse arrived at 19.10

- A number of councillors with more than one hat are not present, where do their priorities lie? Cllr Huxtable advised that these members have been voted in by the electorate. Cllr Cochran explained that when representing town, district, or county, councillors must decide which meeting to attend. Discussion took place regarding Crediton Food Festival and the need for more volunteers, including councillors, during the middle of the event.

SN

- Would CTC consider putting a limit on the amount of paper that gets put through doors by a single political party prior to an election? Cllr Huxtable advised that CTC was not in a position to control this.

Cllr Downes arrived at 19.18

Task: Provide written answer regarding the renovation work at Old Landscore School by the end of the week. @Steve Huxtable

Task: Ask Turnings Tides when the tables on the town square were last cleaned. @Emma Anderson

2025/048 APOLOGIES

Decision: It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllrs Brookes Hocking, Cairney, and Letch (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable).

2025/049 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

2025/049.1 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI'S) IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

None.

2025/049.2 TO CONSIDER ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS (REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE TOWN CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING)

None.

2025/050 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

It was **noted** that all decisions would be made with the climate emergency at the forefront of decision and policy making.

2025/051 ORDER OF BUSINESS

It was agreed to bring forward item 2025/057.01, to follow item 2025/052.

2025/052 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

2025/053 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Decision: It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 20 June 2025, as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

The minutes from the meeting held on 03 June 2025 require approval as they were not available at the previous meeting.

Task: Include the approval and signing of the minutes from the meeting held on 03 June 2025 on the agenda for 15 July 2025. @Rachel Avery

2025/054 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The following planning applications were discussed:

SH

[25/00755/MFUL | Variation of condition \(2\) of planning permission 18/01800/MFUL \(Construction of an on-farm anaerobic digestion plant and associated infrastructure\) to allow the substitution of previously approved site plan, to include the addition of CO2 recovery infrastructure | Land at NGR 285024 100245 \(East of Lords Meadow Industrial Estate\) Crediton Devon](#) (extension requested)

Decision: It was **resolved** to offer no opinion/no comment. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable, Cllrs Cochran and Downes abstained)

Discussion took place between councillors and members of the public regarding Crediton town councillors who also sit on the MDDC Planning Committee. Cllr Downes explained that councillors on the planning committee have a right to amend their response if subsequent information is supplied at the planning committee meeting and that district councillors representing Crediton may not be able to object on the same grounds as CTC if the reason behind the objection is not a material fact.

[25/00831/HOUSE | Variation of conditions 2 of planning permission 25/00831/HOUSE \(Erection of single storey rear extension and side porch\) to allow substitute plans to reduce the size of the side extension | Windfall Threshers Crediton Devon EX17 3NL](#)

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend no objection. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

Task: Submit planning comments to MDDC. @Emily Armitage 2025-07-04

2025/055 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS:

Decision: The council **noted** the approval of several planning applications by Mid Devon District Council.

2025/056 CREDITON URBAN TASKFORCE

Cllr Backhouse advised that Crediton Urban Taskforce is continuing to meet on the second Saturday of every month. The next action day is being held on Sat 5 July on Exeter Road (brought forward to avoid a clash with Crediton Food Festival). Cllr Backhouse put out a call for any new volunteers and thanked those who have joined in the past.

2025/057 ALLOTMENTS

2025/057.1 WATER TROUGH

The council discussed the installation of water troughs at the Barnfield allotment site.

Decision: It was **resolved** to install 2 x 6ft troughs on the Barnfield allotment site, with £1,172 being allocated from the Allotment Ear Marked Reserve. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable)

Task: Instruct contractor to install water troughs on the Barnfield allotment site.
@Emily Armitage



2025/057.2 HEDGE MAINTENANCE

The council reviewed quotations for hedge maintenance at the Exhibition Road allotment site. It was requested that the Deputy Clerk ask if the contractors could shred the arisings to be used for compost for the allotments.

Decision: It was **resolved** to accept the quote from Contractor A at a cost of £440 + VAT. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable)

Task: Instruct contractor A to cut hedges at Exhibition Road allotment site and ask if the arisings could be shredded to be used for compost for the allotments.

@Emma Anderson

2025/057.3 RENT

The council discussed and agreed on the annual rent increases for the forthcoming year 2025-26.

Decision: It was **resolved** to increase the rent by 5% for 2025-26, which would be 30 pence per square metre. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable)

Decision: Members **agreed** to approve a 100% discount for Penni Tearle's plot for her work and support relating to the allotments.

2025/058 PEOPLES PARK

Cllr Fawssett provided a verbal update on Peoples Park. He mentioned that there has been significant support for the new grass cutting scheme, with over 80% of respondents on a recent survey on the Crediton Matters Facebook page expressing their approval. Concerns raised by residents have been addressed promptly where possible.

2025/059 PUBLIC ART

The council considered a request from the Crediton Heart Project to install a tile mural.

Decision: It was **resolved** to request further information from Crediton Heart Project regarding the intended design and size/quantity of tiles.

Task: Request further information from Crediton Heart Project on design and size of mural. @Emma Anderson

2025/060 QUANTIFIED TREE RISK ASSESSMENT

The council reviewed quotations for carrying out a Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) on all town council land.

Decision: It was **resolved** to instruct Contractor A at a cost of £1,135, approving a slight overspend from the QTRA budget. (Proposed by Cllr Backhouse)

Task: Instruct contractor A to carry out QTRA. @Emma Anderson

2025/061 CREDITON FOOD FESTIVAL

The council received and noted the project plan and budget/forecast for Crediton Food Festival 2025. Cllr Perriman confirmed his availability to volunteer at the event. The detailed project plan and budget were thoroughly reviewed and acknowledged by the council.

GH

Decision: The Project Plan and budget for Crediton Food Festival 2025 was noted.

2025/062 HONORARIUM

The council discussed the honorarium for the planting of town council floral displays.

Decision: It was **resolved** to continue the previous arrangement and offer an honorarium of £300 for 2025-26. (Proposed by Cllr Harris) It was noted that a broader discussion regarding arrangements for honorariums going forward should be discussed as a future agenda item.

Task: Advise volunteers of honorarium for 2025-26. @Emma Anderson

2025/063 CREDITON BYPASS

The council considered supporting a proposal for a bypass in Crediton, submitted by a member of the public. The proposal was discussed in detail, including alternative ideas, the impact on traffic flow, and potential impacts on increasing development in Crediton. A member of the public requested data from the air quality monitoring stations in the town. It was agreed for the Deputy Clerk to request the data from Mid Devon District Council to ascertain whether Crediton's air quality is within legal limits.

Decision: It was **resolved** to:

- Acknowledge the public interest in looking at the bypass proposal further.
- Obtain data from the air quality surveys.
- Obtain quotes for a comprehensive traffic survey for the town, coordinating this with the proposed traffic survey for the land south of Barnfield.
- Understand how to engage Devon County Council with regards to a feasibility review.
- Engage in public consultation following the traffic survey and associated data.

(Proposed by Cllr Huxtable)

Task: Request data from air quality monitoring stations from Mid Devon District Council. @Emma Anderson

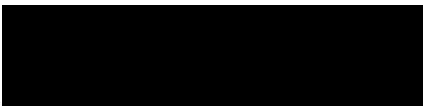
Task: Obtain quotes for a comprehensive traffic survey for the town. @Emma Anderson @Rachel Avery

Task: Understand how to engage Devon County Council with regard to a feasibility review. @Emma Anderson @Rachel Avery

2025/064 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 15 July 2025. Meeting closed at 20:36.

2025/065 REPORTS PACK

Signed 

Dated..... 31 July 25