



**Minutes of the Community Committee of the Democratic Services held on
Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 19:00 in The Bungalow, 8 North Street, EX17 2BT.**

Present:	Cllrs Liz Brookes-Hocking, Joyce Harris, Natalia Letch, Paul Perriman & Jim Cairney
Apologies:	Cllr Steve Huxtable
Absent:	Cllr Guy Cochran Cllr Giles Fawssett
In Attendance:	2 members of the public
Minute Taker:	Emma Anderson

MINUTES

123 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The meeting was opened at 19:00 by the Chair, who welcomed everyone. Each member introduced themselves briefly.

124 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public asked questions regarding the 25/26 budget and the measures taken to limit any increase, as well as queries relating to the recently published Town Guide. Councillor Brookes-Hocking confirmed that these questions had already been received by email and responses are being collated.

125 APOLOGIES

Decision: It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr S Huxtable (Illness). (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking). Cllr Fawssett's apologies were not accepted as he is on strike, which was deemed not an acceptable reason for absence.

126 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None declared.

127 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

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

128 ORDER OF BUSINESS

Decision: It was **resolved** to bring forward Item 138 to follow on from Agenda Item 128. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

129 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

Member of the public left the meeting at 19.19

130 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Decision: It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on 03 December 2024. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

131 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The committee reviewed several planning applications from Mid Devon District Council:

24/01650/HOUSE | Erection of single storey side extension | 10 Tarka Way Crediton Devon EX17 3FG

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend NO OBJECTION. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

24/01745/HOUSE | Erection of a two storey extension to dwelling | 28 Barnfield Crediton Devon EX17 3HU

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend NO OBJECTION. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

24/01620/FULL | Change of use of office to dwelling | Gilbert Stephens Solicitors Manor Office 6 North Street Crediton Devon EX17 2BT

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend APPROVAL. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

24/01716/HOUSE | Installation of dormer to West elevation to facilitate loft conversion | 14 Deep Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2BX

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend NO OBJECTION. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

24/01821/ADVERT | Advertisement Consent to display 2 fascia signs, 3 booth lettering signs, 1 digital booth screen, all illuminated and a yellow golden arch (Revised Scheme) | McDonald's Restaurant Joseph Locke Way Crediton Devon EX17 3FD

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend NO OBJECTION. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Task: Submit planning comments to Mid Devon District Council. @Emily Armitage

132 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS:

The committee noted the planning decisions made by Mid Devon District Council.

133 CREDITON URBAN TASKFORCE [CUT!]

The committee received a verbal update from members of [CUT!]. The recent taskforce event was noted to be very successful, with participation from local residents. The next event was planned for Saturday, with the taskforce aiming to finish work on Jockey Hill.

The taskforce's efforts in clearing areas and improving safety were appreciated by the committee members.

134 DCC (TRAFFIC REGULATION) AMENDMENT ORDER

134.1 TO CONSIDER AND COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED TRAFFIC ORDER TO INTRODUCE NO WAITING AT ANY TIME ON VARIOUS ROADS IN CREDITON

Decision: Mill Street (ENV6138-257) - It was **resolved** to object for the following reasons:

- Removing the parking will increase the speed of traffic
- Resident parking is needed in this area
- The town council are not aware of any reported issues at this location

(Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Decision: Westwood Road (ENV6138-438B) - It was **resolved** to approve 'no waiting at any time' on the corners of the junctions but keeping these sections to the minimum required to avoid obstruction. It was further **resolved** to object to the long stretch of 'no waiting at any time' from the Tuckers Meadow junction to the Westernlea junction for the following reasons:

- Removing the parking will increase the speed of traffic
- Resident parking is needed in this area

(Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Decision: Westwood Road (ENV6138-438A) – It was **resolved** to object to the proposal as resident parking is needed in this area and this proposal is not in the interest of residents. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Task: Submit objections to the proposed traffic regulations for Mill Street and Westwood Road to Devon County Council. *@Emily Armitage*

134.2 TO CONSIDER AND COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED TRAFFIC ORDER TO INTRODUCE 30 MPH SPEED LIMITS ON VARIOUS ROADS IN CREDITON

The committee reviewed the proposed traffic order to introduce 30 mph speed limits on various roads in Crediton. The proposals were generally accepted, as they aligned with the development in the area. However, the committee noted that Stonewall Lane remained at 60 mph, which seemed inconsistent with the surrounding areas.

Decision: It was **resolved** to request that Stonewall Lane is included in the 30mph zone for consistency and safety. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Task: Submit comments on the 30mph speed limits to Devon County Council. *@Emily Armitage*

135 COMMUNITY RISK REGISTER

The committee reviewed and commented on Mid Devon District Council's Community Risk Register. The committee identified the risk of flooding in Crediton, noting recent events where access to Exeter was disrupted due to floods. They also highlighted the risk to property from sudden rain events within the town.

Additionally, the committee mentioned the safety and air quality concerns related to the A377, which runs through the town centre.

Decision: The Committee agreed to submit the following additional risks for consideration:

- Flooding of the A377 and the disruption to business and traffic
- Threat from sudden rain events within town
- A377 High Street affecting levels of traffic, safety and air quality

Task: Submit comments to MDDC on Community Risk Register @Emma Anderson

136 WAR MEMORIAL

The committee received an update on the request to engrave additional names on the War Memorial. It was noted that the existing stone at the base of the memorial was not suitable for engraving, and new Portland stone would need to be attached. This could potentially alter the appearance of the listed memorial. The committee decided to seek advice from the Conservation Officer before making a decision. They also considered an alternative of introducing a new plaque nearby to accommodate future names, potentially on the wall behind the War Memorial. It was agreed to gather more information and consult with the Royal British Legion before proceeding.

Decision: It was agreed to seek advice from the Conservation Officer regarding the addition of new Portland stone to the War Memorial and to gather more information and consult with the Royal British Legion before proceeding.

Task: Contact the Conservation Officer to seek advice on adding new Portland stone to the War Memorial. @Emily Armitage

Task: Consult with the Royal British Legion regarding the addition of names to the War Memorial. @Emma Anderson

137 FLORAL CREDITON

Decision: It was **resolved** to accept the proposal, at a cost of £1,804.20. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Task: Confirm order of plants and floral displays for 2025. @Emma Anderson

138 MOP MOTION REQUEST

A member of the public introduced the motion request explaining that the bill aims to create a new Climate and Nature Act to ensure that the natural world is valued and prioritised across all government decision-making. The committee members expressed their support for the motion, noting that it aligns with their policy towards addressing the climate emergency. It was proposed that the committee should support the motion and write to their MP, Mel Stride, to encourage him to support the bill as well.

Decision: It was **resolved** to make a recommendation to Full Council to endorse the request from a member of the public to support the Climate and Nature Bill and write to Mel Stride MP. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Task: Make recommendation to Full Council to support the Climate and Nature Bill and write to Mel Stride MP

139 LAND SOUTH OF BARNFIELD

Cllr Brookes-Hocking provided a brief update on the progress of the project. The first outline of the proposal and design has been received from the consultant, which aims to meet the committee's aspirations for the area. The consultant is currently preparing a final sketch based on feedback, and a meeting is scheduled later in the month to review it. The final proposals will be presented to the Community Committee when ready, with a public consultation to follow.

140 PEOPLES PARK

140.1 TO DISCUSS FUTURE TREE PLANTING AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS

Members agreed that when considering future tree planting, it would be beneficial to retain the existing tree line as there are minimal practical benefits of planting any new trees slightly set back from the original line.

The Deputy Clerk advised members that the Woodland Trust are currently offering free trees. It was agreed to contact the Woodland Trust and see if some additional lime trees could be sourced.

Task: Apply for free trees from the Woodland Trust to fill gaps in People's Park and maintain tree count. @Emma Anderson

140.2 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE WATERING OF TWO NEWLY PLANTED TREES AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS

A quotation had been provided to water the two newly planted trees, with it costing £70 per water with a feed once per month. Members accepted the price per water however it was agreed that it was not necessary to start watering yet. It was agreed that the trees would be monitored, whilst the weather has been particularly wet, and the contractors would be contacted when the first water is required.

Task: Monitor the weather and manage the watering of the newly-planted trees flexibly, contacting the contractor when necessary. @Emma Anderson

141 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 04 February 2025. The meeting was closed at 20:09.

142 REPORTS

Signed

Dated.....