



**Minutes of the of Credition Town Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 07 June 2022 at 18.00 at Old Landscore School, Greenway, Credition**

Present: Cllrs E Brookes-Hocking, J Downes, J Harris, M Szabo, J Cairney, D Ross and S Chenore

Apologies: Cllrs G Cochran, S Huxtable, F Letch, N Letch

In Attendance: R Avery, Town Clerk
1 member of the public

2206/025 To receive and accept apologies

It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllrs Cochran, Huxtable, F Letch and N Letch. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

2206/026 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Cairney and Downes declared that as members of more than one authority, that any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

2206/027 Public Question Time

The following questions were raised by a member of the public prior to the meeting:

You have discussed the replacement of the bus shelters in the town, the subject of complaints about the state of the transparent perspex panels. Liz Brookes-Hocking wrote to me in April last year to say that these would be sorted out 'soon'. When is soon?

It was **noted** that the Town Clerk was in contact with Devon County Council regarding this and was continuing to chase.

The Town Council published a notice on its Facebook page for the Community Action Day on Sat 21st May. There didn't seem to be any promotional material around the town, or any report of the event afterwards.

How did it go? Who was co-ordinating this event, and how many people took part? Is this an initiative that will be repeated?

It was **noted** that three councillors and one family had attended. It was unsure as to whether this would be repeat, whether it will happen again in the same way or in a different way.

What has the town council been doing to identify and deliver a project before this (Section 106) funding expires? At what point is this allocation withdrawn?

What discussions have taken place so far with Mid-Devon?

It was **noted** that the funding is held by MDDC, and officers and being spoken to in conjunction with Credition Masterplan.

Since the old open-access noticeboard was replaced, the new notice-board, operated by the Town Council, gives the impression that no-one is really caring about it. Whoever puts the posters up doesn't pin the corners, so the posters quickly start curling up. They also never seem to be put up neatly or straight, and usually they include posters which are weeks out of date. The Town Council doesn't even seem to be using it for its own events, such as the Annual Town Meeting or the Community Action Day.

Will the Town Council improve its maintenance of the noticeboard, otherwise pass responsibility to another organisation or volunteer to look after?

It was **noted** that the notice board is utilised by many organisations, with them providing posters to the council office. There is only one person who sticks posters over the front and the administration of the notice board is acceptable. The Town Council does advertise its own events.

It seems that the Governors of Holy Cross church are failing to reach their £1.6 million target to pay for necessary repairs to the roof of the parish church. (In fact the likely cost of repairs is probably rising faster than their own fund-raising efforts.)

At what point - if at all - would the Town Council intervene to protect Crediton's Grade 1-listed building from falling into disrepair, and potentially having to close? Will the Town Council invite the Warden of the Governors to make a presentation re how the Governors intend to proceed?

It was **noted** that Crediton Town Council is not able to financially support. Cllr Downes reported that Mid Devon District Council would undertake the work if required.

What is the current arrangement for cleaning the tables and benches on the Town Square and for their regular maintenance?

Turning Tides undertake regular cleaning of the furniture. No facility for cigarette ends on tables. Disposal of litter.

What arrangements are in place to keep them clean over weekends and public holidays?

Last year (if briefly) ashtrays were provided for users of The Square. What arrangements are in place to help people dispose of litter and cigarette ends on the tables?

What will be the Town Council's response be in the event of Mid Devon District Council closing the Market Street toilets?

(The council might be mindful in particular of the impact this would have for users of Crediton Library, who are usually directed to this facility since the Library does not have a customer toilet.)

What is the Town Council's response to Cllr Sandy Chenore's suggestion (at a previous meeting) that businesses might be approached to help out?

Would the Town Council consider the approach taken by Frome Town Council to offer generous payments to cafes, pubs etc willing to participate in such an initiative, being a substitute for difficult- and expensive-to-maintain public toilet facilities?



It was **noted** that these issues had been discussed previously with the member of the public, and each individual issue would be managed if and when it arises.

- 2206/028 Order of Business**
There were no changes to the order of business.
- 2206/029 Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements**
Cllr Harris wished to thank Cllr Brookes-Hocking, the staff and everyone else involved in the Platinum Jubilee weekend. Cllr Chenore was amazed by the staff going the extra mile for the community.
- 2206/030 Town Council Minutes**
It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17 May 2022 as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
Cllr Downes wished it to be **noted** that 'personal reason' apologies were acceptable and that no other publications should use it as a slanderous or negative reason for not attending council meetings.
- 2206/031 To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following meetings**
There were no minutes.
- 2206/032 To consider and approve the Risk Register** (a copy of the documentation had been issued with the agenda)
It was **resolved** to approve the Risk Register.
- 2206/033 To review and approve the council's insurance requirements and policy** (a copy of the documentation has been issued with the agenda)
Consideration was given to the level of insurance and the future landscape of insurance. It was **resolved** to approve the policy and quotation. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
- 2206/034 To review and approve the inventory of land and assets including buildings and office equipment**
It was **resolved** to approve the inventory of land and assets. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
- 2206/035 To receive and note the contents and recommendations within the internal audit report from the Council's Internal Auditor for the financial year 2021-22**
It was **resolved** to note the internal audit report. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
- 2206/036 To receive and approve the Council's accounts for the financial year 2021-22**
It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for the financial year 2021-22. (Proposed by Cllr Cairney).
- 2206/037 To consider, approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement 2021-22**
It was **resolved** to approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement 2021-22. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
- 2206/038 To consider, approve and sign the Annual Accounting Statements 2021-22**
It was **resolved** to approve and sign the Annual Accounting Statements 2021-22. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).



2206/039 To receive the IT equipment and support report and to consider and approve the recommendation/s contained therein
It was **resolved** to accept the report and accept the quotation from Contractor B.
(Proposed by Cllr Harris)

2206/040 To approve the grant of £500 for Crediton Area History Museum Society, as recommended by the Grants Sub-Committee
It was **resolved** to approve the grant. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

2206/041 To note the date of the next meeting – Tuesday 19 July at 19.00
The date of the next meeting was **noted**. The meeting was closed at 18.50.

Signed

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature of the Chairman. Below the box, there are some faint, illegible scribbles.

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Chairman

Dated... 21/07/22