



## Minutes of Crediton Town Council's Community & Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 25 April 2023, at 19.00 at Old Landscore School, Greenway, Crediton.

**Present:** Cllrs J Harris, G Cochran, M Szabo, D Ross and N Letch

**In Attendance:** Emma Anderson, Deputy Clerk  
Penni Tearle, Chairman of the Boniface Allotment Association

**Absent:** Cllr S Chenore

### 157 Public Question Time

No members of the public present.

### 158 To receive and accept apologies

It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Brookes-Hocking (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

### 159 Declarations of Interest

None.

### 160 To note that decisions will be made with the climate emergency at the forefront of decision and policy making

This was **noted**.

### 161 Order of Business

There were no changes.

### 162 Chair and Clerk's Announcements

None.

### 163 Committee Meeting Minutes - To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 28 February 2023

It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

### 164 Allotments:

- **To receive the report and consider the recommendations therein to improve the top path at Exhibition Road allotments**

It was **resolved** to approve the recommendation within the report to monitor the path and reassess if the condition worsens or concerns are raised. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

- **To receive the report and consider the recommendations therein for the installation of water troughs at the Exhibition Road allotments**

It was **resolved** to approve the recommendation within the report and make a viement of £497.63 from the Barnfield water maintenance budget to the Exhibition Road water maintenance budget. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

- **To consider the following issues and agree a course of action – Vacant plots, Non-Cultivation Notices and Notices to Quit**  
7 non-cultivation notices have been sent since the last meeting.
- **To consider matters raised by the Boniface Allotments Association and allotment tenants and agree any actions**  
Cllr N Letch raised a concern regarding the vegetation at the bottom of Barnfield allotment site growing into a residential garden. Penni Tearle agreed to look at this and report back.

*Penni Tearle left the meeting at 19.12*

**165 To receive the report and consider the recommendations therein to relocate the bench situated on the footpath linking the High Street to Brays Close, following reports of antisocial behaviour.** Members agreed the bench is vital to those using the steps and needing a resting point. It was **resolved** to send a request to MDDC for a bin to be sited here to try and reduce the amount of litter. It was also agreed to contact the police and express the town council's concerns regarding the antisocial behaviour in this area.

**166 To receive an update on the toilet door at Newcombes Meadow toilet block following the recent vandalism and agree any actions**

The door has been replaced with the cost being covered by the council's insurance.

**167 To receive an update on the installation of litter bins on the paths linking Downeshead Lane and Tarka View and agree any actions**

The Deputy Clerk provided an update:

- Location 1 – MDDC have advised that there is no vehicle access for the bin to be emptied. The lane is too narrow and the other side of the lane is now private land.
- Location 2 (End of Downes Close) has been approved by MDDC. The bin will have to be mounted on a slab as there is no hard standing for the bin to be fixed to. This does increase the chance of vandalism and makes it easier for residents to move the bin around. Cost: £416.00 per annum to empty weekly.
- Location 3 (Entrance to Tarka View) has been approved by MDDC. This will be installed once the path is complete and adopted. Cost: £260.00 per annum to empty weekly.

Members of the committee **noted** the update. It was **agreed** to look at alternative locations in the vicinity of Downeshead Lane and go back to MDDC with another option.

**168 To note concerns raised by a local resident regarding a bench installed behind Alexander Court**

The Deputy Clerk explained that a bench had been installed on the new footpath at Tarka View which overlooked the flats at Alexander Court. Cllr Huxtable obtained images showing the bench had been poorly installed and confirmed the flats are very overlooked. The Administrative Officer has contacted Downes Estate and they have confirmed they would consider moving it to a new location.

It was **resolved** to ask Downes Estate to move the bench to a location that does not overlook the residential properties. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

**169 To note concerns raised regarding the retaining wall at Howards Court**

Item requested by Cllr N Letch. Photos of the wall had been circulated to members. As the wall is the responsibility of MDDC, it was **resolved** to contact MDDC and request that the wall be assessed by a qualified surveyor. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

**170 To discuss the arrangements for the 2023 Britain In Bloom Pennant Award and It's Your Neighbourhood Competition**

This year, it is anticipated that three groups have entered the IYN competition online. The town has not entered the Pennant Award for 2023, instead the focus will be on effectively delivering the planting schemes under a new regime and preparing ourselves to enter in 2024.

**171 To receive an update on open spaces including the following:**

- **Trees in Peoples Park**

Liquidambar, Viburnum and Sycamores have all been planted.

**172 To note the date of the next meeting – 30 May 2023**

The date of the next meeting was **noted**. The meeting was closed at 19.33

Signed .....

Chairman

Dated.....