

Crediton Town Council



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Minutes of Crediton Town Council's Annual Meeting, held on Tuesday, 21st May 2013, at 7pm, at the Council Chamber, Market Street, Crediton

Present: Cllrs Mr F Letch (Chairman), Miss J Harris, Mrs L Conyngham, Mrs L Brookes-Hocking,

Mr W Dixon, Mr M Szabo, Mr A Wyer, Mr P Vincent, Mr J Downes and Mrs G Ford,

Mrs C Dalley, Town Clerk

In Attendance: Mid Devon District Councillor M Binks and one Member of the Press

To Elect the Chairman/Mayor for 2013-2014 and presentation of the Chain of

Office

It was unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Letch be Chairman and Mayor for 2013-2014

(Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris seconded by Cllr Miss Ford)

The Chairman will read and sign the prescribed 'Declaration of Acceptance of

Office

The Chairman, Cllr Letch, read and signed the prescribed 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office'

Acceptance of Office'.

1305/03 To Elect the Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor for 2013-2014

It was unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Miss Harris be Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor

for 2013-2014 (Proposed by Cllr Letch seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking)

1305/04 To receive and accept apologies

It was resolved to receive and accept apologies from Cllr N Way. (Proposed by Cllr

Letch, seconded by Cllr Dixon)

1305/05 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Downes declared that as a member of more than one authority, any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any

views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

1305/06 Order of Business

There were no changes to the order of business.

1305/07 Town Council Minutes – To approve and sign the minutes of the Crediton Town

Council Meeting held on 23rd April 2013, as a correct record.

Copies had been circulated with the agenda. It was **resolved** to approve, and sign, the

minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 23rd April 2013, as a correct record.

(Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded Cllr Miss Ford).

1305/08 Matters Arising - At the direction of the Chairman, to report on matters arising

from the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 23rd April 2013, for

information only.

Minute number 296 - Cllr Dixon suggested the Clerk send another letter to DCC expressing the Town Council's desire for a meeting in order to gain a resolution of the

issue.

Minute Number 305 - Cllr Wyer asked for an update. The Clerk advised that no

information had been received as yet and she was chasing it.

To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- Grants Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 1st May 2013
- Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 7th May 2013

It was **resolved** to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Grants Committee Meeting, held on Wednesday, 1st May 2013. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Mrs Conyngham)

It was **resolved** to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 7th May 2013. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Dixon)

1305/10 **Chairman's Annual Report 2012-2013**

The Chairman, Cllr Letch, provided his Annual Report for 2012-2013, which is attached as Appendix One, and it was resolved to approve it for publication. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Dixon)

To appoint Committees for 2013-2014, confirm the number of Members to serve upon them and appoint Members to those Committees

a. Finance & General Purposes Committee

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2013-2014 with 10 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Miss Harris) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Szabo, Dixon, Adams, Mrs Brookes-Hocking, Mrs Conyngham, Miss Ford, Vincent, and Wyer to serve on the Finance & General Purposes Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brooke-Hocking)

b. Finance Committee

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Finance Committee for 2013-2014 with 6 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Szabo) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Szabo, Downes, Adams and Mrs Brookes-Hocking to serve on the Finance Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Conyngham)

c. Grants Committee

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Grants Committee for 2013-2014 with 5 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Adams, Miss Ford and Mrs Brookes-Hocking to serve on the Grants Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Miss Ford)

d. Property & Allotments Committee

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Property & Allotments Committee for 2013-2014 with 4 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Miss Ford) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Miss Ford and Adams to serve on the Property & Allotment Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Miss Ford)

e. Parish Paths Partnership Committee

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Parish Paths Partnership Committee for 2013-2014 with 3 Councillors to serve to upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Letch) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Mrs Conyngham and Mrs Brookes-Hocking to serve on the Parish Paths Partnership Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking)

f. Administration & Personnel Committee

It was **resolved**, to appoint an Administration & Personnel Committee for 2013-2014 with 6 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Szabo) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Mrs Brookes-Hocking, Szabo, Dixon and Adams to serve on the Administration & Personnel Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Szabo)

To appoint Working Groups for 2013-2014, confirm the number of Members to serve upon them and appoint Members to those Working Groups.

a. Crediton in Bloom (Floral Crediton) Working Group

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Crediton in Bloom (Floral Crediton) Working Group for 2013-2014 with 4 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Miss Harris) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Szabo and Miss Ford to serve on the Crediton in Bloom (Floral Crediton) Working Group. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo, seconded by Cllr Miss Ford)

b. Policy & Forward Planning Working Group

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Policy & Forward Planning Working Group for 2013-2014 with 4 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Dixon, Mrs Brookes-Hocking, Wyer and Mrs Conyngham to serve on the Policy & Forward Planning Working Group. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Wyer)

c. Peoples Park Working Group.

It was **resolved**, to appoint a Peoples Park Working Group for 2013-2014 with 5 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Letch) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Miss Harris, Mrs Conyngham, Miss Ford and Szabo to serve on the Peoples Park Working Group. (Proposed by Cllr Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Miss Ford)

d. Events Working Group

It was **resolved**, to appoint an Events Working Group for 2013-2014 with 3 Councillors to serve upon it. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Mrs Conyngham) It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Letch, Mrs Conyngham and Miss Ford to serve on the Events Working Group. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Conyngham)

To approve that the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee and the Chairman of the relevant Committee most closely related to the particular matter constitute an Emergency Committee.

It was resolved, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the appointment of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, the Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee and the Chairman of the committee most closely related to the particular matter as an Emergency Committee of the Council. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking)

1305/14 To appoint two representatives to Crediton United Charities

It was **resolved** to appoint Mrs Gillian Ponsford and Cllr Miss Harris as representatives to Crediton United Charities. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Szabo)

To appoint two representatives to Hayward's Educational Foundation
It was resolved to appoint Cllr Wyer as representatives to Hayward's Educational
Foundation. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Szabo)

1305/16 To appoint representatives to the following outside bodies

It was resolved to make the following appointments:

a. Devon Towns Forum
 b. Devon Association of Parish Councils

 (& Larger Councils Sub Committee)

 Cllr Mrs Brooke-Hocking
 Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking

c. Crediton Twinning Association Cllr Letch

d. Boniface Link Association Cllrs Miss Harris & Miss Ford

e. Friends of Crediton Station Cllrs Szabo & Downes f. AQMA Steering Group Cllrs Dixon & Downes g. Crediton Transport Action Group Cllr Mrs Conyngham

h. Sustainable Crediton Cllr Downes

i. Mid Devon Transport Forum Cllr Mrs Conyngham

i. Creedy Local Action Group Cllr Letch

(Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Dixon)

1305/17 To review and adopt the Council's Standing Orders

It was **resolved** to agree and adopt the Council's Standing Orders. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking)

1305/18 To review and adopt the Council's Financial Regulations

It was **resolved** to agree and adopt the Council's Financial Regulations. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Mrs Conyngham)

1305/19 To review the Council's Assets and Lease Arrangements

It was **resolved** to accept the Council's Assets and Lease Arrangements. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking)

1305/20 To review and confirm the Council's arrangements for Insurance

It was **resolved** to confirm the Council's arrangements for Insurance. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Conyngham, seconded by Cllr Miss Ford)

1305/21 To review the Council's Complaints Procedure

It was **resolved** to agree and adopt the Council's Complaints Procedure. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Letch)

1305/22 Public Question Time

There were no questions.

1305/23 Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements

The Chairman, Cllr Letch, advised members of the following:

- He would be visiting Avranches, France, with the Twinning Association this coming Thursday. He advised that he would be laying a wreath at the Avranche War Memorial and had been asked to give a speech as the Mayor of Crediton.
- He had met with Mr Dan McLaughlin, Mayor of Orlando Park, Cook County, Illinois a satellite town of Chicago, on Saturday 18th May 2013, who was visiting Crediton to trace his genealogy.

1305/24 **Planning**

Details of decisions and planning applications received had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

a) To receive notification of decisions made by the Planning Authority
It was resolved to note the decisions of Mid Devon District Council, the determining
Authority, with conditions as filed, which are attached as Appendix Two.

b) To consider planning applications

It was **resolved** to make comments in respect of planning applications considered at this meeting, which are attached as Appendix Three.

1305/25 To receive the following motion from Cllr John Downes:

"The Town Council pursue Devon County Council to provide a safe crossing place, with traffic control, on Exeter Road at the current crossing point between the Old Post Office and the Crown takeaway and that, as a minimum, dropped kerbs are installed to enable wheelchair users to cross."

It was resolved as follows:

"The Town Council pursue Devon County Council to provide a safe crossing place, with traffic control, on Exeter Road at the current crossing point between the Old Post Office and the Crown takeaway and that, as a minimum, dropped kerbs, using original granite, are installed to enable wheelchair users to cross."

(Proposed by Cllr Downes, seconded by Cllr Letch)

1305/26 To receive the following motion from Cllr Michael Szabo:

"I propose that the planting on Western Road near Broad Close by the new houses be removed and the Town Council lobby for Devon County Council to adopt a pavement and install a pavement in this area as soon as possible."

It was **resolved** to adopt the motion. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo, seconded by Cllr Mrs Conyngham)

- To Receive and Agree the Internal Audited Accounts for the Financial Year 2012-2013 together with the Parish Council's Internal Auditors Report It was resolved, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the Internal Audited Accounts for the financial year 2012-2013. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Dixon)
- To Discuss and Agree the Audit Commission's Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2013 (A copy of the Annual Return will be issued with the agenda) It was resolved, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the Audit Commission's Annual Return for the year ended 31_{st} March 2013. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Dixon)
- To Review and Approve the Council's Statement of Internal Control for the Financial Year 2012-2013.

It was resolved to approve the Council's Statement of Internal Control for the financial year 2012-2013. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Dixon)

1305/30 To Discuss and Agree the Annual Governance Statement Detailed in the Audit Commission's Annual Return

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31st March 2013. (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Dixon)

To confirm the categories to be judged for Floral Crediton 2013 and approve the advertisement to be submitted to the Crediton Courier by 24th May 2013

It was **resolved** that the categories to be judged for Floral Crediton 2013 would be:

- Small garden or patio
- Formal large garden
- Natural garden
- Family garden
- Best display of commercial premises (town wide)
- Mayor's favourite

(Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Mrs Conyngham)

It was further **resolved** that the advertisement, which contains the entry form be placed in the next edition of the Crediton Courier at a cost of £100 + VAT. (Proposed by Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Miss Harris)

1305/32 Councillor Reports - At the discretion of the Chairman, to receive reports from Councillors (Town, District, and County) and representatives of the Council - strictly for information only.

Cllr Szabo reported:

 He had recently attended a planting day at Crediton Station. £300 had been spent on plants for the station; a second planting day is being held on Thursday, 6th June 2013, at 10.00am

Cllr Conyngham reported:

 Plans were going well for the Edible Gardens Project and the plants should be in place on Tuesday, 28th May 2013.

Cllr Brookes-Hocking reported:

- Lesley Smith is able to carry out whole Council Training on Tuesday 24th September 2013, at 7.00 pm and requested Councillors put this date in their diaries.
- The graffiti board at the Mayor's Reception has been used well with one issue jumping out, which is loading bays. It appears the loading bays are still a problem and causing resentment in the Town. This is an issue that needs revisiting by the Town Council.
- The Clerk had contacted those Towns that Devon County Council had confirmed had undertaken Traffic Management Plans. The Clerk gave an update, which was that none of the three towns contacted actually had a Traffic Management Plan in place. Two had steered clear of this course of action and the remaining Town had being working towards a Traffic Management Plan for the past 14 months, however, as yet there was still no plan in place and it did not look likely to happen.

1305/33 Correspondence received and items of information

Emails and scanned correspondence sent to Councillors separately, are not included on this list

Correspondence

- 1. CTC/DCC e-mails: Proposed Traffic Regulation Order, (Request for Response from DCC to CTC's Submission).
- 2. Mr D McLauhlin/CTC e-mails: Re. visit to Crediton Museum and Meeting with Mayor; 18 May 2013.
- 3. Community Council of Devon Letter: Invitation to join CCD,
- 4. MDDC Consultation: Tiverton Eastern Urban Extension Consultation Invitation

- 5. Boniface Allotments Assoc. Letters, (4): Untended Plot Letters, (B7B, B8C, B9B, B11).
- 6. Haarer Goss/CTC e-mails: Costcutter Property on High Street, Condition of frontage.
- 7. Fields In Trust Notification & Agenda: AGM, Friday 14 Jun. 2013, London.
- 8. Crediton & District Community Transport Letter: Thank you letter for 2013 Annual Donation
- 9. MDDC Letter: "Call for land for new Development" Closing Date 28 June 2013

Information

- 1. MDDC Summons & Agenda: Annual Council Meeting 8 May 2013.
- 2. BlackRock Investment Statement: Crediton Peoples Park investment statement, (Nil Value).
- 3. SLCC Newsletter: The Clerk, May 2013.

It was **resolved** for item 3 of Correspondence to be placed on the next Town Council agenda. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Letch)

1305/34 Business brought forward

Cllr Szabo raised the following issue:

 Commercial premises appear to be putting their rubbish out on the street 1 day too early. Cllr Downes advised that trade waste is collected on a different day to residential. Cllr Szabo said he would look into the matter further.

Cllr Downes requested:

 An agenda item for the Town Council to consider turning the footpath on Exhibition Road to dual purpose for pedestrians and cyclists, due to the dangerous blind bend when travelling up towards Cromwells Meadow. The Clerk confirmed she would place this item on the agenda for the June Council meeting.

Cllr Vincent reported:

 He had received numerous requests for toilets, suitable for children to use, close to Newcombes Meadow play area and suggested a compost toilet over the summer period. The Clerk confirmed she would pass on the requests to Mid Devon District Council.

Cllr Conyngham reported:

• She is arranging a cycle ride on Devon Lanes as part of Credfest. Whilst out checking the route it was noted the road is blocked with earth and gravel between the south entrance to Shobrooke Park and Newton St Cyres to stop cars using the lanes. Could a gap be made before 10th June so cyclists can get through? The Clerk confirmed she would investigate.

Cllr Letch reported:

- He will be opening Credfest with the High Sherriff of Devon on 1st June 2013 and the Food Festival on 15th June 2013.
- On the 2nd June 2013, at 2.00 pm he will be accompanying the Roman Catholic Bishop on a 'pilgrimage' from the Church to near where St Boniface was born and then through to the statue in Newcombes Meadow. Cllr Letch welcomed Councillors to join him.
- He had been in conversation with the Mayor of Tiverton regarding a Group of German visitors coming to Crediton as they wish to visit St Boniface sites.

PART TWO ITEMS

1305/35	It was resolved that under section 1(2) of the Publi Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and of Cllr Letch, seconded by Cllr Miss Harris).	m the meeting for the following items
1305/36	To receive a report from Cllr Letch on staffing matters and agree any further action required Due to the confidential nature of this item no further information can be disclosed.	
1305/37	Close The meeting closed at 9.09 pm	
Signed	(Chairman)	Date:

Annual Report 2012-2013

Another year has passed us by, 12 months that have given us new challenges, some changes and many rewarding moments. The year started on a sunny June Sunday when several members of the churches of Crediton joined me at the statue of St. Boniface with the agreed intention of declaring him the Patron Saint of Crediton. The Roman Catholic Church in the Town is already a national shrine and draws visitors from many countries. This year I met with a group from Germany who were attracted here by the possibility of visiting our shrine.

June was also the month that saw the Party in the Park, an event organised by the Town Council with help from several organizations from the Town and surrounding district. The purpose of the party was to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. In a dreary June we picked one of the few very warm and sunny days to hold the event. It was a great success with more than a thousand people milling around the park during the day.

The major changes we have seen are the appointment of two new Councillors Andi Wyer and Paul Vincent. This means that we now have our full complement of 12 Councillors. We now also have a new Town Clerk, Mrs. Clare Dalley. She was previously the Town Clerk of Fremington in North Devon. For the first time Crediton has a qualified Town Clerk, which will enable us to pursue the possibility of becoming a Quality Council, with all the advantages that status can bring.

July was the month for competitions. The allotments were judged by a professional gardener from Knightshayes Court who was very impressed with the general standard of the allotments. The Town Council's garden competition was judged by local expert Bert Jewell. He had the daunting task of sorting out more than 30 entries, a record.

The Crediton link road seems to be nearer realisation and we can only hope that it solves some of the problems of traffic passing through the town. It is very much a case of watch this space and keep your fingers crossed!

The Town Council continues to pursue solutions to the parking problem and is also mindful of the need for a "healthy" High Street. Councillors continue to update the town plan and in particular to look at policies that will help with these challenges.

The Scout Memorial Garden has been the Town Council's most important project for the last two years. I'm pleased to report that the easy access path is in place and the planting has been completed, thanks to help from several community groups. The Town Council intends to complete its plans for Peoples Park by planting several new trees and creating a wildlife garden in the east end of the park.

Frank Letch Mayor of Crediton

Crediton Town Council

PLANNING DECISIONS AND COMMENTS ON NEW APPLICATIONS FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 21 MAY 2013

Planning Decisions – as notified by the Planning Authority:

Type - Decision

Reference

12/01564/FULL/NMA Non-Material Amendments to Full planning application, registered 21/11/2012

Address:

8 Prince of Wales Road Crediton Devon EX17 2AG

Description: Installation of dormer roof extension

Decision:

DECISION

DECISION

Grant Permission

Web link:

12/01564/FULL

CTC Previous Comments: NO OBJECTIONS

Type - Decision

Reference:

13/00028/FULL Full planning application, registered 17/01/2013

Address:

25 High Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AH

Description:

Conversion of existing storage buildings to form 2 dwellings (Revised Scheme)

Decision:

Grant Permission

Web link:

13/00028/FULL

CTC Previous Comments: RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Planning Applications

APPLICATION

Type - Application

Reference: 13/00553/FULL Full planning application, registered 01/05/2013

Address: 38 Okefield Road Crediton Devon EX17 2DL

Description: Erection of an extension and internal alterations to provide additional living accommodation

Web link: 13/00553/FULL

CTC COMMENTS: NO OBJECTION (Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Letch)

Type - Application

Reference:

13/00612/ADVERT Consent to Display an Advertisement, registered 02/05/2013

Address:

Integrated Dental Holdings Ltd 110 High Street Crediton Devon EX17 3LF

Description:

Advertisement Consent to display 1 non-illuminated wall mounted hanging sign and 1 non-illuminated wall

mounted name plate sign (Revised scheme)

Web link:

Reference:

13/00612/ADVERT

CTC COMMENTS: Recommend APPROVAL (Proposed by Cllr Miss Harris, seconded by Cllr Wyer)

Type - Application

APPLICATION

APPLICATION

13/00647/FULL Full planning application, registered 03/05/2013

Address: 23 Mill Street Crediton Devon EX17 1EY

Description: Erection of a double garage (Revised scheme)

Web link: <u>13/00647/FULL</u>

CTC COMMENTS: OBJECT – The planning application is for a garage but the plans show a 2 storey building with velux windows. The planning application does not state exactly what the building use will be. (Proposed by Cllr Miss Brookes-Hocking, seconded by Cllr Dixon)