



# Credition Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 October, 2007

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Miss J Harris (Chairman)</b> <b>Mr R Adams</b> <b>Mr S Baker</b> <b>Mrs E Brookes Hocking</b> <b>Mr W Brown</b> <b>Mr J Downes (Vice Chairman)</b> <b>Mr N Way (part meeting)</b> <b>Mr D Nation (part meeting)</b> <b>Mr P Finnegan</b> <b>Mr R Wright</b> <b>Mr F Letch</b>
<b>Absent:</b>		<b>Mr D Sansom</b>
<b>In Attendance:</b>	<b>Clerk</b> <b>Press</b>	<b>Mr M Maggs</b>

Prior to the start of the meeting two members of the Credition Climate Action Group made a short presentation and answered question from councillors.  
The Chairman expressed her thanks and invited the members to stay for the debate on the agenda item which, for convenience, would be brought forward.  
(Presentation notes are appended)

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 107. Apologies

None.

### 108. Declarations of Interest

Prejudicial	Councillor Brookes-Hocking	Minute 124
Personal	Councillor Brookes-Hocking	Minute 115
Personal	Councillor Wright	Minutes 115, 116a (07/1834/FULL), 119 and 124
Personal	Councillor Nation	Minutes 115, 124
Personal	Councillor Baker	Minutes 115, 119 and 124
Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minutes 117a and 122a
Prejudicial	Councillor Harris	Minute 122a
Personal	Councillor Harris	Minute 124
Prejudicial	Councillor Brown	Minute 122a
Code of Conduct	Councillor Nation Councillor Way Councillor Wright Councillor Downes	As members of more than one authority, declared 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.

## **109. Public Question Time**

Councillor Brookes-Hocking made representations under Para 12.2 of the Members' Code of Conduct in relation to the agenda item on Car Parking.

She emphasised that the net loss of parking spaces was generally exaggerated; the actual loss being 28. She did not consider that the parking problem would be entirely solved by the provision of additional parking spaces; there was a deeper problem associated a general perception that drivers could not park in the town centre.

As there were no questions from members of the public or representations from other councillors, Councillor Brookes-Hocking did not leave the chamber.

## **110. Chairman's Announcements**

a) The Chairman asked the Council to observe a period of silence in the memory of the former Town Councillor Mr Arthur Hall.

b) There were no announcements.

## **111. Town Council Minutes**

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 18 September 2007 were approved and signed as a correct record.

## **112. Matters Arising**

*Minute 95b:* several councillors expressed concern over the effect the curtailed service was having on residents and the inappropriate location of the bus terminus. Agenda item at next meeting.

## **113. General Purposes Committee Council Minutes**

a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 2 October 2007 were received and noted.

b) The recommendations of the General Purposes Committee held on 2 October 2007 were approved.

## **114. Matters Arising**

*Minute 38b:* it was reported that an application for the necessary permissions to supply free compost was being progressed.

*Minute 39b:* additional problems were reported at Park Street and Exeter Road (cob wall). The Clerk would report.

*Minute 41:* MDDC ward members reported that the District Officer would prepare a plan of the existing lighting for further discussion.

*Minute 42(13):* the Devon PCT Chief Executive would attend the December Council meeting.

## **115. Crediton Climate Action Group**

Following the presentation and questions from councillors, it was agreed to applaud the work of the group and support its endeavours to achieve transition town status. To that end, it was further agreed that members, at the forthcoming budget meeting (Finance Committee), would consider providing a suitable grant in support of the group's aspirations. The group would supply the Clerk with the necessary supporting documentation.

It was generally accepted that little consideration was being given to the effects caused by the oil shortage and the implications for sustainability. Thought should be given to post-transition development. Regular updates from the group would be valued and it was agreed that a closer working relationship between the group and the Council should be adopted.

## **116. Planning**

a) *Planning Decisions*

Noted. Decisions notified by the planning authority are appended.

b) *Planning Applications*

Comments made in respect of planning applications considered at this meeting are appended.

c) *Items for Determination*

None.

## 117. Finance

### a) *Schedule of Accounts*

The schedule of accounts, numbers 002715 to 002728 amounting to £7239.64 was approved.

Councillor Adams declared a prejudicial interest in account 002726 and left the Chamber for the duration of discussion on this item which was debated separately in order to allow the councillor to return and take part in the debate on the other items.

### b) *Completion of Audit*

The Certificate of Completion of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2007 was received and noted. No action was required.

The publication of the successfully audited Income & Expenditure Account and Notice of Completion of Audit was approved.

The Clerk reported that it was becoming increasingly difficult to meet the more demanding audit criteria and ever shorter deadlines. Legislation required that the deadline for completion of the auditing process be moved forward to the end of June which would place considerable pressure on staff and the internal auditor to carry out all the necessary responsibilities.

### c) *Tribute for Mr Arthur Hall*

The family had requested that donations to a chosen charity should be made in lieu of any floral tributes. It was agreed that the Clerk would make arrangements for a payment to be made equivalent to the cost of a wreath to the selected charity (QE Endowment Trustees).

### d) *Donation Requests*

*QEEC 460<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*

Councillors considered that there were insufficient suitable funds available to make a donation in this instance. Reservations were also expressed about the suitability of providing public funding for a largely celebratory event.

Councillor Way arrived and made a dual-hatted member declaration.

Councillor Nation left the meeting.

## SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

## 118. Standing Orders

a) Deferred to next Council meeting.

b) Deferred to next Council meeting.

The Clerk agreed to reissue (electronically) all supporting information.

The Chairman reminded councillors that it was important to ensure that they were fully prepared for items placed on the agenda. Supporting papers for deferred items should be retained and brought to future meetings.

## 119. CCTV

a) Concerns were expressed over paragraphs 3 and 5 of the notes of the Crediton CCTV Multi Agency meeting held on 8 October and the potential impact on Town Council staff. It was agreed that the Council did not accept or approve the statements made in these paragraphs.

The Chairman explained, and it was generally accepted, that the Council had taken responsibility for ownership of the equipment primarily in order to secure the funding package. The Council was led to believe that ownership would only involve housing the equipment and providing insurance cover with minimal impact on the Council's administration.

The Clerk advised that it would be necessary to complete the initial phase and test the viability of the installation and equipment. He strongly advised delaying any further progress and use of the system until the ownership issues had been fully resolved. He also suggested that suitable training be provided for Partnership members and members of the Council before any decisions were made on final responsibilities. He

advised that staffing issues should be discussed, initially, by the Administration and Personnel Sub Committee. This was agreed. However, the Clerk would investigate the costs of training, Councillors Adams and Wright would visit Cullompton and Tiverton and report their findings to the next meeting for further consideration.

It was also suggested by a member that councillors read all the information provided by the Clerk to avoid any further problems or confusion.

b) The revised draft license agreement was approved with the following amendments and conditions:

- That all references to Crediton Town Council or the Council should be removed or qualified with a statement reflecting the fact that the Town Council may not be the future responsible organisation.
- That the Town Council insurers confirm comprehensive cover for damage to the owner's property and the equipment.
- That the payment date should be dependent on the satisfactory installation of the equipment.
- That the agreement should reflect a longer term commitment for the retention of the equipment in the event of change in property ownership.

The Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, was delegated with the responsibility for authorising the completion of the agreement.

#### **120. CAB Advisory Group**

The Chairman explained that she was unable to continue as the Council's representative on the CAB Advisory Group. Nominations were sought for a replacement. No nominations were received. Councillors agreed to give the matter further consideration and inform the Clerk of their interest.

#### **121. Big Litter Pick**

The Chairman explained that due to a clash with the MDDC Chairman's Reception, it was necessary to rearrange the timing of the Council's "Big Litter Pick".

It was agreed that councillors would meet at Butt Parks on Wednesday 24 October at 6.00pm.

Clerk to inform all councillors.

#### **122. Code of Conduct Issues**

a) The Chairman, Councillors Adams and Brown declared prejudicial interests and left the meeting for the duration of the debate on this item. The Vice Chairman took the chair.

It was agreed to note the decisions of the local Standards Committee that no action was required to be taken in relation to the two recent complaints made under the Members' Code of Conduct regulations.

b) It was agreed to support the recommendations of the Standards Committee to attend an additional training event.

Following questions from councillors, the Clerk explained that it was considered appropriate for councillors to attend additional training in view of the low attendance at previous events and the high number of complaints lodged against some members of the Council.

#### **123. Polling Station Review**

After a short discussion, it was agreed to reiterate the Council's previous concerns about the use of the Newcombes Day Centre and repeat the Council's suggestion of using the Old Town Hall as a replacement polling station. In addition, it was agreed that consideration should also be given to using the Age Concern building in Deep Lane, the Council Offices in Market Street or the provision of a temporary polling station (mobile unit) on the Town Square. The County Council ward member informed councillors that changes to the use of the Newcombes Day Centre could have implications for its use for other purposes.

Councillors also expressed an interest in receiving some knowledge of MDDC's reasons for discounting any of the Council's suggestions for polling stations.

#### **124. Car Parking**

A proposal to examine the availability of town parking places, including the use of the Town Square, was discussed. Councillor Brookes-Hocking declared a prejudicial interest in matters relating to the use of the Town Square and left the chamber.

Councillors were made aware of the forthcoming comprehensive review of parking to be carried out jointly by MDDC and DCC. Councillors believed that the viability of the town was dependent on the availability of short term spaces near the town centre. As a consequence, the Clerk was asked to convey the following suggestions for consideration by the consultants appointed to carry out the review:

- That consideration should be given to the potential limited use of the Town Square for off-street parking (Councillor Letch requested that his vote against this proposal be recorded).
- That the scope for providing 2 hour parking in peripheral town locations eg. Union Road (between Church Street and War Memorial), upper part of Searle Street, Peoples Park Road (above Searle Street), Town Park and Belle Parade be investigated.

#### **125. Highway Issues**

A letter had been circulated providing advance notice of a possible eight week closure of Market Street to enable the commencement of construction works for the Evangelical Church.

Councillors considered a closure for this duration to be unreasonable. The Clerk was instructed to object in the strongest possible terms emphasising the need to restrict any potential closure to the minimum. Letter to be copied to Evangelical Church.

#### **126. Surplus Office Equipment**

It was agreed that the Clerk should make enquiries with the principal authorities on the disposal of electrical equipment and report at the next meeting for further discussion.

#### **127. Town Council Christmas Dinner**

18 December was suggested and agreed as an appropriate date. The Clerk would contact all councillors and inform Councillor Downes who would confirm the provisional booking.

#### **128. Administration & Personnel**

- a) It was agreed to hold a meeting of the Administration & Personnel Sub Committee on Wednesday 14 November at 7.00pm.
- b) The following resolution was unanimously approved:  
"That Mr M Ashley, the present holder of the post of Assistant Town Clerk to the Crediton Town Council, becomes a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 (as amended)."

#### **129. Correspondence Received**

1. Crediton Festival 2009 Committee – Minutes of last meeting.
2. Mr & Mrs Carpenter – letter of appreciation for street cleaner. Clerk has forwarded to MDDC.
3. Devon & Cornwall Police Authority – notice of liaison meeting at Cullompton 25 October.
4. East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership – terms of reference for local action groups.
5. Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership – local group minutes for 13 September.
6. MDDC Licensing - Email and copies of representations following recent review of licensing policy. Minutes and Agenda for next meeting – 16 October. Draft Licensing Policy.
7. CCTV Group – notes of meeting held on 23 September.
8. MDDC – letter outlining decision to let part of Council Offices to local CAB.
9. Information Commissioner – news-sheet and update on Data Protection Act (Training DVD).

10. SLCC – Invitation to attend regional conference in Bristol on 7 December.
11. MDDC – grant of permission to carry out tree works at Peoples Park.
12. MDDC – email announcing final stage of improvement works at Cockles Lane.
13. Search for Saxon Crediton – invitation to attend announcement of results of ground radar survey – 1930 Tuesday 13 November at Boniface Centre.
14. Devon & Cornwall Police Authority – notice of liaison meeting at Crediton 29 October at 1930 at Boniface Centre.
15. CLAG Chairman – exchange of emails on Licensing Policy consultations.

## **BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD**

### **130. Stagecoach Service 50**

Agenda item at next General Purposes Committee meeting.

### **131. New Centre for Children**

The County Ward member reported that DCC had decided to combine services for 0 to 5 year olds and was considering the construction of a new building at Newcombes.

### **132. Parking Signage**

Vandalised Town Square parking signs had been reported to the Highway Authority.

Meeting closed at 10.25pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date:

## Crediton Climate Action



Presentation by Linda Lever and Anne Tucker

## Presentation Purpose

- To raise the Town Council's awareness of Crediton Climate Action and its activities
- To outline Crediton Climate Action's vision for the future
- To gain support from the Town Council for Crediton to become a Transition Town

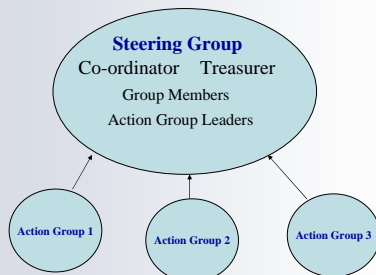
## Mission

Crediton Climate action is a network of local people who share concerns about the effects of Climate Change and Peak Oil. We are dedicated to taking positive action to prevent further damage to the environment and prepare for changes in energy supply on four levels; individual, local, national and global.

## History and Achievements

- Founded January 2007
- Action Groups Created
  - Transport
  - Energy
  - Awareness Raising
- Public events held
  - Films
  - Guest speakers
  - Street stalls on Farmers' Market days

## Crediton Climate Action Structure



## Action Groups

- Transport
  - Local transport survey published 9/07
  - Cycle path petition
- Awareness Raising
  - Eight month programme of public events organised
  - Petition to Government re Climate Change Bill
- Energy
  - Energy Action Day event planned for November

## Public Events 2007

- Film Shows
  - An Inconvenient Truth
  - The End of Suburbia
  - The Power of Community
- Guest Speakers
  - Rob Hopkins on the Transition Town concept
  - Chris Johnstone on “Cultivating Inspiration for Change”

## Autumn Programme

- Additional public film showings
- ‘Science of Climate Change’ with Dr Mark McCarthy, Met Office
- Training day with Hamish Wills
- Energy Action Day 3/11/07 at Boniface Centre
- Street stall on Farmers’ Market days
- Ongoing Action Group activities

## Climate Change

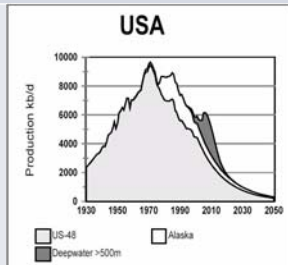
- Results from increased levels of carbon dioxide (and other greenhouse gases) in the atmosphere
- Left unchecked it will result in:-
  - A rise in temperature
  - A rise in sea level
  - The formation of new deserts
  - Increasingly powerful more frequent storms
- All of which will result in global food shortages and the displacement of millions of people.

## What Is Peak Oil?

- The date an area’s oil production reaches its maximum
- Means that about half the oil has been produced
  - Does not mean “running out of oil”
  - Does mean a continuous decline in production and demand outstripping supply making it much more expensive
- When oil half gone, the flow of oil begins to fall as pressure drops
  - extra measures often are needed to extract the remaining oil such as water or gas injection adding to the cost of extraction

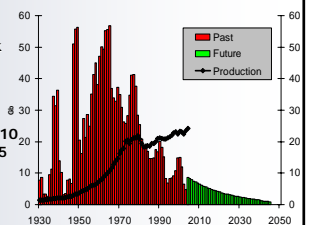
## Oil Discovery/Production Peaks – U.S.

- 1930 – U.S. “lower 48” Oil Discovery Peak year
- 1970 – U.S. “lower 48” Oil Production Peak year
- Peak discovery/peak production lag time of 40 years



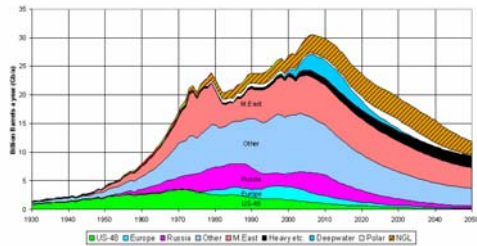
## Oil Discovery/Production Peaks – World

- 1965 – the World Oil Discovery Peak year
- What do oil experts think
  - Dr. Ken Deffeyes: author “Hubbert’s Peak” – 2005
  - Dr. Colin Campbell: founder of ASPO – 2010
  - PFC Consulting – 2015
- The argument is not “if” but “when” and “how fast?”
- 1 barrel of oil is found for every 5 barrels consumed.





## Association for the Study of Peak Oil View



- Note plateau of conventional oil and U.S. Peak
- Heavy, deepwater, polar oil very expensive

## The Future

- Plastic bag free Crediton project
- Real nappy campaign
- Continuation of transport campaign
- Open Space Session on 9/2/2008 with Naresh Giagrande of Transition Town Totnes. 'How do we prepare Crediton for a future without cheap energy and with a lower carbon footprint?'
- Crediton joins the Transition Towns movement?

## What is the Transition Town Movement ?

- It's a grassroots movement about local communities finding their own way of preparing for a future where we don't have plentiful supplies of cheap oil
- Involves as many people as possible
- Requires to have re-skilling and older people will be able to play a major part
- Results in more local production and development of our local economy

## Benefits for Crediton

- A more secure future
- Bringing the community together
- Better public transport
  - less reliance on cars
  - so less pollution and less worry about car parking
- Stimulating the local economy by producing more local food, goods and jobs
- Perhaps generating our own heat and power
- Thriving local shops and businesses

## Our Vision

- A network of groups in Crediton working on aspects that interest them, but all with the same aim of cutting our reliance on oil and cutting our carbon footprint at the same time.
- Working in a very democratic way with all groups sending representatives to organising meetings.
- Perhaps we will have sewing and mending classes, planting of a community orchard, a weekly farmers market, a feasibility study on power generation, car clubs, our own currency, furniture repair and exchange and no plastic bags.

## How can the Town Council Help?

- State support for Crediton being a transition town and perhaps publicise the need for this.
- Can they think of any practical steps we can take?
- Can they sponsor an open space event?
- Take decisions in the light of peak oil and climate change.
- Press the district and county councils and the government to take peak oil and climate change seriously.

## Any Other Questions ?

## Have we achieved our Purpose?

- To raise the Town Council's awareness of Crediton Climate Action and its activities
- To outline Crediton Climate Action's vision for the future
- To gain support from the Town Council for Crediton to become a Transition Town

## References

- Crediton Climate Action website
  - <http://groups.google.co.uk/group/crediton-climate-action/about>
- ASPO Site
  - <http://www.peakoil.net/>
- Transition Towns
  - <http://transitiontowns.org/TransitionNetwork/TransitionNetwork>
- IPCC website
  - <http://www.ipcc.ch/>
- Met Office
  - <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/hadleycentre/index.html>

## PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 16/10/07

**Planning Decisions** – as notified by the Planning Authority:

<b>DECISION</b>	<b>Type - Application Granted</b>					
	<b>Number</b> <a href="#">07/01567/FULL</a> (04/10/07)	<b>Applicant</b> Mr & Mrs Ledger 6 Alexandra Way Credon EX17 2EA	<b>Agent</b> Kester Merrington K & K Architects Aller Cottage Aller Road Docton Winkleigh EX19 8PP	<b>Location</b> 6 Alexandra Way Credon Devon EX17 2EA	<b>Proposal</b> Erection of extension and two balconies (Revised Scheme)	<b>Officer</b> Mr Charles Bladon
<b>DECISION</b>	<b>Type - Application Refused</b>					
	<b>Number</b> <a href="#">07/01632/FULL</a> (04/10/07)	<b>Applicant</b> M J Swanton Sunne 3 Belle Parade Credon EX17 2AA	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Location</b> 3 Belle Parade Credon Devon EX17 2AA	<b>Proposal</b> Provision of hardstanding	<b>Officer</b> Mr Charles Bladon
<b>DECISION</b>	<b>Type - Refusal of Certificate of Lawful Use (Planning permission required)</b>					
	<b>Number</b> 07/01593/CLP (26/09/07)	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Location</b> 33 Butt Parks Credon EX17 3HF	<b>Proposal</b> Proposed formation of hardstanding to provide domestic parking area and new access.	<b>Officer</b> Head of Planning

**Conditions imposed Upon Applications, (Notification and for information only)**

<b>DECISION</b>	<b>Type – Application Granted</b>					
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Officer</b>
	<a href="#">07/00918/FULL</a> (16/05/2007)	Mr Chris Reed Reed Construction The Linhay Nymet Tracey Bow Crediton Devon EX17 6DB		Land and Buildings at NGR 283877 99922 Exeter Road Crediton Devon	Erection of 3 flats following demolition of existing buildings	Mr Delwyn Matthews
	<b>CONDITION - Roofing slates to be natural slate.</b>					
<b>APPLICATION</b>	<b>Type - Application</b>					
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Officer</b>
	<a href="#">07/01753/FULL</a> (26/07/2009)	Mr G R Lineker 117b High Street Crediton EX17 3LG		The Mews Deep Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2BY	Erection of dwelling	Mr Delwyn Matthews
	<b>CONDITION – Imposition of S106 Public Open Space contribution.</b>					

## Planning Applications

The Town Council considered the following applications:

<b>APPLICATION</b>	<b>Type - Application</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Officer</b>
	<b>Number</b> <a href="#">07/01834/FULL</a> (03/10/2007)	Milk Link Processing Ltd Church Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2AH	Will Gannon & Smith Ltd Uplands 81 Heavitree Road Exeter EX1 2LX	Milk Link Processing Ltd Church Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2AH	Erection of extension, replacement of roof and side cladding	Mr Keith Garside
<b>APPROVED</b>						