



# Credon Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 22 September 2009

**Present:**

**Councillors**

**Mr F Letch (Chairman)**  
**Mr W Brown**  
**Mr J Downes**  
**Miss J Harris**  
**Mrs L Brookes-Hocking**  
**Mr P Finnegan**  
**Mr D Nation**  
**Mr N Way**  
**Mrs A Hughes**  
**Mr R Adams**

**In Attendance:**

**Clerk**  
**Press**  
**Public**

**Mr M Ashley**  
**1**  
**Approx 25 (Incl. Mr W Dixon;**  
**Credon Traffic Action Group)**

## AGENDA ITEMS

**72. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor R Wright for personal reasons.

**73. Declarations of Interest**

Personal	Councillor Letch	Minute 81a: Finance Cheq.3010
Personal	Councillor Way	Minute 74: Public Question Time
Personal	Councillor Way	Minute 80b: App. JJ/DCC/2915/2009
Personal	Councillor Hughes	Minute 74: Public Question Time
Prejudicial	Councillor Nation	Minute 78b: GP Minutes 08/09/09
Prejudicial	Councillor Downs	Minute 81b: Donation Request
Code of Conduct	Councillors Downes, Way and Nation	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.

**74. Public Question Time**

A number of questions were asked in connection with the proposed Exeter Road Link Road. Note was taken of an earlier submission to the County Council by Mr Ralph Page and the Chairman agreed to contact him.

*All members of the public left the meeting.*

**75. Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements**

The Assistant Clerk updated Councillors on the office manned hours as a result of staffing limitations.

The Chairman announced that he had been approached by residents concerning the new Morrisons supermarket not providing home delivery and would be writing to the

store manager about this in the capacity of Mayor. Bus stopping points and overnight car-parking were also issues noted.

**76. Town Council Committee Minutes**

- a) The minutes of the Town Council Annual General Meeting held on 23 June 2009 were received and approved as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the Town Council Annual General Meeting held on 28 July 2009 were received and approved as a correct record.

**77. Matters Arising**

- a) *Minutes 23 June 2009:*

*Minute 41 :* The utility of a full print run of the Summer Newsletter and Annual report was questioned and it was agreed to use the money on the next, Autumn newsletter print run and setting up the newsletter template with the printers.

- b) *Minutes 28 July 2009:*

*Minute 54:* Concerns were expressed over the availability of all reports in time for the County Council's exhibition of options on 24 – 26 September 2009, as well as the nature of some of the questions of the residents' questionnaire. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for October's Town Council meeting.

**78. General Purposes Committee Meeting Minutes:**

*Minutes*

- a) *Minutes 7 July 2009*

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 7 July 2009 were received and noted.

- b) *Minutes 8 September 2009*

*Councillor Nation declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting for the duration of debate on this item.*

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 8 September 2009 were received and noted with the following correction:

*Minute 51:* Replace “..agreed the position” with “the Chairman stated the position”

- c) *Recommendations*

The recommendations of the Committee were approved as minuted.

**79. Matters Arising**

- a) *Minutes 7 July 2009:*

*Minute 35 :* Members were disappointed with the dismissive reply from the County Council to Councillor Hughes letter. It was agreed that this would be a future agenda item.

- b) *Minutes 8 September 2009:*

*Minute 42:* The Assistant Clerk was requested to check situation with regard to the display of rail timetables in town centre bus stops.

**80. Planning**

- a) *Planning Decisions*

Noted. Decisions notified by the planning authority are appended.

*Councillor Finnegan left the meeting*

- b) *Planning Applications*

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

Councillor Brookes-Hocking requested her vote against the proposal of “No Objections” to Application 09/01192/ADVERT be recorded.

- c) *Planning Applications/Items for Determination week ending 22 September 2009*

None.

**81. Finance**

- a) *Schedule of Accounts*

The schedule of accounts, numbers 003003 to 003012 amounting to £14,426.29 was approved.

- b) *Donation Requests*  
*Councillor Downes declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting for the duration of the debate on this item.*  
 The request from the Crediton Arts Centre for a £300.00 donation to the bi-annual "Shakespeare in the Square" was approved.
- c) *External Auditors' Certificate of Audit.*  
 The Certificate of audit was received and the comments therein noted.
- d) *Laptop PC Purchase*  
 The purchase of a laptop PC from Mid Devon District Council for the quoted £580.00 was approved.

**82. Town Plan and Annual Town Meeting Report**

It was noted that recommendations 2.1.2 a and b, 2.2.2 and 5.3 were deferred to seek clarification from the author of the report, Councillor Brookes-Hocking, who was not in the previous meeting.

Recommendations 2.1.2b, 2.2.2b, c and d and recommendation 5.3 were all approved.

Recommendation 2.1.2a was approved with the following amendment: "will adopt a policy seeking to protect greenfield sites from development where alternative sites are available for the necessary development."

Recommendation 2.2.2a was approved with the following amendment: Replace "against" with "discourage".

**83. Councillor Reports**

- a. It was reported that the Family Centre would be closing in March 2010 due to funding problems.
- b. Councillor Brookes Hocking reported that the DAPC AGM would be held on Saturday 26 September 2009 and that metered on street parking would be raised as an issue.
- c. Members were informed that the District Council's Local Development Framework exhibition would be open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday 22 October 2009.
- d. Councillor Nation informed the meeting that the Crediton Hospital Campaign Group would meet the following day, Wednesday 23 September 2009.
- e. The new skate-park official opening had been set for Saturday 3 October 2009 at 1:00 p.m.
- f. Councillor Hughes reported that the new Children's and Outreach Centre building would be officially opened by the County Council Chairman on Saturday 26 September 2009.

**84. Councillor Vacancy**

It was reported that no electors' petition for a Bye Election had been received and therefore it was agreed that the Council would Co-Opt to fill the casual vacancy on the Council. The Assistant Clerk was requested to contact a local resident interested in the position directly.

**SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

**85. Cycle Parking In Crediton**

Members were informed that the County Council may have funds available for cycle stands, however, the information on potential locations was not present and it was agreed to defer this item to the next General Purposes Committee meeting.

**86. Town Bus Timetables and Routes**

It was reported that the Superstore Town Bus Route had been tested and that the bus will now run on to Spruce Park, around Alexandra Crescent and the timetable will be extended in the afternoon. It was noted that the busses used were larger, low floor busses and that these did not perform well. They will be replaced by the normal standard, small bus for the actual run. It was also noted that, to cover the whole town,

three busses are really needed but that Devon County Council were concerned about the impact on passenger numbers on existing town bus routes. It was also reported that the bus operator is seriously considering using electric busses on these routes.

**87. Air Quality Management Group**

Councillors were informed that Councillor Wright wished to step down as the Council's representative to the Air Quality Management Group. It was agreed that Councillor Brown would represent the Council on this group, subject to confirmation of Councillor Wright's resignation.

**88. Citizens' Advice Bureau**

No Councillors wished to join the Torridge, Mid Devon & Bude Citizens' Advice Bureau. The Assistant Clerk was requested to contact them to this effect.

**89. Crediton Twinning Association**

It was agreed that Councillor Letch would be the Town Council's Representative to the Twinning Association.

**90. Agenda Items Deadline**

It was agreed that the cut off deadline for agenda items would be 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the next meeting.

**91. Administration And Personnel**

It was agreed to defer this item to Part 2.

**92. Correspondence Received**

1. Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service – Letter – Home alone campaign.
2. DCC – Letter – Footpath 24 Crediton (behind Willow Walk), response to complaint from member of public (*Future Agenda Item*).
3. The Clerk – Newsletter – September 2009.
4. Crediton Hamlets Parish Council – Letter – Donation given to help with cost for war memorial. (*Assistant Clerk to write letter of thanks.*)
5. Timberline – Brochure/Pricelist 2009 – Quality Play Systems/Outdoor Structures
6. CCD Review – Newsletter 2008-2009 & details of Conference.
7. Village Green – Newsletter Sept 2009.
8. RD & Express – Newsletter Aug 2009.
9. DAPC – Newsletter – Sept/Oct 09
10. MDDC – Newsletter - Views 'n' News issue no 27 – summer 2009.
11. MDDC – Handbook 2009 – Planning .
12. MDDC – Letter – Allocations and Infrastructure Development Plan Document.
13. DCC – Letter – Four Mills Lane reponse to Cllr Anne Hughes letter requesting more signage. (*Future Agenda Item*)
14. Victim Support – Letter – Donation Request.

**Business Brought Forward**

**93. Newsletter**

Members were asked for any ideas for articles for the next, Autumn Newsletter.

**94. Floral Crediton Prize Giving**

The Council was informed that the prize giving for the Allotments would be held with the Boniface Allotment Association's AGM in November and that the rest would be presented on Tuesday 29 September 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**95. Town Square Booking Procedure**

Councillor Brookes-Hocking requested a future agenda item on this topic.

## **PART TWO**

*In view of the sensitive and confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was agreed, in the public interest, that the press and public be excluded and instructed to withdraw*

### **96. Administration And Personnel**

- a) The confirmation of appointment of the Administration Assistant following the successful completion of the obligatory probationary period was approved.
- b) The working hours of the Administration Assistant were confirmed.
- c) The Chairman updated Councillors on the current staffing situation of the Council.

Meeting closed at approximately 22:04.

Signed:

(F Letch, Chairman)

Date: