



Crediton Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 November 2009

Present:

Councillors

- Mr F Letch (Chairman)
- Mr W Brown
- Miss J Harris
- Mrs L Brookes-Hocking
- Mr D Nation (Part Meeting)
- Mr R Adams (Part Meeting)
- Mr R Wright
- Mr P Finnegan

In Attendance:

- Clerk Mr M Ashley
- Press 2
- Public None
- Council Co-Option Candidates 4

AGENDA ITEMS

128. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors N Way, A Hughes and J Downes for personal reasons.

129. Declarations of Interest

Code of Conduct	Councillors Wright 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.
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Councillor Adams entered the meeting.

130. Public Question Time

The four candidates for the vacant position of Councillor each gave a short representation of themselves to Council.

Councillor Nation entered the meeting.

131. Councillor Vacancy

Mr Tom Connell was selected by a clear majority on the first ballot as Co-Opted Councillor for the vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor Linda Scarborough.

132. Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements

The Chairman stated that he would be making an announcement in Part 2.

The Clerk announced that the outside notice board doors had been blown off in the recent high winds and that a quotation for repairs was being sought.

133. Town Council Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 20 October 2009 were received and approved as a correct record.

134. Matters Arising

Minute 111: Councillor Brookes-Hocking reported that she had visited the County Council Highway Engineer with representatives of the Traffic Action Group and was happy to report that the Valley Route was not being completely disregarded in the considerations for the Exeter Road Link Road routing, but that the western, hillside route was, unfortunately, also still under consideration.

Minute 114: Councillor Nation reported that ongoing discussions were continuing with the District Council Principle Planning Officer on this matter. It was also reported that the County Council would be conducting a survey of pedestrian and cyclist numbers down the lane once traffic patterns had settled down following the opening of the new superstore.

Minute 117: It was reported that responses had been received from the Police and the Youth Worker but not yet from Queen Elizabeth Community College. Outreach workers from the Youth Worker's office were engaging youngsters to garner their ideas and Councillors were invited to participate in this.

Minute 122: It was reported that the District Council were considering the use of anti-graffiti paint to assist in the cleaning of the play equipment.

Minute 125: It was reported that the inaugural meeting of the Garden Club would be on Tuesday 8 December 2009 at 19:00, here in chamber. Letters of invitation to join had been sent to all Floral Crediton entrants.

135. General Purposes Committee Minutes

a) The minutes of the Town Council's General Purposes Committee meeting held on 3 November 2009 were received and noted as a correct record.

b) The recommendations of the General Purposes Committee of 3 November 2009 were approved.

136. Matters Arising

Minute 65: Councillor Brown was given the updates from Devon County Council concerning the new Town Bus Routes arising from the opening of the new superstore.

Minute 66: It was reported that the bench would be surveyed for possible repair in favour of automatic replacement by a new one.

137. 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) *Planning Applications/Items for Determination week ending 17 November 2009*

The successful appeal against the refusal of application 09/00612/ADVERT, of Morrisons supermarket for an illuminated advertising sign was tabled.

138. Finance

a) *Schedule of Accounts*

The schedule of accounts, numbers 003027 to 003037 amounting to £13,062.58 was approved.

b) *Direct Debit Payments*

It was agreed to pay utility bills via Direct Debit mandate on double signature once it was confirmed that the Council's Financial Regulations permitted this.

139. Councillor Reports

Nil

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

140. North Tawton Bus Shelter

It was agreed that the Council would not purchase the bus shelter on offer from North Tawton as there was little justification for such a large expenditure.

141. Street Lighting In Butt Parks

Councillors considered the complaint concerning the unserviceable street lights in Butt Parks. It was emphasised that any procedures for dealing with queries and complaints from the public should be robust enough to ensure residents would be adequately informed and faults would be rectified. It was additionally reported that, in a separate incident, a resident was told by Devon County Council to report a faulty street light to the District Council, who would then report that light to the County Council for repair. Councillors agreed to write to the County Council to ascertain their query and complaints reporting procedure.

142. Street Lighting at the Corner of Belle Court and the High Street

Councillors believed that the County Council had substantially maintained this light throughout the post 1974 period and expressed disappointment with the proposed cessation of maintenance. It was noted that Belle Court was a private road and not adopted by the County Council. It was agreed to contact the County Council to request they continue to maintain this street light as the lighting authority for Council Tax payees, as they have set a precedent for doing so in the past.

143. Correspondence Received

1. BBC – e-mail: BBC Breathing Spaces – Tree O’Clock.
2. DAPC – Newsletter: Nov.-Dec. ’09.
3. DCC – e-mail: Advanced Winter Driving Training For Devon & details.
4. DCC – Invitation: “Meet the Leader, Wed. 9 Dec.’09 6:30pm; Tiverton.
5. Creedy Local Action Group – Agenda: Meeting of 11 Nov.’09, Minutes 22 Sep.’09 & Action Plan 2009-10.
6. Laura Conyngham – e-mail: Tesco Community Project & Willow Walk Path, (Footpath 24) Suggestion.
7. 1st Crediton Scout Group – Letter: Scout Community Badge Project; Scout Memorial Garden Planting.
8. Community Safety Partnership – Poster: Domestic Abuse Awareness Experience; Tues. 24 Nov.’09; Tiverton.
9. Dept. of Energy & Climate Change – Leaflets: Draft National Policy Statements on infrastructure needs.
10. Crediton Climate Action – Newsletter: Nov.’09
11. BlackRock – Statement: Six Monthly Investment Statement; People’s Park Charity Trust.
12. K.Stevens – Letter, (cc): Traffic Problems – Town Park, Crediton. (*Future Agenda Item*)
13. CTAG – e-mail: Public Meeting Agenda, meeting of Thurs. 19 Nov. ’09; 7:30pm; Crediton Rugby Club.
14. MDDC – Letter: Draft Decisions on BT proposed adoption of certain public payphones, (*None in Crediton*).
15. Mr T.Connell – e-mail: Apologies & comments for B.A.A. AGM & Prizegiving, 12 Nov.’09.
16. MDDC – e-mail: Sandford Roadshow, Tues. 1 Dec.’09; Sandford Village Hall; Partnership agencies invitation to attend.
17. Community Safety Partnership – e-mail: Results of “Rugby Against Domestic Abuse Match”.
18. Clerks & Councils Direct – Newsletter: Nov.’09.

19. Royal British Legion – Letter, (cc): Complaints to MDDC re. Armistice Day 2 Minute Silence Ceremony. (*Contact MDDC re. maroons*)

Business Brought Forward

144. Queen Elizabeth Drive Tree Planting

It was reported that the Climate Action Tree Group had been offered 3 to 4 Cherry Trees which they wished to plant at the end of Queen Elizabeth Drive on the open space there and wished to have the support of the Town Council for this project. A future agenda item was requested by Councillor Nation.

145. Town Council Newsletter

The additional cost of typesetting and layout were reported to Councillors and it was requested that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman authorise printing the newsletter this way for the next, January, issue.

146. Assistant Town Clerk Office Hours

The Assistant Town Clerk reported his immediate transport problems and the likely impacts this would have on office public hours opening.

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

147. Administration And Personnel

The Assistant Clerk left the meeting.

The Chairman updated members on the situation with regards to the Town Clerk's continued sick absence and progress on his return to work. Information was also provided on possible locum clerks.

Meeting closed at approximately 21:09.

Signed:

(F Letch, Chairman)

Date: