

Crediton Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 December 2009

Present: Councillors Mr F Letch (Council Chairman)

Miss J Harris Mr T Connell Mr W Brown

Mrs L Brookes-Hocking

Mr P Finnegan Mrs A Hughes Mr B Wright Mr R Adams Mr N Way Mr D Nation Mr J Downes

In Attendance: Clerk Mr M Ashley

Public 2 Press 2

AGENDA ITEMS

148. Apologies

Nil.

149. Declarations of Interest

Personal	Councillor Downes	Minute 151: Companion Bus Passes
Personal	Councillor Wright	Minute 151: Companion Bus Passes
Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minute 158a: Cheq. 3045
Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minute 161: Town Centre Development
Personal	Councillor Harris	Minute 161: Town Centre Development
Code of Conduct	Councillors Wright, Way, Nation & 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.

150. Public Question Time

The Council was asked a question on its support for Companion Bus Passes.

151. Councillor Report

It was agreed to bring the County Council Ward Member's report forward to address the issue of Companion Bus Passes.

The County Council Ward Member highlighted that there had only been 104 applicants at the scheme's closure and that the removal of the facility badly affected vulnerable residents. It was also noted that scheme's removal went against the County Council's enabling policy for those with learning difficulties and that other district councils had had to change their policies in light of the ombudsman's decision. It was agreed to write to Mid Devon District Council requesting that the scheme be re-instated.

152. Chairman's & Clerk's Announcements

The Chairman drew Councillors' attention to the Councillors Christmas dinner menu selection and updated members on the Mayor's Surgery dates.

153. Town Council Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17 November 2009 were received and approved as a correct record.

154. Matters Arising

Minute 134 (Min. 114): It was reported that Councillors Nation and Way were scheduled to meet with the Tesco store management to discuss details of the submitted travel plan. It was also noted that pedestrian access to the A377 and bus stops was via steps only with no provision for disabled access.

Minute 136: It was reported that the broken bench at the Scout Memorial Garden had been repaired, paint stripped and prepared for re-varnishing at no cost to the Council.

Minute 141: It was reported that the public should telephone the Devon County Council callcentre at the "MyDevon" telephone number to report faulty street lights.

Minute 142: Councillor Brown reported that the County Council Officer had expressed their concern over comments made concerning the responsibility and ownership of this light. The County Council is adamant that they will not maintain this light.

Minute 147: The Chairman reported that Part 2 minutes would be taken, in confidence, in future on staffing issues.

155. General Purposes Committee Minutes

- a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 December 2009 were received and noted as a correct record.
- b) The recommendations of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 December 2009 were approved

156. Matters Arising

Minute 85: Councillor Brookes-Hocking requested that the Assistant Town Clerk provide a number of photographs for the newsletter.

157. Planning http://planning.middevon.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/tdc_home.aspx

a) Planning Decisions

Noted. It was also reported that the application to develop the site between the Council Offices and the Post Office, on the Town Square had passed the District Council's Planning Committee Meeting. It was also noted that the road adjacent would not be closed for this development.

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 December 2009
None

158. Finance

a) Schedule Councillor Adams Declared prejudicial Interest in Cheque Number 3045. There was no debate on this item.

The Schedule of accounts, numbers 003038 to 003047 amounting to £5,716.96 was approved.

b) Donation Requests

The donation request for the Town Square Christmas Tree lights of £250- was approved.

159. Boundary Committee Devon Structural Review

It was agreed to write to the Secretary of State responsible re-iterating the Town Council's support for a whole Devon Unitary body and not supporting the status quo.

160. Town Square Licensing

It was reported that the recent Town Square booking that had generated complaints had been booked correctly with regards to the District Council's terms and conditions of hire. It was noted that although a risk assessment needed to be carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions of booking, there appeared to be no adjudication or investigation into the assessment and impact of the event.

161. Town Centre Economic Development

Councillor Adams declared a Prejudicial Interest & left the meeting for the duration of the debate on this item. Councillor Harris declared a Personal Interest.

Members debated the need to address the issue of parking within the Town as a means of assisting the town centre economic development. The use of barriers and electronic signs for St Saviours car park, pedestrian access to the car park and the zoning of the car park to allow for free parking for up to two hours were discussed. It was agreed to contact the District Council to find out the likely loss of revenue of instituting two hour free parking. It was also agreed to contact the County Council concerning access to the car park via Silbury Place and the possibility of erecting signs indicating vacancies available in the car park. It was noted, however, the ticket vending machines in St Saviours Way car park were probably currently unsuitable for amendment to free parking. It was also emphasised that the economic development budget may be a way forward to address the issue of car parking and that the Council should liaise closely with the Chamber of Commerce on this issue. In addition, it was also noted that the District Council will be carrying out a survey of town traders to identify their views. The results of this are expected in February.

162. Councillor Reports

Councillor Nation reported the next meeting of the Crediton Hospital Campaign Group.

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

163. MDDC Precept Payment

The response of the Devon Association of Parish Councils to the Town Council's query concerning two part payment of the Council precept was noted.

164. Street Naming at the Station

Members agreed that the stretch of road to the Station from Station Road, (also know as Taw Vale), should continue to be named Station approach. The use of the Joseph Locke as a suggested name for other parts of the development's roads was not supported.

165. Tesco Express Deliveries

The conundrum of early morning deliveries was discussed with the need to balance the negative impact of noise to neighbouring properties against the impact on traffic in the High Street during the working day. It was agreed that further investigation would be undertaken by Councillors with Councillor Wright agreeing to contact the Tesco Express Manager and that the District Council should be asked if there were any restrictions imposed at the time of the original planning application.

166. Town Bus Services

Councillor Brown highlighted five issues that still need to be addressed, namely:

- i) Discounted tickets from Stagecoach for the route to Exeter.
- ii) The short hours of the timetable due to coaches being used for School routes and the possibility of extending the Saturday timetable when there are no school buses.
- iii) Three guestions unresolved on the superstore Town Bus routes.

Members agreed to write to Devon County Council and Stagecoach on these issues and Councillor Brown agreed to draft the letters. It was also highlighted that although Tesco have agreed to fund the Town bus route for five years, the County Council are

endeavouring to create a route that will be viable in the longer term and that this route should stop on the High Street.

167. External Auditor

The Audit Commission's Notification of appointment of a new external auditor was received and noted with no objections.

168. Correspondence Received

- 1) LCR Magazine Winter 2009
- 2) Village Green Magazine Dec. 2009
- 3) BT Letter: Confirmation of Direct Debit payment set up.
- 4) MDDC Agenda: Council Meeting Papers; Meeting of 16 December 2009.
- 5) Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership: Barnstaple Best By Train Shopping Brochure.
- 6) Boniface Allotments Association e-mail: Passing away of an Allotment Tenant (in confidence).
- 7) MDDC e-mail: Acknowledgement TC request for office related costings for budget.
- 8) DCC e-mail: Light on "The Manse" response to Courier article.
- 9) DAPC e-mail: Regional training event "Rising to the challenge"
- 10)MDDC Newsletter: Mid Devon Talk Winter 2009.
- 11)MDDC Minutes: Scrutiny Committee, 7 Dec.'09 & Managing the Environment Policy Development Group, 8 Dec.'09.
- 12) Mid Devon Devon Police e-mail: Update Message from Mid Devon Police
- 13) Crediton Climate Action e-mail: Christmas Message.
- 14) S.Keal e-mail: Interview Request.
- 15)North Devon & Mid Devon Young Carers e-mail: Request details for funding application. (future agenda item)
- 16) DCC e-mail: Notice of upgrade to High Street Pelican Crossing.

Councillors requested that periodicals and circulars be listed separately from actual correspondence.

Business Brought Forward

169. Belle Parade

Date:

The condition of the tarmac surface at Belle Parade, at the bottom near to the Church St. Junction was reported to the County Ward Member.

170. Councillors Christmas Dinner

Members were reminded of the Councillors Christmas Dinner date of Thursday 17 December 2009.

PART TWO ITEMS

In view of the sensitive and confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the press and public be excluded and instructed to withdraw.

171. Administration and Personnel

The Clerk left the meeting for the duration of this debate.

The meeting closed at approximately 21:43 p.m.

The Chairman updated members on the current staffing situation.

Signed:	(F Letch, Chairman)

PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR CREDITON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 15 DECEMBER 2009

<u>Planning Decisions</u> – as notified by the Planning Authority:

Type - Application - Granted

Reference: 08/02084/FULL/NMA Full planning application

Address: The Mews (1 Palm Lodge) Deep Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2BY

Description: Erection of a dwelling (Revised Scheme) NON MATERIAL AMENDMENT - GRANTED 1.12.09

Web link: 08/02084/FULL/NMA

DECISION

DECISION

DECISION

Type - Application - Withdrawn

Reference: 09/01471/FULL Full planning application

Address: 5A & 5B Courtis Gardens Crediton Devon EX17 3BQ

Description: Erection of two-storey extension

Web link: 09/01471/FULL

Type - Application - Granted

Reference: **09/01490/FULL** Full planning application

Address: Larksbloom Brays Close Crediton Devon EX17 3HZ

Description: Conversion of garage into additional living accommodation and installation of windows

Web link: <u>09/01490/FULL</u>

Type – Conversation Area – No

Objection

DECISION

DECISION

APPLICATION

Reference: 09/01570/CAT Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

Address: Primavera Pounds Hill Crediton Devon EX17 1DT

Description: Notification of intention to remove 1 Ash tree within the Conservation Area

Web link: 09/01570/CAT

Type – Conversation Area – No Objection

Reference: 09/01511/FULL Full planning application

Address: Haywards County Primary School East Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AX

Description: Erection of canopy over section of playground

Web link: 09/01511/FULL

Planning Applications

Type – Application

Reference: 09/01706/LBC Listed Building Consent, registered 23/11/2009

Address: 19/21 High Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AH

Description: Listed Building Consent for conversion of addition at rear to form 1 dwelling (Revised Scheme)

Web link: 09/01706/LBC

No Objections -

Type - Application

APPLICATION

Reference: 09/01760/FULL Full planning application, registered 01/12/2009

Address: 34 Beech Park Crediton Devon EX17 1HW

Description: Erection of extension

Web link: 09/01760/FULL

Approved -

Type – Application

APPLICATION

Reference: **09/01681/MFUL** Major Planning Application, registered 02/12/2009 Address: Land to South of Exeter Road Wellparks Crediton Devon EX17 3PP

Description: Erection of 22 dwellings with associated parking

Web link: 09/01681/MFUL

Approved -

Type - Application

APPLICATION

Reference: 09/01733/FULL Full planning application, registered 04/12/2009

Address: St Swithins Old Tiverton Road Crediton Devon EX17 1EG Description: Erection of a double garage; extension and retaining wall

Web link: <u>09/01733/FULL</u>

Approved -

Type – Application

Reference: 09/01742/LBC Listed Building Consent, registered 03/12/2009

Address: 6 Park Street Crediton Devon EX17 3HL

Description: Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations

Web link: <u>09/01742/LBC</u>

Approved -