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Crediton Town Council



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 25 May, 2010

Present: Councillors Mr F Letch (Chairman)

Mr W Brown Miss J Harris Mrs A Hughes Mr R Adams

Mrs L Brookes-Hocking

Mr P Finnegan Mr D Nation Mr R Wright

In Attendance: Clerk Mr M Maggs

Public 2 Press 0

1. Chairman of the Council and Town Mayor

Councillor Letch was confirmed as Chairman and Town Mayor for the municipal year 2010/2011.

2. Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Councillor Letch signed the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk.

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Downes (personal), Connell (health) and Way. Councillor Way would arrive later (Ordinary Meeting) due to a previous commitment with another council.

4. 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.

5. Public Question Time

None.

6. Chairman's & Clerk's Announcements

The Chairman announced that he, Councillor Brookes-Hocking and the Clerk would be attending a training session, organised by Dawlish Town Council, on Thursday 27 May. He would also be attending, with the Vice Chairman, an event at Down St Mary on Saturday 29 May.

The Clerk had no announcements to make.

7. Mayoress/Mayor's Escort for 2010/2011

The Chairman nominated Mrs N Letch as Town Mayoress for the municipal year 2010/2011.

8. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Council and Deputy Town Mayor

It was agreed that there would be no need for a formal ballot. The Chairman nominated Councillor Harris. There were no other nominations and Councillor Miss J Harris was elected Vice Chairman and Deputy Town Mayor for the municipal year 2010/2011.

9. Appointment of Committees, Sub Committees and Working Groups

It was proposed and agreed that, in general, the current membership would be retained except for membership of the General Purposes Committee, a reinstated Property Sub Committee, a new Events Working Group and one change to the elected representatives of other organisations (absent councillors had provided prior indication of their willingness to being appointed). The Chairman/Vice Chairman of each Committee/Sub Committee/Working Group would be decided at the first meeting.

a) General Purposes Committee

Councillors Mr F Letch, Miss J Harris, Mrs L Brookes-Hocking, Mrs A Hughes, Mr P Finnegan, Mr R Wright and MR T Connell. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the General Purposes Committee would be decided at the first meeting of the committee.

b) Finance Committee

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillors Mrs L Brookes-Hocking, Mr R Wright, Mr R Adams, Mrs A Hughes, Mr D Nation and Mr J Downes.

c) Allotments Sub Committee

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mr R Adams.

d) Parish Paths Partnership Sub Committee

The Chairman, Mr R Edwards, Councillor Mr R Wright and Mr G Chudley.

e) Administration & Personnel Sub Committee

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillors Mrs L Brookes-Hocking, Mr R Adams, Mr W Brown and Mrs A Hughes.

f) Property Sub Committee

Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillors Mr R Wright and Mr P Finnegan.

g) Floral Crediton Working Group

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Mr M Szabo and Councillors, Mrs A Hughes, Mrs L Brookes-Hocking and Mr T Connell.

h) Communications Working Group

Councillors Mrs L Brookes-Hocking, Mr D Nation and Mr J Downes.

i) Peoples Park & Scout Memorial Gardens Working Group

Councillors Mr R Wright, Mr W Brown, Mr P Finnegan, Mrs A Hughes.

j) Events Working Group

Chairman and Councillor Hughes (members of the community would be invited to join at a later stage).

10. Appointment of Charity Governors

Charity Governors were appointed as follows:

a) Haywards Educational Foundation Mrs G Ponsford

b) Crediton United Charities Mrs G Ponsford and Councillor Miss J Harris

11. Appointment of Representatives

The following elected representatives were appointed (absent councillors had provided prior indication of their willingness to being appointed):

a) **Devon Towns Forum**

Councillors Mr D Nation and Mrs L Brookes-Hocking.

b) Devon Association of Local Councils (County Committee & Larger Councils Sub Committee)

Councillor Mrs L Brookes-Hocking.

c) Crediton Area Management & Marketing

Councillors Mr D Nation and Mrs A Hughes

d) Crediton Twinning Association

Councillors Mrs A Hughes.

e) Monthly Chamber of Commerce Meetings

Councillor Mr D Nation

f) Police Liaison Meeting

Chairman and Mr R Wright.

q) Boniface Link Association

Councillor Mrs A Hughes.

h) CLAG (Crediton Area Group Mid-Devon Community Safety Partnership) Chairman and Councillor Mr R Wright. i) Friends of Crediton Station Councillors Mr N Way and Mr J Downes. j) Lords Meadow Business Forum Councillor Mr D Nation. k) Mid Devon PCT Care Services Project Councillor Mr D Nation.

- I) AQMA Steering Group
- Councillor Mr W Brown.
- m) Crediton Transport Action Group Councillor Mr D Nation.
- n) Sustainable Crediton Councillors Mr J Downes.

Meeting closed at 7.15pm.

- o) Crediton Hospital Campaign Group Councillor Mr D Nation.
- p) Crediton Fairtrade Partnership Councillors Mr R Wright.
- q) Crediton Childrens' Centre Management Group Councillor Mrs A Hughes.

Signed:	(F Letch – Chairman)
Date:	



Crediton Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 25 May 2010

Present: Councillors Mr F Letch (Chairman)

Mr W Brown Miss J Harris Mrs A Hughes Mr R Adams

Mrs L Brookes-Hocking

Mr P Finnegan Mr D Nation Mr R Wright

Mr N Way (part meeting)

In Attendance: Clerk Mr M Maggs

Public 2 Press 0

AGENDA ITEMS

1. To receive apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Downes (personal) and Connell (health).

2. Declarations of Interest

Code of	Councillors	As members of more than one authority, declared that
Conduct	Wright and	any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would
	Nation	be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

3. Public Question Time

None.

4. Chairman's & Clerk's Announcements

None

5. Town Council Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 27 April 2010 were received and approved as a correct record.

6. Matters Arising.

None.

7. General Purposes Committee Minutes

a) Minutes

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 11 May 2010 were received and noted.

b) Recommendations

The recommendations of the Committee were approved as minuted.

8. Matters Arising.

Minute 134

Councillor Brown expressed concern over items relating to the revision of Standing Orders and the Code of Conduct.

It was suggested that these matters are dealt with, initially, by the Administration and Personnel Sub Committee. The Clerk would discuss the issues with the Chairman.

Minute 139c

Councillor Wright provided a brief update following discussion with residents. He would continue to investigate the matter of ownership/responsibility.

9. Floral Crediton Working Group Minutes

The minutes of the Floral Crediton Working Group meeting held 27 October 2009 and 24 March 2010 were received and noted. The recommendations of the working group were approved as minuted.

10. Matters Arising.

A member of the public and member Floral Crediton Working Group reported that he had held initial sponsorship/funding discussions with Tesco.

Councillor Nation reported that there had been no further progress on the promised funding from Tesco for a community project. He went on to emphasise the importance of adopting a co-ordinated approach to funding.

11. 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 25 May 2010 Comments made in respect of planning applications and items for determination considered at this meeting are appended.
- d) Mid Devon Allocations and Infrastructure Development Plan (DPD) Examination
 - i) <u>DPD Examination Report</u>

Councillor Nation had provided a brief written report following the Public Inquiry which took place on 27 and 28 April. The report was noted with thanks. Councillor Way arrived.

It was also reported that the Inspector had requested MDDC to re-advertise and consult with the public on various aspects of the DPD, including the deletion of the by-pass route. The closing date for comments was 2 July.

In view of the urgency and importance of the matter, it was agreed that the Town Council should make every effort to inform the local community. The Chairman agreed to issue a press release in consultation with another member; the Clerk to action.

ii) Pedlerspool Submission

Details of an additional submission had been received from the Inquiry Programme Officer and circulated by the Clerk. It was agreed that the following comments should be submitted (deadline 27 May):

- No development should take place until the proposed link road is completed.
- The Council is opposed to the removal of the bypass route and, therefore, any development of this site should be constrained.
- The development does not link adequately with the town. There are insufficient pedestrian and cyclist routes with unsatisfactory footpath access to the town.
- The proposed industrial development is effectively sealed off from the north. Access from Sandford would be difficult without a lengthy detour.

12. Finance

a) Schedule of Accounts

The Schedule of Accounts, numbers 3092 to 3111 totalling £10,098.93, was approved.

b) Internal Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2010

The internal auditor's report was received and noted. Only one item required attention; the fidelity guarantee would need to be increased to take into account that MDDC had

made a single precept payment despite a clear indication that it would be paid in two parts.

- c) Council's Final Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2010

 The final accounts for year ended 31 March 2010 were received and approved without comment.
- d) Annual Return, Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for the financial year ended 31 March 2010
 It was formally agreed to approve and sign the Annual Return for the year ended 31

March 2010, the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement.

e) Donation Requests

A request for financial support for Churchyard maintenance had been received from the Crediton Church Corporation. It was agreed that the Clerk should reply advising that the District Council has particular responsibility in this area and that the Corporation should contact the Town Council again, if necessary, following MDDC's response.

13. Councillor Reports

a) AQMA Meeting

It was reported, following a recent Air Quality Management meeting, that officers from the Highway Authority would investigate the use of alternative routes after the link road had been built.

b) Friends of Crediton Station

A member reported that the improvement project had been very successful. The only on-going issue would be that of maintenance. It was hoped that additional volunteer help could be obtained to assist with the maintenance of the floral displays. To that end, the group hoped to enlist the support of the Floral Crediton Working Group. The Clerk to raise at the next meeting of the FCWG.

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

14. Teen Shelter

It was reported that the member had not been able to spend any time with youth workers to discover the views of young people.

The issue of funding was still on-going. Any developments would be reported to the next available meeting.

15. MDDC Office

Following a letter from a concerned member of the local community, it was agreed that the Chairman should write to the Leader and Chief Executive of the District Council expressing the Town Council's extreme disappointment if MDDC should consider any reduction in service provided from the Council Offices in Market Street.

16. Christmas Lights

The Clerk reported that he had been approached by a member of the public with an offer of Christmas lights for use in the High Street and Town Square. He had forwarded the offer to the Chamber of Commerce who were responsible (with Town Council financial support) for organising the displays.

17. Part-Night Lighting

The Clerk had circulated details on the County Council's proposals for part-night lighting in residential areas across Devon. It was hoped that the plan would reduce carbon emissions and energy costs. Non-essential street lighting would be turned off from 1230 am to 0530 am each night.

There were no objections to this proposal, most members considering it a good idea. The Clerk to inform DCC.

18. School Buses

The County ward member provided some information on the provision of school buses. The buses did not form part of the DCC fleet but were subject to the same standards and regulations. DCC carried out regular spot checks in association with the Police. If members

of the public suspected that a vehicle was not complying with the regulations, they should contact the fleet compliance manager at County Hall. DCC was very conscious of the need to strike the right balance between providing safe, low emission vehicles and the cost of replacement buses minimum emission engines.

Members strongly believed that students should be encouraged to walk, that the buses had an unpleasant impact on the environment and caused traffic chaos. As a consequence, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the QECC Principal suggesting that students are dropped off at St Saviour's Way and walk to college using the stepped footpath from Town Park to Barnfield.

19. Parish Lengthsman

The Clerk had circulated the new schedule for the Parish Lengthsman. The next visit to the town would be for five days from 3 June. Councillors agreed to contact the Clerk with any issues requiring the Lengthsman's attention.

20. Mid Devon Show

The Council had been invited by MDDC to staff a stand at the Mid Devon Show. The cost would be £230.

The Clerk was asked to decline the invitation this year.

21. Scout Memorial Gardens

No information was available. Deferred to next meeting.

22. Correspondence Received and Items of Information

Correspondence

- 1. MDDC Electoral Return: Results of the election of a Member of Parliament for the Central Devon Constituency.
- 2. May Gurney e-mail: Notification of Road Closure; Penstone; 16 to 20 August 2010.
- 3. Down St Mary Village Hall Committee Invitation: Down St Mary Hog Roast & May Fair; Sat. 29 May 2010.
- 4. Dawlish Town Council Training Course Notification: Building Councils Together; 27 may 2010.
- 5. Mrs L Conyngham e-mail: Thank you note for the Civic Award presented 18 May 2010.
- 6. SLCC Training Notification: Half Day Course in Cemetery Management; Continuous Professional Development; Wed. 30 June 2010.
- 7. NPFA AGM Notification: Wed. 16 June 2010; Kenilworth, Warwickshire.
- 8. Lapford & District Horticultural Society Notification of Event: Lapford Open Gardens event in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance; Sat. 19 & Sun. 20 June 2010.
- 9. Community Council for Devon Training Notification: "Funding Your Vision; The Steps to Success"; Wed. 26 May 2010, Spreyton.
- 10. Mr R. Edwards e-mail: Update on Footpath 28 re-routing due to river erosion.
- 11. SLCC; Devon Branch Agenda & Minutes: Branch Meeting Fri. 4 June 2010; Exminster.
- 12. MDDC, Community Planning Support Officer e-mail: Request to log Town Plan with the Communities in Action organisation.
- 13. Citizens' Advice Bureau Letter: Thank you letter for Annual donation presented 18 May 2010.
- 14. Anderton & Rowlands letter requesting assistance for public event (fairground) and details of Mayor's charity. Clerk has responded.
- 15. Crediton Volunteer Centre letter of thanks for donation.
- 16. DALC agenda and papers for LCSC meeting on 3 June.
- 17. Mrs Bellamy letter supporting town bus driver over "muddy boots" issue.

Information

- Mid Devon Transport Group Guide: A Service Users Guide; April 2010.
- 2. Assoc. of Chief Exec's of Voluntary Organisations Training Courses: Spring/Summer 2010.
- 3. Involve Mid Devon Agenda: Meeting of Tues. 25 May 2010.

- 4. MDDC Newsletter: Parish Matters; May 2010.
- 5. DCC Newsletter: Country Mile; April 2010.
- 6. Mid Devon Police update message for May.
- 7. DCC monthly County newsletter. Input.

Business Brought Forward

23. Local Area Group Meeting (Community Safety Partnership)

Following discussion at the last LAG meeting, it was reported that the Youth Centre is being used more despite a recent problem with inappropriate behaviour resulting in the exclusion of individuals.

24. Roadside Interviews

The County ward member provided information on the traffic counts and roadside interviews which had recently taken place in the town and would continue in outlying areas for the next few weeks. The purpose was to update traffic data held by the Highway Authority. It was hoped that the results would be available soon.

25. Property Holdings

Councillor Finnegan agreed to examine the Council's documentation on its property holdings and make a report to Council. The Clerk had already made arrangements for the inspection of the documents.

26. Newsletter

Councillors were reminded that the deadline for the Annual Report and Newsletter was rapidly approaching (mid June). Prepared articles and items of interest would be appreciated.

27. Union Terrace

A problem with pedestrian access off Union Terrace had been raised by a member of the public at the last Mayor's Surgery. The Clerk would contact the Highway Authority.

PART TWO ITEMS

The meeting closed at approximately 22:00.

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.

28. Finance

The Chairman outlined the request from the Assistant Town Clerk for payment for additional hours and outstanding leave due to the previous long-term absence of the Town Clerk. The negotiated settlement, as advised by the Chairman and Vice Chairman, was approved.

Signed: (F Letch, Chairman)

Date:

PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 25 MAY 2010

<u>Planning Decisions</u> – The Council noted the following decisions, as notified by the Planning Authority:

Type - Granted

Reference: **10/00015/FULL** Full planning application

Address: 1 Landscore Close Crediton Devon EX17 3QR

Description: Variation of condition (3) of planning permission 04/01669/OUT to allow extension of time limit for

commencement

Web link: <u>10/00015/FULL</u>

Type – Granted

DECISION

DECISION

DECISION

Reference: 10/00458/FULL Full planning application

Address: 35 Meadow Gardens Crediton Devon EX17 1EJ

Description: Erection of an extension

Web link: <u>10/00458/FULL</u>

Type - Granted

Reference: 10/00486/CAT Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

Address: Penton House Old Tiverton Road Crediton Devon EX17 1EF

Description: Notification of intention to remove 5 branches from Ash tree within a Conservation Area

Web link: <u>10/00486/CAT</u>

Type - Application Withdrawn

DECISION

Reference:

Address:

10/00551/LBC Listed Building Consent

23A High Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AH

Description: Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations

Web link: 10/00551/LBC

Type – Application Withdrawn

Supplementary

DECISION

Reference: 10/00471/FULL Full planning application, registered 29/03/2010

Address: West Park Alexandra Road Crediton Devon EX17 2DH

Description: Erection of boundary wall, repair existing stone wall, planting of beech hedging on land between the two walls

Web link: 10/00471/FULL

Planning Applications

The Council considered the following applications:

APPLICATION

Type – Application Deferred from previous GP Meeting

Reference: 10/00645/MOUT Major Outline Application, registered 30/04/2010

Address: Land and Buildings at NGR 284319 100945 (Lake View) Old Tiverton Road Crediton Devon

Description: Outline for the erection of 135 dwellings and associated works

Web link: 10/00645/OUT

OBJECT – unless more suitable pedestrian and public transport routes to the town centre are included. Members suggested a pedestrian route via the higher site through the cemetery extension, cemetery and Penton Lane together with the provision of a footpath along the Rugby Club side (N) of Exhibition Road. It was also noted that the development would not have adequate direct public transport links to the town centre or railway station. In addition, members requested that the Planning Authority ensures that adequate off-street parking is provided for all housing. Members noted the location of the surface water attenuation areas and asked whether the Planning Authority could discover whether these could be used as possible areas of Public Open Space.

APPLICATION

Type – Application

Reference: 10/00637/FULL Full planning application, registered 11/05/2010

Address: 27 Exeter Road Crediton Devon EX17 3BW

Description: Conversion of barn to dwelling (Revised Scheme)

Web link: 10/00637/FULL

APPROVED

APPLICATION

APPLICATION

Type - Application

Reference: 10/00716/FULL Full planning application, registered 10/05/2010

Address: Chiddenbrook Surgery Threshers Crediton Devon EX17 3JJ

Description: Erection of replacement footbridge

Web link: 10/00716/FULL

APPROVED

Type – Application

Reference: 10/00724/FULL Full planning application, registered 11/05/2010

Address: 4 Rus Cottages Threshers Crediton Devon EX17 3NN

Description: Erection of replacement extension

Web link: <u>10/00724/FULL</u>

NO OBJECTION

APPLICATION

Type – Application

Proposal: 10/00424/FULL Full application

Address: 35 Tuckers Meadow, Crediton, Devon, EX17 3NU

Description: Erection of extensions and conservatory (Revised Scheme)

Agent: Mr Phil Routledge BDC, Wesley Cottage, Morchard Bishop, Crediton, EX17 6NX

Web link: 10/00424/FULL

NO OBJECTION

APPLICATION

Type – Application – <u>Crediton Hamlets</u> Revised Scheme

Reference: 10/00738/FULL (Crediton Hamlets)

Address: Land and Buildings at NGR 281295 100724 (Chapel Downs) Queen Elizabeth Drive Crediton Devon

Description: Conversion of barn complex to office space (Revised Scheme)

Web link: <u>10/00738/FULL</u>

NO COMMENT

APPLICATION

Type – Application (Revised) Supplementary

Reference: 10/00493/FULL Full planning application, registered 06/04/2010

Address: 9 Deep Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2BX

Description: Construction of access ramp, relocation of retaining wall and erection of shed and railings, (revised drawings)

Web link: <u>10/00493/FULL</u>

APPROVED