



Minutes of Crediton Town Council's Environment Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 13th November 2018, at 6.00 pm, at the Council Chamber, Market Street, Crediton

Present: Cllrs Miss J Harris (Committee Chairman), Mr F Letch, Mr M Szabo, Mr J Ross, Mr A Wyer and Mrs A Hughes

In Attendance: Mrs Emma Anderson, Assistant Clerk
Ms Penni Tearle, Chair of Boniface Allotments Association
Mr Bert Jewell
1 member of the public (Mrs Denise Ross, Sustainable Crediton)

Absent: Cllr Ms K Piercy

44. To receive and accept apologies

None received.

45. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Letch declared that as a member of more than one authority, that any views or opinions expressed at the meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

46. Public Question Time

There were no questions.

47. Order of Business

There were no changes to the order of business.

48. Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements

There were no announcements.

49. Committee Meeting Minutes - To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 18th September 2018. It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 18th September 2018, as a correct record and they were duly signed by Cllr Harris. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

50. Matters Arising

Page 6, minute number 33: Cllr Letch requested an update on the damaged benches outside Lloyds Bank. The Assistant Clerk confirmed Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) has claimed responsibility for these benches and confirmed someone would be out to remove/repair them. This has now been chased on two more occasions. Cllr Letch confirmed he would follow this up at Phoenix House directly.

Page 9, minute number 40: Cllr Hughes requested an update on the rose bed on Belle Parade. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that MDDC's grounds maintenance within Crediton had been under pressure this year due to management changes and hopefully this area would be addressed in the next planting schedule.

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51. Allotments

a) **To consider the following issues and agree a course of action:**

➤ **Vacant plots, Non-cultivation Notices and Notices To Quit**

The Assistant Clerk confirmed there are currently 3 vacant plots on the Barnfield allotment site and there is no one on the waiting list to take these on. The availability of allotments has since been advertised on the council's noticeboards and social media pages.

b) **To consider matters raised by the Boniface Allotments Association and agree any actions.**

None raised.

c) **To consider matters and issues raised by allotment tenants and agree any actions.**

None raised.

d) **To receive an update on the current water provision at the allotment sites.**

The Assistant Clerk confirmed the push down taps have been installed at the Barnfield allotment site and signs will be up in the coming days to clarify how the taps work.

Penni Tearle left the meeting at 6.13 pm

52. To receive an update on the following works:

➤ **Bench at Landscore.** Due to an administrative error the bench has been at the shot blasters waiting to be taken to South West Galvanisers. The Town Council has been invoiced for the cleaning, which totalled £45 + VAT. This issue has now been resolved and the bench will be galvanised in due course.

➤ **Various pressure washing.** This work has been completed and inspected.

➤ **Various paintwork.** This work has been completed and inspected.

➤ **Various groundworks.** This work has been completed and inspected.

➤ **Various grounds maintenance works.** The works at Upper Deck have been completed and inspected. The removal of the buddleia will be carried out in due course.

➤ **Moffats Land boundary wall.** This work has been completed and inspected.

53. **To consider the report received following the carrying out of the Priority Code 1 works identified in the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment.** A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda. It was **resolved** to note the report and ensure tree T5 is re-inspected next year as advised. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

54. **To receive an update on increasing the number of floral displays within the Town, including considering a quotation received for purchasing a new planter, and agree any actions.** A copy of the quotation received had been issued with the agenda. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that Mr Jewell had seen the two-tier barrel planters at the Britain in Bloom awards evening and thought they would suit the area outside Hillbrow Care Home. It was **resolved** to purchase the two-tier barrel planter from Amberol at a total cost of £315 + VAT plus £54 + VAT for delivery. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

Mr Jewell confirmed that he had plants left over from the Town Square winter planting therefore the barrel planter could be filled as soon as it arrives. The Assistant Clerk confirmed she would liaise with Mr Jewell regarding delivery.

55. **To discuss the condition of the Peoples Park Wildlife Area and agree a course of action.** Further documentation relating to this item had been issued with the agenda. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that planting/tidy up days are scheduled for 16th March and 11th May. Members discussed the idea of installing fencing, however it was agreed that this wouldn't suit the natural feel of the wildlife area.

It was **resolved** to get a sign made up to highlight that this is a wildlife area that is used by children and to encourage dog owners to please pick up after their dogs. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

It was further **resolved** to research dog poo bag dispensers to see if one could be installed near the sign to ensure dog owners have the means necessary to pick up after their dogs. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

56. To discuss entering Crediton into the It's Your Neighbourhood Awards and the 2019 Britain In Bloom competition and agree a course of action. Cllr Szabo confirmed the fee for entering the Pennant Competition was £25 this year, however he would know the confirmed entry fee for 2019 by December. It was **resolved** for Crediton to enter both the It's Your Neighbourhood Awards and the 2019 Britain In Bloom competition, with the entry fee being allocated from the Floral Crediton budget once the fee has been confirmed. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)

57. Clerk's Report - To receive a report from the Assistant Clerk, for information only.
The Assistant Clerk advised members she had been approached by a member of the public regarding the noticeboard on the McMillian Williams Solicitors building. This noticeboard is currently used by anyone as there is no glass/plastic to make it secure, however it is also not weatherproof. The individual requested for the Town Council to take on the maintenance of this noticeboard. The Assistant Clerk confirmed she is currently looking into who this noticeboard belongs to. Members agreed it would be a good idea to take on this noticeboard if it is possible.

Mr Jewell had also approached the Assistant Clerk with an idea to transform the roundabout by Tesco which is currently not maintained. This area is owned by Devon County Council (DCC) and therefore a form needs to be submitted online to gain permission from DCC for the roundabout area to be dug up and replanted. Bert thought this area could also create a potential sponsorship opportunity for local businesses. The Assistant Clerk has contacted Mole Avon to see if it would be interested in sponsoring the planting and also whether R J Brooks would provide the necessary road safety requirements in exchange for sponsorship advertising. Bert has three volunteers who will help with the digging up and planting of the area once everything else is in place.

All members agreed this was an extremely good idea and it was unanimously **resolved** to support this idea. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

58. Close
The meeting closed at 6.35 pm

Signed
Chairman

Dated.....15-1-19.....