



Minutes of the of Credition Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 March 2023 at 19.00 at Old Landscore School, Greenway, Credition

Present: Cllrs E Brookes-Hocking, J Harris, N Letch, F Letch (part meeting), J Downes, G Cochran, G Fawssett, J Cairney, D Ross and S Huxtable

Apologies: Cllrs S Chenore and M Szabo

In Attendance: R Avery - Town Clerk

2303/110 Public Question Time

A question had been raised by a member of the public:

"Since 2016/2017 in percentage terms the Credition precept has risen as follows:-

2016/2017 21.5 %

2017/2018 12.0 %

2018/2019 11.4 %

2019/2020 00.0 %

2020/2021 5.0 %

2021/2022 25.0 %

2022/2023 13.8 %

2023/2024 17.2 %

Please explain why the total of these percentage increases, as far as I can see, exceeds those put in place by any other Town or Parish Council in England. Presumably you consider the increases put in place by other councils before decisions are made about any increases in our town?

Finally, are certain of our councillors totally out of touch with financial reality?"

Cllr Brookes-Hocking noted the concerns raised, but made the following points:

- All parish and town councils are in differing positions, such as whether they own income-generating assets or have a high rate of residential dwellings and therefore precepts may be subsidised
- Credition Town Council recognizes the cost-of-living impact on many people living in the town, but the wider benefits of the town councils service delivery is spread between all council tax payers
- Increases to the precept improves the town's resilience.

2303/111 To receive and accept apologies

It was **resolved** to approve apologies from Cllrs S Chenore and M Szabo. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

2303/112 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Downes and Cairney declared that as members of more than one authority, 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.

2303/113 To receive reports from County and District Councillors

It was resolved that this item would be incorporated into item 15.

- 2303/114 Order of Business**
There were no changes.
- 2303/115 Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements**
There were no announcements.
- 2303/116 Town Council Minutes**
It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 24 January 2023 and Tuesday 31 January 2023 as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran).
- 2303/117 To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following meetings** (minutes had been issued with the agenda):
- **Grants Sub-Committee held on Tuesday 29 November 2022**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
 - **Community and Environment Committee held on Tuesday 29 November 2022**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Community and Environment Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking).
 - **Climate Emergency Committee held on Thursday 08 December 2022**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Climate Emergency Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran).
 - **Planning and Town Strategy Committee held on Tuesday 03 January 2023**
It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Planning and Town Strategy Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking).
 - **Council Affairs and Finance Committee held on Tuesday 10 January 2023**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Council Affairs and Finance Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
 - **Community and Environment Committee held on Tuesday 17 January 2023**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Community and Environment Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking).
 - **Council Affairs and Finance Committee held on Tuesday 31 January 2023**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Council Affairs and Finance Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
 - **Planning and Town Strategy Committee held on Tuesday 07 February 2023**
It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Planning and Town Strategy Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking).
 - **Council Affairs and Finance Committee held on Tuesday 14 February 2023**
It was **resolved** to receive and accept the minutes of the Council Affairs and Finance Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
- 2303/118 To receive the report on the King's Coronation and to approve the recommendation therein** (a copy of the report had been issued with the agenda)
It was **noted** that this would be considered at the Full Council meeting on Thursday 30 March.
- 2303/119 To receive and consider the quotations for the installation of water troughs at the allotments** (the quotation document had been issued with the agenda)
It was **resolved** to approve the quotation from E J Yeandle (contractor B). (Proposed by Cllr Fawsett).

- 2303/120** **To receive and approve the quote for the installation of 3 new litter bins on the footpaths linking Tarka View and Downeshead Lane** (the quotation document had been issued with the agenda)
It was **resolved** to approve the quotation for the installation of 3 new litter bins and the annual emptying charge. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran). It was **noted** that the emptying charge would be an ongoing annual cost moving forward.
It was **resolved** that a map of bins would be obtained with the view to undertake a review of their locations. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable).
- 2303/121** **To consider the request for a viburnum bush to be planted in Peoples Park as a symbol of Ukraine**
It was **resolved** to approve the request, with the location to receive final approval by the Town Clerk. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran). Cllr Brookes-Hocking thanked CISCO for the suggestion to undertake this project.

Cllr F Letch joined the meeting at 19.33
- 2303/122** **To receive and approve the quotation for the transfer of CCTV monitoring to Exeter City Council** (the quotation document had been issued with the agenda)
It was **resolved** to approve the quotation for the transfer. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).
- 2303/123** **To note the draft 2023/24 Meeting Calendar** (a copy of the calendar had been issued with the meeting)
It was **agreed** to swap Council Affairs and Full Council in May, but there were no other changes. The dates would be amended and recirculated.
- 2303/124** **To receive reports from Town Councillors** (for information only)
- County Cllr Letch:
- Potholes – 28 teams fixing potholes, reducing to 14 in the summer. Potholes should be repaired no later than 28 days after being assessed if criteria is met. After repair, there is no quality inspection undertaken
 - Child Services - £127m overspend to be paid back by March 2026. There have been a lot of interim staff and turnover has been high. However, a Director and a Deputy Leader of Children Services are due to be appointed soon
 - Rail Forum – it was reported that over 60,000 journeys per month are being undertaken on the Tarka Line and a further 25,000 on the Dartmoor line.
- District Cllr Letch:
- Planning application at Newcombes – written to officers regarding concerns and requested a meeting if officer is minded to approve; a date for the meeting will be circulated.
- District Cllr Cairney:
- Leader of MDDC resigned and a new cabinet has been appointed
 - Newcombes Meadow paddling pool has been safeguarded for the next year
 - Pod homes project is not progressing as hoped, but in the next year the accommodation should be available.

District Cllr Downes:

- Car parking charge increase was stopped, an inflationary increase has been approved but long stay and overnight charges will not progress. Permits to park in St Saviours Way are available and equal 85p per day
- Wellparks planning application was removed from Planning Committee meeting last week.

Cllr F Letch:

- Expressed concerns regarding the steps from Cockles Rise to Dean Street.

Cllr Cochran:

- Liquidambar planted at Peoples Park.

2303/125 To note the date of the next meeting – Tuesday 16 May 2023 at 19.00

It was noted that the date of the net meeting was Tuesday 09 May 2023 at 19.00.

Signed

Chairman

Dated.....