



**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Credition Town Council held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 19:00 in the Old Landscore School, Greenway, Credition, EX17 3LP**

<b>Present:</b>	Cllrs Steve Huxtable, Joyce Harris, Frank Letch, Guy Cochran, Giles Fawssett, Paul Perriman, Natalia Letch, Rachel Backhouse, Jim Cairney and John Downes
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cllr Liz Brookes-Hocking
<b>Absent:</b>	Cllr Georgina Stone
<b>In Attendance:</b>	4 members of the public
<b>Minute Taker:</b>	Rachel Avery

## MINUTES

### 2309/38 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chair read out a list of questions received prior to the meeting from Independents for Credition.

The Chair advised that one question relates to the Liberal Democrat group, and this question would be forwarded to the relevant councillors.

The questions would be responded to within a period of 10 days.

A member of the public asked if the council had a plan for an increase or decrease in the precept. The town council's response would be appended to the agenda papers for the next Full Council meeting.

### 2309/39 APOLOGIES

It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Brookes-Hocking. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran).

### 2309/40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

#### 2309/40.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Cairney, Downes, Cochran and N Letch declared that as members of more than one authority, any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

**2309/40.2 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no requests.

**2309/41 ORDER OF BUSINESS**

There was no requirement to change the order of business.

**2309/42 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**2309/43 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

**2309/44 TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES****2309/44.1 TO RATIFY THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES**

It was **resolved** to receive and ratify the minutes of the following committees as a correct record:

Community and Environment held on 30 May 2023 (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)  
 Planning and Town Strategy held on 4 July 2023 (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

It was noted that the Council Affairs and Finance minutes held on 11 July 2023 would be approved at the next meeting.

**2309/45 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Backhouse reminded councillors that the Green Fair would take place on Saturday 23 September 2023.

**2309/46 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

*Standing Orders were suspended*

It was **noted** that documents were unavailable to members of the public.

*Standing Orders were reinstated*

It was **resolved** to approve the Financial Regulations. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

## **2309/41 BUDGET 2023/24**

### **2309/41.1 TO APPROVE A VIREMENT OF £3316.48 FROM GENERAL RESERVES TO THE 2023/24 GRANTS BUDGET**

It was **resolved** to approve the virement. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

### **2309/41.2 TO RATIFY THE FOLLOWING GRANT PAYMENTS**

*Cllr Downes disclosed a pecuniary interest in the Share in the Square application and did not take part in the discussion or vote*

It was resolved to ratify the grant payments. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran).

## **2309/42 TOWN MAINTENANCE AND STREET CLEANSING**

### **2309/42.1 CONCERNS (ITEM REQUESTED BY CLLR CAIRNEY)**

Cllr Cairney stated that since lockdown, weeds have been allowed to grow. He applauded Independents for Crediton (IfC) and others for undertaking weeding in areas, but raised concerns about the general state of roads, pavements and that there is buddleia growing out of walls. Whilst noting the reduced budget available to higher levels of local authority, these issues will likely become the responsibility of the town council. He suggested that a focus on how to deal with this should be considered.

Cllr N Letch stated that there are some areas which are now impossible to pass.

Cllr Backhouse agreed with the weed issue and thanked Cllr Cairney for recognising the work of IfC.

It was **resolved** to add this item to the next Community and Environment Committee. (Proposed by Cllr N Letch).

### **2309/42.2 DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD WARDEN SCHEME (ITEM REQUESTED BY CLLR HUXTABLE)**

Cllr Huxtable advised that he had investigated the Devon County Council scheme, which may require further consideration alongside the previous item. It was **resolved** to add this agenda to the Community and Environment Committee. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran).

Cllr Backhouse stated that potholes and some of the other tasks listed should be undertaken by DCC and not volunteers.

*Standing Orders were suspended*

A member of the public asked if there was anything stopping a local councillor from being that volunteer.

A member of the public expressed concerns about a lack of road sweeping.

*Standing Orders were reinstated*

Cllr Cochran advised that MDDC do undertake road sweeping and he has requested that they go to St Lawrence Green, which would be built into the round.

## **2309/43 TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

### **2309/43.1 APPROVAL OF STRATEGY**

*Standing Orders were suspended*

Members of the public suggested that there was no way for the community to make comments of the document.

A member of the public said that they had never seen a town council newsletter and there was a severe lack of two-way communication.

*Standing Orders were reinstated*

*Cllr F Letch joined the meeting at 19.42*

It was **noted** that the approval of the strategy would be considered at the next meeting once a final draft has been received.

The Town Clerk requested that any initial requests for changes should be sent to her by Friday 22 September.

## **2309/44 20'S PLENTY MOTION**

### **2309/44.1 TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING MOTION**

**That Crediton Town Council:**

- Supports the 20's Plenty for Devon campaign
- Calls on Devon County Council to implement 20mph in Crediton
- Will write to Devon County Council to request 20mph speed limits on streets throughout Devon where people live, work, shop, play or learn, with 30mph as

**the exception on those roads, where full consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users allows a higher limit**

Cllr Fawssett advised that he had attended County Hall when this motion was considered by Devon County Council. It had been adopted on the proviso that local councils would be required to pay for any new speed limit implementation.

The following points were made:

- Lack of evidence relating to Crediton. It was noted that the sample is small, and it would be hard to establish such evidence
- Traffic in the High Street rarely goes above 20 mph
- Support for reducing CO2 emissions
- Flowing traffic is likely to build in areas where the buses can pull up on the road
- If adopted, speed limits should be introduced in areas where there are schools and other areas of vulnerability for pedestrians such as on Exhibition Road and Jockey Hill
- Concerns that signs will not be adhered to and enforcement will be difficult

It was **resolved** to approve the motion. (Proposed by Cllr Fawssett). It was **noted** that this would be an agenda item for the next Planning and Town Strategy meeting.

**2309/45 UNION ROAD TOILET BLOCK**

**2309/45.1 REPAIRS**

The Town Clerk reported that repairs to the accessible toilet were required due to flooding of the broken toilet. Further information from the insurer is awaited.

**2309/45.2 QUOTATION FOR FULL BUILDING SURVEY**

It was **resolved** to approve the commission of a survey at a cost of no more than £900.00 + VAT. (Proposed by Cllr Harris).

**2309/46 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was **noted**. The meeting was closed at 20.41.

**2309/47 PART II**

It was **resolved** to move to Part Two. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable).

**2309/48 STAFFING**

The report was considered, and it was **resolved** to approve the recommendations therein. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable).

**2309/49 COUNCIL OFFICES**

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update to members.

Signed .....

Dated.....