



Crediton Open Space  
Committee Meeting,  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017, at 4:00 pm



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- Present:** Cllrs Mr Frank Letch (Chairman), Heather Sansom, Liz Brookes-Hocking, Yvonne Crone, Emma Anderson and Kendra Ezekiel (part-meeting)
- 12 To receive and accept apologies.**  
No apologies were received.
- 13 Declarations of Interest**  
Cllr Letch declared that as a member 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.
- 14 Crediton Open Space Committee Minutes – To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Crediton Open Space Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016.** It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Crediton Open Space Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016 as a correct record.
- 15 Matters Arising**  
There were no matters arising.
- 16 To review the Peoples Park Wildlife Area project and agree any further actions required, including the following:**
- **Tidy up and bulb planting day held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016**  
Yvonne confirmed the tidy-up and planting day went well with several volunteers attending
  - **Installation of large logs cut into discs**  
Yvonne confirmed that Kendra had put some up there however there was no further information on this.
  - **Possible removal of the laurel hedge**  
Emma confirmed that an expert opinion had been sought regarding the laurel hedge. It was the expert's opinion that the laurel hedge could be removed without causing any adverse effects to the cob wall. It was **resolved** for the Town Clerk to obtain quotations for the laurel hedge to be removed. The Town Clerk will also liaise with the owners of the adjoining property regarding the situation.
- 17 To receive an update on the following items and agree any actions required.**
- **The leet and land which runs adjacent to the road owned by Tesco and dog bins**  
An update had been sought from Mid Devon District Council (MDDC). A draft document has been drawn up, which is waiting to be considered by MDDC members. As soon as the document is available Clare will circulate it. Emma also advised that as yet the Town Clerk had been unable to identify a company that could provide a dog bin emptying service in Crediton.

It was resolved for a request to be sent to MDDC for a bin to be sited in this area. It was also agreed for the Town Clerk to also investigate who owns this land.

- **Tarmac area in front of Newcombes Meadow including**

- **Table tennis tables**

Quotations had been obtained and circulated with the agenda. Emma advised members that the Town Clerk has concerns about the close proximity of the road for this type of activity. She suggested that table tennis may be best played somewhere safer such as the Town Square, where a portable table could be used. It was agreed not to site table tennis tables in front of the Newcombes Meadow toilets.

- **Fitness equipment**

Quotes had been obtained and circulated with the agenda. There was a range of cost options depending on the type of equipment purchased.

It was agreed that the Committee should consult with residents, in particular groups such as the Cadets and the Youth Café, to establish what they would like to see. It was also agreed to include a piece in the Crediton Courier to publicise the call for ideas.

- **Trellis to be erected in the walled flower bed to provide screening as well as coloured planting.** Emma advised this still needs to be investigated. Mid Devon District Council has removed the shrubs from the bed and are in the process of replacing it with more colourful seasonal planting. The Committee agreed not to pursue the erection of trellis.

Kendra arrived at 4.20 pm

- **Funding and support from Active Devon.**

Lorraine at Active Devon had been contacted regarding funding support. Lorraine recommended contacting Sport England. It was agreed to investigate what can be offered by Sport England and also the Lottery Fund.

- 18 To discuss the overgrown area of land located at the junction of Alexandra Road and Southfield Road and agree a course of action.** Emma confirmed the Town Clerk had conducted two land registry searches, which showed that land was owned by either Beazer Homes Limited or Prowting Homes South West Limited. Following further investigation, the area is definitely owned and maintained by MDDC. It was agreed to continue to monitor the area but leave the maintenance to MDDC.

- 19 To discuss this Committee's aims and objectives as detailed within the Council's Action Plan.** A copy of the Council's action plan had been issued with the agenda. Emma provided an update, highlighting the following:

- The creation of the Peoples Park Wildlife Area was complete.
- They were continuing to promote the need for volunteer helpers.
- Work on identifying wildlife areas in the town was due to start this month.
- They were making good progress in identifying land owners and working with them to raise standards.

Yvonne mentioned a 'Bio-Blitz' that was carried out by Tesco about 2 years ago, and asked whether any information resulting from this could be obtained. Emma confirmed she would contact Andrew Drayton, Tesco Community Champion, and see what information is available.

20 **Close**

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm

Signed .

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Chairman.

Chairman

Dated..... 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017