



Minutes of Credition Town Council's Property & Allotments Committee Meeting,  
held on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016, at 6.00 pm, at the Council Chamber, Market Street, Credition

**Present:** Cllrs Miss J Harris, Mr M Szabo & Mr A Wyer.

**In Attendance:** Miss E Lucas, Assistant to the Town Clerk & Mayor  
Ms Penni Tearle, Chairman of the Boniface Allotments Association

**Absent:** Cllr Mr D Webb

**65 To receive and accept apologies**  
No apologies were received.

**66 Declarations of Interest**  
Cllr Wyer declared a personal interest as an allotment tenant at the Exhibition Road Allotment site.

**67 Public Question Time**  
There were no questions.

**68 Order of Business**  
There were no changes to the order of business.

**69 Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements**  
The Assistant provided an update on the possibility of a team of volunteers painting the Town's street furniture. From the information received from Devon County Council it seemed that this would not be possible.

**70 Property & Allotments Committee Minutes – To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Property & Allotments Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015.** Copies had been circulated with the agenda. It was **resolved** to approve, and sign, the minutes of the Property & Allotments Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015, as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)

**71 Matters Arising**  
Minute no. 62 – Cllr Szabo requested an update. The Assistant advised that herself and the Clerk are still looking into this item. Cllr Szabo also requested further information regarding the barriers surrounding a tree at Peoples Park. The Assistant advised this would be investigated.

**72 Allotments [CTC Allotments](#)**

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

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

The Assistant advised that there are currently no issues. Inspections will commence again in March as the growing season begins.

**b) To consider matters raised by the Boniface Allotments Association.**

Ms Tearle informed members that the Boniface Allotments Association have agreed to reformat into a less formal manner. Regular meetings will be held in social locations, with the intention of involving more people. The Committee will be more focused on practical and social activities.

**c) To consider matters and issues raised by allotment tenants including the following and agree a course of action:**

- **Request from allotment B7 to plant a plum tree in addition to the four apple trees already located on the plot. A copy of the request had been issued with the agenda. It was resolved to approve the request from allotment B7 to plant a plum tree in addition to the four apple trees already located on the plot. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)**

**d) To receive an update on the maintenance of the lay-down area at Exhibition Road.**

Ms Tearle provided members with an update explaining the following:

- Two or three of Boniface Allotments Association Committee members will meet at the lay-down area in the next month to inspect it and undertake necessary 'preparation' work. i.e. deal with any shrubs, soft fruit or large perennial or pernicious weeds where possible and generally clear anything which has landed recently.
- Notices will be put up reminding people not to dump their weeds and other waste there.
- A plan of monitoring and strimming will be arranged using volunteers as far as possible from nearby/Exhibition Road plot holders.
- Boniface Allotments Association Committee members and local plot holders will see how this plan works for the coming season and then reassess as required. Other measures which can be put in place, if necessary, have been discussed. One of these was to clear the area much more thoroughly and 're-grass' it (using either seed or turf). Other ideas have been discussed such as using a weed suppressant and planting trees/bushes, hence removing it as a lay-down area but keeping it better managed.
- There was considerable reluctance to hard-landscaping with the use of concrete etc. from the vast majority of plot holders, so this is not a route currently envisaged.

Members were happy with the current plan. It was resolved to note the above update. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

*Ms Tearle left the meeting at 6.14 pm*

**73 To receive an update from the Clerk on the following matters:**

- **Great Fire of Crediton plaque**  
The repair works have been completed and inspected.
- **The Bandstand**  
The Council staff are currently obtaining quotations for a light to be fitted in the apex of the Bandstand and for the electrical box to be fixed at the same time. David Whyte Cleaning Services has been instructed to clean the Bandstand and quotations are currently being obtained to replace the missing roof tiles.
- **Tree works at Upper Deck**  
The existing tree has been removed and the new Crab Apple will be planted in due course. The Assistant agreed to contact Urban & Rural Tree Services to confirm that the stump has been treated, as stated in the initial quotation, and if a date has been set for planting the tree.

Initials *SH.*

Cllr Szabo requested for Urban & Rural Tree Services to assess the four trees surrounding Upper Deck to receive advice as to whether these should be crown lifted. It was agreed that the Assistant would first establish who owns these trees.

It was resolved to note the above updates. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)

- 74 To consider South West Water's disposal of Stonypark Reservoir and agree any further actions.** Further information regarding this item had been issued with the agenda. The Assistant advised members that the tenant of the land at Stonypark has died and further information will be provided at the next full Council meeting.

Members discussed the reservoir including its location in relation to the land at Stonypark and whether vehicle access would be granted if the reservoir was purchased. Members agreed that they wished to look into this matter further, however it was necessary for Councillors to visit the site in order to make a fully informed decision and obtain further details regarding vehicle access.

The Assistant advised members that the Town Clerk, Cllr Frank Letch and Cllr Liz Brookes-Hocking will be visiting the site with the estate agents in due course and further information regarding the site and the possibility of a site visit for other Councillors would be provided. The Assistant confirmed that pictures will be taken at the initial site visit in order to circulate to all Councillors.

- 75 To agree to re-varnish the Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden noticeboards.** It was resolved for the Council staff to get the Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden noticeboards re-varnished. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

- 76 To agree to power wash the Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden easy access path at the beginning of March.** It was resolved for the Council staff to get the Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden easy access path power washed at the beginning of March. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)

Cllr Szabo requested for the Council staff to look into getting the paving slabs at the Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden and the concrete steps running alongside the Peoples Park Wildlife Area washed also.

- 77 To consider quotations received for the maintenance of Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden for the financial year 2016/17.** Copies of the quotations had been issued with the agenda. It was resolved to accept the quotation received from Exeter & Crediton Garden & Property Services for £1,200, for the maintenance of Peoples Park Scout Memorial Garden for the financial year 2016/17. (Proposed by Cllr Wyer)

- 78 To discuss this Committee's aims and objectives for the next six years in order for them to be considered in the development of Crediton Town Council's Strategic Plan.** The Assistant advised members that the aims and objectives do not need to be agreed at this meeting but it is something that the Committee needs to start thinking about. The Assistant provided a few examples including identifying and allocating another allotment site or thinking about ways to use the Town Square if is transferred to the Town Council in the future.

Cllr Szabo suggested painting the benches on the Town Square in order to make them look more attractive to visitors.

Cllr Wyer suggested that play areas may play a big part in the Committees aims and objectives as work may need to be carried out to the play areas taken on by the Town Council. Cllr Wyer also explained that the Policy & Forward Planning Committee discussed the idea of the Council taking on another building and if this is pursued this would fall under the remit of this Committee.

**79 Business Brought Forward**

Cllr Szabo

- Over Christmas the bus shelter at St Lawrence Green has been vandalised. The Assistant advised that the bus shelter had been cleaned on Monday.
- There are three 'no parking' signs located by St Boniface Road and Landscore Stores that are dirty and cannot be read. The Assistant agreed to report this on the Devon County Council 'Report It' system and to the local Highways Officer.
- The 'CREDITON' sign at the top of Jockey Hill requires cleaning. The Assistant advised that she would contact David Whyte Cleaning Services.
- There are two *It's Your Neighbourhood Awards*, for the Wildlife Area and Peoples Park, that need to be put up in the Council Chamber/Council Office.

**80 Close**

The meeting closed at 6.44 pm

Signed.....  
(Chairman)

Date: 8-3-16.....