



**Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday, 7 October 2025
at 19:00 at Credition Library, Belle Parade, Credition**

Present: Cllrs Steve Huxtable, Guy Cochran, Giles Fawssett, Joyce Harris, Natalia Letch, Paul Perriman, Rachel Backhouse, Vix Frisby and Jim Cairney

Apologies: Cllr John Downes and Jim Cairney (late arrival)

In Attendance: 3 members of the public
Tim Bland, CTC Events & Town Centre Officer

Minute Taker: Emma Anderson, Deputy Clerk

MINUTES

2025/089 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Cllr Huxtable opened the meeting and members introduced themselves. Cllr Frisby announced that the Citizens Advice Bureau will resume its services in Credition from 15 October 2025.

2025/090 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following questions were raised by members of the public:

- Inclusion of public discussion is not always clear on agendas, can this be amended?
- Requesting that public questions are submitted 3 working days in advance is not a good way of encouraging public participation. Could this be reconsidered to be more inclusive of handling questions submitted late?
- Regarding the agenda item on boycotting Amazon, will the same ethical stance apply to future purchases with companies such as Apple? The Chair confirmed that this would be discussed later in the meeting under the relevant item.
- Will the Library be open on Mondays? The Chair confirmed that a press release is imminent, but yes, the library will be open with limited services.
- Where will the Kings Portrait be hung in the new office? The Chair advised it would go in Manor Office. The location hasn't been decided, but it will be put up when the office is in a fit state to prevent damage. Public will be made aware when this happens.
- Now that the new Events & Town Centre Officer has been appointed, does this mean the Town Square will be kept weed free, tidy, and benches cleaned? Is the position renumeralated at £35k?
- If a councillor is late to a meeting, how late do they have to be to be marked as absent?

The Chair confirmed queries would be followed up for clarification and written responses would be provided to any outstanding questions.

2025/091 APOLOGIES

Decision: It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Downes (meeting) and Cllr Cairney who would be late due to another meeting. (Proposed by Cllr Huxtable). It was noted that Cllr Brookes-Hocking was not in attendance, several councillors commented that she was away. It was agreed to confirm apologies had been given to the Clerk and note this at the next meeting.

2025/092 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

2025/092.1 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI'S) IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

No declarations of personal interest or disclosable pecuniary interests were made.

2025/092.2 TO CONSIDER ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS (REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE TOWN CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING)

There were no dispensation requests.

25/093 ORDER OF BUSINESS

There were no changes to the order of business.

2025/094 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

2025/095 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting were reviewed for approval. A spelling error in Cllr Frisby's surname was noted. Additionally, it was noted that Cllr Cairney had given his apologies for the meeting, which was not initially recorded.

Decision: With these amendments, it was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 16 September 2025, as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

2025/096 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications were discussed:

25/01191/HOUSE | Installation of dormer window, replacement of pantile roof with manmade slate roof, replacement of existing conservatory with sunroom, external walls to be rendered and tile hanging to be replaced with composite boarding (47 Longmeadows, Crediton, Devon, EX17 1DY)

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend no objection. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

25/01221/LBC | Listed Building Consent for the replacement of window with door and internal alterations to form internal doorway (Barn at NGR 283150 99319, Higher Par Farm, Crediton, Devon, EX17 3PR)

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend no objection. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

25/01261/HOUSE | Erection of single storey front extension (32 Primrose Way, Crediton, Devon, EX17 1BZ)

Decision: It was **resolved** to recommend no objection. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

25/00433/FULL | Installation of replacement windows (Flat 1, Club Crediton, Searle Street, Crediton, Devon, EX17 2AT)

Decision: It was **resolved** to object on the grounds of consistency with previous decisions made by the council regarding similar proposals. It was recommended that the applicant consider alternative materials that are more in keeping with the heritage of the town, for example powder-coated aluminium. (Proposed by Cllr Harris, Cllrs Cochran and Letch abstained)

The Chair suggested a policy could be discussed in the future regarding consistent responses to applications such as this one.

Task: Submit planning comments to MDDC. @Emily Armitage

2025/097 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS

Decision: The council **noted** the approval of several planning applications by Mid Devon District Council.

2025/098 CREDITON URBAN TASKFORCE [CUT!]

Decision: The report from [CUT!] was received and **noted**. The report highlighted a successful day with several volunteers, and the Chair commended the volunteers for their efforts. The Council acknowledged the positive impact of the taskforce's work on the appearance of the town.

2025/099 PEOPLES PARK

Decision: The report on Peoples Park was received and **noted**. Cllr Stanford advised that a concern about a tree overhanging the road had been reported by a resident. The Deputy Clerk noted this and would carry out a site visit to assess.

Task: Investigate public concerns about overhanging tree in Peoples Park and assess if any action is required. @Emma Anderson by 31 Oct

2025/100 WATER TROUGHS

Decision: It was **resolved** to install two water troughs on the Barnfield allotment site at a cost of £1,200 with the funds being allocated from the Allotment EMR. (Proposed by Cllr Backhouse)

SW

Task: Instruct contractor to install two water troughs at the Barnfield Allotment site @Emily Armitage by 31 Oct

2025/101 CREDITON FOOD FESTIVAL

The Council discussed the report and proposals for the Crediton Food Festival 2026. The Chair expressed concerns about outsourcing the event to a third party and suggested giving the new Events and Town Centre Officer, more time to develop a comprehensive proposal and budget for the festival. Members shared their views, with some expressing pride in the previous year's events and cautioning against overextending the Council's resources. Some members, as well as the public, found the report to be confusing and this was taken onboard.

Decision: It was **resolved** to keep the management of Crediton Food Festival 2026 in-house and request a comprehensive plan and budget be developed by the Events Officer by November 2025. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

Task: Develop a detailed proposal for summer events (e.g., Food Festival 2026) with costings, funding sources, and collaboration plans with local organisations. @Tim Bland by 30 Nov

2025/102 USE OF AMAZON

The Council engaged in a detailed discussion regarding the use of Amazon. Cllr Cairney joined the meeting at 20.17

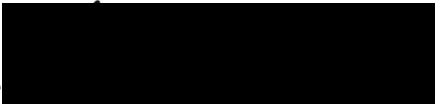
Decision: It was **resolved** to continue to avoid using Amazon, with regular spending reports publicised in the Council's newsletter. (Proposed by Cllr Backhouse, Cllr Letch voted against).

Task: Publish spending reports in town council newsletter highlighting zero Amazon spend (if applicable) and promote local businesses supported by council purchases. @Emma Anderson by 31 Oct

2025/103 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be Tuesday, 21st October 2025. Meeting closed at 20.23

2025/104 REPORTS PACK

Signed ..  ..

Dated...21 Oct 25.....