



**Minutes of the Community Committee held on Tuesday, 3 December 2024  
at 19:00 in The Bungalow, 8 North Street, EX17 2BT.**

- Present:** Cllrs Liz Brookes-Hocking, Joyce Harris, Guy Cochran, Paul Perriman and Giles Fawssett
- Apologies:** Cllrs Steve Huxtable, Natalia Letch and Jim Cairney
- Minute Taker:** Emma Anderson

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## MINUTES

### 103 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The meeting was opened at 19.00 and the Chair welcomed everyone. Each member introduced themselves briefly.

### 104 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

### 105 APOLOGIES

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllrs N Letch, S Huxtable, and J Cairney. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

### 106 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

### 107 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

It was noted that all decisions would be made with the climate emergency at the forefront of decision and policy making.

### 108 ORDER OF BUSINESS

There were no changes to the order of business.

### 109 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair expressed her gratitude to the events officer and the town clerk for their hard work in organising a successful switch-on event, which attracted many attendees.

She also thanked Cllrs Fawssett, Cochran, Backhouse and Cairney for their contributions and any other councillors who attended. The Deputy Clerk added two announcements: Hi-Line had reached out regarding maintenance of Birch trees at Peoples Park to prevent interference with overhead cables and a fallen tree at the back of Exhibition Road allotments is due to be cleared.

#### 110 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on 05 November 2024. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

#### 111 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application was discussed:

[24/01672/CAT | Notification of intention to reduce canopy of 1 Apple tree from 8.4 x 5.4m to 6 x 4m and remove 1 Variegated Portugese Laurel within a Conservation Area | North View Cottage Union Road Crediton Devon EX17 3AL](#)

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to recommend no objection, subject to the Tree Officer recommendations. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

#### 112 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS

Noted.

#### 113 CREDITON URBAN TASKFORCE [CUT!]

The committee received an update on the activities of the Crediton Urban Taskforce. The taskforce meets once a month, and the latest meeting saw three new volunteers join. There was a discussion about managing the waste collected during these activities, with a suggestion to keep the waste locally and use it for composting. The taskforce plans to continue their efforts and seek permission from relevant authorities for waste management solutions. The next action day is scheduled for Saturday, 14 December.

#### 114 DCC DISABLED PARKING AMENDMENT ORDER

Noted.

#### 115 LAND SOUTH OF BARNFIELD

Councillor Brookes-Hocking provided an update on the land south of Barnfield. The committee is still waiting for information from PJ Associates and a meeting with the Town Clerk is scheduled in the next couple of weeks. Further updates expected after Christmas.

#### 116 REPLACEMENT TREE PLANTING

The committee reviewed three quotations for replacing two dead trees at Peoples Park. There was a discussion about the high costs and the importance of ensuring the trees are properly watered.

It was decided to explore additional options and get more information before making a final decision. It was agreed for Councillor Cochran to look to source two smaller trees directly from a wholesaler. The Deputy Clerk and Councillor Fawssett will communicate with those interested in the tree warden scheme and investigate volunteers planting the trees instead. The watering options were discussed with members undecided between the use of a hydration bag versus traditional watering with a bowser and pipe/gutter to direct water to the roots.

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to delegate the purchase of two smaller trees to the Deputy Clerk and Chair of the Committee, with Councillor Cochran obtaining the wholesale prices. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

**Task:** Research and provide cost estimates for smaller trees and further watering costs  
*@Guy Cochran @Deputy Clerk*

## 117 WAR MEMORIAL

The committee considered adding the names of Crediton residents who have died in service in recent years to the War Memorial. It was agreed to liaise with the Royal British Legion to identify the names and get permission from families. The committee will seek input from Crediton Hamlets Parish Council and obtain costings from local stonemasons as well as the cost of applying for listed building consent. This information will be available at the Full Council meeting in January.

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to make a recommendation to Full Council to add names of individuals who have fallen in conflicts since WWII to the war memorial, pending family permissions and further research. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

**Task:** Communicate with the Royal British Legion and investigate costs involved in adding names to the War Memorial. *@Emma Anderson*

**Task:** Contact Crediton Hamlets Parish Council about the proposal to make additions to the names on the War Memorial. *@Emma Anderson*

**Task:** Include recommendation to add names to the War Memorial on Full Council agenda in January. *@Rachel Avery*

## 118 FLORAL DISPLAYS 2025

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to continue with drought-resistant perennials and grasses in next year's floral displays. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

## 119 DOG-FRIENDLY RETAILER SCHEME

Councillor Cochran proposed the creation of a dog-friendly retailer scheme in Crediton. The scheme aims to identify businesses that allow dogs and provide them with stickers to display. Members supported the proposed scheme and agreed on the next steps:

- Councillor Cochran will walk the high street to ascertain which businesses would be interested in joining the scheme.
- Following this, window stickers will be purchased for participating businesses.
- A list of dog-friendly businesses will be included on the town council website.

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to support the creation of a dog-friendly retailer scheme in Crediton. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

**Task:** Approach businesses on the High Street about the proposed dog-friendly retailer scheme and obtain costings for window stickers. @Guy Cochran, @Deputy Clerk

**Task:** Include a list of dog-friendly businesses on the town council website. @Guy Cochran

**120 TOWN SQUARE SEATING LICENCES**

**Decision:** It was **resolved** to remove points 9 and 10 from the town square seating licence. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

**Task:** Remove the clause from the town square seating licenses that allows public seating in licensed areas. @Emily Armitage by 31 Jan 2025

**121 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 07 January 2025. The meeting was closed at 19:53.

**122 REPORTS PACK**

Signed .....

Dated.....