



Credition Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 3 June 2008

Present:	Councillors	Mr F Letch (Chairman Part Meeting) Miss J Harris (Chairman Part Meeting) Mr W Brown Mr R Adams Mrs E Brookes-Hocking Mr R Wright Mrs L Scarbrough Mr D Nation
In Attendance:	Clerk Press Public	Mr M Ashley 2 Miss Hannah Hewlett, Youth Project Author

GENERAL PURPOSES *(items for discussion and determination)*

1. Presentation by Hannah Hewlett: Youth Report

Miss Hannah Hewlett presented an outline of her previously circulated Youth Report, highlighting the various problems suffered in Credition due to the pressures of funding. She especially mentioned the difficulty in attracting funding for ongoing operational cost rather than capital and set up costs. Members suggested a number of alternative sources of money, including large as well as local charities. Miss Hewlett agreed with members that there would be no new Youth Workers without additional funding and that even current staffing levels remain an ongoing issue.

Councillors Wright & Adams enter meeting

2. Election of General Purposes Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Councillor Harris was elected Chairman of the General Purposes Committee. Councillor Wright was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Committee. Councillor Harris took the Chair.

3. Apologies

Councillor Hughes for personal reasons.

4. Declarations of Interest

Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minute 13: On-Street Parking.
Prejudicial	Councillor Brookes	Minute 13: On-Street Parking.
Personal	Councillor Harris	Minute 13: On-Street Parking.
Personal	Councillor Nation	Minute 8b: Planning

Code of Conduct	Councillors Wright & Nation	As a member of more than one authority, declared 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.
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5. Public Question Time

None.

6. Chairman's Announcements

The outgoing Chairman requested making an announcement in Part Two. This was accepted by the incoming Chairman.

7. General Purposes Committee Minutes

The Minutes of the Town Council's General Purposes Committee Meeting of 6 May 2008 were approved and signed as a correct record subject to the following addition at the end of the Minute:

Minute 118: "...with the full CCTV report when ready"

8. Planning

a) *Planning Decisions.*

Noted. Decisions notified by the planning authority are appended.

b) *Planning Applications*

Comments made in respect of planning applications considered at this meeting are appended.

c) *Planning Applications and Items for Determination week ending Tuesday 3 June 2008.*

None.

9. Allotments

a) The Assistant Town Clerk updated members on the overall current allotments situation. It was noted that two vacancies that arose at the end of the rental year had both got prospective tenants for which the relevant paperwork needed to be raised.

b) The unconfirmed minutes of the Allotment Association meeting of 12 May 2008 were received and noted.

c) The proposal of the Boniface Allotment Association to initiate first contact with prospective new tenants was accepted.

d) The proposed letter the Allotment Association is suggesting sending to tenants whose plots become unkempt and untended was approved as a less formal and potentially faster method of issue resolution than immediate Council intervention.

e) It was noted that the Crediton Climate Action Group's suggestion of planting trees in the grassed area to the Western end of the Barnfield site, where the soil quality is poor, was gaining some support from amongst tenants and within the Allotment Association. Members recommended that advice was sought concerning the suitability of tree species selected for being grown alongside vegetable plots.

10. Devon Unitary Status Listening Event

Councillors who attended the Devon County Council Listening Event on 27 May 2008 updated Committee Members. It was requested that the list of questions raised by the County Council was distributed to Councillors. It was also noted that there may well be one or more "shadow" authorities operating alongside the County and District Councils for up to a year.

11. Post Office Closure Notification

The list of Post Offices in Devon to be closed was received and noted. The Committee strongly objected to the closure of the Exeter Road branch in Crediton. It was especially

noted that the closures were based upon 2001 census data, since which over 100 new houses have been built at this, Eastern end of town. Concern was also expressed over the additional numbers of people that would start to use the Market Street Post Office after the closure of Exeter Road and the surrounding rural post offices and what effect this would have on the service provision in this already busy branch.

AGENDA ITEMS (for discussion and recommendation)

12. The Youth Report

It was noted that the organisation seeking additional funding for the Youth Project is "MUSCLE". It was agreed to contact the County Youth Officer to investigate recent funding bids from Crediton and whether there was any additional funds available. It was also suggested that a local volunteer group may be the best tool for managing fundraising.

13. On-Street Parking Review Order

- a) It was agreed to defer the review of the parking survey as it still had not been received from The County Council. However, the County Council Highway Officer had proposed overturning one part of the on-street parking order referring to reversing the direction of one way traffic in North Street.

Councillor Brookes-Hocking declared a prejudicial interest, made a representation supporting the status quo and left the meeting.

- b) It was agreed that to reverse the direction of traffic would make the junction with the High Street as well as North Street itself more dangerous and that the Council should support the status quo.

Councillor Adams declared prejudicial interest and left the meeting.

- c) Members expressed concerns at the amount of time it was taking to compile the County Council's parking report, especially as the County Council Officer had presented on the report at the Annual Town Meeting in April. It was requested that the Clerk continue to pursue the report. It was stressed that this matter needs to be sorted prior to the new superstore opening. Future agenda item.
- d) Councillor Wright updated the committee on the current situation with regard to parking enforcement and its progress.

Councillors Adams & Brookes-Hocking returned.

14. Crediton Fairtrade Signage

It was considered that many people in the town had made a great deal of effort to gain Fairtrade and now Transition Town status and one way to recognise this was to incorporate these achievements into new town entrance signs. It was noted that the new Eastern entrance to town that will be constructed for the new superstore may well be an opportunity to achieve this and it was agreed to investigate this possibility.

Councillor Nation left the meeting.

15. A377 Accident and Road Safety

The recent fatal accident at Smallbrook Farm on the A377 was discussed. As well as considering this stretch of road exceedingly dangerous, especially as some traffic travels at excessive speed, although it was stressed that this particular accident was not necessarily speed related, the issue of congestion arising in Crediton following the closure of the A377 which was closed for 9 hours on that day was debated. It was agreed to write

to the Highway Authority and Devon and Cornwall Police to get some guidance on how long a serious accident investigation should take. It was felt that it should be achievable in significantly less time.

It was also agreed to ask the Police and Highway Authority if they have diversion and signage plans in the event of accidents at different locations along the A377 and, if they do not, to develop such detailed plans to try to reduce the delay in adequately signing diversions from the hour and a quarter that it took in this instance.

16. Town Plan Working Group Project Update

Councillor Brookes-Hocking updated members on the current progress of the Town Plan working group. It was noted that it was becoming urgent to contact groups to be included and that this was also true of the Communications working group. It was also noted that the delay in the parking review report was holding up progress. Thanks were offered to Councillor Brookes-Hocking for her efforts.

17. Correspondence Received

1. Vitalise – Letter: Request for donation.
2. Crediton Festival 2009 Committee – Minutes; Meeting of 3 March 2008.
3. MDDC – Schedule: Estate Inspection Schedule.
4. Post Office – local Consultation: Yeoford Post Office Closure.
5. Drewpearce Surveyors – Letter: valuation & Property Related Services.
6. Unison – Letter: Notification of Trade Dispute in Local Government.
7. Crediton CAB – Letter: Thank you letter for donation.
8. DCC – Newsletter: Parish Paths Partnership, Spring 2008.
9. Age Concern – Invitation: AGM on Mon. 9 June 2008.
10. DPFA – Notification: 2008 AGM and re-elections 10 July 2008.
11. DCC – e-mail: North Street One Way direction and parking in Town Square. *Future agenda item.*
12. Western Power Distribution – Consultation: Proposed business plan. *Future agenda item.*
13. BlackRock – Notification: Amendment to the Scheme Particulars of the Funds.
14. DAPC – Notification: Long Life Learning Network Conference – Throwing Light on the Role of the Town & Parish Council in Devon.
15. DAPC – Agenda: Larger Councils Sub- Committee 12 June 2008.
16. DCC – Road Closure Notification: Threshers 28 July – 1 August 2008.

18. Business Brought Forward Town Hall Illuminated Sign.

It was noted that it was the responsibility of the Information Centre to maintain this.

19. Commercial Vehicles Parking in Residential Streets

It was noted that nothing can be done if they are parked legally.

PART TWO

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw.

20. Mid Devon District Council Reception

Nominations for Crediton residents to be invited to the Mid Devon District Council Annual Reception were considered.

21. Town Council Administration and Resources

The Chairman outlined the personnel situation with regard to staff sick leave. The impact of this was discussed. It was agreed that Councillors would meet to generate specific future agenda suggestions to address this.

Councillor Wright left the Meeting.

22. CCTV

An issue of CCTV security was highlighted to the Committee

Meeting closed at 21:56 pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date:

PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING 03/06/08

Planning Decisions – as notified by the Planning Authority:

DECISION	Type - Appeal Lodged					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	07/02000/FULL (23/05/2008)	Mr G Lewis C/O Nigel Cant Planning Sutton Farm New Buildings Credton EX17 4PS		Land at NGR 284066 100279 Hawkins Way Credton Devon	Erection of 2 linked dwellings and formation of new vehicular access	Mr Delwyn Matthews
DECISION	Type - Application Refused					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	08/00191/MFUL (20/02/2008)	M.P.Redstone C/o Nigel Cant Sutton Farm New Buildings Credton Devon EX17 4PS		Credton Tool Hire Union Road Credton Devon EX17 3AL	Erection of extension and conversion of building to provide 12 self contained apartments	Mr Delwyn Matthews
DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	08/00578/LBC (02/04/2008)	S Colombe 26 Dean Street Credton Devon EX17 3EN		49 High Street Credton Devon EX17 3JX	Listed Building Consent for the redirection of electrical supply to 2 consumer boxes on side wall	Miss Tina Maryan

DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	08/00604/FULL (02/04/2008)	Mr & Mrs P Martin Bear Farm Crediton EX17 3QP	Mr L G Playle Forge Newton St Cyres Exeter EX5 5BY	18 Prince of Wales Road Crediton Devon EX17 2AG	Construction of dormer roof extension	Miss Tina Maryan

Planning Applications

APPLICATION	Type - Application					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	08/00885/MFUL (22/05/2008)	Mr C Reed The Linhay Nymet Tracey Bow Crediton EX17 6DB		Rear of 35 East Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AY	Erection of 11 flats.	Mr Keith Garside
OBJECTION - On the grounds of over-development - the proposal will result in 11 dwellings with no parking arrangements in a congested area of the town.						

APPLICATION	Type - Application					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	08/00605/FULL (28/05/2008)	M J Swanton 3 Belle Parade Crediton Devon EX17 2AA		3 Belle Parade Crediton Devon EX17 2AA	Formation of pedestrian access to parking area	Mr Keith Garside
APPROVED -						

APPLICATION

Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
08/00941/FULL (28/05/2008)	Dr J Newall 51 South Street Exeter EX1 1EE		Saleboards 2 High Street Credton Devon EX17 3AE	Change of use from A1 (retail) to A2 (estate agency)	Mr Delwyn Matthews
NO OBJECTION -					