



Credition Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 3 November 2009

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| Present: | Councillors | Miss J Harris (Chairman) Mr W Brown Mr F Letch (Council Chairman) Mrs L Brookes-Hocking Mr P Finnegan Mr B Wright |
| In Attendance: | Councillors Clerk Public Press | Mr D Nation (Part Meeting) Mr M Ashley 3 Representatives of South West Housing Association 1 |

AGENDA ITEMS *(for discussion and determination)*

53. Apologies

Councillors A. Hughes sent apologies for personal reasons.

54. Declarations of Interest

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| Code of Conduct | Councillors Wright & Nation | As members 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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55. Public Question Time

Representatives of South West Housing Association outlined their provisional designs for an application for Planning Permission for affordable & social housing on the Wellparks Superstore development site.

56. Chairman's & Clerk's Announcements

The Committee Chairman had no announcements.

The Council Chairman informed members that he had received a letter from the Lord Chancellor empowering him to sit on employment tribunals in Exeter & Bristol. The Chairman also asked Councillors if they wished to consider a Council Christmas dinner. The Clerk announced that four applications for the Casual Councillor Vacancy had been received and that the Council's new Air Quality Management Group representative was now Councillor Brown.

Councillor Nation entered the meeting.

57. General Purposes Committee Minutes

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 8 September 2009 were received and approved as a correct record.

58. Planning http://planning.middevon.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/tdc_home.aspx

a) *Planning Decisions*

Noted.

b) *Planning Applications*

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

Councillor Way entered the meeting

c) *Planning Applications/Items for Determination week ending 3 November 2009*

None.

59. Allotments

a) *Clerk's Report*

The Assistant Town Clerk updated members on the current situation with regards to remaining vacancies and the overall situation with the allotments.

b) *Matters raised by Tenants*

It was confirmed that location of the Boniface Allotment Association AGM would be the Methodist church, not the church hall.

60. Mid Devon District Council's Local Development Framework

The draft Allocations and Infrastructure Development Plan Document was received from Mid Devon District Council and considered. The main points made were:

- AL/CRE/2 Redhill Cross – It was agreed that a footpath be stipulated in the development framework, from the high point of the site towards the Old Tiverton Road, exiting onto the roadway near to the cemetery to provide direct pedestrian access to the Town Centre.
- AL/CRE/2 Redhill Cross – It was agreed that the visual impact of 135 new homes on this raised, prominent site would be significant and that a green surround should be stipulated to ameliorate this impact. However, it was noted that as the development brief is no longer a part of the application process, this needs to be mentioned for each proposal at the application stage, in accordance with the District Council's core strategy.
- AL/CRE/13 Pedlar's Pool – It was noted that this development site had been recategorised as a "contingency site". However, members agreed that the Council strongly preferred development of land to the South East of town, between Barnfield and the Station and Fordton and exclusion of Pedlar's Pool from the plan. It was accepted that developments in negotiations with interested parties meant that the south eastern option would not form part of the Local Development Plan, but Councillors expressed their support for ongoing investigations into the viability of development in this area.
- AL/CRE/13 Pedlar's Pool – Whilst noting the apparent lack of currently identified alternative sites, members agreed that this area should also not be developed for employment land, being equally unsuitable for employment as well as residential development.

Members also considered whether they wished to appear before the inspector. This was deferred for the present.

61. Mid Devon District Council's Statement Of Principles – Gambling Act 2005

The draft document was received & Noted.

Councillor Nation left the meeting.

AGENDA (*items for discussion and recommendation*)

62. Footpath 24

It was considered that the large surfacing stones laid over compacted earth was not a suitable surface for an edge of town footpath as the stones were not settling and were rolling off the path, thus causing a hazard to grass cutting machinery. It was however noted that at the eastern end of the path, around the gate, the large stones had settled

where the surface was much softer and that this was an improvement in this area. It was agreed to recommend that the County Council should clear the large stone surface and resurface with a hard path, such as tarmac.

Councillor Brown left the Chamber.

63. Homestart Mid Devon

The invitation to become a member of Homestart Mid Devon was considered but it was not recommended that a Councillor join as a member. However, the valuable work the group does in the area was noted.

64. Correspondence Received

Councillor Brown re-entered the Chamber.

1. MDDC – Summons: Council Meeting of 28 October 2009.
2. DCC – Leaflet: Street Lighting Policy in Devon.
3. Plymouth University –Letter & Newsletter: South West Lifelong Learning Network; sustainable community's research.
4. Involve Mid Devon – Newsletter & Invitation: October 2009 Newsletter; Mid Devon Transport Group Stakeholder Forum, 17 Nov.'09; Tiverton.
5. South West Ambulance Service – Foundation Consultation: Aspirant Foundation Trust Consultation document. Deadline 6 December 2009.
6. Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority – Consultation document: Corporate Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13, deadline 4 Jan.'09.
7. B.A.A. – e-mail & Questionnaire: Garden Share Scheme; allotment waiting list.
8. MDDC – e-mail: Planning Committee, 4 Nov.'09.
9. NALC – Policy & Parliamentary Briefing: Local Councils & Cheque Signatories. *(Future Agenda Item)*
10. DCC – e-mail: Country Mile Road Safety Project Newsletter; Oct.'09.
11. DAPC – e-mail & Flyer: Empowering Communities in Devon; follow up conference, Wed. 25 Nov.'09.
12. Direct Contact Exhibitions – e-mail & Flyer: Parks & Play Seminar, Tiverton, 11 Nov.'09.
13. MDDC – e-mail: Grants & Funding Service; "The Secret Millionaire Fund"; deadline 21 Dec.'09.
14. Devon Playing Fields Association – Newsletter: Autumn 2009.
15. DCC – Invitation: P3 Annual Parish Paths Partnership Christmas Workshops 2009. *(Forwarded to P3 Volunteer)*
16. Pat Thomas – e-mail: Local Town Group Meeting; Tues. 10 Nov.'09.
17. Mrs J Grant – Letter: Street Lights Out on Butt Parks. *(Future Agenda Item)*

Business Brought Forward

65. Tesco Town Bus Service

Councillor Brown requested an update on the current situation with Devon County Council and the Buses Tesco, response from DCC.

66. Park Seating Vandalism

It was highlighted that one of the benches in the Scout Memorial Garden in People's Park had been vandalised. It was agreed to investigate it's condition for repair or replacement and it was requested that the Assistant Clerk ensure it is removed.

67. Free Town Centre Parking for Christmas

It was reported that the District Council's planned pre-Christmas free parking would be limited to the four Fridays prior to Christmas, in St Saviours Car Park until midday only. This is in line with Tiverton and Culmpton and was a decision of the District Council's Executive. Members felt that the particular needs of Crediton were not being met as they differed from other of the District's towns and that Councillors should work together to

persuade the District Council to assist those needs. It was agreed this should be a future agenda item for December's Town Council Meeting.

PART TWO ITEMS

In view of the sensitive and confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was agreed, in the public interest, that the press and public be excluded and instructed to withdraw.

The Assistant Clerk left the meeting

68. Administration and Personnel

Councillors were updated on the situation with regards to the Council's staffing.

Meeting closed at approx. 21:16 p.m.

Signed:

(J Harris, Chairman)

Date: