



Credition Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 October, 2006

Councillors:

Mr R Edwards (Chairman)
Miss J Harris
Mr W Brown
Mr F Letch
Mr D Nation
Mr R Adams (part meeting)
Mrs E Brown
Mr J Downes
Mr C Haydon
Mrs J Pitts
Mr P Taylor

In Attendance:

MDDC Chairman Councillor D Pugsley
Clerk Mr M Maggs
Press

88. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Way (DCC business commitment).

89. Declarations of Interest

Prejudicial	Councillor Taylor	Minute 94 – <i>Minute 83</i>
Prejudicial	Councillor Harris	Minute 97b – <i>Planning Application 06/02117/FULL</i>
Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minute 98a – <i>Account 2528</i>
Personal	Councillor Harris	Minute 112
Code of Conduct	Councillor Nation Councillor Haydon	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.

90. Public Question Time

The Chairman thanked Councillor David Pugsley (MDDC Chairman) for attending the meeting and invited him to address the Council.

Councillor Pugsley emphasised the importance of keeping in touch with town and parish councils; there were 62 local councils in the district and communication with these councils formed a very important part of the Chairman’s responsibilities. The Chairman’s receptions gave an additional opportunity to express the District Council’s thanks to all those who volunteer time to help the community. He was delighted that the Town Square had been completed and was happy to offer his support for a future official opening event.

Councillor Pugsley was invited to remain and take part in ensuing discussions, particularly over any issues of direct MDDC involvement.

91. Chairman's Announcements

None.

92. Meeting Management

It was agreed that agenda item 14 (Handyman) would be debated immediately after item 10 (Finance).

93. Town Council Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 19 September 2006 were approved and signed as a correct record.

94. Matters Arising

Councillor Adams arrived.

Minute 74: The Clerk had contacted the Youth Service to organise a talk.

Minute 80: it was reported that a CLAG (Credition Local Area Group of the Community Safety Partnership) meeting would be held shortly and proposals for a CCTV system would be discussed. Any proposals for Town Council expenditure would be subject to discussion at the forthcoming Finance Committee meeting.

Future agenda item on CLAG.

Minute 83: Councillor Taylor declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber. The Clerk reported that the conservation officer was due to inspect the building and would report back. The Clerk provided an update.

Minute 85: a ward member confirmed the urgency of the problem and that remedial action would be taken immediately.

Minute 86: The Clerk would chase again.

95. General Purposes Committee Minutes

a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 3 October 2006 were approved and signed as a correct record with the following amendment:

Add "Councillor Haydon agreed to attend if he could".

Councillor Nation requested an agenda item (TC) on meeting papers.

b) The recommendations of the General Purposes Committee were approved with the following amendment:

Replace first three bullet points with:

- Resolves to commit itself to promoting awareness of Fairtrade and to nominate a member of staff to liaise with Fairtrade."

96. Matters Arising

Minute 61: the Chairman would report his findings at a later meeting.

Minute 69: clarification was sought on the policing of alcohol free zones. Councillor Haydon agreed to provide documentation for circulation.

Minute 71: Clerk to follow-up.

Minute 76: the Mayor of Avranches asked that his best wishes be conveyed to the Town Council following a recent twinning visit to the town.

97. 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.

Councillor Harris declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting for the duration of discussion on Application 06/02117/FULL.

c) *Planning Applications for week ending 19 September 2006*

None.

98. Finance

a) *Schedules of Accounts*

The schedule of accounts, numbers 002521 to 002539 amounting to £7224.06 was approved.

Councillor Adams declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber for the duration of discussion on item 2528.

- b) *Donation Requests*
None.

AGENDA ITEMS

99. Handyman

The Chairman outlined his ideas and aspirations, which would be dependent on available finance. However, he hoped that the precept would not need to be raised; the costs could be covered by efficiency savings and the devolution of funding from the principal authorities. He believed that the Town Council should employ or hire a handyman, possibly shared with other authorities and that the public would receive a better service as a result.

He listed some of the responsibilities that could be included in the handyman's duties. He proposed that the Clerk should investigate the options and costs for presentation to the Finance Committee.

The Chairman's proposal was supported. Members fully expected a suitable contribution from the principal authorities. An additional contribution from the Town Council needed to be considered in order to provide a better service, if that was regarded as necessary. Also, it was generally believed that greater local control would lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness.

The Clerk agreed to investigate the possibility of sharing staff and resources with MDDC and reminded councillors that some of the options had been presented to the Finance Committee in previous years. The employment of a handyman had been rejected on the grounds that, in order to provide an improvement in services, additional finance would need to be provided by the Town Council.

100. Standing Orders

It was agreed to defer discussion on amendments to Standing Order 36 following a member's request for clarification to the Standards Board.

The other remaining item, amendment to Standing Order 27b was approved.

101. Mid Devon Primary Care Trust – Crediton Hospital

The Chairman provided an update and explained that, after a great deal of pressure, a reply had been received (circulated to Town Councillors). The Trust had done its best to justify parking charges. It was important to ensure that full consultation occurred in respect of any proposed changes to Boniface Ward.

There was a great deal of concern in the town over the future of the ward. It was agreed that the Chairman would visit the hospital and talk to staff, families and patients. It was further agreed to press for a meeting as soon as possible.

102. Postcomm Review of Royal Mail Collections & Delivery

It was agreed that Councillor W Brown should examine the document and make his recommendation at the next meeting (GP). Councillor Taylor agreed to bring the document to the attention of the Chamber of Commerce. The Clerk to provide copies (web link) to the press in order to maximise publicity.

103. Town Square

The Clerk provided an update on the installation of the plaque.

Concerns were expressed over the fact that the developments on the periphery of the Town Square were expected to continue for some time. Various "snagging" problems were still in the process of being resolved and there was a growing impatience from members of the public. It was generally considered very important to hold a formal opening ceremony as soon as possible.

It was finally suggested that an opening ceremony should be held during the May Day 2007 weekend. The Town Council would consider budgeting for the event at the

forthcoming Finance Committee meeting. The Chairman of the District Council kindly offered support from the MDDC Chairman's hospitality budget.

104. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. DCC - Highway Notices:
 - Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic (TPTT) - Pounds Hill - 4 December to 8 December inclusive.
 - TPTT - North Street - 30 October to 3 November inclusive.
 - TPTT - Union Terrace - 30 October to 3 November inclusive.
2. MCTi - response to MDLSP questionnaire.
3. MDDC - response from Licensing officer on TC query regarding Three Little Pigs.
4. Councillor Nation - email providing information on Willow Walk Footpath and War memorial Lighting.
5. DCC - details on Devon Pension Fund Employers Forum - 20 October - Exeter.
6. DCC - invitation to attend opening of Devon Compost Partnership Facility at Broadpath - 8 November.
7. Councillor Haydon - email providing information of Town Square lighting - still no action?
8. Defra - addendum to Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act Guidance.
9. I&Dea - learning points from recent Community Leadership conference - what works well in Devon?
10. CCD/Defra - workshop - "Tackling Social Exclusion in Devon's Communities" - 29 November at Okehampton.
11. MDDC - Council Summons & Agenda for 18 October.
12. Anonymous - letter expressing disappointment at level of CTC interest in Crediton Hospital.
13. Highways Agency - draft orders for Fingle Glen junction improvements.
14. Keystroke Computing - letter of thanks from retiring partner.
15. MDDC - Local Development Framework - Examination into Core Strategy - invitation to attend Pre-examination Meeting (PEM) at Tiverton on 29 November - in response to TC representations on LDFCS. Clerk to decline.
16. MDDC - Planning Applicants Satisfaction Survey. Part of national local authority comparison exercise. Clerk to complete.

The Chairman read out a late arriving email from the County ward member providing advance notice of the prolonged road closure of Exeter Road – agenda item at next meeting (GP). Councillors Haydon/Nation would provide notes of the relevant meeting with developers for circulation.

BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD

105. Bus Stops

Several problems were brought to the attention of members:

- The lack of bus stop signage opposite the existing stop at the War Memorial was causing problems for passengers.
- The damaged bus stop flag at the Information Centre had not been repaired.
- There was now a greater need for official bus stops at Crediton Hospital (both directions) – especially since the introduction of an additional service.

The Clerk agreed to raise with the Transport Authority and bus operators.

106. Speed Restrictions

Agenda item on Department of Transport guidance concerning the review of urban speed limits.

107. Planning Issues

The Clerk would follow-up with the MDDC Planning Enforcement Officer the recent installation of a large satellite dish and inappropriate signage in a conservation area.

108. Christmas

The possibility of organising a Town Council Christmas lunch would be considered at the next meeting (GP).

109. Car Parking

An update on the review of parking facilities was provided. Agenda item at next meeting (TC).

110. Remembrance Service

Details of the Remembrance Service and events were provided. Agenda item on War Memorial at next meeting (TC).

PART TWO

111. Administration

Councillor Harris left the meeting. The Chairman and Clerk provided an update. The Chairman agreed to draft an appropriate letter on behalf of the Council. The Clerk to action.

112. Voluntary Service

The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the voluntary works carried out by an individual member of the community. It was agreed that a suitable tribute would be made at the 2007 Mayor's Reception.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed:

(R Edwards – Chairman)

Date:

PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 17 OCTOBER 2006

Planning Decisions

The Town Council received and noted the following decisions from the Planning Authority:

DECISION	Type – Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/01771/OUT (10/4/2006)	Mr & Mrs R Wenmouth Treetops 1 Okefield Avenue Crediton EX17 2DJ	Mr S E Elston EHB Developments Barton View 8 Chapel Downs Drive Crediton EX17 2ED	Treetops 1 Okefield Avenue Crediton Devon EX17 2DJ	Outline for the erection of 1 no. dwelling	Mr Keith Garside
	06/01819/LBC (10/4/2006)	Mr J Cummings Altaso Threshers Crediton EX17 3NL		Western Lodge Hospital Western Road Crediton EX17 3RD	Listed Building Consent for the conversion of hall into 2 no. apartments	Mr Delwyn Matthews

Planning Applications

The Town Council considered the following applications:

APPLICATION	Type - Application					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/01918/OUT (10/10/2006)	Trevor Mills	Michael Thorne Construction Bishops Court Garden Clyst St Mary Exeter	Miles Of Cars Commonmarsh Lane Crediton Devon	Outline for the erection of motor trade buildings	Mr Delwyn Matthews
	APPROVED					

APPLICATION	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02117/FULL (10/10/2006)	Profive Ltd	EJW Architects Baltic Wharf Totnes Devon TQ9 5EW	16 & 17 Charlotte Street Crediton Devon EX17 3BG	Erection of 9 flats with parking facilities following demolition of redundant garage	Mr Keith Garside
OBJECTION - Councillors repeated their previous objections, considering the development to be inappropriate and incompatible with the surrounding street scene. The design was considered to be an ugly and unfortunate mix of styles. The increased height (3 storeys) would create a "canyon" effect and worsen existing air quality problems.						

APPLICATION	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02168/FULL (10/10/2006)	Mr C Pike	Mr S A G Bryant, SAB Drawing & Design 26 Marguerite Road Tiverton EX16 6TD	Gamlens Exhibition Road Crediton Devon	Erection of a 2 storey extension	Mr Charles Bladon
APPROVED						

APPLICATION	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02178/FULL (10/10/2006)	S Beresford-James Capri Broad Close Crediton Devon		Capri Broad Close Crediton Devon	Erection of extension following demolition of existing conservatory	Mr Charles Bladon
APPROVED						