



Credition Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 November, 2006

Councillors:

Mr R Edwards (Chairman)
Miss J Harris
Mr W Brown
Mr D Nation
Mr R Adams
Mrs E Brown
Mr N Way
Mr J Downes
Mr C Haydon
Mrs J Pitts
Mr P Taylor

In Attendance:

Mrs L Belshaw (Mid Devon PCT)
Mr N Jackson (Devon Partnership NHS Trust)
Clerk Mr M Maggs
Press

Prior to the meeting Mrs L Belshaw of the Mid Devon Primary Care Trust and Mr N Jackson of the Devon Partnership NHS Trust presented information on the restructuring of their organisations and the proposals for the future of Credition Hospital.

There was a perception that government would support the development of community hospitals. Hospitals would be expected to take on a wider brief including a diagnostic role. The aim was to obtain a 20% GP admission rate and provide a more cost effective service. Appropriate clinical governance procedures would be put into place to ensure patients would receive the best care and treatment.

The intention was to co-locate the roles of social and clinical care in community based hospitals with shared IT resources and a greater focus on the needs of the patient.

DCC had decided to privatise its homes and home care service and the tendering process was in hand.

It was explained that the PCT would run the hospitals and the Trust manage services and staff. There was a long history of provision of units for the mentally confused, including Boniface Ward at Credition. The use of the ward had never been high and there was a problem in obtaining specialist nursing. It was, therefore, the intention to look at ways of providing a better level of care in the community. It was hoped that services could be concentrated closer to peoples homes with the provision of a more co-ordinated service. A review was being carried out and an options appraisal implemented. It was emphasised that no decisions had been made.

Three basic options were mentioned:

- Close unit
- Keep as is
- Improve staffing levels and service

The local community would be consulted and asked to help with the decision making process. The earliest date of closure could be as soon as end of January/February 2007. Assurances were given that a genuine consultation exercise would be carried out.

The Chairman thanked the officers for attending the meeting. The information would be taken on board with further discussion amongst members under the relevant agenda item.

113. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Letch (personal commitment).

114. Declarations of Interest

Prejudicial	Councillor Pitts	Minute 122a – <i>Account 2553</i>
Personal	Councillor Way	Minute 129
Personal	Councillor Adams	Minute 130
Personal	Councillor Harris	Minute 130
Personal	Councillor Nation	Minute 130
Personal	Councillor Pitts	Minute 130
Personal	Councillor Taylor	Minute 130
Code of Conduct	Councillor Nation Councillor Haydon Councillor Way	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.

115. Public Question Time

None.

116. Chairman’s Announcements

The Chairman explained that some non-urgent items had been deferred to the next meeting.

117. Town Council Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17 October 2006 were approved and signed as a correct record. Councillor Adams requested that his suggestion that the handyman should be self-employed be noted.

118. Matters Arising

Minute 94 (minute 83): it was reported that work had restarted.

Minute 94 (minute 85): repairs had been completed.

Minute 96 (minute 69): agenda item at next meeting. Clerk to circulate details.

Minute 103: it was suggested that there was a need to improve the seating. Agenda item at next meeting.

Minute 104 (additional item): councillors were unable to find notes. Relevant planning file should contain a copy.

119. General Purposes Committee Minutes

a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 7 November 2006 were approved and signed as a correct record with the following amendments:

Page 2, Para 7: replace “Crediton Roads Action Group” with “Crediton Traffic Action Group”.

Minute 87: “no economically viable” should read “not economically viable”.

b) The recommendations of the General Purposes Committee were approved.

120. Matters Arising

Minute 80: Clerk to chase response from Symes Trust. It was reported that SWW was not responsible for paying compensation but could make an ex-gratia payment only.

Minute 86: not yet drafted by member but would be sent to Councillors Edwards and Haydon for prior approval. It was also reported that an incorrect collection tag would be replaced and it appeared that tags were now used on most boxes.

Councillor Way left the meeting.

121. 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 21 November 2006*

There were no applications for 21 November.

The Chairman circulated details on the Examination into the MDDC Core Strategy and Statement of Community Involvement. A pre-examination meeting would take place on 29 November.

The MDDC Corporate Projects Officer had written requesting the Council's views on proposals to bring forward MDDC owned land and buildings for development. Agenda item at next meeting. The Clerk to seek clarification on location and current use.

It was also reported that the appeal on application 06/00384/OUT (land at Western Road) had been dismissed.

122. Finance

a) *Schedules of Accounts*

The schedule of accounts, numbers 002540 to 002555 amounting to £6784.93 was approved.

Councillor Pitts declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber for the duration of discussion on item 2553.

b) *Completion of Audit*

The certificate of completion of audit was received and noted with thanks to the Clerk for his efforts in achieving a successful conclusion with no problems reported. The Clerk had already complied with the requirement to publish details of the income and expenditure account and the notice of completion of audit.

c) *Donation Requests*

Request for Funding for Town Square Christmas Event

A formal request with details of the requirements had not been received. However, it was agreed that a provisional sum of approximately £200 would be considered. Confirmation and the amount of any grant would be provided as soon as details had been received for consideration at the next meeting.

There were no other requests.

AGENDA ITEMS

123. Crediton Hospital

Following the presentation at the start of the meeting by officers from MDPCT and DPT, it was agreed that a letter should be drafted for approval at the next meeting. Councillor Nation agreed to provide. Considerable concern was expressed about the effect any change would have on Crediton patients and family members. Councillors disputed bed and ward occupancy figures provided by MDPCT.

Further dissatisfaction with car parking charges was also mentioned following complaints to councillors from local residents and a bus operator.

124. Standing Orders

Revisions and changes to Standing Orders were approved with the following amendment: *Standing Order 36*: replace "...at the beginning of the meeting or..." with "...at the beginning of the meeting and..."

Councillor Way rejoined the meeting.

125. Speed Limits

It was explained that the Department for Transport had issued an Update on Circular Roads 1/93 which provided guidance to local authorities on the setting of local speed limits.

Concern was expressed over speeding in and around the town with a consensus of opinion that speeds should be reduced to below 30mph. The Town Council had already requested consideration of 20mph zones at specific locations.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Highway Authority drawing attention to the circular and requesting a review to be carried out of speed limits on local roads.

126. War Memorial – Pigeon Problem

The Clerk provided an update and reported that a specialist report had been requested which would be presented to the next meeting or the Finance Committee meeting for consideration.

It was agreed to wait for the report before taking any further action. Councillor Haydon requested his vote against to be recorded.

127. Finance Committee Meeting

The Chairman provided an explanation for the Clerk's request to postpone the Finance Committee meeting to be held on 5 December. It was agreed to postpone the Finance Committee meeting to 9 January, to replace the General Purposes Committee meeting scheduled for that date.

128. CTAG - Town Council Representative

Whilst no formal request had been received from the Crediton Transport Action Group, reports from the previous CTAG meeting had provided an indication that Town Council representation would be valuable.

Councillors Harris and Taylor were appointed and would attend the next CTAG meeting.

129. Devon County Council Offices – Crediton

Councillor Way declared a personal interest in addition to his declaration as a member of the County Council. Details had been circulated by the Clerk announcing the proposed closure to the public of the Devon County Council Offices in Market Street.

The county ward member explained the need to review the use of the office and introduce a more cost effective alternative to maintaining public access. The closure would affect a very small number of people and suitable alternative arrangements would be made to accommodate any specific needs.

The proposals were noted without any further comment.

130. Traffic Issues and Parking

Councillors Adams, Harris, Nation, Pitts and Taylor declared personal interests.

An update was provided on the car parking study being carried out by MDDC with reference to recent correspondence on this subject.

After investigation by a councillor, two suggestions were made for the possible provision of additional parking. It was agreed that the Clerk should provide details to the MDDC Corporate Projects Officer. The sites were located at Deep Lane/Parliament Street and The Burrowe.

131. Exeter Road Closure

The Chairman provided a brief report on the recent meeting with interested parties and the relevant authorities.

The strength of feeling within the town against the road closure was made very clear to SWW and the Highway Authority. An alternative route for the works was requested and various options examined. However, planning permission had been granted and the developer intended to proceed as soon as possible. Unfortunately, the Planning Authority and the Highway Authority had very little statutory control over SWW. The intention appeared to be to reduce the amount of time needed to carry out the works along Exeter Road by extending the normal working hours.

It was agreed that the Chairman should draft a letter outlining the Council's concerns following the outcome of the next progress meeting to be held on 28 November.

132. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. SLCC – proposed conference for medium sized councils.
2. Devon Conservation Forum – Climate Change Action Day – Exeter 25 November.

3. Mr N Heard – request for plaque in memory of Samuel Dunn. Passed to Councillor E Brown for consideration.
4. MDDC – email from Conservation Officer on TS plaque and seats and exchange of emails between Clerk and MDDC/DCC officers.
5. DAPC – Agenda and papers for Larger Councils Sub Committee meeting – 23 November-Exeter.
6. MDDC – Standards Committee agenda and minutes for 14 November and MD Standards Bulletin.
7. Mid Devon CAB – September Advisory meeting notes.
8. DCC – Devon Pension Fund Annual Report.
9. Councillor Downes – TC Christmas Dinner – 15/19 December. Clerk to circulate details.
10. Crediton & District Access Group – letter and questionnaire on building access.
11. Crediton Arts Centre – request for funding for Shakespeare in the Square. Refer to Finance Committee.
12. DCC – temporary prohibition of through traffic – Peoples Park Road – 11 to 15 December inclusive for BT works.
13. MDDC – consultation on options for Greenway Play Area. Agenda item at next meeting. Clerk to obtain residents' feedback.
14. DAPC – email from Secretary asking for views on Free Bus Fare scheme.
15. Miss D Nangle – objections to Exeter Road closure. Chairman contacted – no response necessary.
16. DCC – updated rights of way map incorporating recent diversion.

BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD

133. Railings – Union Terrace

It was reported that the railings had been repaired and painted. The Clerk was asked to convey the Council's appreciation to Devon County Council (Highways).

PART TWO

134. Administration

Councillor Harris left the meeting.
The Chairman and Clerk provided an update.

Meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Signed:

(R Edwards – Chairman)

Date:

PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 21 NOVEMBER 2006

Planning Decisions

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

DECISION	Type - Inspector Appeal against refusal.					
	Number 06/00727/FULL (11/14/2006)	Applicant Mr & Mrs I M Pring Bangor Peoples Park Road Credton EX17 2DA	Agent Stephen Armstrong Chartered Architect Orchard Cottage Dunsford EX6 7DD	Location Bangor Peoples Park Road Credton EX17 2DA	Proposal Erection of extension	Officer Mr Charles Bladon
DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number 06/01885/FULL (11/8/2006)	Applicant Mr D Symonds Refer to the "Agent Details" tab for contact information.	Agent Keith Mortimer Upper Park 2 Searle Street Credton EX17 2AT	Location Land & Buildings At NGR 283877 99922 Exeter Road Credton Devon	Proposal Demolition of garages and erection of new dwelling	Officer Ms Marie Stainwright
DECISION	Type - Withdrawn					
	Number 06/01908/FULL (11/10/2006)	Applicant Devon Community Housing Hillfields House Matford Court Sigford Road Exeter EX2 8NL	Agent Bailey Partnership Trinity Court 37 Southernhay East Exeter EX1 1PD	Location Land At NGR 283502 100588 Clifford Gardens Credton Devon EX17 2AG	Proposal Erection of 10 no. dwellings	Officer Mr Keith Garside

DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02008/FULL (11/8/2006)	Milk Link Processing Ltd Milk Link Processing Ltd Church Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2AH	Simon Bastone Associates 14 Cathedral Close Exeter EX1 1EZ	Milk Link Processing Ltd Church Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2AH	Erection of pitched roof	Mr Keith Garside
DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02009/FULL (11/8/2006)	Milk Link Processing Ltd Church Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2AH	Simon Bastone Associates 14 Cathedral Close Exeter EX1 1EZ	Milk Link Processing Ltd Church Lane Crediton Devon EX17 2AH	Erection of steel framed building	Ms Marie Stainwright
DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02060/TPO (11/8/2006)	Mrs C Saunders Little Holm Downhead Mill Street Crediton EX17 1HQ		36 Mill Street Crediton Devon EX17 1EZ	Application to remove lower limbs of 1 no. Sycamore tree protected by TPO 4/18/93	Mr Charles Bladon
DECISION	Type - Application Granted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02074/CAT (11/8/2006)	Mr & Dr C Bennetts 17 Church Street Crediton EX17 2AQ		17 Church Street Crediton Devon EX17 2AQ	Notification of intention to fell a Cedrus Atlantica Glauca tree within the Conservation Area	Mr Charles Bladon

Planning Applications

The Town Council considered the following applications:

APPLICATION	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02294/FULL (11/7/2006)	Ernest Jackson Co Ltd 29 High Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AP	The Austin Company Of UK Ltd Cardinal Point Park Road Rickmansworth Herts WD3 1RE	Ernest Jackson & Co Ltd 29 High Street Crediton Devon EX17 3AP	Erection of new external plant	Mr Delwyn Matthews
	APPROVED	on condition that any noise generated by additional equipment/machinery is suitably insulated and controlled.				
APPLICATION	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02387/FULL (11/14/2006)	Mr & Mrs Moles Amber House Tolleys Crediton Devon EX17 1HG	The Conservatory Centre Bernaville Nurseries Three Horseshoes Cowley Exeter EX5 5EU	Amber House Tolleys Crediton Devon EX17 1HG	Erection of a conservatory	Mr Charles Bladon
	APPROVED					
APPLICATION	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02401/FULL (11/14/2006)	Mr J. M. Clotworthy The Shrubbery Coplestone Crediton EX17 5NE	Randell Burton Architects Ltd The Studio 7 William Street Tiverton EX16 6BJ	The Old Mill Belle Court Crediton Devon EX17 3LE	Conversion and extension of existing warehouse to form 1 new dwelling, 3 flats and 2 bed-sits	Mr Keith Garside
	DEFERRED	For site inspection				

APPLICATION	Type - Application					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
	06/02402/CAC (11/14/2006)	Mr J. M. Clotworthy The Shrubbery Cobblestone Credton EX17 5NE	Randell Burton Architects Ltd The Studio 7 William Street Tiverton EX16 6BJ	The Old Mill Belle Court Credton Devon EX17 3LE	Conservation Area Consent for demolition of part of existing structure	Mr Keith Garside
	DEFERRED	For site inspection				