



# Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 November 2008

Present:	Councillors	Mr F Letch (Chairman) Mr W Brown Mr J Downes (part meeting) Miss J Harris Mrs A Hughes Mr Nick Way (part meeting) Mr R Adams Mr P Finnegan Mr D Nation Mr R Wright (part meeting)
In Attendance:	Clerk Press Crediton Arts Centre	Mr M Maggs 2 Mr P Hamilton

# **AGENDA ITEMS**

#### 133. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Brookes-Hocking (personal commitment) and Scarbrough (personal commitment). Councillor Downes reported that he would need to leave the meeting early.

# 134. Declarations of Interest

Personal	Councillor Hughes	Minute 143a Account 2880		
Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minute 143a Account 2887		
Personal	Councillor Letch	Minute 143a Account 2888		
Prejudicial	Councillor Wright	Minute 142b – 08/01900/OUT		
Prejudicial	Councillor Hughes	Minute 142b – 08/01900/OUT		
Personal	Councillor Harris	Minute 151		
Personal	Councillor Way	Minute 151		
Personal	Councillor Nation	Minute 151		
Prejudicial	Councillor Adams	Minute 151		
Code of Conduct	Councillors Downes, Nation, Wright and Way	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.		

## 135. Presentation by Crediton Arts Centre

The Director of the Crediton Arts Centre outlined the plans for the Crediton 2009 Festival and presented a draft programme of events. The success of the Festival would

depend on grants and donations from a variety of organisations, including MDDC, DCC, the Arts Council and the Town Council. To this end, he encouraged members to consider providing more support during the next financial year. He would be making a formal application on behalf of the Arts Centre for presentation at the Council's Finance Committee. In the meantime, additional support for the "Fayre in the Square", to be held on 6 December, would be appreciated.

The Chairman expressed his thanks and it was agreed that the request for support would be considered during the Finance agenda item.

## 136. Public Question Time

Councillor Wright arrived.

Mr Peter Hamilton (Director, Crediton Arts Centre) asked when the new public toilets in Market Street would be opened. He explained that this information was important when planning for public events such as the Festival 2009 or other events such as the forthcoming "Fayre in the Square".

MDDC ward members reported that the opening was imminent, hopefully before Christmas, but the District Council was dependent on the developer's commitment to complete the works.

## 137. Chairman's & Clerk's Announcements

The Chairman took the opportunity to praise the coverage given by the local press to Town Council issues.

He reported that he had recently attended an event to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CAB.

## 138. Town Council Minutes

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 21 October 2008 were received and approved as a correct record with the following amendment:

*Minute 112 (90c):* for clarification, add to beginning of penultimate sentence:

"He stated that he had made a verbal request for an agenda item. "

## 139. Matters Arising

*Minute110:* in response to a question from a member, the Clerk confirmed that, unfortunately, the chain of office "jewel" had needed to be completely remade following several unsuccessful attempts at restoration. However, the Chairman reported that he was delighted and impressed with the standard of workmanship which was reflected in the number of positive comments made by members of the public at recent public events.

*Minute 116c:* it was reported that the District Council was reviewing its investment policy. It was suggested that the Town Council, at an appropriate time, should take the opportunity of examining the outcome of the Scrutiny Committee's report. MDDC ward members to advise on the report's availability.

*Minute 123:* it was reported that the working group had not met. It was further reported that the working group, when it meets, should take into account government guidelines on the provision of public toilets - that local authorities should consider making "adequate and increased provision".

## 140. General Purposes Committee Minutes

- a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 4 November 2008 were received and noted.
- b) The recommendations of the General Purposes Committee held on 4 November 2008 were approved.

#### 141. Matters Arising

*Minute 91:* it was explained that there was a need to refer the issue to the Access Group for clearer advice on their requirements before the Council could proceed.

*Minute 96:* the confusion over the timing of the closures had caused many problems – which should not be repeated.

Minute 97: the pelican crossing would not now proceed.

*Minute102:* it was reported that the Climate Action Group had expressed an interest in taking over the former CIC office.

# 142. Planning

a) Planning Decisions

Noted. Decisions notified by the planning authority are appended. A member made a further request that grid references in planning applications are accompanied by a location. He asked to be informed when a response from MDDC was received.

- b) *Planning Applications* Comments made in respect of planning applications considered at this meeting are appended.
- b) Planning Applications/Items for Determination week ending 18 November 2008 None.
- c) Development Plan

The Clerk reported that the Planning Authority had failed to include the Town Council's comments in the report submitted to a recent meeting of the MDDC Planning Committee. He had asked for the comments to be tabled for members of that committee and had received an apology for the oversight.

The Clerk was asked to discover why the Town Council's comments were not included.

It was agreed to defer any discussion on the Development Plan until after the public exhibition to be held on 11 December in the Council Chamber. All members were urged to attend. Agenda item at next Town Council meeting.

# 143. Finance

a) Schedule of Accounts

Account 2887 was discussed separately in order to allow a councillor who had declared a prejudicial interest to leave the chamber (Councillors Adams) but continue to participate in the discussion on remaining accounts.

The schedule of accounts, numbers 002862 to 002890 amounting to £11,173.55 was approved.

b) Completion of Audit

The Certificate of Completion of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2008 was received and noted. No action was required.

The publication of the successfully audited Income & Expenditure Account and Notice of Completion of Audit was approved.

The Clerk and the Assistant Town Clerk were thanked for their efforts in securing the successful completion of the accounts and audit process.

As part of the continuing internal audit arrangements, the Chairman reported that he had recently, with the Assistant Town Clerk, carried out a check on the bank and petty cash reconciliation processes.

c) Additional Expenditure

Additional expenditure from the Council Expenses allocation was approved for the framing of the Plastic Bag Free Charter and the 1743 Map.

# 144. Councillor Reports

a) Code of Conduct Training

A councillor who had attended the course, reported that the session had been interesting, particularly the new DVD. The Clerk was asked if he could make arrangements to obtain a copy for use by other councillors and circulate the presentation notes.

b) *Barnfield Allotment Gate* Councillor Adams reported that he had carried out a repair to the gate and was thanked for his efforts. c) Plastic Bags

Disappointment was expressed over the failure of two High Street supermarkets (Costcutter and Tesco) to co-operate with the Climate Action Group's Plastic Bag Free project which was given full Town Council support.

d) Skatepark

An update was given on progress with the groundworks in preparation for the installation of the new equipment.

## SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

#### 145. Town Council Newsletter

The Chairman reported that the recent newsletter had been extended to four pages and was very encouraged to see a greater interest in the production of articles. It was agreed that the current format (four pages) should continue. This would mean an increase in expenditure over the current allocation. Additional funds would be found from the Council/Councillor Expenses budget.

The Clerk suggested articles for the next newsletter to be published by 31 December:

- Plastic Bag Free Charter
- o Skatepark
- Remembrance Services
- The Big Draw and the Labyrinth Project

It was agreed that members would consider preparing articles and pass to Councillor Brookes-Hocking (Communications Working Group member) for editing. The Clerk would provide publishing support and obtain suitable photographs.

The Chairman agreed to provide a Christmas message which the Clerk would also release to the press.

#### 146. Crediton Town Plan

The Clerk had circulated draft changes to the proposed Town Plan (appended).

The changes were approved in their entirety with thanks to working group members for their continuing efforts.

## 147. Town Centre Development

Councillor Way arrived.

Working Group members presented their proposal not to proceed with a land valuation but to use the funding to engage a consultant to produce an outline for the potential of the site at Parliament Street.

The proposal was approved. (Four votes in favour, four against, the Chairman using his casting vote in favour of proceeding with the Working Group's recommendations).

## 148. Town Guide

#### a) Update on progress

It was reported that amendments to the final copy were being prepared but there was a delay in submitting to the publishers due to the recent closure of the Crediton Information Centre which had an entry in the guide. Concerns were expressed over the impact on the Festival 2009 as the CIC was to be the main point of contact.

The Clerk and Councillor Brookes-Hocking to investigate possible alternative contacts for inclusion in the guide.

#### b) Amendments

The amendments as indicated, with the exception of a CIC contact, were approved for publication.

#### 149. Communities in Control - Consultation

The Chairman and Clerk provided an explanation on the proposed changes to the Members' Code of Conduct and the proposed new Code of Conduct for Employees. It was generally agreed that the proposals did not unduly affect the way in which the Members Code operated at present and that the suggested changes would be an improvement. The Clerk fully supported the introduction of a Code for Employees. The

Council had gone some way to addressing the issues by adopting a member and staff protocol.

It was agreed that:

- members should take more time to read and consider the consultation document
- o members and staff would make their own comments, if considered appropriate.
- members would request an agenda item at the next meeting if they identified any issues for further discussion.

# 150. Information Commissioner – Council Publication Scheme

Councillor Downes left the meeting.

The Clerk briefly outlined the proposals expressing his disappointment at the very short notice. He had been unable to review the Council's current publication scheme but explained that the requirement appeared to expect the Council to adopt the new scheme by 1 January without any changes. He agreed to provide confirmation at the next meeting. Further discussion was, consequently, deferred to the December meeting.

## 151. Crediton Parking Study

Councillor Adams declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting excusing himself for all remaining items.

It was agreed to note the study document acknowledging that it was now largely of academic interest, particularly in view of the improvements created by the introduction of suitable enforcement.

It was further agreed to pursue the Highway Authority's Parking and Waiting Restrictions consultation with an agenda item at the next General Purposes Committee meeting. A councillor circulated copies of the proposed changes. The Clerk to circulate additional copies, if necessary, with the next GP agenda.

## 152. CCTV

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. For convenience, it was agreed to defer to a Part Two item at the end of the meeting.

## 153. Correspondence Received

- 1. Crediton Climate Action emails thanks to Council, Chairman and Clerk.
- 2. DCC Temporary Prohibition Notices for Searle Street and Westwood Road.
- 3. NALC/SLCC National Interim Salary Award for Local Council Clerks.
- 4. MDDC update on progress with Skatepark Project.
- 5. DCC Road Traffic Regulations Pedestrian Crossing Western Road notice of advertisement.
- 6. Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority consultation on Corporate Plan.
- 7. RD&E NHS Foundation Trust Annual Report & Financial Statements.
- 8. DCC Pension Fund Annual Report & Accounts.
- 9. Ashfords letter and advice on Land Registration and implications of Unitary Status.
- 10. MDDC letter and recent Code of Conduct training notes.
- 11. Councillor Brown Police Liaison meeting notes 10 November. Agenda item next GP
- 12. SLCC Agenda and Minutes for Devon Branch Meeting 5 December.
- 13. Costain Ltd email from Liaison Manager on project and Council's request for funding. Confidential. <u>Discussion deferred to Part Two.</u>
- 14. Crediton Climate Action –November newsletter.

## **BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD**

## 154. Street Cleaning

Agenda item at next General Purposes Committee meeting. Clerk and Councillor Nation to again request copy of cleaning schedule.

#### 155. Town Square

It was reported by several members that the surface was in need of attention.

A general discussion ensued relating to problems with MDDC's responsibilities, including the Town Square and Exeter Road. Agenda item at next Council meeting.

## 156. Peoples Park

An update on progress with obtaining and laying bark chippings was given. It was hoped that the Newton St Cyres Young Farmers would be able to provide labour and equipment to assist. A local businessman had also agreed to assist with the provision of a wood chipper.

#### 157. Red Hill Cross

Confusion was reported over the naming of Red Hill Cross by the Planning Authority. The Clerk to check with Ordnance Survey. It was generally accepted, locally, that the name should be Red Hill Cross and not Red Cross Hill.

#### PART TWO

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.

#### **158.** Costain Ltd (Deferred from Minute 153 (13))

The Chairman read out the email from Costain Ltd. The Clerk explained the implications for the expectation of assistance with project funding. The Clerk to renew contact with contractor and make arrangements for a presentation to members.

- **159. CCTV** (Deferred from Minute 152)
  - a) Update

In the absence of the Council's CCTV representative, the Chairman and Clerk provided an update on the current status of the Crediton CCTV system.

The Council's agreed position was again confirmed – commitment to house and insure equipment only. Disappointment was again expressed about the lack of progress on resolving outstanding issues and the failure of individuals to address key matters relating to operability.

b) Action

It was agreed that the Clerk should write in the strongest terms to the CAMM chairman outlining the Council's disappointment and expressing the Council's firm desire to seek a resolution to the outstanding problems within a reasonable time. It was further confirmed that the Council did not have any further funding to resolve any outstanding issues or address any further problems.

Meeting closed at 9:25 pm.

Signed:

(F Letch, Chairman)

Date:

# PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 18/11/08

**Planning Decisions** – as notified by the Planning Authority:

Type - Appeal Di	smissed				
Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
07/02303/FULL (14/07/2008)	Mr M Salter R J Salter & Sons 28 Marsh Road Lords Meadow Crediton EX17 1EU	Mr D Armstrong WWD Ltd Chiltern House Matford Court Sigford Road Exeter EX2 8NL	Hillside Buller Road Crediton Devon EX17 2AX	Erection of 6 flats with parking facilities following demolition of bungalow	Mr Delwyn Matthews
Type - Application	on Granted				
Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
08/01494/FULL (10/09/2008)	Mr Terence Butler 14 Albert Close Crediton Devon EX17 2BU		14 Albert Close Crediton Devon EX17 2BU	Retention of pergola and shed	Miss Tina Maryan
Type - Application	on Granted				
Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
08/01645/FULL (10/09/2008)	Mr J Easton C/o Mr Keith Mortimer Upper Park 2 Searle Street Crediton Devon EX17 2AT		60 Greenway Crediton Devon EX17 3LP	Erection of conservatory	Miss Tina Maryan

	Type - Application granted						
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer	
DECISION	08/01632/FULL (17/09/2008)	Mr R Dunn 6 St Lawrences Green Crediton Devon EX17 3LH	Mrs I Lee-Wright Lee-Wright Associates Ltd Friends Gallery Coldharbour Mill Uffculme Cullompton EX15 3EE	6 St Lawrences Green Crediton Devon EX17 3LH	Erection of garage/workshop and widening of entrance	Miss Tina Maryan	
	Type - Application Gra	inted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer	
DECISION	08/01633/LBCL (17/09/2008)	Mr R Dunn 6 St Lawrences Green Crediton Devon EX17 3LH	Mrs I Lee-Wright Lee-Wright Associates Ltd Friends Gallery Coldharbour Mill Uffculme Cullompton EX15 3EE	6 St Lawrences Green Crediton Devon EX17 3LH	Listed Building Consent for erection of garage and widening of entrance	Miss Tina Maryan	
	Type - Application Gra	Inted					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer	
DECISION	08/01668/FULL (17/09/2008)	WJV Property Development Co. Ltd C/o Mr A Stockel Allen Stockel Planning Consultant Hillside Chulmleigh EX18 7EA		Buildings at NGR 283150 100288 High Street Crediton Devon	Conversion of building to 1 dwelling and reinstatement of 2 dwellings (Revised scheme)	Mr Keith Garside	

Type - Application	Granted				
Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
08/01689/TPO (17/09/2008)	Mrs I Davies 3 Taw Vale Terrace Station Road Crediton EX17 3BU		Taw Vale Terrace Crediton Devon EX17 3BU	Application to fell 1 Oak tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 1987/1	Miss Tina Maryan
ing Applications					
Type - Application					
Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
Number 08/01900/OUT (05/11/2008)	Mr John Cummings Altaso Threshers Crediton Devon EX17 3NL		Land at NGR 282011 100555 Western Road Crediton Devon	Outline for erection of single storey dwelling and garage	Mr Delwyn Matthews
properties, especial	• •	ooms are provided at gro	ound level to alleviate a	ny potential interference wi	th nearby
Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agant	Location	Proposal	Officer
	Mrs Claire Saunders	<b>Agent</b> Mr David Grabham	56 East Street	Conversion of	Mr Delwyn
Number 08/01911/FULL (05/11/2008)	Little Holm Down Head Mill Street Crediton Devon	Bridge Cottage 51 Fore Street North Tawton Devon EX20 2EF	Crediton Devon EX17 3BA	hairdressing and beauty salon to 1 flat and demolition of toilet block at rear (Revised Scheme)	Matthews

**NO OBJECTIONS -**

	Type - Application Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
APPLICATION	08/01925/FULL (05/11/2008)	Canon Paul Cummins The Chaplaincy Exeter University Glenthorne Road Exeter EX4 4QU	Mr E Holden, Dip Arch, RIBA Architect Tanners Yard 100 High Street Crediton EX17 3LF	St Boniface Church Park Road Crediton Devon EX17 3ES	Erection of single storey extension	Mr Keith Garside
	APPROVED -					
	Type - Application					
	Number	Applicant	Agent	Location	Proposal	Officer
APPLICATION	08/01929/FULL (05/11/2008)	Mrs Claire Saunders Little Holm Downeshead Lane Crediton Devon EX17 1HQ	Mr Michael O'Connor Level One 2 The Old Fire Station Manor Road Chagford Devon TQ13 8AS	Little Holm Downeshead Lane Crediton Devon EX17 1HQ	Erection of extension	Miss Tina Maryan
	APPROVED -					

## Town Council town plan

#### **Draft proposals**

#### Background

The Town plan working group has looked at the Strategic Plan developed by the MCTi in 2003.

We have identified four areas following on from the Strategic Plan where the town council could adopt policies that would form the basis of a plan for the town:

- 1. Economic development
- 2. Building development
- 3. Environment
- 4. Transport
- 5. Social provision

There are several reasons for suggesting that, as a council, we should have a plan:

- There are some simple steps we could take ourselves to address some of the issues that arise under the areas listed above; as a council we sometimes take these or similar things on, and sometimes we don't. There is often no a coherent approach to when or whether things are done.
- There are other interest groups in the town who are trying to address some of the issues that arise in the same areas and with whom we could at least have some well-joined thinking, even if we are not in a position to effect all or any of the changes that they might be seeking.
- When the district and county authorities come forward with large-scale proposals, we do not have a plan to which we can relate the proposals and are often in a position of responding or making a judgement on the proposal in isolation from other considerations which may be pertinent.
- When a private developer comes forward with a proposal, again, we are often in a position of responding to the development in isolation from other considerations – at best these are raised on an ad hoc basis, with no system in place to act as a check-list against which to place the proposal.

Within all the four areas there are many more things that could be said or put forward as policy proposals for inclusion in a town plan. This plan is not intended to be exclusive of any area. However, we have concentrated on those that we think we could do something about as a council, that we could work with other groups to achieve, or which we feel other agencies would expect us to have an attitude towards, even if it is not something that the town council itself has the responsibility or the ability to do. Some parts of this draft are more developed than others. Those with more detail tend to be ones that are current issues. We have avoided expanding areas for the sake of it. These areas could be expanded now or as it becomes appropriate.

## **1 Economic development**

#### **Town centre**

The town council supports the town centre as the location for retail and services. We note that there is a higher number of empty retail premises in the prime shopping area than has previously existed.

We note that the town centre has disadvantages when compared with competing shopping facilities elsewhere in the town. These include

- adequacy, convenience and cost of car parking
- traffic noise
- pollution from vehicles

The perception of the town centre is that parking is either:

- not available,
- not easily accessible, or
- not conveniently located

The perception of some residents is that all three of these are true.

To help make the centre usable by residents and people from the local area we wish to ensure that there is adequate car parking that is easy to use by shoppers, users of services in the town centre and by people working in the town centre.

#### **Proposals**

## 1.1 Car parking

- a. Ensure adequate signing of existing car parks
- b. Investigate the development of a new town centre car park

c. Look for opportunities to reduce or eliminate car parking charges for short term parking

## 1.2 Traffic

Support and / or investigate measures to reduce the effects of traffic passing through the town centre.

# 2 Building development

# 2.1 Housing

## 2.1.1 Development in the existing town boundary

There is increasing pressure on land for housing. Some developments take place within the existing town boundary. This sometimes occurs on previously undeveloped sites leading to loss of green space inside the town.

## Proposals

a. Develop a policy towards undeveloped green spaces inside the town to guide future development.

b. List any undeveloped green spaces of significance to the townscape.

c. Develop a policy towards brown field sites inside the town to guide future redevelopment.

d. List any features, such as cob walls, that are significant to the townscape.

# 2.1.2 Development outside the built-up area

Green field sites are proposed for housing development in the LDF. At present the town council has no policy to guide it in evaluating the merits of any one proposal against another.

## Proposal

a. Develop a policy towards undeveloped green field sites outside the town to guide future development.

b. Develop a policy towards the rural setting of the town and the nature of the land surrounding the town.

c. Develop a policy towards what is required from the design of housing developments that can contribute to the viability of the town as a centre, such as dedicated footpaths from housing developments to the centre and from the centre, through housing developments to the rural landscape.

# 2.2 Employment

There is a need for more employment land in the town. Various sites have been suggested for development in the LDF. At present the town council has no policy to guide it in evaluating the merits of any one proposal against another.

## 2.2.1 Development inside the town boundary

# Proposal

Develop a policy towards existing employment land inside the town centre.

# 2.2.2 Development outside the built-up area

## Proposals

a. Develop a policy towards development of green field sites for employment purposes.

b. List and evaluate possible green field development sites.

c. Evaluate the impact of different development sites on the town infrastructure.

d. Evaluate the impact of different development sites on the town setting.

## **3** Environment

## 3.1 The town setting

The LDF proposes various areas that could be significantly developed for either housing or employment or both and most of these fall outside the current built-up area. Development would affect the setting of the town.

## Proposals

Record and evaluate the setting of the town.

#### 3.2 Parks and open spaces inside the town

The town council owns some spaces and buildings in spaces owned by other authorities. Sometimes, exact ownership is not clear. There is the possibility of greater use of some spaces and facilities belonging both to the council and to other authorities

## Proposals

a. Develop a policy towards encouraging use of open spaces and facilities:

- the Town Square
- the Bandstand in Newcombes Meadow
- People's Park

b. Develop a policy towards the maintenance and future enhancement of People's Park.

## 3.3 The Town Centre

The centre can appear bland and unappealing.

# Proposals

a Develop a plan for improving the town centre environment:

- i Investigate putting trees and large planters in the High Street
- ii Investigate replacing the railings round St Lawrence Green

iii Develop the Floral Crediton project

iv Investigate advertising columns in the High Street

v Enhance the town entrances

b Develop links with other groups with an interest in environmental maintenance, enhancement and protection.

## **4** Transport

The town has bus and rail links as well as a bus service around the town. Nevertheless, Crediton residents rely heavily on private cars for transport around the town and out of the town.

HGVs pass through residential areas and the town centre. The High Street and Exeter Road have unacceptable levels of pollution.

As a result of all these factors, there is a need to look at

- ways of increasing use of public transport
- ways of reducing the adverse effects of traffic on the town and its residents

## Proposals

a. Develop a transport policy for the town.

- b. Support use of public transport through better or more information distribution
- c. Link more effectively to other interest groups:
  - Rail users group
  - Traffic Action group
  - CCA cycle group

 $\ -$  continue to try to find a safe east-west route through the town that avoids the A377

# **5** Social provision

## 5.1 Voluntary sector

Crediton benefits from many social groups some of which are reliant on grant aid from local councils including the Town Council for funding of their core activities.. Research has shown that these groups provide good value for money but their work is constrained by limitation of funds

# Proposal

Keep the Town Council budget for funding voluntary groups under review.

# 5.2 Young people

Lack of facilities for young people, particularly teenagers, has long been acknowledged.

Young people complain that there is nowhere for them to meet informally, other than public houses.

For many years young car owners have been unable to find an area where they can meet together without causing annoyance to nearby residents.

# Proposals

a Publicise projects for young people that are financially supported by the Town Council.

b Keep the budget for funding activities for young people under review.

c Liaise with and support projects involving young people.

# 5.3 Independent living

The proportion of elderly residents in the town's population is growing and likely to continue to grow as people are encouraged to stay in their own homes as long as possible.

Vulnerable people with disabilities are cared for in the community. Easy access is needed to shops and support services by disabled people and older people.

The town lacks a suitable meeting place allowing independent access by groups of disabled people and people with limited mobility

# Proposals

a Liaise with voluntary and statutory sectors over the current and likely future needs of these groups.

b Investigate opportunities for achieving a fully accessible meeting place for community groups in the town centre.