

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 24 MAY 2016 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AT 7.00PM

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Present:

In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock	
Cllr M. Bushell	Cllr M. Cornelius
Cllr Mrs J. H. Foster	Cllr M. J. Kingdon
Cllr Ms T. Lewis	Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr D. Worden	Cllr Mrs S. Yeo

In Attendance: Town Clerk Mr A. C. Coates.

23/16 **PRAYERS**

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev S. Innals.

24/16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Goodman, Moore and Way.

25/16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declaration of interest was read out by the Town Clerk:  
Cllr Foster – Personal Interest – Item 10 – Chair FOSMCW Facilitating Project

26/16 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman mentioned that, having been on a Chairman's course in the past, he would give priority to people that had not previously spoken during debates at that Council meeting.

The Chairman also mentioned that the Football Club meeting last week was a pleasure to Chair as all members present respected the rules of debate.

The Chairman also stated that last Thursday he and the Town Clerk met Des Brayley and Martin Williams from North Devon Council regarding Central Car Park and various issues were discussed including re-siting the recycling bins, free coach parking and the 12 hour parking limit.

27/16 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No items were raised by members of the public.

28/16 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 26 April 2016

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved. Cllr Worden abstained from voting as he was not present at that meeting.

Annual Meeting of Town Council 10 May 2016

It was unanimously RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

Continued ...

29/16 **ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Amenity Area Sub-Committee 2 March 2016

It was unanimously RESOLVED that these minutes be approved and their recommendations be adopted.

30/16 **DOCUMENTS FOR EXECUTION**

It was RESOLVED that the following documents be signed by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and witnessed by the Town Clerk:

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P30 – Mrs Rachel Exon, 47 Nadder Meadow, South Molton, EX36 4BR

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P32 – Mrs Hilary Palmer, 24 Aclands, South Molton, EX36 4AX

31/16 **DART PARK ALLOTMENTS**

Members noted that two requests had been received from the tenants of Allotments 2A and 18A at Dart Park to erect sheds on their allotments not exceeding 8' x 6'. It was RESOLVED that these requests be approved.

8 For 1 Abstained.

32/16 **SOUTH MOLTON CULM AND WETLANDS CENTRE**

Cllr Foster reported on a proposal to build a Wetland Centre on Town Council owned land off the B3226 at Common Moors. This development would include a Tourist Centre with car parking facilities. Cllr Foster outlined the details of the project and the Clerk proposed that the resolution put to members is to submit a pre-application planning enquiry in order to ascertain any conditions that may be required for the project to progress. The cost to the Council for this application would be £50. It was unanimously RESOLVED that this proposal be accepted.

33/16 **COUNCIL POLICY**

The Town Clerk suggested to members that this agenda item be split into two resolutions. Firstly the use of electronic devices – it was RESOLVED that the Town Council allows the use of electronic devices at meetings as long as they are used with care and respect to other Councillors and that the Chairman, at his discretion, can request that use ceases if it is causing a nuisance. Secondly the use of e-cigarettes – It was RESOLVED unanimously that the use of e-cigarettes be banned at Council meetings.

34/16 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS**

- i) Arts Council Grant – The Research and Development Grant for £10K has been submitted and the Council should have an answer by mid June. There are already some artists who are interesting in showing their art on the enhancement.
- ii) Scaffolding – Three towers of scaffolding, down to the middle of the Pannier Market should be coming down tomorrow.
- iii) BMX Track – Commencement date of 13 June.

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- iv) Parrot Feather in the Recreation Ground Pond – The contractors will be doing the works on 13 June.
- v) Maclins Quarry – The Town Clerk contacted the company who sub-lets from DCC (Coastal Recycling Ltd) and he was informed that at present they have not re-negotiated a new lease and that there are no plans to increase opening hours. The Town Clerk will be writing to them to ask what the long terms plans are.
- vi) Cemetery – We have had several complaints about the length of the grass in the Cemetery – it should be back to normal by the end of the week. Our staff have been very busy and they are one person short which does not help the situation. The Town Clerk apologised for any inconvenience this has caused users of the Cemetery.
- vii) The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the Queen’s Birthday Working Group would be held on Wednesday 25 May 2016 at 6.30pm.

35/16 **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a) Cllr Worden attended a Crime Prevention meeting where it was established that only 13 crimes for the 26 parishes had occurred around South Molton for the month of April.  
Cllr Worden reported on the recent SM Sports Network meeting where all clubs present reported growth in their membership  
He also reported that Julie Colman was considering organising a run around the Woodlands and Recreation Ground on Saturday mornings.  
Cllr Worden also reported that the Local Plan had now been adopted and was being submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.  
Cllr Foster had attended the SMVB AGM where it was reported that journey numbers were on the increase.  
She also reported that the Community Woodlands had been judged for the North Devon Show and was pleased to report that South Molton had been awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Community/Schools Section.  
Cllr Bushell requested the Clerk to write to those Councillors who were involved with the initial woodland created c.1993 to inform them of this win and to let them know how proud we are to continue their works.  
Cllr Lock reported that he had attended a seminar on the Emergency Plan and that he would be requesting that the South Molton Emergency Plan be updated in the near future.
- b) No issues were raised by North Devon Councillors.
- c) No Police were in attendance to report to members.
- d) Cllr Yabsley was not in attendance to report to members.

36/16 It was RESOLVED under the provision of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

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39/14 It was RESOLVED that the meeting return to open session.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.01pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....