

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr M. Cornelius
Cllr Mrs J. H. Foster Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr Ms T. Lewis Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr E. J. Moore Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr D. Worden Cllr Mrs S. Yeo

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

78/16 **PRAYERS**

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Mayor's Chaplain.

79/16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Kingdon.

80/16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

81/16 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Nil.

82/16 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of the Council mentioned the problems with drains within the town and as Cllr Yabsley was present he stated that this was taking priority with DCC at the moment.

83/16 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 27 September 2016

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be unanimously approved.

At this point in the meeting Cllr Yabsley reported to members on any issues relating to DCC He mentioned that on Thursday at 9.00am officers from DCC would be visiting South Molton to establish any necessary highways works to be undertaken. He also mentioned that libraries were now under the control of Devon Libraries Unlimited and they were doing very well with support from local communities and DCC. Cllr Yabsley agreed that the Highway signage within the town could be better and he would investigate how this could be improved and would report back to the Town Council.

84/16 **REVIEW OF POLICY REGARDING DOGS IN THE PANNIER MARKET**

Members noted that in April 2016 it was agreed that dogs be allowed in the Pannier Market for a trial period of six months and this item had now been brought back for further consideration. Following discussion, and some procedural difficulties that were encountered during the debate, the Chairman

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and the Town Clerk stated that they would like this item deferred until the next meeting after advice has been obtained as to procedural accuracy. Since no councillor objected to a deferment this item will be placed on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting.

85/16 NORTH DEVON LINK ROAD

The Town Clerk produced some detailed maps at the meeting for the proposed changes to the Link Road from South Molton to Bideford and a general discussion took place regarding the different junction points and widening areas along that route. The Town Clerk reported that he had filled in the consultation questionnaire on behalf of the Town Council. No resolution was passed on this agenda item as it was a discussion only topic.

86/16 TOP APPRENTICE JOCKEY

Cllr Bushell advised members that a former student of South Molton Community College, Josephine Gordon, had been named as top apprentice jockey and was requesting that a resolution is passed whether or not the Town Council writes a letter in recognition regarding this achievement. It was RESOLVED to write a letter to Josephine Gordon in recognition to her and her agent. 8 For 3 Against.

87/16 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS

- a) Tourist Information Centre – The Town Clerk reported to members that the Town Council would be moving the brochures and books held by the TIC to the Amory Centre tomorrow. Work has already begun on the TIC website and keeping that up to date but there is more work than expected regarding this website and the Town Clerk will report further to members in the future.
- b) Neighbourhood Plan – The Town Clerk reported that the first public meeting was held last Saturday. It was a success and at least thirty individuals had put their name forward to be part of the Neighbourhood Steering Committee. In November there will be a series of drop in consultations and at least one of them will be held on a Wednesday afternoon so that businesses in South Molton will be able to attend. Details of the next meeting will be broadcast in the local paper and posters will be placed around the town.
- c) Hunts Meadow – The Town Clerk reported that the Promotion Agreement process has started regarding the development at Hunts Meadow and outline planning is being submitted in December. There will be consultation meetings in November plus a planned informal meeting with councillors regarding this application.

88/16 REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

- a) Cllr Worden attended a Crime Prevention meeting. He stated there was not a lot to report and the figures relating to crime in the area were similar to last year.
Cllr Worden also reported that at the Sports Network meeting Active Devon spoke to the committee regarding funding for future sports projects.

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Cllr Worden also mentioned that the Bowling Club were having their bowling green re-surfaced.

Cllr Bushell reported to members that he had attended the DALC AGM and that South Molton had featured in the DALC Annual Review.

Cllr Bushell also stated that he was surprised that no one from South Molton Town Council was present at the DALC AGM.

Cllr Bushell also mentioned that, at the NALC meeting he had attended, there were discussions regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and the General Power of Competence. The strengths of the GPOC when used by town and parish councils was re-iterated by the other members present.

Cllr Bushell also asked if members were happy for him to attend a Larger Council conference on 30 November to be held in London and they had no objections to this.

- b) No issues were raised by the District Councillors.
- c) No Police were in attendance and apologies had been received.
- d) Cllr Yabsley had reported to members earlier in the meeting.

89/16 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.

91/16 It was RESOLVED that the meeting return to open session.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.54pm

Chairman

Date