

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr M. Cornelius
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.

92/16 **PRAYERS**

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

93/16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Foster.

94/16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:
Cllr Moore – Personal Interest – Item 8 – Non dog owner/an elderly person
Cllr Cornelius – Personal Interest – Item 8 – Dog owner

95/16 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman stated that he was disappointed with the behaviour of the older members of the Council and asked that they behave with more decorum at this meeting. He also considered that an apology should be given to the Clerk for comments made at the previous meeting.

96/16 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Two stallholders of the Town Council's Pannier Market spoke in turn regarding dogs in the Pannier Market. They were both strongly in favour of allowing dogs in the market as it benefited all stallholders.

A resident informed members that 1,768 people in South Molton were aged 75 and over and that there were 2,068 aged between 65 and 75. The reason for mentioning this was because his partner's father was cared for by a Care firm who overcharged the client in the region of four figures. The said company did refund some monies but has since withdrawn all care for the client who is unable to look after himself. The client has since been unable to find any available care support and the resident who brought this up wants to highlight the failures of the home care system. It was pointed out that there was an NHS meeting scheduled to take place in South Molton Town Hall on 16 January 2017.

Another resident asked if with all the new developments the water system in South Molton was able to cope with the extra demand.

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97/16 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 25 October 2016

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be unanimously approved.

98/16 **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 J921 – Mr Alax Saxton, 15 Jury Park, South Molton, EX36 4DW

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot Q001 – Mrs Christabel Louise Winsor, 10 South Street, South Molton, EX36 4AA

99/16 **DOGS IN THE PANNIER MARKET**

Following the deferment of this item at the last Town Council meeting Cllr Cornelius had put forward the following motion “that dogs will be allowed in the Pannier Market provided they are on short leads and kept under close control”. It was RESOLVED to accept this motion. Cllr Moore requested that a recorded vote be taken as per our Standing Orders and this was granted. Cllrs in favour – Way, Lewis, Bushell, Yeo, C. Lock, Cornelius, S. Lock. Cllrs against – Moore, Goodman, Worden.

100/16 **SOUTH MOLTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

As part of the Neighbourhood Plan process members are required to pass a resolution whether or not to accept the South Molton Neighbourhood Plan Designation Area to be submitted to North Devon Council. It was unanimously RESOLVED that this be approved but Cllr Bushell wished to have it minuted that he wanted Mill on the Mole to be brought into the Neighbourhood Plan but members of the Steering Group did not agree with this.

101/16 **DART PARK ALLOTMENTS**

Members noted that the tenant of Allotment Nos 11A and 11B have requested permission to erect a polytunnel on these allotments measuring 6 metres x 3 metres and it was unanimously RESOLVED that this request be approved.

102/16 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS**

- a) Pathfields Business Park 4 Funding – The Town Clerk reported that he had positive feedback for the funding bid for the roadway for the Pathfields Business Application. He mentioned that detailed plans need to be submitted by early February 2017.
- b) Consultation Meeting – The Hunts Meadow consultation will be held on 13 December from 2pm – 8pm in the Town Hall. This is the same day as the last Town Council meeting this year and there will be refreshments for Councillors and other invited guests afterwards.
- c) Composter in Bratton Fleming – The Town Clerk and the Mayor will be visiting the composter on 5 December 2016 in order to see whether the project could be viable in South Molton.

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- d) Neighbourhood Plan – The Town Clerk stated he had a meeting with the consultants next week to approve date for future meetings and the establishment of the Neighbourhood Forum.
- e) Arts Council Grant – The next date for consultation regarding this will be held on 17 December 2016 and is open for all residents of the town to give their views.

103/16 **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a) Cllr Goodman reported that the PIP Centre was in negotiation with another playgroup to take over from the existing group.
- b) Cllr Moore had attended the Swimming Pool Trusts AGM this week. The new trustees are running the pool very efficiently and the repairs to the building and pool are soon to commence.
Cllr Worden informed members that tomorrow he would be attending a meeting regarding the closure of Chivenor and also stated that Braunton Parish Council were actioning a petition regarding this closure.
Cllr Worden also stated that he was disappointed with the letter received from David Whitton regarding paving slabs in South Molton.
- c) No Police were in attendance.
- d) The Clerk gave Cllr Yabsley’s apologies and read out an email he had received earlier that day stating that Jeremy had attended the Devon & Torridge Local Development Plan Public Examination and that there had been good progress with no major issues arising. He also mentioned that he had attended a County Highways conference last week and that there will be some match funding that can be bid for to support parishes wishing to progress highway related activities from a community support budget.

104/15 **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION AND/OR PLACING ON FUTURE AGENDAS**

The following items were mentioned by Councillors which included paving slabs in South Molton and the Emergency Plan. The Town Clerk and the Mayor stated that the Emergency Plan would take priority and that this would be brought back to full council when drafted.

Cllr Way informed members that he considered he had been treated unfairly by Traffic Wardens on two occasions in Central Car Park and that he would be appealing a recently issued penalty notice.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Chairman

Date