

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 13 MAY 2014 AT 7.00pm

Present: In the Chair: Town Mayor Cllr S. K. White
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr Mrs C. Lock Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr E. J. Moore
Cllr M. R. J. Smale Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr D. J. Worden

In Attendance: Town Clerk Mr M. G. Gingell
Mr A. C. Coates – Deputy Town Clerk/RFO

1/14 **NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR FOR 2014/2015
MUNICIPAL YEAR**

It was RESOLVED that Cllr S. Lock be the Mayor of South Molton for the
2014/2015 Municipal Year.

Cllr Lock took the chair following a short vote of thanks by Cllr White to his
Chaplain Rev R. Andrews for his support during Cllr White's term of office as
Mayor of South Molton.

2/14 **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN/MAYOR**

Cllr Lock read out the above and the document was signed and
witnessed by the Clerk.

3/14 **NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE
2014/2015 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Goodman be appointed Deputy Mayor of South
Molton for the 2014/2015 Municipal Year.

4/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Kingdon and Parkinson.

5/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Lock wished to thank Cllr White and his Deputy Cllr Mrs C. Lock for all their
hard work and support for the town over the last twelve months.

The Mayor also reported on a letter recently received addressed to the Town
Council and reported that it would be on the agenda for the TC meeting on the
27 May 2014 and a copy will be enclosed with members' agendas.

Cllr White reported on his good wishes to Cllr Lock on his appointment as
Town Mayor for the 2014/2015 Municipal Year.

6/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

Continued ...

7/14 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2014-2015**

- a) (i) **Planning Committee** - RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, C Lock, Moore, Smale, Worden & Mayor ex-officio
- (ii) RESOLVED that Cllr Smale be elected as Chairman.
- (iii) RESOLVED that Cllr C. Lock be elected as Vice Chairman.
- b) (i) **Finance Committee** - RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Goodman, Kingdon, C. Lock, Moore, McCool, Way, White & Mayor ex-officio
- (ii) RESOLVED that Cllr Way be elected as Chairman.
- (iii) RESOLVED that Cllr C. Lock be elected as Vice Chairman following a paper ballot.
- It was RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference document for the Finance Committee be approved and adopted.
- Cllr Bushel voted against this proposal and Cllr Moore abstained during the voting process thereon.
- c) (i) **Staff Committee** - RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, Goodman, Kingdon, C. Lock, McCool, Moore, Way, White & Mayor ex-officio
- (ii) RESOLVED that Cllr White be elected as Chairman
- (iii) RESOLVED that Cllr McCool be elected as Vice Chairman
- d) **Pannier Market Sub-Committee** RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Kingdon, Smale, Way, Worden, Mayor ex-officio & two Market Trader Reps.
- e) **Parish Emergency Plan Working Party** – RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Goodman, S. Lock, McCool & Worden.
- f) **Youth Council Sub-Committee** RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, S. Lock, Moore & Worden.
- g) **Central Park Working Group** RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, C. Lock, S. Lock, McCool, Parkinson, Smale, White & Worden.
- h) **Traffic & Highways Working Group** RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, Goodman, McCool, Moore, Way & Worden.
- i) **Strategic Planning Working Party** RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, Goodman, White & Worden.

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- j) **Community Woodland Extension & Recreational Working Party**
RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, Goodman, Kingdon, McCool & Moore.
- k) **Newsletter Sub-Committee**
RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, McCool, White & Mayor ex-officio.
- l) **Policy Committee**
RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Goodman, C. Lock, McCool, Moore & White.
- m) **Community Buildings Sub-Committee**
RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Bushell, S. Lock, McCool, Moore & Worden.
- n) **Pathfields Business Park Phase 4 Sub-Committee**
RESOLVED that membership consist of Cllrs Kingdon, Moore, Way, White & Mayor ex-officio

8/14 **TO CONSIDER THE POWERS OF COMMITTEES**

It was RESOLVED that the Planning, Finance and Staff Committees should have full powers to act and that all other Sub-Committees and Working Parties should make recommendations to the full Town Council.
Cllr Moore voted against this proposal and Cllrs Bushell & Worden abstained during the voting process thereon.

9/14 **MEMBERS TO WHOM TOWN CLERK CAN REFER IN MATTERS OF URGENCY**

It was RESOLVED that in matters of urgency the Town Clerk refers to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

10/14 **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES**

RESOLVED that the following appointments be made:

South Molton Tourist Association	Cllr Worden	
South Molton Information Centre	Cllr McCool	
Devon Association of Local Councils – Larger Council Sub-Committee	Cllr Goodman	
South Molton Twinning Association	Cllr White	
South Molton Business Association	Cllr White	
Crime Prevention Panel	Cllrs Bushell, S. Lock, Moore & Worden	
International Tree Foundation	Mrs J Foster	
South Molton Municipal Charities (Trustees)	Cllr Smale	(expires 15/05/2015)
	Cllr Way	(expires 15/05/2015)
	Cllr S. Lock	(expires)
	Cllr White	(expires 25/09/2015)

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Pathfields Business Forum Cllr Kingdon
Friends of Community Woodland Group Cllr McCool
South Molton Community Sports & Physical Activity Network (SMCSPAN)
Cllrs Bushell, Goodman & Worden
Royal British Legion – South Molton Branch Cllr Moore
South Molton and District Museum Management Group
Cllrs C. Lock & Parkinson
South Molton Cottage Homes Trustees Cllr White & Mr C Squire
The PIP Centre Cllr Parkinson
The South Molton & District Licensees Association
Cllr Moore
South Molton & District Volunteer Bureau
Cllr Parkinson – It was suggested that
Cllr McCool attend in her absence.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.46pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 13 MAY 2014 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

Present:

In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock Cllr Mrs R. McCool
Cllr E. J. Moore Cllr M. R. J. Smale
Cllr M. F. Way Cllr S. K. White
Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Town Clerk Mr M. G. Gingell
Deputy Town Clerk Mr A C Coates
Land Agent Mr J Holtom (part of meeting)

11/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Kingdon and Parkinson.

12/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

13/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Nil

14/14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 8 April 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.
Town Council 22 April 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

15/14 **DEFIBRILLATOR**

The Mayor welcomed Mr Jeff Gregory to the meeting to address members on the above following a request by them at a previous meeting and a letter received addressed to the Mayor. Mr Gregory is a HSE qualified emergency response trainer and a registered supplier of the above AED equipment together with a portable oxygen provider. Mr Gregory explained in detail both appliances usage and the approximate costs involved. A short question and answer session followed and it was RESOLVED to place this item on the agenda for the TC meeting on Tuesday 10 June 2014 for further debate. Mr Gregory was thanked by the Mayor for addressing the members and then left the meeting.

16/14 **COMMUNITY WOODLANDS PLANNING APPLICATION**

This item had been placed on this agenda at the request of Cllr Moore and the Clerk had invited Mr Holtom to answer the concerns raised by Cllr Moore in a

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recent email. Cllr Moore stated that he wished to withdraw this item from the agenda and declared that he will not be requesting any further items to be placed on any agenda. With the Mayor's consent Mr Holtom gave a brief update on this item including the recent walk around the woodlands and then left the meeting.

17/14 DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARIES CONSULTATION

The Clerk reported on a recent email received from DCC regarding the above consultation event to review the future library service in Devon. This consultation period ends on 17 July 2014 and there is a drop in session at South Molton Library on Tuesday 10 June 2014 between 10am and noon. The Clerk will place this item on a forthcoming TC meeting and in the meanwhile forward the email to all members for their information.

18/14 DART PART ALLOTMENT

The Clerk reported that he had received a request from the tenant of allotment number 13 to erect a polytunnel measuring 14ft by 18ft. It was RESOLVED that this request be placed on the next TC agenda following a site meeting to be on the 19 May 2014.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present:

In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock	
Cllr M. Bushell	Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock	Cllr Mrs R. McCool
Cllr S. K. White	Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Town Clerk Mr M. G. Gingell
Deputy Town Clerk/RFO Mr A C Coates

46/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Kingdon, Moore, Parkinson, Smale and Way.

47/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:
Cllr McCool – Personal Interest – Item 10 – Nieces ashes interred in South Molton Cemetery but was living & killed in South Africa
Cllr Worden – Personal Interest – Item 12a) – NDC Member

**48/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**
Nil.

49/14 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Annual Town Meeting 27 May 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

50/14 DEFIBRILLATOR

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of members following a presentation by a Mr Jeff Gregory at a previous meeting. Mr Coates reported that he had investigated the cost of a defibrillator and quoted to members the sum of £872.50. He was also pleased to report that The Spar Shop had agreed to site any apparatus in their premises if purchased. Members debated the issues relating to this subject and RESOLVED to grant permission to both the Clerk and the RFO to purchase the required equipment up to a maximum limit of £1000. Depending on the eventual cost if monies are available then training can be arranged on its use and first aid training if deemed necessary. Members have also requested that the cost of a oxygen machine be investigated by the designated officers of the town council.

51/14 ANNUAL RETURN – 2013/2014

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of the RFO who had compiled a brief report on the subject forwarded to members with this agenda. It was RESOLVED that the Annual Return 2013/2014 be approved by members in

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order to submit to the external auditors for their authorisation. Cllr Bushell requested an item be placed on a future TC agenda regarding the strategy required to fund any capital expenditure particularly on our estate portfolio. Cllr Worden reported that he was pleased to receive the report from the RFO and thanked Mr Coates for all his excellent work.

52/14 TOWN HALL REPAIRS – FRONT FACADE

It was RESOLVED to discuss this item at the end of this meeting and go into committee following a brief presentation by both the Clerk and the RFO.

53/14 STREET NAMING/NUMBERING – LGA 1972

The Clerk reported that he had received a communication from NDC regarding the suggested names for the roads at the new housing development at Station Road. Much discussion followed and members were keen to see the streets all named after trees particularly ones in the TC owned Community Woodlands. NDC have suggested two streets being named Bremley Mews and Fortescue Drive. It was RESOLVED that these names be altered to Hazel Mews (3 properties) and Ash Drive (79 properties). NDC will be notified of these requests as a matter of urgency on Wednesday 11 June 2014. During the debate on this item the Mayor gave consent for Jean Foster a member of public who was at the meeting to speak as she is the nominated TC representative on the International Tree Foundation.

54/14 REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT

The Clerk had forwarded a copy of a Revised Code of Conduct to members with their agenda and reported that he had sought advice from Mr Ken Miles Monitoring Officer at NDC after completion for his approval. The Clerk reminded members that they did not have to approve this new document as it was not mandatory and they could keep the existing adopted Code of Conduct. It was RESOLVED to adopt the new Revised Code of Conduct as from today's date.

55/14 APPLICATION FOR A MEMORIAL – PATRICIA ANN HEALE

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by a firm of monumental masons who had queried why the TC were requesting double fees for a burial plot in South Molton Cemetery. The Clerk explained that the office staff had not been made fully aware that the deceased resided outside the parish at the time of her death despite living in South Molton for over 47 years. Much debate followed and it was RESOLVED that double fees not be charged in this instance and the family notified of the council's decision.

56/14 RURAL LOCAL COUNCIL SOUNDING BOARD – RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

The Clerk reported that he had received further details of the above initiative but wished to review the information received before presenting it to members for their discussion. It was RESOLVED that this item be placed on a further TC agenda at the Clerk's discretion.

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57/14 ESTATE ISSUES

The Clerk reported that Mr Holtom was unable to attend this meeting due to holiday commitments but the Clerk had consulted Mr Holtom prior to this meeting and could report the following:

Option Agreement – The Clerk reported that following the first meeting of the newly formed Sub-Committee on Wednesday 4 June 2014 members of that committee had discussed the current situation regarding the proposed Option Agreement. The Clerk reminded members that his request to seek legal advice regarding State Aid had been previously put on hold but was now requesting that this element should be investigated by a legal professional before proceeding.

This recommendation was made by NDC Legal section following a meeting with Diana Hill NDC and Tanya McGovern NDC. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk explores the cost of seeking the necessary legal advice before proceeding and report back to members in due course. The Clerk considers that a law firm in Exeter should be able to assist if they have an expert in European Law.

Maclins Quarry Lease Renewal – Members had previously received an email from Mr Holtom with a recommendation for approval. It was RESOLVED to approve Mr Holtom’s recommendation and he will be notified in due course.

South Western Power Distribution – The Clerk gave an update regarding the proposal from the above company to purchase the freehold of the transformer site in Station Road together with their financial offers. Members debated the current situation and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk and the RFO ascertain the rental payment that the TC receives from SWPD and report back to members in due course.

58/14 It was RESOLVED that 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.

60/14 It was RESOLVED that the meeting return to open session.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Chairman

Date

TOWN COUNCIL - 10 JUNE 2014

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX A

59/14 **TOWN HALL REPAIRS – FRONT FACADE**

The Clerk and the RFO reported that the appointed architects practice David Wilson Partnership had completed a tendering process in order to obtain quotes for the above repairs. Three contractors expressed an interest in the proposed works but only two returned the necessary documents Pearce Construction and Morgan Sindall.

The Clerk reminded members that the Town Hall is Grade 1 Listed and as such English Heritage need to be consulted at every stage. Jim Gardner from the architects has spoken with Colette Hall NDC's Conservation Officer and due to these works being necessary following previous repairs she is happy not to insist on full planning consent.

Other works including the cleaning of the stonework above the Pannier Market entrance and the clock tower could be included and Mr Gardener has estimated a further sum for these additional works. Mr Coates briefly reported on the previous works carried out under the guidance of the Jonathan Rhind Partnership and it was his recommendation not to pursue any claims against this practice which members accepted. Members debated this situation and it was RESOLVED that both contractors are invited to a meeting together with Mr J Gardner in attendance. Members have suggested that this meeting is held on an afternoon if possible with a briefing first with Mr Gardner then a meeting with one contractor followed by the remaining contractor. This meeting with members of the TC would be informal and any decision reached approved at the next appropriate TC meeting. Members are concerned regarding any press coverage and the Clerk will deal with this in the appropriate manner.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 27 MAY 2014 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AT 7.00PM

Present:

In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr M. R. J. Smale
Cllr M. F. Way Cllr S. K. White
Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Town Clerk Mr M. G. Gingell
Deputy Town Clerk/RFO Mr A C Coates
DCC Cllr J Yabsley (part of meeting)

19/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Moore and Parkinson.

20/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:
Cllr Bushell – Personal Interest – Item 10. The Clerk reported that he had received a request for dispensation from Cllr Bushell regarding item 10 on the agenda and this had been granted.

Cllr Worden – Personal Interest – Item 4 – NDC Member
Personal Interest – Item 5 – Vice Chair of Committee

21/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Mayor reported on his concern regarding the conduct of some members at recent meetings but particularly on Tuesday May 13th 2014 and re-iterated that he would not tolerate this type of behaviour in any shape or form in the future under his chairmanship. He read out certain rules quoting Standing Orders and briefly on the Code of Conduct adopted by this authority. If members conduct does not improve then he will take further action to resolve the situation.

The Clerk requested to read out a statement prepared by him regarding correspondence received from a resident of the town following publication of a letter by the RFO printed in a local newspaper. The Clerk handed out to each member copy correspondence and requested that no discussion take place and he now considers the matter closed.

Cllr White wished to report on two issues but the Mayor would not allow him to speak unless he had received prior notification prior to the commencement of the meeting. The Mayor reported briefly on the forthcoming Old English Fayre.

22/14 CUSTOMER SERVICES REVIEW – NDC

The Mayor welcomed Sharon Harrison, Customer Services Manager NDC to the meeting to brief members on a recent report compiled by herself regarding the

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future of NDC's presence at The Amory Centre. The Clerk reported that he had forwarded the report by email previously and hoped that all members had read its content. Mrs Harrison reported that due to funding cuts NDC were proposing to cut their presence from the current 5 days per week to 3 days per week (days to be confirmed). Mrs Harrison explained briefly the situation with both The Amory Centre and The Ilfracombe Centre and the need to review the current staffing levels in order to reduce costs. Members debated this situation and the Clerk reported that the current Town Council's staffing structure will need to be reviewed due to the retirement of Mrs S. Went and the resignation of Mrs S. Bowen. Mrs Harrison reported that her recommendations will be presented to North Devon Council Executive on the 1 July 2014 followed by a three month consultation period with any staff affected by these proposals. Mrs Harrison was thanked by the Mayor for attending this meeting and will continue to liaise with the Clerk regarding these proposals and report back to members at the next appropriate TC meeting.

23/14 COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Mayor welcomed Mrs F. Sendell to the meeting regarding the above popular community initiative. Mrs Sendell was pleased to report that the garden area in the Sheep Fair Field was now full and she was requesting that members give consideration to identify any other areas within the parish that could be used for this purpose. Mrs Sendell referred members to the recent Rural Seminar held at Bishops Nympton and the possibility of obtaining grant funding to expand their operation. She reported that a Mrs T. Guyani from Orchards Live had contacted her in order to investigate an area of land to promote fruit growing and teaching methods. At this juncture the Mayor invited Mrs J Foster to speak on the subject. Members debated these requests and Cllr Worden reminded members of the waste land at Raleigh Mead that could possibly be used for gardening purposes.

Mrs Sendell suggested a survey be placed in the local press in order to ascertain any public interest in these proposals.

24/14 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Annual Meeting of Town Council 13 May 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.
Town Council 13 May 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

25/14 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Community Buildings Sub-Committee 12 March 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved and their recommendations adopted. Cllr Bushell reminded members that all members had been consulted regarding the date and time of this meeting and this practice will continue for any future meetings.
Policy Committee 12 March 2014

Continued ...

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

26/14 POLICY DOCUMENTS

All Members had previously received copies of both a revised Equal Opportunities Policy document and an Absence Management Policy document prepared by the members of the Polcy Committee. It was RESOLVED to formally approve these documents.

27/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs J Foster a resident of the parish wished to raise issues relating to the Community Woodland and it was agreed to discuss this under item 11 on the agenda with the consent of the Mayor.

At this juncture and the time being 7.56pm Cllr J. Yabsley left the meeting.

28/14 PRESS ARTICLE – 1 MAY 2014 – NORTH DEVON JOURNAL

Members noted the contents of a letter received from a resident of the parish regarding a recent press article as detailed above. Several members commented on the TC meeting held on Tuesday 13 May 2014 and it was agreed that the situation must improve for all concerned. Members wish to draw a line under the unfortunate circumstances that occurred at that meeting and move forward for the benefit and wellbeing of the residents that they represent. The Mayor reminded members of his comments under 'chairman's announcements' at the start of this meeting.

29/14 COMMUNITY WOODLANDS

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Cllr McCool who reported on the receipt of an email received from the Mayor regarding the cutting back of brambles etc. The Mayor suggested that the TC's Community Woodland Extension and Recreational Working Party take over responsibility for the whole woodlands area and investigate the creation of an annual maintenance plan and a longer term management plan. Cllr McCool was pleased to report that the woodlands had won second place at a competition organised by The Devon County Show Committee.

The Mayor invited Mrs J Foster who is the TC's representative on the International Tree Foundation to address members. A meeting of the TC's Working Party will be convened as soon as possible in order to discuss the Mayor's suggestions. Cllr Kingdon reported that an appropriate sign had been situated informing the public regarding access to the new area of woodland.

30/14 PROPOSAL FOR BROAD STREET CATERING SITE

The Clerk had previously forwarded correspondence regarding a request to site a hot food trailer on the enhancement and had reminded members that previous requests of a similar nature had been refused. Members debated this request and due to the number of food establishments already in the town centre it was

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RESOLVED to refuse this application. The applicants will be notified in due course.

31/14 ALLOTMENT NO 13 – DART PARK

This item had been placed on the agenda following the last TC meeting due to a site meeting taking place to check on the state of each plot and obtain members views on this request. Following this site meeting it was RESOLVED to grant the necessary permission and the applicants will be notified.

32/14 MONTHLY ACTION SHEET

Members noted details of the above and queried the up to date situation regarding the proposed new health centre to be built within the North Road housing development. Cllr Goodman will consult the Practice Manager and report back to members. Cllr Kingdon reported further on the proposed magnolia tree to be planted in the Community Woodlands to mark the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 2. At a recent walk around the woodlands it was suggested that a more native species be planted as an alternative. Cllr McCool reported on a request to place a memorial seat in the woodlands and the applicants will contact the Clerk in the first instance. Cllr Bushell requested a meeting of the Central Park Working Group in order to discuss the grant for adult exercise equipment. Mr Coates is awaiting final confirmation that the grant is approved.

33/14 REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

- a) Cllr C. Lock reported on a recent visit to Barnstaple Museum to ascertain items to be transferred to South Molton and District Museum.
Cllr White – South Molton Twinning Association – report on the recent visit by representatives from Livarot at the beginning of May.
Cllr Worden – TIC – report on recent meeting. Cllr Way suggested the TIC move to The Amory Centre if space can be determined.
Cllr Worden – Sports Network – recent meeting to discuss future of swimming Pool due to funding constraints.
Cllr Bushell – Crime Prevention Panel – forthcoming meeting on the 25 June 2014. Cllr Way reported on his concern regarding the number of break in crimes within the area.
- b) None.
- c) No police present at this meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 24 JUNE 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr E. J. Moore
Cllr M. R. J. Smale Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr S. K. White Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Deputy Town Clerk/RFO Mr A C Coates

61/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Nil.

62/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declaration of interest was read out by the Deputy Town Clerk:
Cllr C. Lock - Personal Interest – Item 8 – Work for the NHS Renal Unit

63/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the defibrillator was being delivered tomorrow and the Manager at the Spar Shop had agreed to install it on their premises. The Deputy Town Clerk was arranging training for any interested members of the public and an item would be put in the press to gauge interest before appointing a trainer for a two hour session. Cllr Way advised that South Molton Community College had recently purchased a defibrillator and suggested that the Deputy Clerk contacts them to see if any parents would like to take part in the training.

64/14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 27 May 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved. Cllr Moore wished to have it minuted that he did not vote as he was not in attendance at this meeting.

Town Council (Mayor Choosing) 28 May 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

Town Council 10 June 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

65/14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Marc Cornelius as a resident of the parish reported that the hedge in New Road was overgrown and brambles were overhanging the pavement. The DTC reported that work was scheduled to take place on this hedge later in the week. Members also advised that the hedge in Alswear Road was overgrown and the DTC reported that he would make enquiries regarding responsibility for this area. Cllr Kingdon advised that grass cutting around the town was working well but there were several areas which required weed spraying and the DTC informed

Continued ...

members that he had requested that the contractors and our external staff carry out additional works as necessary.

Cllr Worden advised that an area in Nadder Lane was overgrown and Cllr Yabsley advised that he would look into this as it was DCC's responsibility.

Cllr Moore stated that the hedge around the bus stop at the top of Pathfields Business Park was overgrown and the DTC would look into this area.

66/14 DOCUMENTS FOR EXECUTION

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

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P009 – Mr Luke Antony Grant, 71 Nadder Meadow, South Molton, EX36 4BR

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot M1711 – Mr A. Heale, 3 Churchill Drive, Crediton

67/14 DCC – BEECH HOUSE

Cllr Worden began the discussion on the proposed closure of Beech House by saying how disappointed he and the whole of South Molton were that this closure was going ahead and the effect it would have on the most vulnerable in not only South Molton but also the surrounding areas as Beech House was the central area for care in the area. He stated that it was not only people in residential care that would be affected but also those who needed respite care. Also sixty employees worked at Beech House and this too would hit the town hard. Cllr Worden went on to say that the Town Council would like to express its disappointment that Devon County is not actually taking monies out of their reserves to keep Beech House open, the whole Town is dismayed by the proposed closure and it is the vulnerable who will suffer.

Cllr McCool spoke briefly about one of her relatives who went to Beech house for respite care and how well they were looked after. She said that it seemed the vulnerable are pushed aside and that South Molton gets ignored in such circumstances and that the Town has to fight hard to keep it open. Cllr Goodman reiterated his dismay and echoed the sentiments of the previous two speakers. His personal opinion was that Devon County had taken the decision to close Beech House before they had looked into all the possible consequences of their actions. There were 30-40 people at Beech House and he questioned whether DCC knew exactly where they were going to be transferred to.

Cllr Smale asked whether DCC had funding to help the residents of Beech House and if so how are they going to implement it. He questioned whether there was any way a private company could take over the running of the home with a minimal lease payment as an incentive. He stated that it seemed the residents were being thrown out onto the streets and that something had to be done about it.

Jeremy Yabsley, Devon County Councillor for South Molton rural was invited to speak on behalf of Devon County in reply to concerns already raised. He replied that the County was now ceasing in house provision but that would not happen straight away as it would be a gradual process. For the last five years DCC has tried to find a local firm who would have been interested in taking over the health

Continued ...

care provision at Beech House but without any success. He went on to say that Beech House is non-compliant in most aspects and if it was taken on by an outside company no certificate to operate would be issued and it would therefore have to be completely restructured. He stated that Beech House was the last closure on the list and it will be about 1 year to 18 months before the closure comes into effect. He reiterated that residents would not be thrown out without first finding other placements and that it would be illegal to do that.

Cllr White said that everyone was appalled at the prospect of the closure and that in his view it was privatisation through the back door. He said the problem would be that people would have to travel to Bideford or Crediton or longer distances and relatives and carers would find it hard to visit if residents were being placed outside of the local area.

Cllr Christine Lock asked Jeremy Yabsley if DCC would pay for residents to be moved into Eastleigh if there were enough spaces to which he replied that if that it was it takes for the short term then that will happen. He stated that there is monies set aside for the transitional period so that people do not suffer and get the care that is needed.

Cllr Bushell reminded Jeremy Yabsley that a few years ago people were fighting the crumbling roads and that the justification for that was the duty of care that was held for the elderly and that DCC would need to cut the elderly care budget by 1% to fund the road improvement program. Cllr Bushell then stated that the problem is we now have crumbling roads and a crumbling care system. Cllr Yabsley informed members that in fact the care budget is increasing as there are more people using it and the Highways budget is decreasing as the duty is to provide services for young and elderly people. He said you cannot expect big chunks being taken out of the budget without seeing any effects.

Cllr Moore said that if this new method of looking after elderly people is so good why is it that everyone is fighting against it. He gave the example of someone living in North Molton during a period of snow and asked how the carer is supposed to get there and what the consequences could be.

Cllr Goodman thanked Jeremy Yabsley for listening to what people had been saying at the several meetings they had both attended on the subject. He then went on to ask what will happen to the buildings once the centre is closed and asked whether they could be used as a day centre or a Community Asset building and whether DCC would let it out to the voluntary groups at a reasonable rate.

Cllr Yabley replied to Cllr Goodman by thanking him for his kind words and saying he hoped he had informed people correctly and helped with the situation. He said that as he understood it DCC were considering using such buildings including the Youth Resource Centre for public community use. The public need to come forward with viable ideas for further discussion.

Cllr Smale asked whether the private sector homes would take in residents at the rates offered by DCC which would probably be less than the private sector rate.

Cllr Yabsley replied that DCC were, in the short term, prepared to pay the Eastleigh prices. He said now was the time for the Town Councils and the press to influence in some way how the closure proposals move forward.

Cllr Way asked whether it was the youth or the elderly that was more important.

Continued ...

He mentioned that DCC had spent over £800000 on a new Youth Resource Centre which was hardly ever used and had ended up being rented out to various groups and he wondered whether DCC had predicted this would happen. Following the detailed discussions it was RESOLVED to write a letter on behalf of the Town Council expressing their concerns and dismay at the proposed closure of Beech House and that it should be directed to the Chief Executive of DCC, the press, Nick Harvey and Eric Pickles.

68/14 SOUTH MOLTON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL – RENAL UNIT

Cllr Goodman reported that as Chairman of the League of Friends in South Molton he had been told by a Doctor at the Royal Devon and Exeter hospital which runs the renal unit that they are looking to build another renal unit somewhere else due to the demand in dialysis. The location of this new build has not been disclosed. There are apparently limitations with the present building. Cllr Goodman reminded members that a large amount of the original funding for the renal unit came from public subscription.

It was RESOLVED to write to the North Devon Health Authority who owns the renal unit and point out to them that the building was put there by a large public subscription and that if the renal unit is moved from there then the building should be used for the benefit of the people of South Molton. The letter should also state that the Council would like the new renal unit to be in South Molton and that there is land available in the town for such a building.

69/14 PROPOSED NEW HEALTH CENTRE

Cllr Goodman, in reply to the letter from Bishops Nympton Parish Council suggested that the most suitable location for the new Health Centre would be in the in the centre of the town. However negotiations were well under way with the developers of Gunswell Lane to site the new Health Centre on the development and the advantage of that area was the ample car parking. Cllr White reported that Maria Hosegood told him that a large proportion of the centre's patients came from outside of the town so that car parking was an important factor. Cllr Goodman said that the consideration of locating the centre on Norrington's Yard was not viable since the health centre would not be able to afford the land purchase. It was also pointed out that South Molton would still have one health centre left in the town when the new one had been completed. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would write to Bishops Nympton Parish Council outlining the above.

70/14 COMMUNITY WOODLANDS

Cllr Lock had requested that this item be placed on the agenda and suggested that the Community Woodland Extension & Recreational Working Party should consider not only the Woodland extension but other areas under the Town Council responsibility and that two members of the Friends of the Community Woodlands be included as members on this committee. It was RESOLVED that this suggestion be agreed and that the DTC prepares a Terms of Reference for this committee which will be presented for approval at their first meeting.

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71/14 SWPD – TRANSFORMER STATION, STATION ROAD

Members noted a brief report compiled by Mr Coates which detailed the proposals offered by SWPD to either purchase or lease the above. Since this report had been forwarded the DTC had been advised that a further offer on the extension of the lease had been received. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the DTC be authorised to negotiate the most favourable terms for the Town Council and reports back to the Town Council in due course to gain approval for accepting the best offer.

72/14 MONTHLY ACTION SHEET

Cllr Moore raised various issues regarding the action sheet and these will be addressed for the next meeting.

Cllr Kingdon left the meeting at this point.

73/14 REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

a) Cllr Worden reported on the recent Sports Network meeting stating that progress is being made with regards the sports hub. It was suggested that Lucinda Tomlinson from the District comes to explain the facility development she is compiling which is at draft stage. The hub is attracting a great deal of interest but there is a need to set up a management company to oversee the project. Cllr Worden hopes the Town council will get involved as it will affect people of all ages.

Cllr McCool reported that the woodland members went on a bat walk around the pond and much to their delight found many bats in that area.

b) Cllr Worden reported that the North Devon and Torridge Local Plan was now out of consultation and it was suggested that a separate meeting be called to discuss the issues relating to South Molton.

c) Graham James reported on three local crimes that occurred recently. He also mentioned the two serious fatal car collisions on the link road and he wished to convey his condolences to the families concerned.

After the police had spoken the Mayor Cllr Lock wished to add that several mayors who attended the Olde English Fayre said how much they had enjoyed the event and the Mayor paid thanks to the Committee for their hard work to make it such an enjoyable event.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.46pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 8 JULY 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr E. J. Moore
Cllr M. R. J. Smale Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
Mr A. C. Coates Deputy Town Clerk/RFO

74/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr White.

75/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was read out by the Town Clerk:

Cllr Way – Personal Interest – Item 6
Personal Interest – Item 7 – Member of PBF
Personal Interest – Item 8 – Member of PBF

**76/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Clerk handed out copies of the documents received from the council's land agent Mr J Holtom regarding the North Devon and Torridge Local Plan to each member. These paper copy documents had been requested following the TC meeting held on Tuesday 24 June 2014. The Clerk apologised if any member has already received these papers.

77/14 YOUTH RESOURCE CENTRE

The Mayor reported on a recent informal meeting attended by himself and Cllr Yabsley regarding the future of the above building which DCC are intending to close due to funding cuts from central government. A proposal has been made by an organisation to take it over subject to further enquiries and the completion of a relevant business plan. The Mayor and the Clerk will keep members up to date with progress with this situation but the business plan is critical in order to determine its future use and role within the community.

78/14 CARE HOMES CLOSURES - DCC

The Clerk handed out to members a copy letter from DCC which he had only received that day following his letter to the Chief Executive. The Mayor reported on the initiative with other Mayor's in North Devon and was requesting members permission to be involved with this excellent idea. The idea is to form an informal forum of Mayors and other interested parties in order to meet and discuss DCC's plan to close Care Homes in the area. A letter will be composed by the Clerk of Barnstaple Town Council which will be forwarded to the Hon Eric Pickles,

Continued ...

Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and other involved parties. It was RESOLVED that the Mayor of South Molton Cllr S. Lock be given permission to join this local forum and sign the intended letter as detailed above. Cllr Moore stressed the need to keep the pressure on DCC regarding their proposed plans and requested that this is a regular item on the TC agenda.

79/14 PATHFIELDS BUSINESS PARK PHASE 4 SUB-COMMITTEE

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Cllr Way informing him that he wished to resign as a member of the above committee due to personal reasons. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Goodman replaces Cllr Way on this Sub-Committee. The Mayor reminded members of the meeting to be held on Thursday 24 July 2014.

Cllr Kingdon as chairman of the above committee abstained during the voting process thereon.

80/14 ADOPTION OF ROADS AT PATHFIELDS BUSINESS PARK

The RFO reported on the above project to finalise the whole scheme as the works were due to commence. Mr Coates stated that the estimated expenditure is £110000 and not the figure of £140000 originally allocated for these works. Mr Coates explained the process carried out by DCC on our behalf using the Devon County Council minor framework contract. It was RESOLVED that a maximum sum of £110000 be approved in order to fund these necessary works and complete the project.

81/14 PATHFIELDS BUSINESS PARK PHASE 4 SUB-COMMITTEE

The Clerk reported on the informal meeting held on Friday 4 July 2014 attended by other landowners and their agents. This meeting had been very constructive and it was agreed that a confidential Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Town Council be held on Thursday 24 July 2014 commencing at 6.30pm to discuss certain sensitive issues. Following this there will be a further informal meeting on Friday 25 July 2014 similar to the one held on Friday 4 July 2014. All members will be kept up to date with progress in the scheme.

82/14 STATION ROAD – SOUTH MOLTON

All members had previously received details of a DCC Traffic Order to revoke a length of approximately 241 metres currently at 40mph to restricted road status of 30mph adjacent to the new housing development at Gullacombe Valley in order to improve road safety by virtue of street lighting. It was unanimously RESOLVED that the TC inform DCC that members consider that this order should include all of Station Road until the junction at Borners Bridge A361 North Devon Link Road. Members also wish to point out that there have been 4 deaths on this road in recent years due to excessive speed. A copy of the TC's comments will be forwarded to DCC Cllr J Yabsley

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83/14 DEVON LIBRARIES CONSULTATION

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of members in order that their comments regarding the above could be forwarded by the 17 July 2014.

Members discussed the proposals on DCC's plans for Devon's future library service and it was RESOLVED to forward the following comments:

SMTC members are very concerned to learn of DCC's intentions with South Molton library and wish to point out what a valuable asset it is to the town and the rural hinterland it serves. Any library is important to children and young people and South Molton is extremely popular with all ages. Members are keen to see its opening hours increased including a Sunday if possible. Cllr Worden pointed out that the town is expanding with new housing developments planned which would increase its usage and Cllr Kingdon was keen that the computer facilities remain in situ as Broadband was not available in many rural areas. Cllr Smale reported on the minimal cost savings if the service was reduced. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk forwards these comments to DCC by the date quoted above.

84/14 EMPOWERING PARISH COUNCILS TO SELL ELECTRICITY

The Clerk had forwarded details of the above possible scheme to all members and it was RESOLVED that SMTC supports the proposal and the Clerk will notify the Local Group Organisation in due course.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 22 JULY 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr E. J. Moore
Cllr M. R. J. Smale Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr S. K. White

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
Mr A. C. Coates Deputy Town Clerk/RFO
DCC Cllr J. Yabsley
NBM PC G. James

85/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Worden.

86/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

87/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Nil.

88/14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 24 June 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved. Comments were raised by
DCC Cllr Yabsley and several members responded.

Town Council 8 July 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

89/14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Mayor's Chaplain Rev A. Jarvis reported on his concern regarding an article printed in the July copy of the South Molton & District News regarding Cllr's Ways comments on the Youth Resource Centre and its cost of construction with particular reference to the impending closure of DCC's Beech House. Cllr Way responded by stating his own contribution to the youth of South Molton.

Mr M. Cornelius, Crown Hill, New Road reported on his concern that the Finance Committee meetings are held on a Monday morning at 8.30am and not publicly advertised. The chairman of that committee Cllr Way responded. He also raised the issue of South Molton's ATM Meeting and Quality Status/GPC which the Clerk replied and explained the authorities current situation.

Mrs J. Foster, Station Road commented on her continued concern with dog fouling particularly in the Community Woodlands. Several members responded and the Clerk has referred the situation to NDC on several occasions previously

Continued ...

with reference to the dog warden patrol in the area. The Clerk will notify NDC again in an attempt to improve the situation for all concerned.

90/14 STATE AID – PROPOSED OPTION AGREEMENT WITH NDC

The Clerk reported as requested by members on his investigations to seek professional legal advice on the above following NDC's recommendation. NDC did recommend a firm in Exeter who specialise in State Aid and its implications and the Clerk has spoken with them together with another experienced law firm also in Exeter. The cost would be in the region of £1000 but DCC legal section are meeting with SMTC to discuss the future of the Youth Resource Centre and it may be possible to refer this situation to their legal team. It was RESOLVED that this item be deferred for two months in order to enable the Clerk to make further enquiries.

91/14 BURMA STONE – COMMUNITY WOODLANDS

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of the chair of the South Molton Branch of the Royal British Legion who is requesting the council's approval to re-site the above to South Molton Cemetery. The Clerk had contacted the RBL's Head Office in London to ascertain any possible local contact and has spoken with a Mr Rice who was happy for it to be moved as requested. It was RESOLVED that SMTC support the proposal to have the stone moved to South Molton Cemetery and the Clerk will arrange for the necessary work. Mr Rice will be notified.

92/14 COMMUNITY WOODLANDS – TENDER PROCESS FOR WORKS

Cllr Kingdon had requested that this item be on the agenda in order to report on the recent tendering exercise to carry out the improvements as agreed previously by members. The Forestry Commission has agreed to fund the project and Cllr Kingdon reported that only one contractor had forwarded a tender to the land agent and he was recommending approval. It was RESOLVED that this contractor be appointed for the relevant works and members noted that the grant funding will cover the total cost.

Cllr Moore voted against during the voting process thereon due to his concern that the contractor had been named.

93/14 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 P007 – Mrs Maureen L. E. Little, Windrush, George Nympton Road, South Molton

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P008 – Mrs Maureen L. E. Little, Windrush, George Nympton Road, South Molton

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot M1606D – Mr Mason, 55 Nadder Meadow, South Molton, EX36 4BR

Continued ...

94/14 TOWN HALL FACADE

The Clerk reported that following a meeting held on Thursday 3 July 2014 with the architect in attendance further details had now been received and the final costs been submitted by the two contractors. It was RESOLVED that a separate TC meeting be arranged in order for members to appoint their favoured contractor for the necessary repair works.

95/14 RURAL LOCAL COUNCIL SOUNDING BOARD

The Clerk read out the details regarding the above initiative and requested that a member of SMTC put their name forward to be involved and complete surveys as and when required. Members noted the details and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Worden who had expressed an interest at a previous meeting and Cllr McCool be nominated and the Clerk will notify the Rural Services Network in due course.

96/14 SWPD – TRANSFORMER STATION – STATION ROAD

The Deputy Clerk was pleased to report that himself together with the council's land agent had negotiated with, SWPD and they have offered the TC the sum of £30000 for the freehold of the site together with paying all this authorities legal fees. It was RESOLVED that the offer from SWPD be accepted. Members noted that a clawback provision will be included in the sale documents to be prepared by Slee Blackwell.

97/14 CARE HOMES CLOSURES – DCC

Several members reported on an update regarding DCCs decision to close Beech House. Members noted copy correspondence received previously from DCC on this matter.

98/14 MONTHLY ACTION SHEET

Members noted the details regarding the above and the Clerk reported that he intends to revise this document before its next presentation at the TC meeting on Tuesday 23 September 2014.

99/14 FIREWORK DISPLAY

Members noted that the Finance Committee had recently approved the sum of £5000 for the above event to take place on Saturday 8 November 2014. No further resolution was required.

100/14 COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of several members and the Deputy Clerk reported on the up to date situation and correspondence received from NDC. It was RESOLVED that a list of potential properties be presented to members for further consideration in due course.

101/14 REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

- a) Cllr McCool – Community Woodlands brief update following recent meeting which included the reporting of the sighting of buzzards at the wildlife pond.

Continued ...

Cllr Goodman – DALC meeting attended with Mr Coates as finance issues were discussed together with dementia awareness covered by other town councils.

Cllr Bushell – DALC Area Committee meeting – brief details of issues covered.

b) None

c) NBM PC Graham James updated members on policing issues.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.48pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE OAK ROOM, THE AMORY CENTRE, 125 EAST STREET, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 5 AUGUST 2014 AT 6.30PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr E. J. Moore
Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
Ms Jean Watkins NDC Lead Planning Officer
Mr A Austen NDC Senior Planning Policy Officer
Emma Reed Slee Blackwell Legal Advisor
Jeremy Holtom – Landsense Professional Ltd Land Agent

102/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Smale, White, Kingdon, Way and Mrs C Lock. As requested by Cllr Kingdon the Clerk read out the following statement: I would like to give my apologies as I am a landowner of a substantial block of land on the South West of South Molton adjoining the proposed school site and I would have to declare a DPI on a large part of the meeting.

103/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:

Cllr Goodman – Item 4 – 1) I am a friend of a fellow councillor whose land is included in the local plan. 2) Land included in the plan almost surrounds my house. 3) I also have a friend who has an interest in land at Pathfields.

Cllr McCool – Personal Interest – Item 4 – Sister governor of Junior School

Cllr Moore – Personal Interest – Item 4 – Member of NDC and Town Council. SMTC Strategic Planning 17 Nov 2011. South Molton – Chapter 10 Meeting 16 Sept 2013. Meetings regarding New Junior School. Meeting: Boundy family regarding new Junior site 20 July 2014. Meeting with the owners of the land that will come into play in the new Local Plan. Meeting with developers of the sites that take into account the new distribution road on the western side of the town.

Cllr Worden – Personal Interest – Item 4 – Chair of SM Sports Committee.
Member of TC

104/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Nil.

105/14 NORTH DEVON & TORRIDGE LOCAL PLAN PUBLICATION DRAFT 2014

The Mayor welcomed everybody to the meeting and invited Mr Holtom to report on the comments that had been received previously regarding SMTC's possible submission to the Local Plan. Members present discussed various

Continued ...

issues that had been submitted by the land agent in February 2013 when comments were required for the first consultation exercise on the above document. Comments were now required on the Publication Draft that have to be submitted to NDC by 8 August 2014. Both officers from NDC answered many questions raised by members with particular reference to housing concerns, a site for the new school and car parking in the town centre. It was RESOLVED that with reference to the Central Car Park that the word retained be removed and replaced with increased. Mr Holtom will prepare a submission report based on the comments and concerns raised at this meeting together with the suggested responses highlighted in February 2013. This report will be forwarded prior to the 8 August deadline and a copy filed with the minutes of this meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.52pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE OAK ROOM, THE AMORY CENTRE, 125 EAST STREET, SOUTH MOLTON ON FRIDAY 15 AUGUST 2014 AT 9.00AM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr S. K. White

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
Mr A. C. Coates Deputy Town Clerk/RFO

106/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies were received from Cllrs Moore, Smale and Worden.

107/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Nil.

108/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**
Nil.

109/14 **TOWN HALL FACADE - REPAIRS**
The Clerk reported that he had now received further updated details of the costs and repairs to the above from the appointed architect Jim Gardner RIBA. Members noted the revised tender details received from the two contractors which are listed below:
Pearce Construction £56,016.00 plus VAT for 12 weeks.
Morgan Sindall £53,055.10 plus VAT for 11 weeks.
Discussion followed regarding these two tendered prices and it was RESOLVED that the tender received from Morgan Sindall in the sum of £53,055.10 plus VAT be accepted. Mr Gardner will be notified and he will contact Morgan Sindall accordingly to ascertain a start date. A pre-contract meeting will be arranged.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.27am.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock Cllr Mrs R. McCool
Cllr M. R. J. Smale Cllr S. K. White
Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
Mr J. Holtom Land Agent

110/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Kingdon, Moore and Way.

111/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:

Cllr Bushell – DPI – Item 9 – Mention of Cllrs Employer

Cllr McCool – Personal – Item 7 – Resident

Cllr Worden = Personal Interest – Item 8 – NDC Member

112/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Nil.

113/14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 22 July 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.,

Town Council 5 August 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

Town Council 15 August 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

114/14 **STANDING ORDERS**

This item had been placed on this agenda following a recent Staff Committee meeting where reference to Standing Orders was discussed. It was RESOLVED that a separate TC meeting be arranged in order for all members to review the current document. This meeting will take place during October and the Clerk will arrange a suitable date in consultation with the Mayor. Members wish to refer to the Localism Act to ensure that all relevant points are covered when the document is discussed.

115/14 **PATHFIELDS BUSINESS PARK PHASE 4 SUB-COMMITTEE & PATHFIELDS
BUSINESS FORUM**

Members noted that Cllr Kingdon had resigned from the above committee due to personal reasons and a replacement is required. Cllr Kingdon was the current chairman of the Sub-Committee and also the Town Council's representative on

Continued ...

the Pathfields Business Forum. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Bushell be appointed as the new member of the committee and a representative will be appointed at the next TC meeting.

116/14 NORTH STREET

Members had received with their agenda a copy letter from a Mrs K Moore of North Street, South Molton regarding her concern on traffic and parking issues in North Street. Members discussed the content of her letter and were very sympathetic to her concerns and accepted that there were problems that would be difficult to overcome in the area. The Clerk will refer her concerns to DCC Highways in due course and reply accordingly.

117/14 ESTATE ISSUES

Mr Holtom the council's land agent reported on the following and members had previously received a copy of his September briefing report.

- a) Adoption of the roads and footpaths at Pathfields Business Park Phase 3 – Pre – adoption works were nearing completion but there is a recommendation from DCC that a turning head in Bucknell Way needs to be created at an estimated cost of £10500. It was RESOLVED that these works be carried out and members also gave Mr Holtom permission to seek retrieving the sum of approximately £1200 from two occupiers that have damaged the roads during their construction works.
- b) Maclins Quarry Lease Renewal – Mr Holtom updated members and it was agreed to continue to monitor the situation and keep demanding the rental and attempt to renew the lease on the terms previously approved by members.
- c) North Devon and Torridge Local Plan – Members noted the comments submitted by Mr Holtom prior to the closing date.
- d) Land at Gunswell Lane and North Road – Linden Homes – members noted the comments in Mr Holtom's briefing paper and that he was recommending a valuation exercise be carried out by the District Valuer. He had approached the DV in order to provide the authority with independent valuation advice and was recommending this to members. It was RESOLVED to obtain the valuation advice as stated above.
- e) Land at Nadder Lane/Exeter Gate - The Ashville Group are still keen to enter into an agreement for this land and the land agent is hoping to have an update on the comprehensive development of the area from both NDC and DCC with specific reference to the new proposed school. Members noted these comments.
- f) Community Woodlands – The land agent updated members with the planned extension works and following receipt of funds for an updated Woodland Management Plan there is a requirement for all stakeholders to be consulted in the working draft of this plan. Mr Holtom together with the Clerk will arrange the necessary public consultation event as soon as possible.

At this juncture Cllr Bushell who had previously declared a DPI in the following item left the meeting and did not return.

118/14 It was RESOLVED that under the provision of the Public Bodies

Continued ...

(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.

120/14 It was RESOLVED that the meeting return to open session.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.37pm.

Chairman

Date

TOWN COUNCIL – 9 SEPTEMBER 2014

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX A

119/14 PATHFIELDS BUSINESS PARK PHASE 4

Members had previously received details of this item in Mr Holtom's briefing paper and had also requested that the ransom situation is discussed at this meeting. Members noted the comments in the land agent's paper and Mr Holtom updated them with the progress made with all other relevant land owners following the meeting held on the 4th July 2014. The following questions needed resolutions in order to move the project forward.

- 1 Could SMTC sell land on PB4 to adjoining landowners/interested parties prior to a planning application?
- 2 Could SMTC submit a planning application for Bucknell's ground?
- 3 How would SMTC deal with the issue of ransom in relation to land to the west of Hacche Lane taking in to account 'Best Value' and their overall vision for the town?

Both NDC and the LPA have indicated their support for both 1 and 2 and it was RESOLVED that SMTC would support in principle to Question 1 and it was further RESOLVED to submit a planning application regarding question 2. With reference to question 3 following major debate it was RESOLVED that SMTC would retain a small amount of ransom but allow the rest to reduce in order to achieve employment land for the future expansion of the town. A starting figure of 27% was suggested.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr Mrs R. McCool Cllr E. J. Moore
Cllr M. R. J. Smale Cllr M. F. Way
Cllr S. K. White Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
Cllr J Yabsley DCC member attended for part of the meeting.

121/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Nil. The Clerk reported that due to staff shortages and annual leave the minutes for the TC meeting held on Tuesday 9 September had not been completed but would be presented for approval at the next TC meeting.

122/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:
Cllr Moore – Personal Interest – Item 6 – North Devon District Councillor
Cllr Worden – Personal Interest – Item 6 – NDC Member

**123/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Mayor invited Cllr Moore to report the following:

A petition regarding cars parking in Brook Meadow was handed in at the councillors surgery on Saturday 20 September 2014 and will be forwarded to the appropriate authority DCC in due course.

The time being 7 05pm Cllr McCool joined the meeting.

124/14 TOWN HALL FACADE AND PANNIER MARKET ROOF

The Mayor invited Mr Jim Gardner to the meeting, the architect appointed regarding the Town Hall facade and the necessary repair works. The Clerk briefly reported on the pre-contact meeting held with Morgan Sindall and attended by Cllr Goodman. Mr Gardner gave a brief overview of that meeting and the issues raised which need now to be reported to all members. Mr Gardner gave members an update on the contract awarded to Morgan Sindall with particular reference to the paints used on the last repair works carried out under the supervision of Jonathan Rhind architects. Mr Gardner was recommending that a paint stripping testing exercise was required at a cost of £754 which in turn may increase the price of the whole project agreed previously. Members discussed this situation and are concerned regarding the timescale for the project particularly with the Autumn and Winter on the near horizon. It was RESOLVED that Mr Gardner be given the approval to commission the paint stripping testing

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works at the cost stated above in order not to delay the programme of works any further.

Mr Gardner was then invited to brief members on his initial investigations regarding the state of the Pannier Market roof and the works required to protect the fabric from further deterioration. Mr Gardner reported that major works were now required following minor repairs over a number of years and was recommending that a full investigatory report and survey is produced to ascertain the full picture of the works required to protect the fabric of this listed and important building. Temporary repairs have started to stop further water penetration and this will protect the building from any winter storms. Members were concerned regarding this situation and Mr Gardner has photographic evidence which he will forward to the Clerk for onward transmission to all members. The Clerk reminded members that this situation has not been overlooked and that English Heritage had in the past refused funding for any repair works. It is only in recent years that funds have been available from the sale of land at Pathfields Business Park. It was RESOLVED that Mr Gardner provides SMTC with the necessary survey report on the Pannier Market roof at a cost to be advised by him in due course. It is hoped that the major works to the roof can be completed during Summer 2015. The Clerk will also investigate with EH to ascertain if any funding could be made available.

125/14 It was RESOLVED to discuss item 13 on the agenda next.

126/14 **CARE CLOSER TO HOME**

The Mayor welcomed Sara Wright to the meeting following the request by Cllr McCool that this item be placed on the agenda. Mrs Wright is from the Northern, Eastern and Western Clinical Commissioning Group and they have commenced with a consultation exercise regarding the above which closes on the 12th December 2014. Mrs Wright gave a brief resume of the above project and members raised many questions regarding the proposals and were very concerned regarding the future of beds at South Molton Community Hospital. The Clerk explained that this item should have not been placed on this agenda as members had not received any paperwork prior to this meeting and therefore had no knowledge of the item listed. Members agreed that this was a very important subject and it was RESOLVED that a separate meeting be arranged in order to discuss the item in more detail and forward any comments by the closing date. The Clerk will arrange for the paperwork in respect of this exercise be forwarded to all members without delay. Mrs Wright was thanked by the Mayor for attending this meeting at short notice.

127/14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr M Cornelius, Crown Hill, South Molton reported on the above item detailing the dates when public meetings are being held and Cllr McCool reported on the posters being distributed to advertise these meetings. He also reported on his concern regarding the special TC meeting held in early August regarding members comments on the new Draft Local Plan which he had no knowledge

Continued ...

that this meeting was taking place. He considers that many local people are concerned with the proposed levels of housing development in the town over the next few years.

Mr P Henderson, Editor of The South Molton and District News handed to the Clerk copies of a reply he had compiled in relation to the Grave Turner article published in his September copy. Mr Cornelius reported on this subject which members noted.

Cllr J Yabsley reported that the proposed closure of Beech House had been put on hold due to a recent legal challenge. Cllr Mrs C Lock requested the number of residents currently living at Beech House and Cllr Worden was able to respond. Cllr Bushell requested details of the current road closures by DCC in the area and Cllr Yabsley replied.

128/14 STATE AID – OPTION AGREEMENT WITH NDC

The Clerk reported that in order to proceed with the proposed Option Agreement with NDC for land at Pathfields Business Park for the relocation of the livestock market he was recommending that specialist legal advice should be sought with regards to State Aid. He had made initial enquiries and the sum of up to £1000 would be required to obtain the necessary advice, It was RESOLVED that SMTC does not seek the necessary advice and therefore not proceed with the planned Option Agreement and notify NDC of this decision accordingly. Cllrs Kingdon and Way abstained during the voting process thereon.

129/14 CLOSURE OF BEECH HOUSE - DCC

Members had discussed this previously when Cllr Yabsley was in attendance therefore it was agreed to move to the next item.

130/14 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 M1605D – Mrs Ley Doyle, 28 Gwythers, South Molton, EX36 4BA
Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot M1605C – Mr T. Berry, 18 Parklands, South Molton, EX36 4EW
Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P010 – Mrs Sheila Ackland, 4 Church Lane, Frithelstock Stone, Torrington, EX38 8JL
Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P011 – Wendy Marie Maston, 6 Hugh Squier Avenue, South Molton, EX36 3DP

131/14 HORSE DRAWN SALES PITCH

Members had previously received an email regarding a request by a Mr S Harrison to site the above in the town centre. Members discussed this proposal and noted that if agreed it would not take place until Spring/Summer 2015. Concern was also raised regarding the effect on other events that take place on an annual basis ie Old English Fayre who use the enhancement. It was

Continued ...

RESOLVED that the Clerk has a further meeting with Mr Harrison and report back to members in due course.

132/14 DALC – AGM AND CONFERENCE 2014 – SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER 2014

Members noted that the above event was taking place at Westpoint Arena in Exeter and the Clerk has full details for any interested member. An agenda for this event will be forwarded to all members and it was suggested that a member of staff may attend together with Cllr Bushell who is on the DALC Committee.

133/14 ENVIRONMENT SCHOOL – SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER 2014

Members noted that the above event was being arranged by Barnstaple Town Council and if any member wishes to attend please advise the Clerk in due course.

134/14 MONTHLY ACTION SHEET

The Clerk reported that he is investigating the above as he wishes to introduce a much improved document that will be forwarded to all members with their agenda for the TC meeting on Tuesday 28th October 2014. Cllr Bushell reminded members that the Clerk and Deputy Clerk have been requested to investigate Performance Monitoring following a recent Staff Committee meeting.

135/14 CARE CLOSER TO HOME

This item had already been discussed earlier at member’s request.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.41pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
 Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
 Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Ms T. Lewis
 Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock Cllr Mrs R. McCool
 Cllr E. J. Moore Cllr M. R. J. Smale
 Cllr M. F. Way Cllr S. K. White

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk
 Mr J Holtom Land Agent

136/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from Cllr Worden.

137/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were read out by the Town Clerk:

Cllr Goodman – Personal Interest – Item 12b) – Friend of landowner and land adjoins if Furzebray is involved.

Cllr Kingdon – DPI – Item 12b) – Interested. Adjoining land owner

Cllr Miss Lewis – Personal Interest – Item 5 – Tenant of one of the properties

Cllrs Mrs Lock – Personal Interest – Item 8c) - Museum Rep & Volunteer

Cllr Smale – DPI – Items 12a) and 12b) – Clients

Cllr Way – DPI – Item 12b) – Friend of landowner

138/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Mayor reported on his Charity Dinner Dance held on Saturday 11 October and thanked Printworkx for their support and members that attended the event.

The time being 7 05pm Cllr McCool joined the meeting

139/14 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Town Council 9 September 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

Town Council 23 September 2014

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

Cllr Moore wished to have it recorded that he voted against the TC minutes of 9 September as being a true record because he was not present at the

meeting. Cllr Bushell also requested that it be minuted that he did not receive all the relevant paperwork for the same meeting.

140/14 It was RESOLVED that as the land agent was in attendance members would discuss item No 12 on the agenda next.

Continued ...

141/14 **ESTATE ISSUES**

The Mayor invited Mr Holtom to address the meeting on the following estate issues.

- a) Agricultural Tenant – Mr Kiff – Mr Holtom reported that a quote for fencing in the sum of £2050 plus VAT had been prepared and in the past the Town Council had assisted financially with works of this nature. It was RESOLVED that the Town Council pays 50% of the total cost and Mr Kiff will be advised accordingly. During the debate on this item Cllr Smale declared a DPI and left the meeting.

Cllrs Kingdon and Way declared DPI's on the following item and left the meeting..

- b) Land at Hunts Meadow/Parklands – Mr Holtom reported on recent correspondence received from one interested development company and a second letter that had only been received today from another interested developer. The Clerk had forwarded this letter by email but not all members have had the opportunity to peruse its content therefore it was RESOLVED that this item be deferred until the next appropriate meeting for discussion. Cllrs Kingdon, Smale and Way rejoined the meeting.
- c) Community Woodlands – Mr Holtom reported on the up to date situation regarding the above new extension and the creation of new allotments. All works planned for 2014 have been completed and plans are being investigated for 2015 and their costs which will be covered by grant funding with no cost to the authority. Members noted these details and it was RESOLVED that the sum of approximately £1400 be allocated for the creation of terram at the car parking facilities at the new allotment area which Elan Homes PLC have agreed to give Grade A topsoil. Cllr Moore voted against this proposal as he considered these works are against the wishes of the residents of South Molton. It was further RESOLVED that the creation of a BMX bike track be considered at a forthcoming meeting when all plans and costs are available for discussion. Mr Holtom reminded members that the new Community Woodland Management Plan is out for public consultation and all stakeholders are being invited to comment on the document.
Cllr Moore raised the issue of planting a tree in the Community Woodlands to commemorate all the lives lost in WW1. The original idea was to plant a species of magnolia but following consultation a different species has been identified as a better and more suitable alternative. It was RESOLVED that in the absence of Cllr Kingdon who will be out of the country for a period of time then Cllr Moore will take on the responsibility for the project's completion.
- d) Pathfields Business Park – Mr Holtom gave members an update on the adoption process including the planned construction of the turning head.
Phase 4 – All stakeholders have now been advised of the ransom situation and funds have been applied for by the Economic Development Officer at NDC for the creation of the planned road and its infrastructure. Members noted the details reported by Mr Holtom.

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Transfer of the freehold to Mr & Mrs Eves on Phase 3 – Mr Holtom reported that Mr & Mrs Eves were now requesting to purchase the freehold of their site and it was RESOLVED that this be granted and our lawyers will be advised to complete the legal transaction.

Cllr Way abstained during the voting process thereon.

The Clerk reminded members that he had that day received a briefing paper from Mr Holtom which he had forwarded to all members.

142/14 It was RESOLVED to return to Item 5 on the agenda.

143/14 **CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT AREA**

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of the Mayor Cllr S Lock and several other members following the recent decision by Tesco PLC not to proceed with their plans to site a foodstore on the above area. The Mayor reported on this decision and was suggesting that the TC consider the purchase of this land from Tesco PLC to protect its future use. Several members reported on their vision for this area and Mr Holtom gave a brief synopsis of his suggestions for the land. Concern was still expressed regarding the siting of the new Health Centre which is planned for the development at North Road by Linden Homes PLC. Following a lengthy discussion on this item it was RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to take the following action:

- 1, Contact Ivybridge Town Council in order to ascertain how their town centre was redeveloped with the assistance of developers including the creation of The Watermark Centre.
2. Contact Tesco Stores PLC to enquire if they would consider selling the land to the Town Council and if so under what terms and conditions.
3. Contact NDC to gain their support for the redevelopment of the Central Development Area including the possible purchase of any land required and what terms and conditions would be applicable.
4. Invite the Leader of NDC Cllr Brian Greenslade to a forthcoming Town Council meeting to discuss the regeneration of this area and what assistance NDC could be given to the Town Council.
5. Comments were raised by Mr Holtom regarding a Strategic Plan for the town centre together with the members vision for the future regarding the Town Council's extensive estate portfolio.
6. Cllr Goodman is to contact Maria Hosegood Practice Manager at East Street Health Centre in order to obtain an update regarding their proposed relocation to the North Road development.

Cllr McCool voted against the above proposal during the voting process thereon. At this juncture Mr Holtom the council's land agent left the meeting.

144/14 **TOWN COUNCIL PROPERTIES**

This item had been placed on the agenda following the last TC meeting at members request. It had been suggested at that meeting that all the properties owned by the TC should be regularly surveyed in order to identify any works required possibly on a 4 year cycle. It was RESOLVED that a holistic overview

Continued ...

be commissioned in order to ascertain the state of these properties and review this on a regular basis. The Clerk will arrange for the necessary quotes to be prepared and refer them back to members for consideration in due course.

145/14 BICYCLE RACKS

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Cllr Worden who unfortunately had to tender his apologies at a very late stage. It was RESOLVED that this item be deferred until the next TC meeting in order for the RFO to investigate costs etc and the members can then consider Cllr Worden's request. The Clerk reminded members that bike racks had been installed in King Street but had hardly ever been used.

146/14 GULLACOMBES HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

The Clerk reported that at a previous TC meeting members had agreed in principle that SMTC take on the responsibility of the above areas. The Section 106 Agreement had now been completed and the sum of £291133.83 will be paid to the TC for the maintenance of these areas. It was RESOLVED that SMTC formally take on the management and maintenance of the Public Open Space at The Gateway housing development.

147/14 REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

PIP Centre – New TC representative required. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Goodman be the appointed TC representative for the PIP Centre to replace the former Cllr Parkinson.

Pathfields Business Forum – New TC representative required. Cllr Kingdon gave an explanation for his resignation from the above. It was RESOLVED that due to the elections in May 2015 no TC representative will be appointed until after the election date at the annual meeting of the town Council. If required before May 2015 then the Mayor will attend any meeting convened.

South Molton & District Museum – a second TC representative required. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Kingdon be appointed as the second TC representative.

148/14 REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

- a) Cllr McCool – Community Woodlands – recent meeting – dog walkers have requested a map showing clearly the new paths. Cllr McCool will refer this request to Mr Holtom.

Cllr Bushell – DALC AGM – attended the AGM on Saturday 11 October – keynote speaker from DCC was suggesting that volunteers from the parishes repair potholes. Cllr Bushell suggested that this situation be referred to Cllr Yabsley or a member of staff from the Highways Department. The Clerk reported that he had heard and seen correspondence regarding this proposal and suggested the portfolio member Cllr Stuart Hughes at DCC be contacted.

- b) Cllr Moore requested that Cllr Goodman report on the 'Care Closer to Home' project as he and Cllr Goodman had recently attended a meeting in Barnstaple which was very poorly attended.

Continued ...

149/14 **DART PARK ALLOTMENTS – BONFIRES**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Moore was concerned regarding the regular bonfires being held at the above site and had asked him to contact NDC regarding the possible provision of a trade wheelie bin to assist allotment holders with garden waste. The Clerk had contacted NDC but was awaiting a reply. If relevant the allotment agreements will be amended.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.36pm.

Chairman

Date

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. J. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Ms T. Lewis
Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock Cllr Mrs R. McCool
Cllr E. J. Moore Cllr M. R. J. Smale
Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Mr M. G. Gingell Town Clerk

150/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Way and White.

151/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

152/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Nil.

153/14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 14 October 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

154/14 **ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Pannier Market Sub-Committee 29 November 2012

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved and the recommendations be adopted. The Clerk reminded members that there had not been a meeting since that date due to lack of business to discuss. The Mayor reported that it had recently been agreed that this Sub-Committee should meet bi-annually. It was RESOLVED that this situation be discussed by the Policy Committee at their next meeting.

155/14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr M Dean a resident of George Nympton addressed the members on the recent refusal of planning consent by NDC of an Anaerobic Digester at Great Hele Farm which was now going to appeal. Mr Dean referred to the TC Planning Committee's decision to recommend approval in January 2014. Cllr Moore responded with specific reference to the Monitoring Officer at NDC Mr K Miles and Cllr Moore recommended that the Clerk obtains legal advice from him on this subject. A Mr M Tomlin 115 East Street and Ms E Stock 15 The Gavel also addressed the council on the same subject. The Mayor reminded members that the planning application had been submitted and viewed by the TC's Planning Committee before the authority had any knowledge or had been advised that pipes for the proposal were intended to go through land owned by the TC. The

Continued ...

Clerk advised the Mayor that if any member of the public wished to make representation on this application he has full details of the Planning Inspectorate in his office.

156/14 PLANNING APPLICATION NO 58050 – DEVELOPMENT OF 172 RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS WITH ASSOCIATED ACCESS, ROADS, FOOTWAYS, PARKING, LANDSCAPING, DRAINAGE, OPEN SPACE AND PLAY FACILITIES AT LAND OFF NADDER LANE, SOUTH MOLTON

The Clerk reported that he had received the above major planning application at the end of September 2014 and had forwarded emails to all members to visit his office and view the documents submitted by the developers WainHomes PLC. Due to the nature of this application he had consulted the chair of the Planning Committee and it was agreed that all members should have the opportunity to comment. Members discussed this application fully and it was RESOLVED that at this stage their recommendation was to refuse the application on several issues including road infrastructure and the need to build lifetime homes. Members also request that a meeting with the Lead Planning Officer Ms J Watkins be arranged for members to discuss their concerns direct with her as soon as possible. Following a proposal by Cllr Bushell it was RESOLVED to form a Supplementary Planning Guidance Sub-Committee in order to prepare the necessary document and this committee will have the following appointed members Cllrs Bushell, C. Lock, McCool, Lewis, Worden and the Mayor ex-officio. This sub-committee will convene its first meeting within 4 to 6 weeks and at the request of Cllr Bushell the Clerk will forward the full documentation received from him including the 'Case for Space' report compiled by the RIBA. together with other related reports to the members stated above.

157/14 YOUTH RESOURCE CENTRE

Members had previously received a report compiled by the RFO/Deputy Town Clerk regarding the above. Members noted the content of this report and the two resolutions required. Following a discussion on the above it was RESOLVED to approve the two resolutions detailed within the report with the sum of £4000 being allocated from the authorities capital monies to aid the project in the first year The Mayor reported on the recent public meeting held on Friday 24 October 2014.

158/14 DCC – BEECH HOUSE

At the request of members there was no more to report on the above as a judicial review had been lodged with DCC.

159/14 DART PARK ALLOTMENTS – BONFIRES/GARDEN WASTE

This item had been placed on the agenda following the last TC meeting and the Clerk read out an email he had received from NDC regarding the provision of a 1100 litre garden waste bin with a fortnightly charge of £7 per empty. This item had been originally discussed at the request of Cllr Moore who raised concerns with bonfires on this site and complaints received from residents in the near

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vicinity. Much discussion followed and it was RESOLVED that all allotment holders be advised that a waste bin will be provided at no cost to the holders in order to alleviate any further problems with bonfires.

Cllrs Bushell and Lewis voted against this proposal during the voting process thereon.

160/14 **MONTHLY ACTION SHEET**

The Clerk reported that he had attempted to amend the above document as promised but was still not happy with the revised document. He explained that it was just a repeat exercise taken from the minutes of each relevant meeting. Cllr Bushell requested that the flat at No 1 East Street be placed on the next TC agenda for further discussion. He complained that the MAS had not been presented to members for four months but the Clerk stated that the only month it had not been presented was September 2014. It was suggested by Cllr Kingdon that perhaps it would be more useful to have a resume once a month regarding the work carried out by the manual staff and the work planned for the coming month/s. Cllr Moore was pleased to report that the memorial tree had that day been planted in the Community Woodlands as agreed. The tree is local species to Devon called Sorbus Devoniensis and there may be a short service of dedication at 12.30pm on Tuesday 11 November 2014. A suitable plaque will be arranged as soon as possible. Cllr Goodman suggested that perhaps the minutes of each meeting could have a bullet point where the Clerk has been instructed to take the matter further on behalf of members. Cllr Mrs C Lock enquired if meetings had been arranged to review Standing Orders and Care Closer to Home and both the Mayor and Clerk responded. The Clerk will continue with his investigations and report back to members when appropriate. Cllr Bushell raised the issue of Performance Monitoring and the Clerk and the RFO are continuing to make the necessary enquiries and will report to the Staff Committee in due course. Cllr Smale reported that his employers had abandoned Performance Monitoring due to the time it takes to carry out the exercise on a regular basis and is not cost effective.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Chairman

Date