

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.00PM**

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Present: In the Chair Deputy Mayor Mrs J. Foster  
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr M. Cornelius  
Cllr D. J. Goodman Cllr Ms T. Lewis  
Cllr E. J. Moore Cllr M. F. Way  
Cllr Mrs S. Yeo

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

92/17 **PRAYERS**

In the absence of the Mayor's Chaplain the meeting was opened in prayer by the Town Clerk.

93/17 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Kingdon, C. Lock, S. Lock and Worden.

94/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

95/17 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman asked the names of Councillors who wished to speak under Item 15 on the agenda, Councillors Participation. Cllr Bushell replied that he wished to speak.

96/17 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Paul Henderson, Editor of South Molton News, informed members that a new organisation had been constituted called 'Shop Local, Shop Unique Shop South Molton' which consists of independent retailers. The group had already agreed to fund a South Molton map consisting of 20,000 copies to be distributed at local tourist attractions. He did stress that this group would work with any group within the town and was not competing against the South Molton Business Association. There are approximately 80 members to date.

97/17 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council 26 September 2017  
It was unanimously RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

98/17 **POLICE AND DCC TO REPORT TO MEMBERS**

- a) The Chairman informed members that the Town Clerk had received an email from Inspector Searle stating that there were no matters of concern to be reported to members at this meeting.
- b) Cllr Yabsley was not in attendance at this point of the meeting.

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99/17 **DOCUMENTS FOR EXECUTION**

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

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P43 – Crosse Wyatt Solicitors, 7 East Street, South Molton.

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P44 – Mr David Wyn Hobson, 12 Oakwood Court, Brook Meadow, South Molton, EX36 4BN

100/17 **CHURCH PARADES**

After discussion in which it was stressed that Councillors should make every effort to attend Civic Parades in the future no resolution was taken on this item.

Cllr Yabsley joined the meeting and was invited to report to members.

Cllr Yabsley mentioned that he had had a detailed discussion with the Town Clerk and Richard Sables from Highways in the morning and the following issues were addressed:

- 1) Mary Magdalene Churchyard and the slippery surfaces.
- 2) The drain at the pedestrian crossing at the bottom of South Street is due to be jetted.
- 3) Cars being parked on the pavement and the road at the top end of New Road. DCC are looking into extending the double yellow lines there.
- 4) Double yellow lines in Gunswell Lane.

Cllr Yabsley also mentioned the fact that the barrier at the bottom of Churchwalk steps had been delayed due to an incorrect measurement during construction.

101/17 **PARKING RESTRICTIONS AROUND THE ENHANCEMENT**

It was unanimously RESOLVED that the Town Clerk writes to DCC asking that the two keep clear signs, indicating a dropped kerb, either side of the enhancement are retained when double yellow lines are painted on these areas.

102/171 **KING STREET**

The Clerk informed members of the situation to date with regard to 1 King Street. North Devon and Mid Devon District Building Control have done the minimum amount of work to render the building safe. There has been speculation that the props inside of the building are unsafe and the Town Clerk has asked that Building Control visit the premises to ascertain if it was still safe. It was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Town Clerk's recommendation that he write to NDC asking for a Section 215 Notice to be served on the owner.

103/1717 **THE GWYTHERS, SOUTH MOLTON**

It was unanimously RESOLVED that a Section 215 Notice be served on the owner of this property and that a Housing Officer from NDC attends a meeting

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to clarify the issue of bringing this dwelling back into the housing stock given the shortage of housing in North Devon.

104/17 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS**

The Town Clerk reported on the following:

Pannier Market Toilets – work had now commenced on the gents toilets and would last approximately one week.

The Town Clerk had written to South West Water regarding the sewerage issue discussed at the last meeting but as yet has not received a reply.

The meeting with Peter Heaton-Jones regarding Fairer Funding for Schools in Devon would be held on Friday 10 November 2017 at 5.15pm in the Amory Centre.

The Town Clerk has asked Des Brailey to attend an informal meeting with Councillors to raise issues regarding Waste and Recycling collections.

105/17 **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a) Cllr Bushell informed members that he and the Town Clerk had attended the DALC AGM in Exeter which included attending various workshops. Cllr Bushell reported that he had spoken to various other members at the meeting who were also keen to push forward for funding for the Link Road from South Molton to Tiverton.
- b) Cllr Moore attended an internal and external audit committee meeting.

106/17 **COUNCILLORS PARTICIPATION**

Cllr Bushell informed members that he had received a letter from Peter Heaton-Jones regarding Fairer Funding for Schools which seemed to indicate that the funding formula for North Devon was 'Good News' for schools in Devon. Cllr Bushell thought that this was painting a rosy picture of a serious underfunding for schools in the County.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman .....

Date .....