

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 24 JULY 2018 AT 7.00PM

Present:

In the Chair Town Mayor	Cllr Mrs C. E. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell	Cllr Mrs J. Footman
Cllr Mrs J. Foster	Cllr D. Goodman
Cllr M. J. Kingdon	Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr E. J. Moore	Cllr M. F. Way

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

61/18 **PRAYERS**

The meeting was opened in prayer by Rev M. Grandey.

62/18 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cornelius and Worden.

63/18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Cllr Foster – Personal Interest – Item 11 – Colleague on Woodlands
Committee

Cllr Goodman DPI – Item 15 – Son works for Royal Mail at South Molton

Cllr C. Lock – Personal Interest – Item 11 – Sings in same group

Cllr S. Lock – Personal Interest – Item 11 – Consort to the Mayor

64/18 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Nil.

65/18 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of Shop Local highlighted the amount of shop vacancies in South Molton and that footfall has fallen quite dramatically. He reported that Shop Local has 74 members and they are all interested in trying to increase footfall in the town. Having seen the draft Local Plan he stated that Shop Local would like to become involved in the Neighbourhood Plan process and asks that they be consulted in the future.

One Councillor pointed out that on the Town Council at the moment there are two high ranking officials being the North Devon Council Chairman and the Leader of the opposition.

Cllr Foster took the opportunity under Public Participation to mention about the Neighbourhood Plan and that the second consultation was due and that there were to be two stalls in the Pannier Market to aid the consultation process.

66/18 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council

26 June 2018

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved. Cllrs Footman, Foster and Way abstained as they were not present at the previous meeting.

Continued ...

67/18 POLICE AND DCC TO REPORT TO MEMBERS

- a) No Police were in attendance.
- b) Cllr Yabsley informed members that a new Senior Planning Regeneration member had been appointed and he hoped that he would be involved with the North Devon Neighbourhood Plan.
Cllr Yabsley also reported on the various highway issues that were either in progress or are about to commence. This included the pavement at Mill on the Mole, problems with parking at Poltimore Road and the drop curb at Sainsburys.

68/18 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 Q06 – Mr Robert Brown, 4 Williamson Way, South Molton, EX36 4AT
Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot M1673 – Mrs June Radford, Kenmar, Parsonage Lane, South Molton, EX36 3AX

69/18 NORTH ROAD DEVELOPMENT

The developer for Baker Estates reported to members that two new applications for construction of Phase I had been submitted and that the development was going well. Mention was made of the roundabout which would be installed after 200 houses had been occupied and there was also some concern about the Public Open Space levy which new occupiers would have to pay. However there was little detail provided at the meeting on the amount proposed but Baker Estates did promise to give the Town Clerk information regarding this.

70/18 DART PARK ALLOTMENTS

Members noted that a request had been received from a resident of South Molton to consider amending the current allotment terms and condition to ban bonfires altogether at the above location It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve this request due to the fact that a skip is provided twice a year for use by tenants of the allotments.

71/18 APPOINTMENT OF BEADLE

Members noted that the Mayor was requesting that consideration be given to appoint Mr Mike Morgan, currently a Mayor's Constable, to the position of Town Beadle. It was RESOLVED to appoint Mr Morgan with immediate effect on an Honorarium of £100 per annum. 4 For 1 Against 3 Abstained

72/18 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS

The Town Clerk reported that on Monday 13 August the Southley Road is to be re-surfaced and he reported that alternative parking will be available in the Sheep Pen area. There will also be disruption on the 14 and 15 August.

Continued ...

73/18 **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a) Cllr Bushell asked that the Town Clerk and himself be permitted to attend the DALC AGM. He also mentioned the importance of the South West bid and that Northern Devon often gets left out of this process.
- b) Cllr Moore hoped that all Councillors would attend his NDC Chairman's Civic Service on Sunday 9 September 2018 and that they should respond by 10 August 2018.

74/18 **COUNCILLORS' PARTICIPATION**

Cllr Goodman mentioned that the Swimming Pool has been closed quite often since the transfer to 1610 and it was suggested that if this continues we should reduce the grant which has been made available to 1610 from the Town Council. It was suggested that the Town Clerk writes to 1610 expressing these concerns and the Clerk agreed to do this.

Cllr Goodman declared a DPI in the following item and left the meeting and did not return.

75/18 It was RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business by virtue of relating to legal-commercially sensitive matters and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council.

77/18 It was RESOLVED that the meeting return to open session.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Chairman

Date