

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN  
THE GARDEN ROOM, THE AMORY CENTRE, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
JULY 2022 AT 7.00PM

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Present: In the Chair: Town Mayor Cllr S. Lock  
Cllr M. Cornelius Cllr R. Herniman  
Cllr Mrs. C. Lock Cllr. M Way  
Cllr. D. Worden

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

1. **PRAYERS**

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

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Bushell, Footman, and Henderson.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Way asked that the bottom part of the Lime Trees outside the Medical Centre in East Street be cut back due to problems with visibility at the zebra crossing. The Town Clerk replied that he would have to get permission from NDC before he could cut back the branches.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council

28<sup>th</sup> June 2022

It was unanimously RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

6. **DCC TO REPORT TO MEMBERS**

Cllr Yabsley was not present at the meeting.

7. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

8. **POLICE TO REPORT TO MEMBERS**

No Representative from the Police Force attended.

9. **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a. Cllr Cornelius had attended the North Devon Link Road Meeting prior to the Town Council Meeting and advised that the junction at Borner's Bridge would now remain closed until 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023.
- b. Cllr Worden advised the Following:
  - At the last meeting Cllr Paul Henderson mentioned as per the minutes that it was passed by the Governance Committee that delegated powers at NDC be increased to £250,000. What has been agreed is the following: where a purchase and sale of smaller property transactions need to be completed swiftly e.g. if a property comes on the market which the council needs for homeless families, instead of putting them in hotel accommodation, then the relevant officer can take it to the Senior Management Team, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council plus the Lead Member and if they agree they can go ahead using emergency powers. Anything over that needs to be brought to Strategy & Resources Committee. Other Councils in Devon have this provision in place – some with the total up to £300,000.
  - North Devon Council have declared a Cost of Living Emergency calling for certain actions to be taken to assist families who are struggling. It is planned to get various agencies together to produce a crib sheet for Councillors so they can point residents in the right direction to get help.
  - NDC have also passed a motion requesting that Devon County make a Traffic Regulation Order prohibiting pavement parking throughout North Devon with the exception of specific places where pavement parking is necessary.
  - The Government are pressing NDC to take more Afghan refugees. The MOD have offered 12 houses at Chivenor for this purpose and this purpose alone. NDC suggested that six of them could be used to house local families who are homeless but this idea was rejected. Negotiations are still ongoing but it looks as though NDC will be told to take the 12 families.

**10. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS**

The Town Clerk advised the following:

- The Youth Club Meeting would be held tomorrow in the Oak Room at 7.00pm. This will include a general introduction on the setting up of a new Youth Group in South Molton.
- Permission has been given to the Skate Park group to use the Pannier Market as a mini skate park of a weekly evening, which would involve making in an event for the Youth of South Molton.
- The painting of the Town Hall Façade will commence on 11<sup>th</sup> August for the duration of approximately one month. This will include plastering the ceiling in the area of the Cash Machine. It was suggested by Cllr Cornelius that the scaffolding stay up for the arrival of the reconditioned Town Hall Clock. The Town Clerk though would be a good idea and would investigate the option.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.26pm

Chairman.....

Date.....