

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM**

Present: In the Chair Town Mayor Cllr S. W. Lock
Cllr M. Bushell Cllr D. Goodman
Cllr Ms T. Lewis
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
DCC Cllr J Yabsley

178/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs C Lock, Kingdon and White.

179/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

**180/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Mayor reported that the December TC meeting will be on Tuesday 9 December 2014 as previously notified by the Clerk. Following this meeting there will be light refreshments in the Mayor's Parlour for all wives and partners.

181/14 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Town Council 11 November 2014
It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

182/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Moore in his capacity as a resident of the town reported that at the NDC Executive meeting to be held on Tuesday 2 December 2014 there is an item on the agenda regarding the Central Development Area and if any interested member wishes to attend the meeting commences at 10.00am.

Cllr Moore also reported on a recent meeting of the North Devon Highways Committee attended by himself and Cllr Goodman regarding the proposed extension of the 30mph in Station Road to the Borners Bridge junction with the A361. This proposal was voted for and will now be presented to DCC for their approval and adoption. Cllr Moore also referred to the local walking group STRIDE who use this area regularly.

183/14 CARE CLOSER TO HOME

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Cllr Goodman who reported further on this subject. Cllr Goodman had recently forwarded a report to all members following the recent meeting held by the local Clinical Commissioning Group in the Town Hall attended by himself and several other members. Several comments were raised by members and Cllr Goodman will

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incorporate these in to a revised document. All members present thanked Cllr Goodman for all his help and continual interest in this subject. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Goodman compile a revised document taking in to account the comments received and submit it to the CCG by the closing date of the 12 December 2014.

During discussion on the above item Cllr Worden joined the meeting at 7.15pm.

184/14 **MEMORIAL TREE – COMMUNITY WOODLANDS**

The Clerk was pleased to report that he had made contact with a possible supplier of a granite stone but he required the size before it could be delivered. Members need to decide if they wish to have a plaque placed on the stone or if preferred the agreed text could be inscribed directly on to the stone. The supplier has also indicated that they may be able to contribute up to 50% of the total cost as they are keen to support local initiatives of this nature. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges for the stone to be delivered and the text be inscribed directly on to the stone as soon as possible. Cllr Moore reminded members that it should be called the Community Tree and not Memorial Tree.

185/14 **PANNIER MARKET ROOF**

Members had previously received copy details of the proposed architectural costs for the repairs to the above. These costs have been prepared by Jim Gardner the appointed architect and are required to comply with conditions laid down by English Heritage for repairs to listed buildings. Mr Gardner had attended a previous TC meeting where it was agreed that he should prepare costings and present them to members for discussion and approval. Much discussion followed and it was RESOLVED that Mr Gardner be advised to proceed with the process based on his costings for only Phase 1 and Phase 2 of his detailed statement. The Clerk will advise Mr Gardner and keep members up to date with progress in this matter.

186/14 **TOWN HALL FACADE**

Following the last TC meeting the Clerk had spoken with South Molton Scaffolding regarding members concerns over the cost of its continual siting at the front of the Town Hall pending the necessary repair works. The Clerk reminded members that it was originally erected as a safety precaution under Health and safety legislation due to the possibility of falling masonry. Mr Gardner the appointed architect has recommended that the scaffolding remains in situ until the repair works have been commenced. SMS Ltd has informed the Clerk of the following costs:

The TC are currently paying £60 per week for the scaffolding and if members agree that it should remain then that hire fee would be amended to £200 per month therefore for it to remain until the end of March 2015 the total cost would be £880 including £80 for the required pavement licence. If members decide to have it removed and then re-erected when the works commence the fee payable would be approximately £2400. It was RESOLVED that the scaffolding remains in place.

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187/14 **BEECH HOUSE - DCC**

Cllr Yabsley reported that the planned Judicial Review had been withdrawn and DCC are still considering all options before making an official statement. It was RESOLVED that this item be only placed on this agenda when there is further information available to update members on this issue.

188/14 **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a) Cllr Worden – Tourist Information Centre – attended recent meeting where their financial position was discussed due to substantial cuts in funding. AGM Tuesday 2 December 2014. Concern over their future and the need to be self funding. The Mayor invited Cllr Yabsley to report on any issues from Devon County Council which included the following:
Care Closer to Home.- general update but still concern over the future of South Molton Hospital and bed closures.
New school site in Exeter Road – legal transaction to purchase identified land should be completed by the end of the week.
Youth Resource Centre – update on tenancy position and its future use. Cllr Goodman reported on recent meeting to discuss all options.
- b) Cllr Moore – Care Closer to Home – member of task team at NDC.
Cllr Worden – NDC Executive meeting on Tuesday 2 December 2014 where the Central Development Area will be discussed. NDC still have one million pounds in their capital budget for South Molton for either Pathfields Business Park or the above stated area.
- c) No police present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.08pm.

Chairman

Date