

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, SOUTH MOLTON ON TUESDAY 28 APRIL 2015 AT 7.00PM

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

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

293/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Worden and Rev Jarvis.

294/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

295/14 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY
BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Mayor, Cllr S. Lock, thanked all councillors, including Mrs McCool, for all they had done for the town in their term of office.

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Goodman, re-iterated the Mayor's comments, and stated that he appreciated members support and hoped that the new Council would work together to do the best for the people of South Molton.

Cllr White thanked all councillors who supported him and advised that he was pleased and proud of the towns achievements. He stated that he was not standing for election again due to one councillor and wished everyone all the best for the future and hoped that the Council would work together.

Cllr Way thanked the Mayor and Mayoress for all they had done in their term of office.

Cllr Moore advised that it was usual to have a printed prayer to be read out in the absence of the Mayor's Chaplain and it was agreed that the Acting Town Clerk looks into this.

296/14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved.

297/14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

Mr P. Henderson, Printworkx – suggested that a list of previous Mayors is displayed in the Town Hall, possibly in the Court Room. Cllr Mrs Lock advised that there was a list in the Museum and it was suggested that this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr M. Cornelius, Crown Hill, South Molton –

- i) asked what plans the Town Council had for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on 26 May.

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- ii) Stated that the Town Council should be involved with the naming of roads on the new housing developments.
- iii) Advised that the gate and railings on Church Walk steps required maintenance.
- iv) Advised that the Town Council had done a lot for the town in the previous year including the firework display and the Xmas lights.

The Acting Town Clerk responded to the above and stated that he had researched what other councils do and that the Town Council should encourage local groups and organisations to present a report on their activities and he had requested that this be publicised in the next edition of the South Molton News. He advised that work to Church Walk steps was on the Market Manager's list of jobs.

Cllr Yabsley, DCC, wished to thank members for allowing him to speak at meetings and wished all members who were standing for election again good luck.

298/14 **DOCUMENTS FOR EXECUTION**

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

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot M1604C – Ms Wendy Finn, 49 West Street, South Molton, EX36 4DG

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P015 – Mrs Maureen Jenkins, The Paddock, Nadder Lane, South Molton, EX36 4HP

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P016 – Mr & Mrs J. Searle, 19 Kingdon Avenue, South Molton, EX36 4GJ

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P017 – Mrs Jean Eastmond, 45 Hugh Squier Avenue, South Molton, EX36 3DR

Exclusive Right of Burial – Plot P018 – Mr Karl Clemmet, 7 Winston Park, South Molton, EX36 3AY

299/14 **ACTING TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS**

The Acting Town Clerk reported to the meeting on what actions had been taken and what issues had arisen since the previous meeting as follows:

- i) A letter had been written to DCC regarding the proposed Bus Service reduction, specifically asking for the reinstatement of a Sunday and Bank Holiday service to Barnstaple.
- ii) A letter had been sent to Mr Matt Ray, a Town Council employee, regarding the Exmoor Wildlife Day thanking him for his efforts.
- iii) Survey on Buildings, as previously agreed by members, will commence this week with 1 East Street.
- iv) Three quotes have been received for tarmac paths with wooden edging in the Cemetery Extension. Before these quotes are presented to full council the ATC would submit an application for S106 monies from the District Council. Cllr Kingdon stated that he considered that steel edging would be preferable to wood and the ATC would make further enquiries into this suggestion.
- v) The scaffolding on the Town Hall facade was due to be removed in mid May. There was initial concern that, to gain access to the NAR roof which

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- Is leaking, would require the scaffolding to stay in place, However, access can be gained via Market Street. It is the intention of the ATC to obtain three quotes for the necessary works to the NAR roof and the cupola, and hopefully these works could be completed in August.
- vi) The bin, which had been agreed to be positioned at the Dart Park Allotments in October 2014 for use by tenants, had recently been filled with heavy stones and earth and therefore the District Council were unable to empty it. The ATC was suggesting that the contract for this bin is cancelled and that mini skips are made available for tenants use for one week in the spring and at the end of the season.
 - vii) Re-plastering of Long Drag had been completed and works are now being carried out to the skirting and handrails and the staircase is being stained. New poster boards will be positioned at the bottom of the steps and new lights will be installed in the entrance.
 - viii) There have been continual problems with people urinating in the entrance to the Pannier Market and in the gas cupboard on the right. This was especially bad over the previous weekend and the ATC was looking into the possibility of moving the gates further forward. There would be no issues from a planning point of view but Listed Building Consent would be required. Full details will be presented to the new Council in due course.
 - ix) The ATC was making further enquiries with Jean Watkins, NDC Planning Officer, regarding the proposal to erect an aerial on the Town Hall in respect of Superfast Broadband for South Molton.
 - x) The lease with YMCA for the Youth Resource Centre would hopefully be transferred on Friday but the Council is still awaiting the necessary Deed of Surrender from DCC before this can take place.
 - xi) The Police had caught two youths in Central Park defacing the signs. They were made to clean up with their parents present and they have both written letters of apology to the Council.
 - xii) The new Town Guide is in the process of being prepared with a run of 15000 copies which will be distributed around North Devon in supermarkets. TIC's and other tourist attractions. It was hoped this will be available by the end of May.
 - xiii) The 1 tonne granite boulder to be positioned next to the Memorial Tree in the Community Woodlands will be ready before VE Day. Cllr Way offered to transport it from Gas Lane to this position.

300/14 **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- a) Cllr White – Twinning Association had planted an acer tree at bottom of Pannier Market to commemorate 40 years twinning. A trip to Livarot will take place at the end of May to celebrate 40 years.
Cllr Lock – advised that he had recently attended the Local Police Authority Awards Ceremony where a local Police Officer, Alison Berry, had received an award.
- b) District Councillor Moore had no issues to report.

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- c) The Police reported on a few issues which had occurred within the town but advised that crime figures were down again. They thanked the members for all their support and for the opportunity to talk to the Town Council.
- d) Cllr Yabsley had no issues to report as he had already left the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.28pm.

Chairman

Date