

CREDITON HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Crediton Hamlets Parish Council Meeting held at Yeoford Community Centre on Monday 4th April 2022

Present: Cllr Beasley, Cllr Brimacombe, Cllr Cole, Cllr Mortimer (Chair), Cllr Parker, Cllr Stevens, Cllr Vigers and Cllr Letch (DCC)

In attendance: the Clerk, 1 member of the public and 1 member of the press

1. To receive and accept apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Price, Cllr Coren (MDDC) and Cllr Penny (MDDC)

2. To receive declarations of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda

None were declared

3. Public Discussion – an opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item on the agenda

One member of the public spoke about the poor condition of the roads in the Parish in general, but in particular the state of the road at Moorlake Cross where there is a very large pothole or even a pit on the lefthand side going towards Crediton. This forces drivers to move to the wrong side of the road into the path of oncoming traffic. It is an accident waiting to happen. During wet weather water cascades along the road here and this makes the problem worse. Councillors again expressed their frustration at the state of the roads in the Parish and that the Highways Officer fails to respond to contact. Meanwhile the roads get worse. Cllr Letch explained that DCC’s 2022/23 highways budget is a reduction in real terms. Councillors suggested that DCC should make better use of the limited budget by working more efficiently and being more proactive. Cllr Vigers suggested that the member of public and all Councillors should report the problem at Moorlake Cross and ask others to do the same in the hope that this will trigger action by DC.

4. Crediton Hamlets Parish Council Meeting Minutes 7th March 2022 – to consider the approval of the minutes as a correct record

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes as a correct record.

5. To receive a report from Cllr Letch (DDC) - for information only

Cllr Letch reported that the Locality Fund budget has been reduced to £8,000 per Councillor for the new financial year. He is planning a Special Educational Needs visit to Yeoford School. The North Devon Hospital Trust has merged with RD&E and it is hoped that this will help get through the backlog for elective surgery. 12,700 people have been waiting for elective surgery for one year or more and 700 people have been waiting for 2 years or more.

6. To receive a report from Cllr Coren (MDDC) – for information only

On behalf of Cllr Coren the Clerk reported that there will be a Parish Boundary Review meeting at MDDC on 5th May and that DCC had washed out gulleys between Yeoford and Woodland Head during the previous week.

7. Mid Devon District Council Planning Applications – to consider the following applications upon which the Council has been asked to comment

Reference: 22/00494/CLU
Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of building as a garden store for a period of 10 years
Location: Dewsmoor House Barnstaple Cross Crediton
Applicant: Mr S Willis

It was **resolved** that Councillors could not comment on this application as they did not have knowledge of the current use.

8. Mid Devon District Council Planning Decision - to note that Mid Devon District Council has granted permission for the following development with conditions as filed

Signed Dated

Reference: 22/00109/FULL
 Proposal: Change of use of land to equestrian to include erection of stables/store and field shelter and formation of menage for private use
 Location: Land at NGR 278356 98469 (Furze Park) Station Road Yeoford
 Applicant: Mr J Huskinson

9. Blocked footpath from Venny Tedburn to Posbury – to receive an update

Cllr Vigers reported that the footpath remains blocked. Cllr Letch will contact DCC again.

10. Council Tax and Re-valuations – to consider the implications of house extensions for Council Tax banding

Cllr Yarnold explained concerns that residential properties that are extended and as a result increase in value are not re-banded for Council Tax. This is inequitable, particularly at the moment when Bands A – D are receiving council tax refunds. Cllr Coren had reported to the Clerk that he understood that the District Valuer blanket re-values areas at a time every 10 to 15 years. Cllr Yarnold stated that there has been no re-valuation in Yeoford since 1991 and that if properties were re-valued it would result in more Council Tax income for MDDC. He suggested that re-valuation should be automatically triggered when planning permission is granted but this would have to be national policy.

11. Accounts

It was **resolved** to approve the following payments

Clerk Salary (March)	£320.08
HMRC	£1.20
Visionict (10 email accounts Apr 22 – Mar 23 Invoice 14373)	£216

12. To receive a report from the Chair – for information only

Nothing to report this month

13. To receive a report from Councillors – for information only

Cllr Yarnold reported that the repairs to the bridge at Neopardy are now complete and seem to be of a reasonable standard. Cllr Parker reported that he has researched the cost of 20 mph and not suitable for long vehicle signs for Hookway and Venny Tedburn. **To go on the May agenda.** Some progress on Fibre to the Property for the Hookway ward has been made and the vouchers have been extended for a 3 month period. Councillors were reminded that a fund (£300) has been put aside the 2022/23 budget for Platinum Jubilee celebrations. **Councillors** will contact residents to offer grants towards celebrations or the planting of a tree.

14. Correspondence/Clerk's Report

Nothing to report.

15. Dates of Next Meetings: 3rd May (Tuesday due to bank holiday – Boniface Centre – Annual Meeting followed by Council Meeting), 6th June (Yeoford Community Hall), 4th July (Boniface Centre), 5th September (Yeoford Community Hall), 3rd October (Boniface Centre), 7th November (Yeoford Community Hall), 5th December (Boniface Centre)

Signed Dated