

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 1ST JULY 2019 AT 7PM AT ALFINGTON VILLAGE HALL, ALFINGTON

PRESENT The Mayor:- Roger Giles

Councillors:- Peter Faithfull, Elli Pang, Stewart Lucas, Richard Copus, Glyn Dobson and Dean Stewart (Town Ward)
Vicki Johns and Richard Grainger (North Ward)
Lyn Harding (Tipton St John Ward)
 together with **Chris McIntyre – Town Clerk**

Other Persons Present:- County Councillor Claire Wright and 25+ members of the public

THE COUNCIL PRAYER

Cllr Vicky Johns read the Council Prayer

19/07/01

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Geoff Pratt (Deputy Mayor)

19/07/02

TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND RECEIPT OF REQUESTS FOR NEW DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIS) DISPENSATIONS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Faithfull	Item 29 (<i>Ottery Hospital</i>) as a member of the OSM & District Hospital League of Friends
Cllr Johns	Item 11 (<i>Alfington traffic issues</i>) lives in the village and helps with Speed Watch Item 18 (<i>To consider the provision of Tree Funding</i>) is the Town Council's representative on 'Ottery in Bloom'
Cllr Giles	Item 12 (<i>To reconsider the current and proposed usage of the Former Old Town Hall and to make a decision accordingly</i>) Trustee of the Heritage Society

19/07/03

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

It was agreed that items 14 (*To consider and approve criteria for a self employed handy person and to decide whether to re-advertise the position(s)*); 15 *To consider replacement computers for the office and other IT requirements and to approve a package and cost* and 26. *To consider awarding the Freedom of the Parish to an individual*) be discussed in Confidential Session due to commercial sensitivity (Items 14 and 15) and to prevent the disclosure of the identity of an intended recipient of an award (Item 26)

Cllr Pang requested that Item 24 (*Update by the Clerk on responses received from former councillors with regards to their being recognised for previous service*) be dealt with in Confidential Session, however the Mayor advised that there was no justification for this as Cllr Pang had received clear advice from the Clerk and the Mayor

19/07/04

TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES

No questions were raised as the traffic issues would be discussed later in the meeting

19/07/05

.....Mayor's Initials

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF 3RD JUNE 2019 (MINUTE REFS 19/06/01 – 19/06/32), AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE MAYOR AS A CORRECT RECORD

The Minutes of the of the **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of 3rd June 2019 (*minute refs 19/06/01 – 19/06/32*) were presented, approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record

19/07/06

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING OF 5TH JUNE 2019 (MINUTE REFS P19/06/01 – P19/06/07), AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE MAYOR AS A CORRECT RECORD

The Minutes of the of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING** of 5th June 2019 (*minute refs P19/06/01 – P19/06/07*) were presented, approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record

19/07/07

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PROPERTY AND LAND COMMITTEE MEETING OF 19TH JUNE 2019 (MINUTE REFS PL19/06/01 – PL19/06/19), AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE MAYOR AS A CORRECT RECORD

The Minutes of the **PROPERTY AND LAND COMMITTEE** of 19th June 2019 (*minute refs PL19/06/01 – PL19/06/19*) were presented, approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record, subject to the deletion of `Cllr Grainger` as shown being present at the meeting, when he was absent

19/07/08

TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROPERTY AND LAND COMMITTEE MEETING OF 19TH JUNE 2019 NOT CONSIDERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

The following recommendations were made at this meeting:-

1. It was RECOMMENDED that the Chair and Vice Chair inspect all the properties within its ownership, to see which properties had trees on site; to then photograph each tree on each property and complete a survey sheet. Cllr Dobson advised this was a mammoth task which was already underway but would take several months as there were approx 140 trees. He accepted that neither he, or Cllr Faithfull were tree specialists. Cllr Faithfull advised that boundaries were being checked in conjunction with providing a summary/photograph of each tree. In response to Cllr Harding`s question, the Clerk would, on completion of the survey then seek advice from EDDC`s Arboriculturist as to what further action was required, to ensure the Council was insurance compliant
2. It was RECOMMENDED that the quote from Beviss and Beckingsale (for the Council to pay the Station`s legal costs in respect of the transfer of the Skatepark) be approved. The Clerk to request that the Station request of their solicitors that the costs be capped at the amount quoted. It was also RECOMMENDED that the Council pay the additional legal costs re DCC agreeing to alter a provision in the Head Lease (to provide for a new sublease to be granted to a third party) plus DCC`s surveyors costs in the amount previously advised
3. It was RECOMMENDED that the Clerk arrange for a surveyor to carry out an inspection of her office in view of the floor appearing to sag in the centre.
4. It was RECOMMENDED that the Council support in principal the provision of a cycling proficiency area; to provide additional land for the cricket club and for the West Hill Wasps to have the use of the pavillion for changing/refreshments. It was further RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk`s Assistant set up an initial meeting with all the relevant parties to have an informal discussion to consider these recommendations
5. It was RECOMMENDED that the request by Feniton Park`s solicitor to the proposed alteration to the covenant re the car parking at the Council Offices be referred to the Council`s solicitor for appropriate action and advice, subject to Feniton Park agreeing to discharge the Council`s legal costs in the matter whether or not a legal deed was completed
6. It was RECOMMENDED that the Council support the proposed baby bank in principle and that the Clerk together with the Chairman, attempt to source suitable accommodation
7. EDDC had submitted a number of technical requirements regarding the proposed bridge. It was RECOMMENDED that the Council submit EDDC`s requirements to the person who had offered to build the bridge, for his observations/comments. However Cllr Dobson advised that he had recently been made

.....Mayor`s Initials

aware that this person may no longer be willing to carry out the work. He advised that further discussion was required at a later date.

8. It was RECOMMENDED that the HR Ctte should consider staffing levels; the Financial Ctte at its first meeting should consider expenditure and revenue streams of the Council's properties and that the Clerk should instruct a surveyor to prepare HOTS in respect of the lease to the Station charity (which could be the same surveyor as that appointed to inspect the Clerk's office)

9. It was RECOMMENDED that the provision of a cycle rack near the Museum be referred to the Regeneration Working Group for action

10. It was RECOMMENDED that the Clerk enquire as to whether or not it was a legal requirement that a disabled toilet (such as that in the library) should have an alarm*. Cllr Dobson provided an update. He had spoken to the librarian and she had confirmed that the library would agree to look after the alarm when it sounds, subject to the Town Clerk confirming the arrangement in writing. The librarian would, when the situation required it, telephone 999 and then also report the 999 call to the Town Clerk. Cllr Dobson advised that it was difficult to hear the alarm in the library, as it was sited in the foyer. He was investigating either having it moved from the foyer into the library or having a new alarm in the library.

**It is a legal requirement to have an alarm in a new building*

11. It was RECOMMENDED that the Clerk provide the Chairman with information about the proposed tenant wishing to rent Office 7, for him to follow up the matter. However the Clerk advised that tenant was now in situ with all necessary paperwork completed

12. It was RECOMMENDED that the quote in respect of the damp proofing of the Station provided by Heritage Preservation be accepted

It was **RESOLVED** that the aforementioned recommendations be approved

19/07/09

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM EDDC AND DCC COUNCILLORS

Cllr Faithfull

Cllr Faithfull was the Deputy Portfolio Holder for Environment. He was spending time with officers discussing environmental issues including a visit to Greendale Resources Recycling Centre to see how recycling works and looking into ways to improve performance

Cllr Claire Wright

Cllr Wright congratulated Cllr Stewart on the success of the Climate Change meeting which took place last week. She was still attempting to set up a meeting with the relevant parties about the many cars that had ended up in the ditch along Exeter Road. She will continue to chase up. DCC's Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee Meeting took place on 18th June. The 'At Risk' Register was up for discussion. Personal care was insufficient in many cases. The Government's Green Paper on adult social care was awaiting publication. A Carer's Spotlight Review was currently taking place and Cllr Wright together with a number of councillors were engaging with carers in the County. It was becoming apparent that the support for carers in many cases was non-existent. A report would be going to the main committee in November.

Cllr Johns

Cllr Johns was the Deputy Chair of EDCC's Overview Committee. She would be looking at the following matters:- Over 55s housing; climate change; high street regeneration and regeneration and community focus. All these items would be available on EDDC's website. She also mentioned that there would be consultation about the future of public toilets

19/07/10

POLICE MATTERS (INCLUDING CRIME FIGURES)

The Clerk had received a response from Inspector Antonia Weeks regarding the Council's request for a regular police presence at town council meetings. Inspector Weeks advised that due to shift patterns and operational commitments that any police attendance would be limited. She provided information about the Local Action Group bi-monthly meetings that councillors could tap into. Inspector Week's response was noted by councillors

.....Mayor's Initials

19/07/11

TO CONSIDER ALFINGTON TRAFFIC ISSUES - AND (IF APPLICABLE), TO APPROVE A REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR SPEED WATCH

Numerous issues were raised by parishioners but primarily about the speed of some vehicles. It was understood that the traffic had got worse over the years, particularly heavy lorries going to Otter Nurseries; properties were getting damaged; the Stagecoach bus was not tending to stop at the end of Mill Lane due to the traffic and Stagecoach saying it was dangerous. Parishioners were having to walk down to the old pub to catch the bus but it was a dangerous route. However Cllr Faithfull advised he had caught the bus this evening and was able to alight at Mill Lane. The visibility mirrors opposite Mill Lane were obscured by foliage and required cutting. There was much discussion by councillors about the issues and Cllr Johns advised that she agreed with all the complaints raised. It was understood that flashing lights appeared to work in reducing traffic speed. It was noted that some vehicles didn't take into account the narrowness of the roads in the vicinity, which was concerning. Cllr Wright advised that DCC's Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee would be trialling a 20 mph limit for most roads in Newton Abbot in an attempt to make the roads safer

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would write to Stagecoach (and to copy in DCC and Cllr Wright) relaying concerns about some Stagecoach drivers refusing to stop at Mill Lane and to seek confirmation that in future, all drivers would stop at the end of Mill Lane if requested by passengers.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council thank the Alfington Community Speed Watch team and their volunteers for the work they had done and that the Council support the provision of a 2nd community speed watch site.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council supports the provision of a VAS (vehicle activated sign) and would fund half the cost and Cllr Wright would fund the other half from her Locality Budget (total cost £4300). The sign would be owned by DCC as they would maintain it. It wouldn't be for the Council to determine where the sign should be sited.

Cllr Wright was asked to refer the cutting back of the foliage around the visibility mirrors to DCC highways for appropriate action

19/07/12

TO RECONSIDER THE CURRENT AND PROPOSED USAGE OF THE FORMER OLD TOWN HALL AND TO MAKE A DECISION ACCORDINGLY

The Mayor left the room as he had previously declared an interest. He thanked Cllr Dobson for his previous efforts as Chairman of the Property and Land Committee and was pleased that he had been willing to continue to chair the committee on the new council. It was agreed that Cllr Faithfull would chair the item. Cllr Dobson advised that Cllr Pratt had proposed that the Silver Band be moved out of the property. The Clerk reminded all present that the recommendation of the Property and Land Committee was that the current and proposed usage of the former old town hall was to be reconsidered and for the Council to make a decision accordingly. Terry Bastyan had prepared a written summary of the Band's position which was handed to all councillors. He advised that the Band was in occupation; the terms of the lease had been agreed and the Band had signed its part lease. He also provided background information about the Band's use of the premises. Cllr Dobson thought it was the worst proposal he had heard and provided reasons for his statement. He said that the Council should honour the terms previously agreed with the Band. Several councillors expressed concern as to what had been 'proposed'. Cllrs Johns and Copus were also unhappy with the proposal for the 'eviction' of the Band. Cllr Stewart said it was never intended to evict the Band from the premises but to simply take the Council out of the equation, which would allow for the Heritage Society (who occupied all the former town hall apart from the Band Room) to deal directly with the Band. The Clerk advised that she had previously spoken to Cllr Pratt who was of the view that either a long lease of the premises be granted or the freehold of the whole building be transferred to the Heritage Society and that the Band then be granted a hire agreement of the Band Room. After further debate it was **RESOLVED** that a meeting be arranged as soon as practicable with all the relevant parties to discuss the issues

19/07/13

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE A PARKING POLICY FOR USERS OF THE COUNCIL OFFICES

There was much debate and the following were **RESOLVED**

1. the Council confirms a policy of parking use for councillors on council business only
2. the Council confirms a policy of non use by business tenants
3. the Council confirms a policy of non use by room hirers

.....Mayor's Initials

4. Not to agree to the request made by a room hirer for a parking space. Three councillors stated that they did not respond well to threats (the hirer had stated she would take her business elsewhere if she lost the parking space)

19/07/14

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE CRITERIA FOR A SELF EMPLOYED HANDY PERSON AND TO DECIDE WHETHER TO RE-ADVERTISE THE POSITION

This item would be discussed in Confidential Session

19/07/15

TO CONSIDER REPLACEMENT COMPUTERS FOR THE OFFICE AND OTHER IT REQUIREMENTS AND TO APPROVE A PACKAGE AND COST

This item would be discussed in Confidential Session

19/07/16

UPDATE ON PROGRESS BEING MADE BY THE REGENERATION WORKING GROUP AND THE PROVISION OF THE HISTORIC ENGLAND HIGH STREET REGENERATION FUND

A meeting would take place on Thursday 4th July of the councillors who had agreed to be members of the Working Group. The key issues would be to decide a Chair and Terms of Reference and to consider who would join the Working Group which would include members of the public. The draft Terms of Reference would need to come back to the Council for approval in August but should encompass climate change and the economic town centre issues. Cllr Stewart spoke about the Historic England High Street Regeneration Working Group. There would need to be a plan for any project to be considered for funding. Therefore in view of impending deadlines, an expression of interest would not be submitted at this time but it was intended to progress at a later date

19/07/17

TO CONSIDER AND (IF APPLICABLE) APPROVE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Terms of Reference subject to the deletion of the word `Committee` (to be replaced by the words `Working Group`) if it appeared in the document

19/07/18

TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF `TREE FUNDING` TO SUPPORT THE PLANTING OF TREES AND WILD FLOWERS

All councillors had received information about the Forestry Commission's Urban Tree Challenge Fund which was providing funding for tree and wild flower planting. In year 1 funding was available for larger projects which would not apply to Ottery. However in Year 2 funding would be available for smaller projects which would be applicable to Ottery and applicants could complete an expression of interest form, to register interest in applying in 2020. It was suggested that the Council could start looking at the project as soon as possible and that local organisations could be involved in tree planting. It was understood that the Millennium Green charity would be supportive of wild flower planting on parts of the Millennium Green. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council recognise the benefits of additional tree planting in the Parish and supports the additional planting of wild flowers in the Parish. The Council formally asks the Climate Change Group to be responsible for tree and wild flower planting and that the Council would be supportive of the Climate Change Group. It was suggested that councillors look at the areas that they represent in their respective wards to try and find areas that would benefit from this planting as appropriate, and to engage with the community

19/07/19

TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF BAT BOXES AT THE REAR OF THE LIBRARY

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council funds the provision of bat boxes subject to the location being satisfactory for bats

19/07/20

TO APPOINT ANY ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO THE COUNCIL'S FINANCE COMMITTEE

No additional members wished to be on the Finance Committee

19/07/21

TO CONSIDER AND (IF APPLICABLE) TO APPROVE THE COST OF SIGNAGE AT FLUXTON

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the cost of signage in the sum of £71.94

.....Mayor's Initials

19/07/22

TO CONSIDER AND (IF APPLICABLE) APPROVE THE COUNCIL ENTERING INTO A ROAD WARDEN AGREEMENT WITH DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council enter into a Road Warden Agreement. It was understood that there was already a volunteer available and it was hoped others would participate

19/07/23

LAND OF CANAAN MATTERS –

- **TO CONSIDER THE REVISED PARKING CHARGES AND DECIDE AN APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION**

Cllr Johns advised that EDDC would re-visit the matter but it was a long winded process and effectively would be the reversing of the process which had resulted in the increase in the charges. It was understood that the Business Forum had received a negative response from EDDC with regards to them requesting that there be no increase in fees. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council write to EDDC and ask them to reconsider their decision of increasing the fees by an extortionate amount which would cause damage to the local economy and would cause financial problems for many people in having to pay more for parking fees.

- **TO CONSIDER AND SUPPORT (IF APPLICABLE) PART OF THE AREA BEING LEFT FOR WILD FLOWERS ETC**

It was understood that a meeting had taken place on site three weeks ago, attended by the Mayor and Cllrs Johns and Faithfull and two officers from EDDC's Street scene. It was agreed that there was potential for wild flowers to be grown around the edges of the site, with the main area to be mown

19/07/24

UPDATE BY THE CLERK ON RESPONSES RECEIVED FROM FORMER COUNCILLORS WITH REGARDS TO THEIR BEING RECOGNISED FOR PREVIOUS SERVICE

Cllr Harding was of the opinion that this expenditure was not permitted, in the light of the information she had received on a training course she had recently attended. However the Clerk replied that the Council was eligible to use the "General Power of Competence" (GPC) (this gives it the power to do anything that an individual can do (unless specifically prohibited) and it then does not have to rely on specific powers). Therefore the Council would be permitted to incur this expenditure. If the Council did not have the GPC then it either had to rely on a specific power or the power under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972. It was **RESOLVED** to present an award to a former councillor at a cost not exceeding £30.

19/07/25

TO CONSIDER AND (IF APPLICABLE) APPROVE A NEW AWARDS AND GIFTS POLICY

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Awards and Gifts Policy

19/07/26

TO CONSIDER AWARDING THE FREEDOM OF THE PARISH TO AN INDIVIDUAL

This would be discussed in Confidential Session

19/07/27

TO CONSIDER AND (IF APPLICABLE) TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE MAYOR'S POLICY TO ALLOW THE DEPUTY MAYOR TO WEAR THE CHAIN OF OFFICE AT EVENTS WHICH THE MAYOR IS UNABLE TO ATTEND

It was **RESOLVED** to amend the policy to allow for the Deputy Mayor to wear the chain of office in the absence of the Mayor

19/07/28

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE (IF APPLICABLE) NEW VENUES FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was **RESOLVED** that the 7th October Full Town Council Meeting be held at the Kings School at 1.15pm as it was the new Council's intention to engage better with young people. It was intended at this meeting to have a shorter agenda with relevant and interesting topics for students

.....Mayor's Initials

19/07/29

OTTERY HOSPITAL - UPDATE AND REPORT ON ANY MEETINGS ATTENDED

Cllr Pang apologised for not declaring a personal interest (as Chair of the OSM & District Health and Care Forum) earlier in the meeting as she was unaware that the subject of the hospital was on the agenda. No written report had been received from Cllr Pang. After some probing by the Mayor she confirmed that a meeting took place on 17th June at the Council Offices attended by her (in her capacity as the Chair of the Health and Care forum), Leigh Edwards, Dr Simon Kerr and representatives of the RD & E and 'one or two other people'. The Council's representative of the Health and Care Forum was unaware of the meeting. Cllr Pang explained this was not a Council meeting. The RD & E had nothing to do with the booking which she had booked as part of their community conversations taking place throughout the county. She was willing to pay for the room. The Mayor expressed his concern that the meeting had not been publicised and the three district councillors and the county councillor had not been invited. He concluded that it was most unsatisfactory. After some discussion it was proposed that the Clerk write to the RD&E advising that a meeting had taken place at the Council Offices in respect of health care in Ottery and that the Council would like to receive a report on what was decided at that meeting.

19/07/30

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- **TO APPROVE THE JUNE 2019 COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The June 2019 Council Schedule was presented by the Mayor, showing £7,837.85 (incl. VAT) for Council expenditure. It was **RESOLVED** that the Schedule be approved (which was duly signed by the Mayor)

- **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Mayor was pleased to read that the Internal Auditor was extremely complementary about the work of Chris and her team, so much so that she had reduced her bill by £50, as the accounts were in such good order that she needed less time to check them. The Mayor said the Council acknowledged the excellent report and thanked Chris and her team for achieving this result. The Clerk advised that the audit bill had now been significantly reduced from £800 last year, to £500 this year.

19/07/31

ANY MATTERS OF URGENCY BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE MAYOR

Western Power Distribution would be closing the road at Broad Street from 8th - 12th July which was confirmed in a Traffic Order. The Mayor advised that it was likely the works would be completed before the 12th and he believed that these may be re-connection works to the Pine Store. The Traffic Order was noted. The bus stops had details of the diversions

19/07/32

REPORT BY THE MAYOR

The Mayor's report had been e-mailed out by the Mayor yesterday

19/07/33

REPORT BY THE CLERK

The Clerk congratulated Cllr Stewart on being elected onto DALC's County Committee for the period 2019-2023

19/07/34

TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION AND ANY LATE CORRESPONDENCE

1. Mary Frazer advised about the abundance of wild flowers she had available to the Council. The Mayor advised that the land adjacent to Mary's property in Winter's Lane was abundant with wild flowers and was quite spectacular

2. 'Doing What Matters' was a new scheme launched by DCC. Community grants for funding were available for amounts between £5,000 - £20,000. Schemes had to be completed by 31st March 2020. The Mayor suggested that applicants liaise with Cllr Wright. The Clerk and Mayor advised of the criteria for 'Doing What Matters'. In addition there was £100,000 left over from EDDC's Communities Together fund, to be allocated elsewhere. Monies could be accessed by Crowd Funding and bids would be considered of up to £10,000 plus a 25% local contribution. The Council acknowledged the amounts of monies available and that it would need to liaise with the three district councillors for the EDDC funding. A Finance Working

.....Mayor's Initials

Group could be set up for specific projects. It was noted that community groups could apply in their own right

19/07/35

TO NOTE ANY REPORTS PREVIOUSLY E-MAILED BY COUNCILLORS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED AS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

1. All reports had been e-mailed and were noted.
2. Cllr Grainger provided a verbal report about a productive meeting with Ros Davies and Richard Spurway from DCC about P3. Cllr Grainger had enlisted four reliable and valuable volunteers to help with the paths. It was agreed that on the August agenda, an item be included to formally approve the Council's participation in the scheme .
3. The Deputy Mayor and Cllr Harding attended an initial meeting with Martin Rich from Devon Communities Together to look at developing a community flood plan and to secure funding to make simple alterations to improve safety of staff and children of Tipton school on the lower site. It was agreed that on the September agenda, provision be made for both Martin Rich and Colin Butler to talk about the project

The Mayor again reminded EDDC and DCC councillors to submit reports in advance of meetings

19/07/36

COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS (COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR ON ANY MATTERS IN RELATION TO WHICH THE COUNCIL HAS POWERS OR DUTIES, OR WHICH AFFECT THE PARISH. THE MAYOR TO PROVIDE A RESPONSE BUT WITH DISCRETION TO RE-DIRECT A QUESTION TO ANOTHER COUNCILLOR(S) WHO MAY BE BETTER PLACED TO ANSWER THE SAME)

1. The Clerk in response to Cllr Stewart's request, advised that a CIL/S106 Working Group meeting had been set up and that the Deputy Mayor had requested that the financial information requested by the Clerk be provided by Sulina Tallack (EDDC's S106/CIL Officer) 7 days before the meeting, to the Working Group members
2. Cllr Harding advised that the Tipton St John Playing Fields Pavilion had been broken into and severely vandalised. She had experienced extreme difficulty in contacting the police but managed to make contact with them eventually. It was agreed that the Council would support Cllr Harding in speaking to the Management Committee to express the Council's concerns, and that if they wished to enlist the Council's help to provide assistance with the repairs then the Council would consider it sympathetically

The meeting ended at 9.53pm

Mayor's signature: Date:.....

Date of the next meeting: Monday 5TH AUGUST 2019 at 7pm - in the Council Chamber, The Old Convent, 8 Broad Street, Ottery St Mary or Alfington Village Hall)

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

19/07/37

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE CRITERIA FOR A SELF EMPLOYED HANDY PERSON AND TO DECIDE WHETHER TO RE-ADVERTISE THE POSITION(S)

It was **RESOLVED** to:-

- i. ask Idverde to arrange for additional grounds maintenance
- ii. agree and accept that the previously proposed hourly rate was insufficient
- iii. put the work out to tender to local handy persons and for them to come back with an hourly rate
- iv. for Cllr Dobson and the Clerk to progress the matter and to appoint a contractor without coming back to Full Council for approval

.....Mayor's Initials

19/07/38

TO CONSIDER REPLACEMENT COMPUTERS FOR THE OFFICE AND OTHER IT REQUIREMENTS AND TO APPROVE A PACKAGE AND COST

The quotes had been e-mailed to all councillors for consideration. On Cllr Grainger`s advice a local supplier had been approached to submit a quote but it had not materialised. It was **RESOLVED** that the purchase of the computers be left up to the Clerk in conjunction with Al Findlay to a maximum amount of £1430 and that Al Findlay provide an overview of the Council`s IT requirements (to include an internet connection in Room 5) with costings. It was agreed that the Council be supportive in principal of the proposals and for those costings to be approved at the August meeting

19/07/39

TO CONSIDER AWARDING THE FREEDOM OF THE PARISH TO AN INDIVIDUAL

The Mayor provided background information about the individual`s achievements. It was understood that she would be delighted to accept the Freedom of the Parish. The Mayor indicated he was happy for her to switch on the Christmas lights, should it be agreed and which was a major town event but he considered that the Council should be doing more, to celebrate her achievements. After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Council was in favour of making the individual a Freeman of the Parish and to arrange a special event to honour the individual. It was agreed that the Mayor, Cllr Dobson and the Clerk would work up some details. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council incur reasonable expenditure of up to £200

The meeting ended at 9.54pm

.....Mayor

**Date of the next meeting: Monday 5th August 2019 at 7pm - the Council Chamber,
The Old Convent, 8 Broad Street, Ottery St Mary**