



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 15th JANUARY 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Deputy Mayor

D M Bulmer

Miss D R Goldsmith

D R Hill

Mrs B M Mooney

Mrs C A Morrison

D J Orchard

Mrs J C Shortland

Mrs J L Smith

Mrs A Spencer

Mrs S P Wyatt

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk, Mr G J Furze and the Responsible Finance Officer, Mr T M Cutler, The Mayor's Chaplain, The Rev. Marilyn Tricker, County Councillor P Buchanan (left 7:55), 2 members of the press and 7 members of the public.

In the Absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor Cllr M J Wale took the Chair.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

125. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received by Cllrs J D Malcolm, Mrs R T Wickenden and J S Evans, all illness and Cllr P D C Fitzgerald, holiday.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

126. Mayors Announcements.

The Deputy Mayor informed the Council that Constable Bill Geddes had been awarded the Queen's Police Medal noting that it was very rare for a constable to receive such an honour, more formal congratulations would be extended after the presentation to be held at Buckingham Palace.

He also congratulated the Community Justice Panel on the previous Friday's visit by the Attorney General to Chard noting the successes achieved by the Panel.

127. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Miss D R Goldsmith declared a personal interest in Planning and Highways application 06/02233/FUL as she works with the wife of the applicant.

Cllrs D R Bulmer, Mrs J L Smith and M J Wale all declared a prejudicial interest in Amenities minute no 38 as District Council Members who may be involved in the decision making for the application.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland declared a personal interest in planning application 06/04364/FUL as the property can be seen from her home and a personal and prejudicial interest in Amenities minute no 38 as County Councillor involved with the Community Budget.

Cllr Mrs A Spencer declared a personal interest in Planning Application 06/04364/FUL as she lives near the property in question

Cllr Mrs S P Wyatt declared a prejudicial interest in Amenities minute no 38 as she is a committee member of the Chard Disability Action Group.

128. Council Meeting – Minutes – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th December 2006.

It was noted at Minute 123, that the word “lobby” should be deleted and the minute should read “... for them to discuss with the appropriate ward...” and that the final minute item should be numbered 124.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th December 2006 be signed as a correct record.

129. Report from Town Clerk – on the findings of a complaint to the Standards Board for England against Cllr J D Malcolm.

The Town Clerk reported that the Standards Board for England had recently received a complaint from Mrs Bews concerning the alleged conduct of Cllr J D Malcolm of Chard Town Council.

In considering the complaint the Standards Board for England concluded that there had not been a failure to comply with the Code of Conduct and accordingly the complaint was summarily dismissed without referring the matter to the Ethical Officer for investigation.

The Town Clerk also reported that the Standards Board for England had recently received 3 complaints from Mr T Langford and Mr W Felton concerning the alleged conduct of Cllrs Mrs J L Smith, Mrs J C Shortland and M J Wale of Chard Town Council.

In considering the complaints the Standards Board for England concluded that there had not been a failure to comply with the Code of Conduct and accordingly the complaints were summarily dismissed without referring the matters to the Ethical Officer for investigation.

Cllr D R Hill reported that, as Chairman of Chard Town Council’s Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee, he received a complaint from Mr W Felton concerning the conduct of Mr John Furze, Clerk to Chard Town Council. Cllr Hill stated that after hearing submissions from both parties, he found that the Town Clerk had no case to answer and the complaint was therefore dismissed without reference to the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee.

The Deputy Mayor commented that he found it sad that so much time had been spent looking into all these complaints but that this was the democratic process of this country. He was heartened to note the thoroughness and professionalism in which these complaints were received and treated. He noted that for complaints to be investigated and to subsequently result in disqualification from office they have to be very serious.

RESOLVED – to note.

- 130. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 131. Amenities Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 2nd January 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D M Bulmer presented the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 2nd January 2007. He expanded on the reasons for the decision taken on minute item 38b, the removal of play equipment. Much discussion took place by Councillors regarding obtaining funding.

It was noted that Cllr D J Orchard had attended the meeting but his name had been omitted from those Councillors present.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 2nd January 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein, that the Council writes to South Somerset Works to request funding for play equipment.

- 132. Planning & Highways Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 9th January 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

In the absence of Cllr Mrs R T Wickenden, Cllr M J Wale presented the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 9th January 2007.

It was noted that the approval of application 06/04580/FUL should read "...private lane and County Highways informed of increasing difficulties of the exit and entrance to Holbear Lane and for S.S.D.C. re 2 weekly refuse collection."

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 9th January 2007, to accept the recommendations contained and that they be signed as a correct record.

- 133. Town Council Year to Date Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to Date budget.

- 134. Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs D R Hill and Mrs J L Smith.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

- 135. Town Clerk's Delegated Powers.** The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk stated that there had been no matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

- 136. Local Government Re-organisation** – to consider the implications contained in the Government's white paper on Local Government, in particular the bids by Somerset County Council for a single unitary authority for Somerset and the bid by Somerset's District Councils for two unitary authorities for Somerset.

Correspondence from South Somerset District Council, Somerset County Council, S.L.C.C. and N.A.L.C. had been distributed to Councillors and discussion took place by Councillors.

RESOLVED – to note.

- 137. Town Council Calendar** – to approve meeting dates for the next Town Council year commencing May 2007.

RESOLVED – to approve the draft Calendar for the next Town Council year commencing May 2007.

- 138. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.**

There were no reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

The meeting closed at 8:56 pm.



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Deputy Mayor

J S Evans

D M Bulmer (left 8:30)

P D C Fitzgerald

D R Hill

Mrs B M Mooney

Mrs C A Morrison

Mrs J C Shortland

Mrs J L Smith

Mrs S P Wyatt

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk, Mr G J Furze and the Responsible Finance Officer, Mr T M Cutler.

The Mayor's Chaplain, The Rev. Marilyn Tricker, County Councillor P Buchanan (left 8:03), District Councillor N Mermagen, 2 members of the press and 2 members of the public.

In the Absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor Cllr M J Wale took the Chair.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

139. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received by Cllrs J D Malcolm and Mrs R T Wickenden, both illness and Cllrs D J Orchard, Miss D R Goldsmith and Mrs A Spencer, all on holiday.

Cllr D M Bulmer gave notice that he would be leaving at 8:30.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

140. Mayors Announcements.

The Deputy Mayor stated that he had attended the A.G.M. of the Carnival Committee last week. He noted that the Committee was desperately short of stewards, the lack of which could jeopardise next year's carnival.

141. Declarations of Interest.

It was noted that declarations of interest already made at the relevant Committee meetings appearing on the current month's agenda need not be re-declared.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item no 14, Notice of Motion – to twin with Seica Marie, as she is a member of the Twinning Committee and as donor from her Community Budget.

Cllrs Mrs C A Morrison and Mrs J L Smith both declared a personal interest in agenda item no 14, Notice of Motion – to twin with Seica Marie, as both are members of the Twinning Committee.

- 142. Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15th January 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 15th January 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 143. Report from Town Clerk** – Notification from External Auditors of a complaint made by A J Prior of Chard concerning matters connected with the sale of land.

The question of cost implications was raised.

RESOLVED – to note, to refer any expenditure incurred to the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee.

- 144. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 145. Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee meeting held on 30th January 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D R Hill presented the minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee meeting held on 30th January 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 146. Guildhall and Tourism Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Guildhall and Tourism Committee meeting held on 6th February 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith presented the minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Guildhall and Tourism Committee meeting held on 6th February 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 147. Planning & Highways Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 13th February 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Mrs R T Wickenden, the Deputy Mayor Cllr M J Wale presented the minutes of the Committee meeting.

It was agreed that the approval relating to planning application 07/00583/FUL should read "Approved - the committee welcome this application but would recommend it includes some 4-bed dwellings. There were also concerns on parking and the roads being too narrow to take large numbers of parked vehicles, even though 94 car parking spaces were provided with the plan. The committee would also request planning gain for offsite play provision."

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 13th February 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

148. Town Council Year to Date Budget – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to Date budget.

149. Accounts for Payment – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs D R Hill and Mrs J L Smith.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

150. Town Clerk's Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that he had used his delegated powers once since the last meeting of the Council, namely that in consultation with the Chairman of the Amenities Committee, authorisation had been given for the use of Jocelyn Park by S.S.D.C. for "street soccer" training. Thanks were extended to Cllr D M Bulmer for his prompt action.

RESOLVED – to note.

Cllr D M Bulmer left the meeting at 8:25.

151. Notice of Motion – from the Town Clerk.

At the Annual Town Council Meeting held on Monday 15th May 2006 it was resolved that that Chard Town Council reviews its Standing Orders to support the application for Quality Council status.

Draft Standing Orders had been distributed to Councillors

The Town Clerk stated that item 23e in the draft will require amendment and that Councillors will be advised accordingly.

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs J L Smith and seconded by Cllr Mrs C A Morrison that it be -

RESOLVED – that the amended Standing Orders shall stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council to be held on 19th March 2007.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland left the meeting at 8:29 whilst the following agenda item was addressed.

152. Notice of Motion – from Cllr J S Evans

“That Chard Town Council agrees that on 4th September 2007 Chard will officially twin with the town of Seica Mare in Romania.”

Cllr J S Evans addressed the Council informing it that in 1991 the Churches in Chard had agreed to financially support the 5 villages in the Seica Marie area. He spoke of the advantages to Seica Marie if twinned. All councillors were invited to the formal twinning ceremony on 4th September 2007 at the Guildhall.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith seconded the motion noting that there would be no financial commitment to the Council.

Cllr M J Wale proposed an amended motion “That Chard Town Council agrees that on 4th September 2007 Chard will officially twin with the town of Seica Mare in Romania and at this time there will be no financial commitment by the Council.”

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison seconded the amended motion.

The amended motion was voted upon and it was unanimously

RESOLVED - that Chard Town Council agrees that on 4th September 2007 Chard will officially twin with the town of Seica Mare in Romania and that at this time there will be no financial commitment by the Council.”

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland returned to the meeting at 8:40.

153. New Code of Conduct – details circulated. To discuss the detailed proposals raised in the proposed New Model Code of Conduct.

The Town Clerk had previously circulated a draft new Code of Conduct. Councillors were asked whether they wished to make a “Council” response or should it be left to members to make their own responses individually.

Resolved – that there should be a “Council” response.

154. Appointment of Council Representative to Area West Community Safety Panel – in consequence of a letter received requesting appointment.

RESOLVED – that Cllr Mrs C A Morrison be appointed as the Council’s Representative to Area West Community Safety Panel.

155. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Cllr D R Hill on behalf Chard 2000 reported on the unveiling of a Blue Plaque at Stringfellow Mews by Mr and Mrs J Knight. He also requested nominations for this years Chard Children in Courage award.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith stated that she had been delighted to see that S.S.D.C. had produced a colour leaflet for Chard Reservoir. She reported that the Reservoir Group was working well and spoke of the group's forthcoming events.

The meeting closed at 8:56 pm.



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 19th MARCH 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

J D Malcolm - Mayor	Mrs B M Mooney
M J Wale – Deputy Mayor	Mrs C A Morrison
J S Evans	Mrs J C Shortland
D M Bulmer	Mrs J L Smith
P D C Fitzgerald	Mrs A Spencer
Miss D R Goldsmith	Mrs R T Wickenden
D R Hill	Mrs S P Wyatt

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk, Mr G J Furze and the Responsible Finance Officer, Mr T M Cutler.
The Mayor's Chaplain, The Rev. Marilyn Tricker, County Councillor P Buchanan, District Councillor N Mermagen, 1 member of the press and 2 members of the public.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

156. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received by Cllr D J Orchard, work commitment.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reason given.

157. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr J D Malcolm announced with regret the recent deaths of Beryl Helbert and Dr Michael Glanvill and invited Councillors to join him in his expressions of condolence. Cllr J S Evans also informed Councillors of the death of Dorothy Weaver.
Cllr J D Malcolm thanked Councillors for their support during his three months absence and particularly thanked the Deputy Mayor, Cllr M J Wale for deputising for him during this period.

158. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Miss D R Goldsmith declared a personal interest in planning application 07/00879/FUL as she knows the applicant and Cllr J D Malcolm declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 07/00607/S73.

159. Council Meeting – Minutes – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th February 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th February 2007 be signed as a correct record.

160. Exclusion of the Press and Public – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

161. Reports from Town Clerk –

a) Notification of the result of efforts to recover the £25,000 paid as 'out of court' settlement to the former Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that DAS Insurance Services which supplied Commercial Protection Insurance and had already covered the Council in respect of legal advice and representation up to and at the Employment Tribunal, would only make a £3,000 "goodwill" contribution to the £25,000 'out of court' settlement.

The Council's other policy is with Norwich Union which, and despite strenuous efforts by the Council's brokers WPS of Plymouth, has formally declined to consider a claim under the Employer's Liability section as the matter had been dealt with by way of an Employment Tribunal.

It was noted that further legal action by the Council would be lengthy, costly and the outcome was doubtful.

Cllr J D Malcolm proposed, and it was

RESOLVED - that the Town Clerk's report be accepted and that no further action be taken by the Council and a line drawn under this matter.

b) Notification from External Auditors of a complaint made by Mr A J Prior of Chard concerning matters connected with the sale of land.

The Town Clerk following his previous notification to Council stated that he had been requested by Moore Stephens, External Auditors in collaboration with the Audit Commissioners, to respond to six detailed questions. A considerable amount of research was required by both the Town Clerk and the Council's solicitors (at a cost of £600) to respond to the questions. The Town Clerk's responses have satisfied both Moore Stephens and the Audit Commission and he has been advised that no formal investigation will be instigated by them.

RESOLVED – to note.

162. Amenities Committee – to receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 6th March 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D M Bulmer presented the minutes of the Committee meeting. He elaborated on the Amenities Manager's report concerning the reappportionment of Plant expenditure; security fencing at Holyrood Community School and the new Cemetery Charges.

The Subject of Green Burials was discussed and it was decided that this should be a matter for the new Council to be elected in May.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 6th March 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 163. Planning and Highways Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 13th March 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr P D Fitzgerald proffered late apologies for his absence from the meeting as he was unavoidably delayed by work. He also enquired if and when his request that a planning officer attend a Town Council meeting would be forthcoming to which the Town Clerk informed him that the District Council had confirmed that the request will be complied with.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 13th March 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 164. Town Council Year to Date Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to Date budget.

- 165. Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs J D Malcom and Mrs B M Mooney.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

- 166. Town Clerk's Delegated Powers.** The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk had not dealt with any matters under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED – to note.

- 167. a) Notice of Motion from the Town Clerk – held over from previous meeting.**

"In consequence of the resolution at Minute * of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on Monday 15th May 2006 that Chard Town Council reviews its Standing Orders to support the application for Quality Council status." (Draft Standing Orders already circulated and 'laid on the table' at the last meeting).

Cllr D M Bulmer proposed an amendment that item 36 of Part 11, Standing Orders for Chard Town Council should read "Adjournment of Meeting to Allow Public to

Speak – At all meetings of the Town Council the Chairman may at his discretion and at a convenient time in the transaction of business, adjourn the meeting so as to allow any members of the public to address the meeting on the matter under discussion by the Council”.

There was not a seconder for the proposed amendment.

Following a vote 14 votes for with 1 abstention it was

RESOLVED – that the Chard Town Council adopts the Draft Standing Orders circulated and ‘laid on the table’ at the last meeting.

b) Notice of Motion from the Town Clerk – Authority to sign ‘Deed of Grant’
“That this Council authorises Cllrs J D Malcolm (Mayor) and M J Wale (Deputy Mayor) to sign and seal a Deed of Grant for the easement of water supply to Chard Cricket Club across Town Council owned land”.

RESOLVED - that this Council authorises Cllrs J D Malcolm (Mayor) and M J Wale (Deputy Mayor) to sign and seal a Deed of Grant for the easement of water supply to Chard Cricket Club across Town Council owned land”.

c) Notice of Motion from Cllr Mrs R T Wickenden – received 8th March 2007.
“That this Council requests Somerset County Council to place a Light Controlled Pedestrian Crossing in Victoria Avenue, Chard and in the interim period appoints a School Crossing Warden until the installation of a permanent crossing.”

Much discussion took place by Councillors regarding the placement of potential crossings, car-parking problems and legal requirements regarding Crossing Wardens.

RESOLVED – that this Council requests Somerset County Council to place a Light Controlled Pedestrian Crossing in Victoria Avenue, Chard and in the interim period appoints a School Crossing Warden until the installation of a permanent crossing, the letter to be copied to David Laws MP emphasising the length of time that this problem is taking to resolve.

168. Appointment of Council Representative to CRESTA

RESOLVED – that Cllr M J Wale be appointed as the Council’s Representative to CRESTA.

169. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Cllr D R Hill as Chairman of Chard 2000 paid tribute to ex Councillor Beryl Helbert for her stirring works to the Town and notified the Council that she was the anonymous donor of the “Children of Courage” award.

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 16th APRIL 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

J D Malcolm - Mayor

M J Wale – Deputy Mayor

D M Bulmer

J S Evans

P D C Fitzgerald

Miss D R Goldsmith

D R Hill

Mrs B M Mooney

Mrs C A Morrison

D J Orchard

Mrs J C Shortland

Mrs J L Smith

Mrs A Spencer

Mrs S P Wyatt

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk, Mr G J Furze and the Responsible Finance Officer, Mr T M Cutler.

The Mayor's Chaplain, The Rev. Marilyn Tricker, District Councillor N Mermagen, 1 member of the press and 3 members of the public.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

Cllr J D Malcolm commended Rev. M Tricker for her Thought for the Day, thanked her for her service to the Council during his period as Mayor and made a presentation to her.

170. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received by Cllr Mrs R T Wickenden, hospital treatment.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reason given.

171. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr J D Malcolm stated that he would make his announcements at the end of the meeting.

172. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr J D Malcolm declared prejudicial interests in Planning Applications 07/00925/FUL and 07/01290/FUL.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item no 57 of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing minutes, Staff in Confidence.

Cllr P D C Fitzgerald declared a prejudicial interest in Planning Application 07/00925/FUL.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland declared a personal interest in item no 57 of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing minutes, Staff in Confidence, as she is a friend of the employee.

- 173. Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th March 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th March 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 174. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 175. Reports from Town Clerk**

There were no Reports from the Town Clerk

- 176. Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee meeting held on 27th March 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D R Hill presented the minutes of the Committee meeting.

Discussion took place by Councillors regarding employment of two additional part-time staff.

RESOLVED – following a vote, 7 for, 2 against and 5 abstentions, for the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee to review the employment of the Tourist Information Centre Specialist and the Guildhall Administration Assistant six months from the date of employment and before these appointments being made permanent; to note the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee meeting held on 27th March 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 176. Guildhall and Tourism Committee** - to receive the minutes of the Guildhall and Tourism Committee meeting held on 3rd April 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith presented the minutes of the Committee meeting noting the excellent report of the Guildhall Manager outlining progress made.

Councillors discussed the recently issued Town Guide. The Town Clerk explained the problems that had occurred in obtaining permissions for use of maps.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Guildhall and Tourism Committee meeting held on 3rd April 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 178. Planning and Highways Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 10th April 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

In the absence of the Committee Chairman, Cllr J D Malcolm presented the Committee minutes.

It was noted that, although not recorded as being present, Cllr P D C Fitzgerald had attended the meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 10th April 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 179. Town Council Year to Date Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to Date budget.

- 180. Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs Mrs J L Smith and D R Hill.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

- 181. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers.** The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk had not dealt with any matters under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED – to note.

- 182. Casual Vacancies** – Town Clerk seeks authority to start process of advertising Casual Vacancies for Town Council – if appropriate.

As all wards were fully represented, there was no need for this item

- 183. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.**

Cllr J D Malcolm informed Councillors that the Helmstedt Society would be meeting the visitors from Helmstedt in York. This reciprocates a similar visit to Bruges.

Cllr M J Wale stated that he had attended the meeting at CRESTA. There were no plans for a new Leisure Centre but extensive plans had been made to refurbish the existing building.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison, on behalf of the Chard Young People’s Centre, informed Councillors that Dan Palmer, the full time youth worker assigned to Chard for the past six years, had resigned. His replacement covering Chard and Ilminster was in office. She also stated that the Youth Centre’s premises were to be used by two other groups, thus generating much needed income.

Cllr D R Hill, as chairman of Chard 2000 invited members to its A.G.M. on Saturday 21st April at which time the “Children of Courage” award would be made.

Cllr J D Malcolm extended his thanks to the Mayoress, Cllr Mrs B M Mooney, who between them had given nearly 30 years of service to the Council, to all members and staff for their support over a difficult period, said good-bye and thank-you to Cllr J S Evans for his work over the years, particularly Project Romania and wished success to all those seeking election.

The meeting closed at 8:35 pm.

CHARD TOWN COUNCIL



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CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 14TH MAY 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

J D Malcolm – (Retiring Mayor)

M J Wale – (Retiring Deputy Mayor)

J Armstrong

D M Bulmer

S Dowell

D R Hill

A Kenton

Mrs J Kenton

D Keitch

D M Mears

Mrs C A Morrison

D J Orchard

Mrs J C Shortland

Mrs J L Smith

Mrs R T Wickenden

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk, Mr G J Furze and the Responsible Finance Officer, Mr T M Cutler.

3 members of the press and 6 members of the public.

184. Election of Mayor (Chairman of the Council) and Acceptance of Office. Should the elected Councillor not be present at the meeting the 'Acceptance of Office' will be conducted by the Town Clerk at a time and date to be agreed.

The retiring Mayor, J D Malcolm wished good luck to all Councillors and thanked them for giving him and Mrs B M Mooney the opportunity to serve Chard.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith proposed and Cllr D R Hill seconded Cllr M J Wale for election as Mayor and Chairman of Chard Town Council.

There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED – unanimously that Cllr M J Wale be elected Mayor and Chairman of Chard Town Council until such times as a new Mayor and Chairman of the Council is elected.

Cllr M J Wale then assumed the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr M J Wale read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which he duly signed as Mayor. He then took the Oath of Allegiance. Both were then countersigned by the Town Clerk.

A floral presentation was made by Cllr and Mrs M J Wale to Mrs B M Mooney and thanks were extended to the Council by Cllr M J Wale in granting him the honour to serve as Mayor.

Mayors Appointments:-

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| a) Consort | Mrs Nannette Wale |
| b) Chaplain | to be announced |
| c) Mace Bearer | Mr Brian Griffith |

185. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received by Cllr Mrs A Spencer, family committment.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

186. Mayors Announcements.

The were no further announcements.

187. Declarations of Interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

188. Election of Deputy Mayor. Should the elected Councillor not be present at the meeting the 'Acceptance of Office' will be conducted by the Town Clerk at a time and date to be agreed.

Cllr D J E Orchard proposed and Cllr D M Mears seconded Cllr Mrs C A Morrison for election as Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman of Chard Town Council.

There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED – that Cllr Mrs C A Morrison be elected Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman of Chard Town Council until such times as a new Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman of the Council is elected.

189. Appointments to Committees, Sub Committees and Working Parties. To consider appointments of member to committees with appointed deputies and to approve a schedule of meeting dates.

Amenities

RESOLVED – that Cllrs J Armstrong, D M Bulmer, S Dowell, Mrs J Kenton, D R Hill, A Kenton, D M Mears, D J Orchard and Mrs R T Wickenden , with the Mayor & Deputy Mayor ex-officio, be elected to the Committee. Deputy Committee members to be Cllrs D Keitch and Mrs J L Smith.

Guildhall & Tourism

RESOLVED – that Cllrs S Dowell, D R Hill, D Keitch, Mrs J Shortland, Mrs J L Smith and Mrs A Spencer, with the Mayor & Deputy Mayor ex-officio, be elected to the Committee, Deputy Committee members to be Cllrs J Armstrong and Mrs J Kenton.

Planning and Highways

RESOLVED – that Cllrs J Armstrong, D M Bulmer, S Dowell, A Kenton, Mrs J Kenton, D Keitch, D Mears, D J Orchard, and Mrs R T Wickenden, with the Mayor & Deputy Mayor ex-officio, be elected to the Committee, Deputy Committee members to be D R Hill and Mrs J C Shortland.

Finance, Personnel & Licensing

RESOLVED – that Cllrs J Armstrong, D M Bulmer, D R Hill, A Kenton, Mrs J Kenton, D Keitch, Mrs J L Smith, Mrs A Spencer and Mrs R T Wickenden, with the Mayor & Deputy Mayor ex-officio, be elected to the Committee, now to be known as Finance & Personnel. Deputy Committee members to be Cllrs D M Mears and Mrs J C Shortland.

RESOLVED – to approve the schedule of meeting dates and that Committee meetings commence at 7:30 pm.

190. Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies and Organisations

Organisation	No	Representative
Action for Chard Town	1	Mrs A Spencer
Area West Comm. Safety Panel	1	Mrs C A Morrison
Chard Disability Action Group	1	Mrs J Kenton
Chard Helmstedt Society	1	in abeyance
Chard Museum	1	D R Hill
Chard Seica Mare Society	1	Mrs J L Smith
Chard Young People's Centre	1	Mrs C A Morrison
Chard 2000	1	D R Hill
Community Safety Panel	1	J Armstrong
County Council Area Working Panel	3	J Armstrong, D Bulmer & Mrs J Smith
CRESTA Management Committee	1	M J Wale
Market Towns Investment Group	2	Mrs C A Morrison, Mrs J L Smith
The Reservoir Committee	1	Mrs J L Smith
S.A.L.C.	1	J Armstrong

191. Council Meeting – Minutes – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th April 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th April 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 192. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 193. Notice of Motion** Town Clerk - "That this Council adopts the Mandatory Code per Model of the Code of Conduct for Parish & Town Councils taken from The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 (si1159/2007) which came into force on 3rd May 2007.

RESOLVED – unanimously "That this Council adopts the Mandatory Code per Model of the Code of Conduct for Parish & Town Councils taken from The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 (si1159/2007) which came into force on 3rd May 2007.

- 194. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meetings held on 1st May 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs R T Wickenden , as past chairman, presented the minutes of the Committee meeting.

It was noted that the minutes should record that Cllrs D J Orchard, M J Wale and Mrs R T Wickenden had attended the meeting and that Cllrs Miss D R Goldsmith and Mrs A Spencer had not.

Cllr D M Bulmer requested that his abstention from the discussion regarding planning application no. 07/01568/FUL be noted.

RESOLVED - to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 1st May 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 195. Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee Extraordinary meeting held on 26th April 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D R Hill, as past Chairman, presented the minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED –to note the minutes of the Finance, Personnel and Licensing Committee Extraordinary meeting held on 26th April 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 196. Finance – Town Council Year (2006/7), to date (Y2D) Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year (2006/7)and the Year to date budget.

197. Accounts for Payment – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs Mrs J L Smith and D R Hill.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

198. Finance – Cheque Signatories to be agreed To select and authorise at least six members to act as cheque signatories. Any two Councillors are required to sign a cheque. RFO to be authorised to amend the bank mandate.

RESOLVED -

(i) - that a bank account or accounts be continued with HSBC Bank Plc (the Bank) and the bank is authorised to:

a) pay all cheques and other instructions for payment or accept instructions to stop such payments signed on behalf of the Council by any two of the listed signatories whether any account of the Council is in debit or credit

b) deliver any item held on behalf of the Council by the bank in safe keeping the written receipt of the signatories;

And

(ii) - That any debt incurred to the Bank under this mandate shall, in the absence of written agreement to the contrary, be payable on demand.

(iii) - that the Clerk from time to time is authorised to supply the Bank as and when necessary with lists of persons who are authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Council, and that the Bank may rely Upon such lists.

(iv) - That these resolutions remain in force until cancelled by notice in writing to the Bank, signed by the Clerk from time to time acting or claiming to act on behalf of the Council, and the Bank shall be entitled to act on such notice whether the resolutions have been validly cancelled or not.

and that

(a) - the Co-operative Bank p.l.c. ("the Bank") shall continue as our bankers

(b) - the Bank shall be authorised to honour all cheques and all other documents made or accepted on our behalf even if such payment causes any Accounts to be overdrawn or increase any existing overdraft, provided that such documents are signed in accordance with the specimen signatures shown in the Account Signatories

(c) - the Bank shall act on all specimen signatures in accordance with any instruction, notice, request or other document in writing concerning our account (including the opening of new accounts), affairs or property, as shown in the Accounts Section

(d) - the Bank shall be sent a copy of any future resolutions which affect the terms of these resolutions

(e) - the Bank shall be sent a copy of any changes in our Standing Orders

(f) - the Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of members

- (g) - the Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of official authorised to sign on our behalf
- (h) - the Bank shall otherwise continue to operate our Accounts in accordance with the Business Account mandate
- (i) - the Bank shall be notified in writing of any overall change of control in the business
- (j) - all signatories to the Account are aged 18 or over

that Cllrs D M Bulmer, S Dowell, D R Hill, A Kenton, Mrs J Kenton, Mrs J C Shortland, Mrs J L Smith and Mrs A Spencer be Cheque signatories, the R.F.O. arranges bank mandates

199. Town Clerk's Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk had not dealt with any matters under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED – to note.

The meeting closed at 8:35 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 18TH JUNE 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

Mrs C A Morrison – Deputy Mayor
J Armstrong
D M Bulmer
S Dowell
D R Hill
A Kenton

Mrs J Kenton
D Keitch
Mrs J C Shortland
Mrs J L Smith
Mrs A Spencer
Mrs R T Wickenden

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk Mr G J Furze, the Responsible Finance Officer Mr T M Cutler, The Mayor's Chaplain the Rev. Marilyn Tricker, District Councillor N Mermagen, 2 members of the press and 2 members of the public.

At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

In the Absence of the Mayor Cllr M J Wale, the Deputy Mayor Cllr Mrs C A Morrison took the chair.

200. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllrs M J Wale and D J Orchard, both holidays and Cllr D M Mears, unwell.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

201. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison referred to two events, the first being on 9th July, the Mayor's Civic Reception for Council to receive P.C. Bill Geddes who was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in the New Years Honours List and for Council to be awarded Quality Status, and secondly on 11th July, the Open Day at Chard Young Peoples Centre from 10:00 to 3:00. All Councillors are invited to both events.

202. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in Agenda item 12, the proposed closure of the Chard Office of Job Centreplus as an employee of DWP - Cllr D R Hill to take the chair in her absence.

Cllrs Mrs J L Smith and D M Bulmer declared a personal interest in agenda item 11, Bid for Unitary Status made by Somerset County Council as both are District Councillors and Cllr Mrs J C Shortland in the same item as member of Somerset County Council.

- 203. Annual Town Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14th May 2007.

It was noted that Cllr Mrs J L Smith had been omitted from the list of cheque signatories at minute 198.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Annual Town Council meeting held on 14th May 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 204. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 205. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meetings held on Tuesday 22nd May 2007 and Tuesday 12th June 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D Keitch presented the Minutes of the Committee meetings.

RESOLVED - to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meetings held on the 22nd May 2007 and 12th June 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 206. Finance & Personnel Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on 29th May 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D R Hill presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee Extraordinary meeting held on 29th May 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 207. Guildhall & Tourism Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Guildhall & Tourism Committee meeting held on 29th May 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith presented the Minutes of the Committee.

It was noted that Cllr S Dowell and not Cllr M J Wale had seconded the proposal to appoint Cllr Mrs J L Smith as Chairman of the Committee.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Guildhall & Tourism Committee meeting held on 5th June 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 208. Finance – Town Council Year (2006/7), to date (Y2D) Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year (2006/7) and the Year to date budget.

- 209. Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs Mrs J L Smith and D R Hill.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

- 210. Bid for Unitary Status made by Somerset County Council.** Members to debate and decide if this Council wishes to make a formal response, or to leave it to Members to make their own response.

Councillors debated the merits and disadvantages of the establishment of a Unitary Authority, how it could effect Town and Parish Councils and whether a formal response should be made by Chard Town Council.

Following a vote on the proposal as to whether Chard Town Council supports the Unitary Bid, 8 votes for and 4 against it was

RESOLVED – that Chard Town Council makes a formal response with reasons in support of the Bid for Unitary Status by Somerset County Council.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison left the meeting at 8:07 while the next agenda item was discussed. Cllr D R Hill took the chair.

- 211. Proposed Closure of Chard Office of Job Centre Plus.** Members to debate and formulate a response to the proposed closure.

Much discussion took place by Councillors regarding the proposed closure of the Chard Office of Job Centre Plus. It was noted that Chard Town Council had not been part of the Consultation process, that the Chief Executive of Somerset County Council was Consultee only, that the Chard Office had recently won awards both locally and nationally, and that closure would not just effect residents of Chard but also nearby Towns and Parishes.

During the discussion both Cllrs Mrs J C Shortland and D M Bulmer declared a personal interest as either they or family members had been in receipt of Incapacity Benefit.

Following a unanimous vote it was

RESOLVED – that this Town Council writes objecting most strongly to the Minister with copies to M.P. David Laws, other M.P.s in Somerset and County Councillor P Buchanan.

Cllrs Mrs C A Morrison rejoined the meeting 8:19 and resumed the Chair

212. Town Clerk's Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk had not dealt with any matters under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED – to note

213. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith speaking on behalf of the Council Representatives on the S.C.C. Area Working Panel drew Councillors attention to a list of 14 possible proposals for funding. It was agreed that Councillors submit their three preferred projects to the Town Clerk for analysis and ultimate submission.

RESOLVED – to note.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 16TH JULY 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Mayor
Mrs C A Morrison – Deputy Mayor
J Armstrong
S Dowell
D R Hill
A Kenton

Mrs J Kenton
D Keitch
D M Mears
D J Orchard
Mrs J L Smith
Mrs A Spencer

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk Mr G J Furze, the Responsible Finance Officer Mr T M Cutler, The Mayor's Chaplain the Rev. Marilyn Tricker, District Councillor N Mermagen, 2 members of the press and 16 members of the public.

At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

214. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllr Mrs R T Wickenden, hospital appointment, D M Bulmer, work commitment and Mrs J C Shortland, illness.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

215. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr M J Wale thanked those Councillors who had attended the Mayor's Civic Reception on 9th July noting the High Sheriff's complimentary comments regarding the Guildhall. The Mayor announced that his chosen Charity is the First Responders of Chard and Tatworth and that his hope is to purchase a vehicle for use by the First Responders on call-out.

216. Declarations of Interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

217. Town Council Meeting – Minutes – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th June 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 18th June 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 218. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda item be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 219. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10th July 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D Keitch, as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED - to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 10th July 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 220. Amenities Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 3rd July 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs J Kenton, as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 3rd July 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 221. Finance – Town Council Year to date (Y2D) Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to date budget.

- 222. Finance – Adoption of Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2007.**

RESOLVED – that the Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2007 be adopted and that the Annual Return be signed.

- 223. Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs Mrs J L Smith and S Dowell.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

- 224. Notice of Motion from the Town Clerk** – “That this Council through its Chairman and Clerk enters into dialogue with Somerset County Council and South Somerset District Council to seek devolved powers in accordance with this Council’s “Quality” status.

Cllr M J Wale outlined the reasons why such dialogue and discussion could benefit Chard and Chard Residents.

Discussion took place with regard to the establishment of a Working Party with the power to co-opt and to meet on an Ad hoc basis to make recommendations to the Council.

RESOLVED – that this Council through its Chairman and Clerk enters into dialogue with Somerset County Council and South Somerset District Council to seek devolved powers in accordance with this Council’s “Quality” status.

RESOLVED - that this Council establishes a Working Party consisting of the Mayor, the Town Clerk and the Committee Chairmen with powers to make recommendations to the Full Town Council.

- 225. Notice of Motion** – from Cllr Mrs A Spencer – “That this Town Council debates the problems that prevail at present” – within the T.I.C.

The Town Clerk invited Cllr Mrs A Spencer to declare a Personal Interest in accordance with Section 10, sub-section 1 of the Code of Conduct noting that if Funding, or any aspect of her employment as a volunteer were to be discussed, that interest becomes Prejudicial.

No Declaration of Interest was made by Cllr Mrs A Spencer

It was deemed by Councillors that the Town Council meeting was not the correct forum for discussion of specific items of a Management nature.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison proposed that the subject of the partition at the Tourist Information Centre be referred to the Guildhall and Tourism Committee. There was no seconder for the proposal.

Cllr M J Wale stated that the volunteer staff at the T.I.C. were highly valued and expressed the wish that the Council continues to provide the T.I.C. service to both residents and visitors to Chard.

RESOLVED – that Cllr D Keitch liaise with the Management of the Tourist Information Centre of Chard Town Council to resolve issues outlined at the Council Meeting.

- 226. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers.** The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk had not dealt with any matters under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED – to note

- 227. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.**

Cllr M J Wale thanked Cllr J Armstrong for his report in the weekly bulletin. Cllr J L Smith on behalf of the Reservoir Committee referred to the Countryside Day held in Conjunction with Action for Chard Town.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison as Chairman of Action for Chard Town requested all Chard residents to complete the Transport Survey.

RESOLVED – to note.

The meeting closed at 9:05 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON TUESDAY 21ST AUGUST 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Mayor	D Keitch
Mrs C A Morrison – Deputy Mayor	D M Mears
J Armstrong	D J Orchard
D M Bulmer (left 9:35 p.m.)	Mrs J C Shortland (left 9:00 p.m.)
D R Hill	Mrs J L Smith
A Kenton	Mrs A Spencer
Mrs J Kenton	

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk Mr G J Furze, the Responsible Finance Officer Mr T M Cutler, The Mayor's Chaplain the Rev. Marilyn Tricker, District Councillor N Mermagen, 3 members of the press and 1 member of the public (Mrs Sandra Hutchings – Guildhall Manager).

At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

228. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllr S Dowell, family illness + Mrs R T Wickenden, illness.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

229. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr M J Wale confirmed Council's support for its Management and apologised to the Clerk and Officers for any misunderstandings at the last meeting; he apologised to Councillors for being obliged to change the date of the Town Council meeting from 20th August to the 21st August; he formally congratulated and thanked Jill and Ivor Watts for the successful "Rock and Roll" night that they had hosted to raise funds for the Christmas Lighting; he informed Councillors that Carnival Night on 13th October will be a Civic Night with local Mayors being invited and that the "Kiss me Kate" production by C.L.O.S. on 24th October will also be a Civic Night, the cast of the show

to be entertained after the performance.

230. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in Agenda items 15 and 16 as she is Leader of the County Council,

Cllr D M Bulmer declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in Planning Application 07/03120/OUT as he lives close to the site and ...

Cllrs Mrs J L Smith, M J Wale and D M Bulmer all declared Personal interests in agenda items 12 and 15 as they are members of South Somerset District Council.

- 231. Town Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th July 2007.

Cllr D Keitch informed Councillors that Resolution 225 from the July Town Council was on-going and that he would make a full report at the next Town Council meeting.

Cllr Mrs A Spencer claimed that she had made a Declaration of Interest at that meeting at minute item 225.

The above comments were noted.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th July 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 232. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that Agenda item 16, Land Assets, be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 233. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14th August 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D Keitch, as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

It was agreed that the minutes should record that Cllr M J Wales abstentions from the votes on Planning Applications 07/03097/REM and 07/03371/FUL were because he is a District Councillor. A manuscript addition to minutes was made.

RESOLVED - to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 14th August 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 234. Finance & Personnel Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance & Personnel meeting held on 3^{1st} July 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D R Hill, as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on 3^{1st} July 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

235. Finance – Town Council Year to date (Y2D) Budget – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to date budget.

236. Finance – Notification of Acceptance by External Auditors of Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2007.

The Finance Officer advised Councillors that the External Auditors, Moore Stephens had completed the audit of the Annual Return adopted by the Council at the July Council meeting. There were no matters that they wished to bring to the Councils attention.

RESOLVED –to note

237. Accounts for Payment – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs Mrs J Kenton and D R Hill.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

238. Notice of Motion - from Cllr Mrs J Kenton – “That Town Council debates the effectiveness of Councillors surgeries and discuss the adoption of a monthly drop in session.”

Much discussion took place by Councillors regarding the times, attendance, location and frequency of Councillor’s Surgeries.

After a vote with 9 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention, it was

RESOLVED – that the Council moves towards holding Councillor’s Surgeries at the Guildhall on a monthly basis with a minimum of three members present.

239. Notice of Motion – from the Town Clerk – “That this Town Council debates the request from South Somerset District Council (SSDC) for this Council to cede a strip of land in order for SSDC to widen the footpath at Essex Close, Chard.”

RESOLVED – that the Council responds to South Somerset District Council agreeing in principle but stating that all legal fees and costs to be borne by South Somerset District Council.

241. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that since the last meeting of the Council, under his delegated powers and having consulted with the Chair of Amenities, he had agreed to the use of the M.U.G.A. by the Frontier Youth Trust.

RESOLVED – to approve the Clerk’s use of his delegated powers.

241. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison reported on behalf of the Chard Yong Peoples Centre, she had been elected Chair of the Management Committee and commented on the usage and finances of the Centre.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith expanding on her written report on Chard Reservoir thanked "Action for Chard Town" for its support for the Open Day to be held on 15th September.

RESOLVED – to note.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland left the meeting at 9:00 pm

- 242. Notice of Motion - from the Town Clerk –** "That this Council debates the kind of devolved powers and assets it wishes to attain from the Principal Authorities in line with its Quality Status."

After discussion and a vote with 6 for, 4 against and 1 abstention it was

RESOLVED – to enter into debate with the principal authorities with regard to seeking devolved powers and assets in line with Chard Town Council's Quality Council status.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm and reconvened at 9:20 pm.

- 243. RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public will be excluded during consideration of this item**
Commercial in Confidence – Land Assets

Cllr D M Bulmer left at 9:35 pm

RESOLVED – that the Mayor and Town Clerk prepare a list of assets for consideration by the Chairmans Group with the intention of entering into dialogue with the principal authorities; that those members of the Chairmans Group who would have to declare an interest nominate Deputies to attend on their behalf, those deputies to be from Cllrs D Bulmer(subject to his agreement), D Mears and A Kenton.

The meeting closed at 9:55 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Mayor
J Armstrong
S Dowell
D M Bulmer
D R Hill

D Keitch
D M Mears
Mrs J L Smith
Mrs A Spencer (left 8:17 pm)

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk Mr G J Furze, the Responsible Finance Officer Mr T M Cutler (left 8:10 pm), the Mayor's Chaplain the Rev. Marilyn Tricker, District Councillor N Mermagen, 2 members of the press and no members of the public.

At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

244. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllrs Mrs R T Wickenden Hospital treatment, Mrs C A Morrison illness, Mrs J Kenton holiday, A Kenton holiday, Mrs J C Shortland Liberal Democrat Party Conference and D J Orchard work commitment.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

245. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr M J Wale thanked those Councillors who attended the Battle of Britain service and informed the Council of the dates of forthcoming events: the Remembrance Sunday Service on 11th November, the Remembrance Event to be held at the Guildhall on 10th November, Carnival Night on 13th October with a Civic Reception beforehand and the charity "Rock and Roll" night to be held on 11th January 2008.

246. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Mrs A Spencer declared a Personal interest in Agenda item 13, Staff in Confidence.

- 247. Town Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 21st August 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 21st August 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 248. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that Agenda items 12 Land Assets, and 13 Staff in Confidence be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 249. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D Keitch, as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

He informed the Council that as a result of further information following the Planning & Highways meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2007 it transpired that this was a new application and not Reserved Matters as the Committee was led to believe. The outline permission for 2 detached dwellings had been invalidated by the fact that the developers had already “squeezed” in 2 extra dwellings so they had to submit a completely new application.

Had these facts been known the committee permission would have been refused in line with the resolution made at the August 2007 meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee – **“Holbear is already overdeveloped, no further applications should be accepted until the adjoining key site is developed” – 5 votes for and 1 abstention ***

*Cllr M Wale asked that his abstention be recorded in the Minutes.

The Minute should therefore be recorded as –

“Refused – This Council stands by its previous decision on any further application(s) for Holbear – Holbear is already overdeveloped, no further applications should be accepted until the adjoining key site is developed” – 5 votes for and 1 abstention.

RESOLVED - to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 11th September 2007 and subject to the above manuscript amendment to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 250. Guildhall & Tourism Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Guildhall & Tourism meeting held on 4th September 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Guildhall & Tourism Committee meeting held on 4th September 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 251. Finance – Town Council Year (2007/8) to date (Y2D) Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to date budget.

- 252. Finance - Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs Mrs J L Smith and D R Hill.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

- 253. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers.** The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk reported that the Guildhall Bar Franchise had been awarded to The Phoenix Hotel – the only applicant. The Procedure was witnessed by the Mayor, the Chairman of Finance & Personnel, the Town Clerk, the Finance Officer and a member of the Press. The Café Franchise had attracted no bids and would be re-advertised.

RESOLVED – to approve the Clerk’s use of his delegated powers.

- 254. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.**

Cllr M J Wale thanked Cllr J Armstrong for his report regarding the Area Working Panel. Various Councilors commented on the allocation of funds process although decisions were yet to be made.

RESOLVED – to note.

- 255. RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public will be excluded during consideration of this item**

Commercial in Confidence – Land Assets, Cedar Avenue

RESOLVED – that the matter be delegated to the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chairman of the Finance & Personnel Committee to progress the matter to conclusion with any two of the three elected members being authorised to sign documents in the name of the Council.

Cllrs Mrs A Spencer left the meeting at 8:17 pm.

- 256. RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public will be excluded during consideration of this item**

Staff in Confidence – one item

Cllr D Keitch gave a report on his findings to the Council in relation to the Tourist Information Centre.

RESOLVED – that the report is accepted by the Council; that the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Mayor invites Cllr Mrs A Spencer to discuss the report with them.

Cllr D M Bulmer asked it be recorded that as he was not present at the Council Meeting on 16th July 2007 he had abstained.

The meeting closed at 8:32 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 15th OCTOBER 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Mayor
J Armstrong
S Dowell
D M Bulmer

D R Hill
D M Mears
Mrs J C Shortland
Mrs A Spencer

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Responsible Finance Officer Mr T M Cutler, District Councillor N Mermagen, 1 member of the press, Inspector A Pritchard and Sgt. J Gold of the Police Force and 2 members of the public.

257. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllrs A Kenton and Mrs J Kenton conflicting engagement, D Keitch holiday, Mrs C A Morrison family commitment, D J Orchard illness, Mrs J L Smith illness and Mrs R T Wickenden Hospital treatment. Apologies had also been received from the Mayor's Chaplain the Rev. Marilyn Tricker conflicting engagement and the Town Clerk Mr G J Furze holiday.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

258. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr M J Wale thanked those Councillors who had attended the Carnival Night festivities. He noted that visiting Mayors had been impressed with the Guildhall and the event itself. He also thanked the Stewards, Police, Carnival Committee, Public and the entrants.

259. Declarations of Interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

260. Town Council Meeting – Minutes – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 17th September 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17th September 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 261. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that no Agenda items be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 262. Finance & Personnel Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance & Personnel meeting held on 25th September 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D R Hill as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting. He wished a speedy recovery to staff due for an operation.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on 25th September 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 263. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Tuesday 9th October 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

In the absence of Cllr D Keitch, Cllr M J Wale presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED - to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 9th October 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 264. Amenities Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 2nd October 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr M J Wale who had taken the chair at the meeting, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

Cllr D R Hill stated that many members of the public had commented to him on the cleanliness of the Town the morning after the Carnival. The Amenities department were to be commended for their efficiency.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 2nd October 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 265. Finance – Town Council Year (2007/8) to date (Y2D) Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to date budget.

266. Finance - Accounts for Payment – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs S Dowell and D R Hill.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

267. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

In the absence of the Town Clerk, his written report was read advising Council that since the last meeting of the Council he had signed an order for £1,580 in respect of Town Calendars produced by the Guildhall Manager in co-operation with Chard Camera Club. The order was over the Town Clerk’s delegated limit of £1,500. The Chairman of the Guildhall and Tourism Committee had been consulted and it was agreed that the order be signed in the interests of expediency. The appropriate Budget Heading being GE 011 Guildhall Marketing.

RESOLVED – to approve the Clerk’s use of his delegated powers.

268. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.

Cllr D R Hill on behalf of Chard 2000 thanked Cllr M J Wale for the contribution from his District Councillor funds towards the Blue Plaque at Manor Court House.

RESOLVED – to note.

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Mayor	A Kenton
Mrs C A Morrison – Deputy Mayor	Mrs J Kenton
J Armstrong	D M Mears
S Dowell	Mrs J C Shortland
D M Bulmer	Mrs J L Smith
D R Hill	Mrs A Spencer

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk, Mr G J Furze, the Responsible Finance Officer, Mr T M Cutler and 3 members of the press.

At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

269. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllrs D Keitch, illness and Mrs R T Wickenden, hospital treatment

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

270. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr M J Wale thanked all those who had attended the Remembrance weekend events noting that they were well attended and all age groups represented. He informed Councillors of forthcoming events, the combined Civic and Chard Churches Celebration on 14th December; the Christmas Lights "Switching on" ceremony on Friday 23rd November and that on 11th January 2008 he would be hosting a Charity Supper Dance. He also stated that a Civic Reception had been held for the cast and helpers of C.L.O.S after the production of "Kiss Me Kate" and he extended his thanks to them.

271. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Mrs A Spencer declared a Personal interest in any matters connected to the Guildhall
Cllr Mrs J C Shortland declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in agenda item 11,
the Somerset 500 Club, and stated that she would leave the meeting while this item
was debated.

- 272. Town Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15th October 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15th October 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 273. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that Agenda item 16, Commercial in Confidence – Land Assets, Cedar Avenue be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 274. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13th November 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

In the absence of Cllr D Keitch, Cllr M J Wale presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

It was noted that regarding Planning Application no.07/04557/OUT, consideration had been given to the sensitive nature of the site and that careful attention had been paid to neighbouring properties and that the minutes should be amended to record this.

RESOLVED – that subject to the above, to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 13th November 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 275. Guildhall and Tourism Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Guildhall and Tourism meeting held on 6th November 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Mrs J L Smith as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Guildhall and Tourism Committee meeting held on 6th November 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

- 276. Finance – Town Council Year (2007/8) to date (Y2D) Budget** – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to date budget.

- 277. Finance - Accounts for Payment** – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs A Kenton and Mrs J Kenton apart from cheque no 208019, The Phoenix Hotel, which will be signed by two other signatories to the account.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

278. Meeting Schedule – 2008/09 – to approve draft meetings schedule for 2008/09.

RESOLVED – to accept the programme of Council and Committee meetings for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

Cllr Mrs J C Shortland left the meeting at 8:00 pm while Agenda item 11 was debated.

279. Somerset 500 Club – Council to decide whether or not to support the “Somerset 500 Club”.

Cllr D M Bulmer proposed that although this Council welcomes the initiative in principle, it cannot financially support the initiative at this time. Cllr D Mears seconded the proposal.

Debate took place by Councillors and following a vote with 7 votes for, 2 votes against and 1 abstention, it was

RESOLVED – that although this Council welcomes the initiative in principle, it cannot financially support the initiative at this time.

280. Notice of Motion from Cllr J Armstrong received on 8th November 2007 – “That this Council reviews all the information made available to members in order that an informed decision can be made in respect of the fitting and subsequent maintenance costs for CCTV in Chard”.

The motion was proposed by Cllr J Armstrong and seconded by Cllr Mrs J L Smith.

RESOLVED – that this Council continues to review all information made available to it regarding the fitting and subsequent maintenance costs for CCTV in Chard”.

281. Notice of Motion from Cllr Mrs J Kenton received on 9th November 2007 – “that this Council supports the providing of a Tea Dance for the Pensioners of Chard to be held in the Guildhall in January 2008”.

Cllr Mrs J Kenton proposed that that this Council provides of a “one off” Tea Dance for the Pensioners of Chard to be held in the Guildhall in January 2008. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mrs J L Smith.

RESOLVED – that that this Council provides of a “one off” Tea Dance for the Pensioners of Chard to be held in the Guildhall in January 2008.

282. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that since the last meeting he had, after consultation with the chairman of the Finance and Personnel committee and the

Mayor, authorised the implementation of the staff pay rise as set out in NJC circular 4/07.

RESOLVED – to approve the Clerk’s use of his delegated powers.

283. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.

Cllr M J Wale informed Councillors that vacancies had arisen for 2 Councillors to act as the Council’s representatives on the Market Towns Investment Group. He proposed that Cllrs D M Bulmer and D M Mears be appointed as the Council’s representatives. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mrs C A Morrison. There were no other nominations.

It was noted that reports from the representatives on C.D.A.G. and S.A.L.C. had been circulated with the weekly bulletin and that the Community Safety report had been circulated at the Council meeting.

Cllr Mrs C A Morrison on behalf of the Chard Young Peoples Centre stated that the Youth Club had produced a 3 year plan, that they were looking for a Treasurer and that the Club was well attended.

RESOLVED – to note.

284. RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public will be excluded during consideration of this item

Commercial in Confidence – Land Assets, Cedar Avenue

The Town Clerk informed Councillors of the current position.

RESOLVED – to note

The meeting closed at 9:15 pm.



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA

TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372

Mayor: Cllr Martin Wale Town Clerk: John Furze

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHARD TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CHARD ON MONDAY 17th DECEMBER 2007 AT 7:30PM.

PRESENT: Councillors

M J Wale – Mayor	Mrs J Kenton
Mrs C A Morrison – Deputy Mayor	D M Mears
J Armstrong	D J Orchard
D M Bulmer (left 8:50 pm)	Mrs J C Shortland
D Keitch	Mrs J L Smith
D R Hill	Mrs A Spencer
A Kenton	

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Town Clerk Mr G J Furze, the Responsible Finance Officer Mr T M Cutler, the Mayor's Chaplain the Rev. Marilyn Tricker, District Councillor N Mermagen and 2 members of the press.

At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chaplain offered a Thought for the Day and a Prayer.

The Mayor wished the Rev. Marilyn Tricker a peaceful Christmas and thanked her for her work over the past year.

285. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllrs Mrs R T Wickenden, Hospital treatment and S Dowell, work commitment. Cllr D M Bulmer stated that he would be leaving the meeting early.

RESOLVED – to note and approve the reasons given.

286. Mayors Announcements.

Cllr M J Wale stated that he had enjoyed immensely the joint Churches / Town Council Service held the previous Friday and thanked all those involved especially the children. He reminded Councillors that the 50/60s night in aid of his chosen charity, the First Responders, will be held at the Guildhall on 11th January 2008 and that the Millennium Tapestry is now hanging in the Foyer of the Guildhall.

287. Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs A Kenton and Mrs J Kenton declared a Personal interest in agenda item no 6, the budget, as bar franchise holders at the Guildhall. Cllr J Armstrong informed the Council that he had been appointed as a Director of Southend Mews and was advised by the Town Clerk to make a fresh Financial Interest Declaration Statement to the Monitoring Officer of S.S.D.C.

RESOLVED – to note.

- 288. Town Council Meeting – Minutes** – To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 17th November 2007.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17th November 2007 be signed as a correct record.

- 289. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 41.

RESOLVED – that Agenda item 14, Commercial in Confidence – Land Assets, Cedar Avenue be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under Standing Order no 41.

- 290. Town Council Budget 2008/09** – to approve a budget for Chard Town Council for the Year 2008/09.

The Chairman of Finance and Personnel, Cllr D R Hill presented the proposed budget for 2008/09 and invited questions. The proposed budget was seconded by Cllr D Mears.

Following a vote, 11 votes for and 1 abstention, it was

RESOLVED – to approve the Budget as proposed and to set the Precept for £520,505; that the Council explores the functions of Council and Staff and that the level of reserves be considered at the Finance and Personnel meeting on 29th January 2008.

- 291. Finance & Personnel Committee** – to receive the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27th November 2007.

The Cllr D R Hill, as Chairman presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on the 27th November 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

- 292. Planning & Highways Committee** - To receive the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11th December 2007 and to adopt the resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

Cllr D Keitch, as Chairman, presented the Minutes of the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – to note the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on the 11th December 2007 and to adopt the Resolutions and Recommendations contained therein.

293. Finance – Town Council Year (2007/8) to date (Y2D) Budget – to review the budget information previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that all Councillors noted the Year to date budget.

294. Finance - Accounts for Payment – to review and approve items of expenditure – cheque signatories to be Cllrs D R Hill and Mrs J L Smith.

RESOLVED – to approve the Accounts for Payment.

295. Notice of Motion from Cllr D Mears received on 7th December 2007 –
“That this Council should consider applying to the Market Towns Investment Group for funding for the purchase and installation of a number of deployable CCTV cameras for the town.”

Discussion took place by Council regarding the most applicable system.

RESOLVED – that this Council considers applying to the Market Towns Investment Group for funding for the purchase and installation of a number of deployable CCTV cameras for the town.

296. Town Clerk’s Delegated Powers. The Town Clerk will give Council details of any matters dealt with under his delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that since the last meeting he had not used his delegated powers.

RESOLVED – to note.

Cllr D M Bulmer left the meeting at 8:50 pm.

297. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies.

Reports from the Community Safety Panel, the Area Working Party, the Market Towns Investment Group and the Reservoir Committee had been circulated to Councillors.

RESOLVED – to note.

298. RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public will be excluded during consideration of this item

Commercial in Confidence – Land Assets, Cedar Avenue

The Town Clerk informed Councillors of the current position.

RESOLVED – to note; that the Town Clerk consults with the District Valuer as appropriate and to incur applicable costs and to report back to the Working Party.

The meeting closed at 9:15 pm.

