

Cabinet 30th July Public Questions and Answers

Name of person submitting	Questions
<p>Giles Fawssett</p>	<p>Crediton High Street used to have some trees. The Crediton masterplan has trees on the High Street, particularly shown in the CGI illustrations on page 45, 46 etc and sees planting new trees and urban greens as an opportunity. Crediton Town Council supports planting trees on the High Street and personally I campaigned on doing just this. The organisation “Trees For Streets” offers support and advice for getting trees planted in the winter following an application. The Woodland Trust offers to pay for trees in Urban areas.</p> <p>Question 1 So does the Cabinet of MDDC fully support applications for planting trees in our High Street as soon as possible and is it willing to support Crediton Town Council in getting Devon County Council to mark the spots for trees, subject to fitting these locations with your masterplan for our lovely town.</p> <p>Response from Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration:</p> <p>Just over a year ago the Liberal Democrats campaigned to work with Parish & Town Councils, this also included democratic accountability by bringing decision making closer to communities. This evenings was a first for Mid Devon District Council Cabinet meeting held in Crediton together with audio visual support to enable people to join online.</p>

	<p>To confirm that Cabinet do support schemes which seek to incorporate tree planting. As you acknowledged; for Crediton High Street, it would be important that Devon County Council take an active lead in this regard given the complex interface between the public highways and utilities. In the meantime, I would comment that the Masterplan also identified other, non-highways areas for planting which would also be keen to see delivered in the near-term</p>
<p>Liz Brookes- Hocking</p>	<p>Can the Town Council be confident that the entirety of the Neighbourhood plan, including its associated documents, specifically the Crediton Traffic and Urban Realm Study, would stand alongside the Crediton Masterplan SPD and not be negated by it? I am asking this because of paragraphs 6.3 and 6.4 in the Officer's report to Cabinet under Item 5, which mentions the impossibility of providing trees and crossing places without reducing parking. This was not the conclusion of the Traffic and Urban Realm Study and I am concerned that it was going to be ignored in favour of the Masterplan.</p> <p>I have said all along that the Masterplan and the Traffic Study conflict in certain respects as the first had an economic brief and the second had a traffic brief. Some assumptions are made in the Masterplan which are not necessarily correct. I appreciate that the traffic study was particularly cited on page 43 of the Masterplan, but the Masterplan's proposals conflict to some extent with the Traffic Study's approach which was to keep traffic flowing but at a slower speed.</p> <p>It would be good to know that all made and adopted plans would stand alongside each other so can we be assured of this?</p> <p>As an extension to this question, once the Masterplan would be adopted, would there be further opportunities for the Town Council to engage with Mid Devon District Council as proposal are drawn up into delivery as there are several ideas that don't take into account particular local circumstances that you may not be aware of and there are still some missed opportunities?</p> <p>Response from Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration</p>

In response to your first question; I can confirm that the made and adopted plans will stand alongside one another and that due consideration will be given to these in the determination of planning applications.

In response to your second question; I can certainly confirm that the District Council is keen to work alongside the Town Council and other key stakeholders to develop and progress key projects and to see other projects come forwards on the back of the Masterplan. The document was always intended to be a 'live' document which sought to provide a platform to build upon, rather than delivering a rigid plan which relied upon action solely by the District Council. I am pleased to see that the document is already performing this enabling role with discussions now underway and progressing around several key initiatives.