

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk:
Mrs R Rice

14a The Square North Tawton
EX20 2EP
Tel 01837 880121

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of North Tawton Town Council to be held at the Council Offices on **Tuesday 12th May 2015 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllr Mrs C Burrow
Mrs G Hoggins (Chair)
Cllr Mrs A Ponsford
Cllr S Whiteley

Cllr K Hodge
Cllr I MacLeod
Cllr Mrs K Tizard

3 members of the public were present.

Open Forum - No members of the public raised any concerns.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were received from Cllr Dr P Brickley (annual leave)
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None at this stage.

3. **To elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council.**

Cllr Mrs C Burrow proposed Cllr Mrs G Hoggins as Chairman, which was seconded by Cllr I MacLeod.

After a show of hands it was resolved that Cllr Mrs G Hoggins should be Chairman.

Cllr Mrs G Hoggins Cllr Mrs C Burrow as Vice-Chairman, which was seconded by Cllr Mrs A Ponsford.

After a show of hands it was resolved that Cllr Mrs C Burrow should be Vice-Chairman.

4. **In Accordance with Standing Order 2 j:**

The Chairman put forward a proposal that as there are only 8 Councillors at present, the matter of appointing Committees should be deferred until after Co-Option, thereby if any Planning Committee, Finance Committee or Estates Committee meeting is called all the current 8 Councillors should attend.

After some discussion it was agreed to defer until after the Co-Option of 4 members:

- Appointment of any new committees, confirmation of the terms of reference, the number of members (including, if appropriate, substitute councillors) and receipt of nominations to them.
- Review of delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, employees and other local authorities.
- Review of the terms of references for committees.
- Receipt of nominations to existing committees.
- Review of representation on or work with external bodies and arrangements for reporting back.

In the interim, Cllr Mrs C Burrow was appointed as the Town Council's representative on the North Tawton Town Hall Management Committee, and Cllr Dr P Brickley was appointed at the Town Council's representative on the Eastern Links Committee.

- The meeting schedule setting the dates, times and place of ordinary meetings of the full Council for the year ahead, previously circulated, was agreed.

5. **Co-Option**

It was agreed that notices should be placed on the Notice Board and in the Post Office regarding Co-Option of four Councillors, which must be completed by the 26th June 2015.

6. **PLANNING MATTERS**

To consider the planning application received from West Devon Borough Council and to make recommendations.

00429/2015

Barn Bouchers Hill Farm, North Tawton

Prior notification for change of use from agricultural building to C3 Dwelling – Class Q

After some discussion it was resolved that the response to this application should be to request that the Prior Notification should be refused on Transport and Highways impact of the development criteria, having regard to the fact that this is the third Prior Notification for Change of use for agricultural buildings to dwellings on this holding, and it is considered that **the cumulative effect** that this proposal would have must be taking into account when considering the application, for the following reasons:

- The development would have an impact on the junction at North Street/The Square, which is considered to be a very dangerous and congested junction; this view is supported by the following:
- WDBC's Strategic Planning Document "Considering Sites for Development in North Tawton Parish Site Information Pack" for a site adjacent to this site and another site in North Street which states "Due to the significant constraints identified relating to access at the North Street junction with The Square or Essington Road and potential impact on the Conservation Area, the site is not considered to have potential for development at this time", and therefore the site was rejected.
- The Neighbourhood Plan Project Group have assessed sites in this area, using the same criteria as WDBC Strategic Planning Call for Sites; have also stated that "traffic from additional houses would exacerbate the existing dangerous congestion at the junction with The Square and North Street".
- Contrary to the Village Design Statement.
- Contrary to the findings of the KPMG North Tawton Regeneration Strategy (1998).
- Contrary to previous Borough Council Development Plans.

7. Questions/Comments from members of the public

The meeting was suspended prior to Any Other Business to allow members of the public to comment/ask a question. Time shall be limited up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

Mrs C Hughes asked about the review of the Questions/Comments from members of public, and said that the Town Council should be mindful of national policy/guidelines on speaking at meetings. The Chairman stated that this would be reviewed at the July meeting when hopefully we will have Co-Opted 4 members.

Mrs M Thompson asked if the Town Council knew anything about the rumours regarding Denbrook. Cllr Mrs C Burrow stated that she had seen workmen at the entrance to the site last week. The Clerk stated that as some work has already taken place it constituted a start.

7.55 pm Cllr S Whiteley left the meeting.

The meeting was opened again.

8. Parish Matters

The Chairman stated that a planning application had been submitted to Devon County Council for a waste heat production plan at Crooke Burnel. The Clerk stated that notification from Devon County Council had not been received, but she would contact Devon County Council. Cllr Mrs A Ponsford asked why would Devon County Council deal with this planning application; the Clerk stated that the County Council dealt with mineral and waste applications.

The Chairman reported that an invitation has been received from North Tawton Royal British Legion Women's Section to their 90th Birthday Party on the 27th June 2015 in St Peters Church, followed by tea in the Town Hall.

A meeting with Wainhomes regarding the Woollen Mill had been arranged for 29th June 2015 at 2 pm.

It has been suggested that a mini bus should be booked to take Councillors to the Planning and Licensing Committee on the 26th June 2015, when the planning application submitted by Kinectica was due to be discussed. However, upon reflection it was decided that this was not a good idea, and Councillors should travel to Tavistock by car (car sharing if possible).

The Clerk showed photographs of the lime tree that had fallen in the Cemetery, the Clerk would obtain two quotes to remove the fallen tree, as this is emergency work the Chair and Cllr I MacLeod were delegated to make a decision when the quotations were received. The Clerk was requested to check on the ownership of the fence.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council shall be the Town Council meeting to be held on the 2nd June 2015.

Part I of the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

PART II

EXEMPT REPORTS:

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by S.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

Part II of the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.