

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk:
Mrs R Rice

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

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on **Tuesday 2nd June 2015 at 7.15 pm.**

Present: Cllr Dr P Brickley
Cllr K Hodge
Cllr I MacLeod
Cllr S Whiteley
Cllr Mrs C Burrow
Mrs G Hoggins (Chair)
Cllr Mrs A Ponsford

11 members of the public were present.

AGENDA **Open Forum**

David Pickles Neighbourhood Beat Manager, Devon and Cornwall Police addressed the Council, and thanked the Town Council for the invitation.

“My title is Neighbourhood Beat Manager, my job is basically the old style community beat officer but with a managerial role. Neighbourhood Police Officer numbers has been reduced, everyday police matters are dealt with the PCSO’s, PCSO Kayleigh Drake covers the North Tawton area. My area is Bridestowe to Meeth, Hatherleigh to Chagford, and the area is called the Okehampton Rural East. Varied issues arise; Okehampton is the busiest, with pubs, family issues, alcohol, kid’s issues and the large College. Our job is safeguarding of people.

In recent weeks traffic issues have arisen in North Tawton, parking and speed of lorries. I have spoken to the Milk Factory and Gregorys. Gregorys have GPS monitoring on all their lorries so they can check on the speeds of their lorries. The other problems have been speeding cars.

Another issue is scammers.

Crime figures were read out, but not specific to North Tawton. The Clerk has my e-mail address is anyone needs to get in touch, but the best way to report anything is to dial 101, unless it is an emergency.

Questions including vandalism in the park, cars parked on the pavement.

Cllr Mrs C Burrow suggested that scams that are current are publicised.

A question was asked about Special Constables; they already employ 11 in the area.

Mrs C Hughes suggested that something should be put into the Roundabout about scams.

“Think Jessica” is a very useful website that offers lots of advice.”

The Chairman thanked David Pickles for attending.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – No apologies for absence were received.

Cllr Mrs K Tizzard was not present.

2. **Declarations of Interest** None were made at this stage.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

3.1 The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 5th May 2015, previously circulated, were approved and signed.

3.2 The minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 12th May 2015, previously circulated, were approved and signed.

The Chairman stated that as there were so many members of the public present regarding planning applications, this item would be brought forward.

4. **PLANNING MATTERS**

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

4.1 **00487/2015**

2 Stoats Mews, Butts Way, North Tawton, EX20 2HP

Alterations to garage to provide visibility splay and extension to rear

After some discussion it was resolved that a Site Inspection should be held and the Clerk was requested to contact West Devon Borough Council to request an extension of time for the Town Council's consultation response.

4.2 **00500/2015**

De Bathe Moor Farm, North Tawton, EX20 2BE

Householder application for erection of porch and conservatory

After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.

4.2 **00505/2015**

The Barton, North Tawton, EX20 2BB

Erection of agricultural building

After some discussion it was resolved to support the application provided condition on historical artefacts.

To note decisions of West Devon Borough Council

4.3 **00381/2015**

12 Taylors Fields, North Tawton, EX20 2JD

Householder application for demolition of existing garage and rear conservatory extension, erection of two storey side extension, including attached garage and single storey rear extension.

Conditional Consent 7/5/15

Noted.

5. **Updates - Please keep your update to a maximum of 5 minutes**

5.1 The Chairman to update the Council on various issues.

- Ms Lazell, Director of Dartmoor Tweed has written to me as Chairman, with evidence that she approached this Council in November 2014 with a view to setting up a meeting. Unfortunately this was not followed up. I have now written to Ms Lazell to apologise and to seek a meeting at her convenience before the end of June.

- Dartmoor Sunday Rover details will be published on the Notice Board.

- Devon Senior Voice are organising a Rural Isolation Conference at Bridestowe on the Thursday 11th June 2015, if anyone wished to attend please notify the Clerk.
 - Two letters have been received, one anonymous, suggesting that Butts Field should be used as a Car Park. This will be added as an Agenda item for the July meeting.
- 5.2 Cllr I MacLeod updated the Council regarding Denbrook.
- All parishes have agreed the community fund agreement. Liability insurance was being sought, following advice from DALC. A 6 week extension to sign the agreement has been requested.
- 5.3 Cllr L Watts, WDBC Ward Member updated the Council
- Not much to update at the moment, still bedding in with the new structure of the Council. Apologies from Lois Samuel who could not attend this evening. Cllr L Watts stated she has not been placed onto the Planning and Licensing Committee.
- 5.4 Cllr I MacLeod gave a brief update regarding the North Tawton Engagement Group.
- Questionnaires for views on what people feel are their needs have been sent out; they are available from the Town Council offices and the Post Office and can be completed online. NHS England will consider the views expressed before framing the contract. The questionnaire is not restricted to patients. Bidding for the contract will be in early August and we should know the outcome by the end of September.
- 5.5 Cllr Dr P Brickley gave a brief update regarding the Neighbourhood Plan Project.
- Things are going well, having weekly meetings to draft the options, lots on housing and historical and heritage. This week will be concentrating on the economy, members of the public and Councillors are welcome to come.
 - Uncertainties about the Wool Mill. Meeting with Wainhomes last Friday. They did not understand the Localism Act and the need to consult with the Neighbourhood Plan Group. Their intentions seemed to have changed. They indicated they wanted to completely withdraw from the Wool Mill. It was explained to them that planning permission granted for the shift of 60 houses from the Wool Mill to Batheway would change that site from 61 to 121, taking away the allotments, industrial land and the Doctors Surgery. They were told this is not possible; and there would be a riot in North Tawton if this happened. The allotment site was included at Batheway next to the houses. The Neighbourhood Plan Group/Town Council has the power to say no, and what happens at the Wool Mill is also up to the Neighbourhood Plan Group/Town Council. A compromise may be agreed, whereby the 23 units in the Listed part of the Wool Mill moved the Batheway, this would allow us to support Dartmoor Tweed, but Wainhomes would have to build the other units on the land beside the Wood Mill. We will discuss this will Dartmoor Tweed at a future meeting. All 3 (Wainhomes, Dartmoor Tweed and North Tawton Town Council) have got something and have to give something, should be good for all of use.
 - Thanks to the detective work of Mrs C Hughes and Mrs S Knott regarding the Minimum Planning Requirements. In a conversation with Rebecca Black, Strategic Planner, pointing out the apparent irregularities, she said "oh dear, oh dear". Rebecca Black will get back as soon as the matter has been clarified.

6. Ongoing issues

The 'Action Log' was updated.

- Snow Warden Scheme – the Snow Warden Jacket has now been delivered by Devon County Council.

7. Co-Option of Councillors

The prospective Councillors addressed the Council, Mr M Fisher, Mr M Hann, Mr M Kennedy, Ms J Trehitt and Mr I Palmer.

The Chairman thanked the prospective Councillors and stated that the matter would be discussed in Part II of the meeting when a paper vote would be carried out. The Chairman stated that the prospective Councillors would be informed of the Council's decision by the 15th June 2015.

8. Consultations/Newsletters/Invitations

- 8.1 Electoral Review of Devon – Draft Recommendations – Devon County Council, previously circulated, Noted.
- 8.2 Invitation to Community Transport Awareness County Roadshow – 13th June 2015 – Co-Operative Supermarket Car Park, Okehampton 10 am – 12pm. Noted.
- 8.3 Okehampton and District Community Transport Group – Invitation to Afternoon Tea, 9th June 2015 at 3 pm – The Pavilion, Simmons Park, Okehampton. Noted
- 8.4 Nominations for DALC County Committee. Noted

9. RoSPA Playsafety – Annual Safety Inspector Report – Memorial Park

The Annual Safety Inspecting Report carried out by RoSPA Playsafety for the Memorial Park, previously circulated, was discussed.

After some discussion the Clerk was requested to visit the Memorial Park with Mr Geoff Cawse to arrange for all of the matters to be attended to. The Clerk was requested to order a warning sign regarding rings and also requested to contact RoSPA Playsafety for an explanation why they considered the Overall Risk Rating to be high.

10. Community Market – North Tawton Town Hall

After some discussion it was resolved that the Clerk should again place an article in the Roundabout asking for volunteers to set up a committee/group to organise this.

11. TAP funding

Ideas for TAP funding were discussed (deadline for submission of application 11th June 2015).

As the deadline was 11th June 2015, Councillors were asked for ideas for the next round of TAP funding. One suggestion was gully emptying and another was another defibrillator.

The Clerk was requested to contact neighbouring parishes.

12. Recycling Project

The matter of how the Recycling Project should be progressed was discussed. A request had been received from Sampford Courtenay Parish Council stating that they wished to be involved in this project. After some discussion the Clerk was requested to arrange a meeting with Sampford Courtenay Parish Council to arrange a meeting, and to invite a representative from the North Tawton Environmental Trust.

13. FINANCE

13.1 Invoices. Members inspected the invoices and bank statements and appropriate payments were made in accordance with bank mandate.

It was noted that 2 ½ tons of silt had been sucked out of the drains.

The Internal Auditor was due to visit on Monday 8th June 2015.

13.2 Monthly statement – Members received the monthly statement and agreed to make the appropriate transfer from the reserve account to the current account to allow payments to be made.

13.3 Workplace Pensions

The letter received from the Pensions Regulator regarding the law on workplace pensions, previously circulated, was noted. The Clerk was to be the nominated contact.

14. 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 S Knott stated that there was going to be a public meeting regarding the GP Surgery on the 30th July 2015 with Caroline Stead from NHS England.

A discussion took place regarding the GP Surgery.

Mr M Fisher queried the Work Place Pension and asked if the Town Council had registered, the Clerk stated that this was the first letter received and it was merely asking for a contact. The Work Place Pension scheme would start on 1st October 2016.

The meeting was opened again.

15. Parish Matters

No decision may lawfully be made under this item but matters may be discussed which involve no more than an exchange of information.

Cllr K Hodge stated that the fir tree beside the Chapel of Rest door needs cutting back.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council shall be the Ordinary Town Council meeting to be held on the 7th June 2015.

Part I of the meeting closed at 9.00 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.

The matter of Co-Option was discussed and a paper vote was made. Two independent persons counted the votes and Mr M Fisher, Mr M Kennedy, Ms J Trehitt and Mr I Palmer were Co-Opted onto the Council. The Clerk was requested to notify all persons on the 15th June 2015.

Part II of the meeting ended at 9.15 pm.