

# NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Temporary Town Clerk:  
Mrs S Say

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

You are hereby summoned to the Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council to be held at the Council Offices on **TUESDAY 4 October 2016** at **7.30 pm.**

Dated this 28 September 2016

Temporary Clerk of the Council

## **AGENDA**

**The meeting will be opened at 7.30 pm**

### **Open Forum**

#### **An opportunity for the Electors and others to address the Town Council.**

The Council encourages the use of an Open forum. This will allow Members of the Public to address the Town Council. Time will be limited to two minutes per person unless the Chairman rules otherwise. If research is needed members of the public are asked to indicate what is needed in advance to the clerk otherwise – if appropriate - an item will be placed on a future agenda. A brief note will be made of any discussion at this point. Please note that Councillors are not obliged to give their opinion or answer questions.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - To receive apologies from Councillors unable to attend.
2. **Declarations of Interest** - Councillors are invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting.  
  
If Councillors have any questions relating to predetermination, bias or interests in items on this Agenda, then please contact the Clerk in the first instance.
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meetings**
  - 3.1 To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 6 September 2016 at 7.30 pm (copy already circulated by post).
  - 3.2 To approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 27 September 2016 at 7.15 pm (copy to be circulated at the meeting).
4. **Updates - Please keep your update to a maximum of 5 minutes**
  - 4.1 Update from WDBC Ward Member, Cllr Louise Watts
  - 4.2 Update on the Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Ms J Trehitt.
  - 4.3 Den Brook Wind Farm  
Cllr I MacLeod to update the Council on progress at the Den Brook site.
5. **Ongoing issues**  
'Action Log' attached at Annex A.

6. **Invitation from North Tawton Royal British Legion Women's Section**  
Members of North Tawton Town Council are invited to a service in St Peter's Church on Sunday 30 October 2016 at 3 pm, for the laying up of the Women's Legion Standard; followed by tea and cake in the Mortimore Room. RSVP to Monica Simons, as soon as possible after the date of this meeting (so catering can be planned).
7. **West Devon Borough Council – Super Link Meeting, Ockment Centre, Wednesday 7 December 2016 at 7pm / Eastern Links Meeting 17 November 2016**  
WDBC have arranged the above Super Link meeting, the agenda will be:
- Welcome & Introductions
  - Alison Hernandez, D&C Police and Crime Commissioner to attend and respond to questions
  - Devon County Council Update
  - WDBC update
- If you wish to attend, please let the Clerk know by the morning of Thursday 17 November in order to respond to WDBC within the deadline of Friday 18 November. Also, WDBC have asked can attendees advise of questions they wish to ask in advance – there will be an opportunity to ask questions during the meeting, but it will help the speakers if they have some of the questions in advance.
- With reference to the Eastern Links Meeting, Cllr Ms J Trehitt has advised that TAP funding applications will be considered at the November Eastern Links meeting on 17th November. The decision has now been taken that TAP funding applications will be considered annually at the November meeting. If there is money left after that meeting other applications would be considered in January. The TAP funding guidelines have changed slightly in that Parishes can now apply for funding as a single parish for things such as Lengthsman duties; however, a single parish should have support from a neighbouring parish. Applications are still encouraged from joint parish projects.
8. **Community Market**  
Further to the Community Market held in the Town Hall earlier this year, to discuss whether the Market should continue on a twice-yearly basis.
9. **Overgrown Trees at Strawberry Fields**  
At the last Ordinary Meeting it was agreed to put the cutting down of the overgrown oak trees on hold, pending further investigation into the possible sale of land currently in the Council's ownership. However, bearing in mind the information recently highlighted by the Council's solicitors with reference to any obstruction of the amount of light enjoyed by windows of buildings on the estate, the Council should consider whether to proceed with cutting down the specific oak tree which was the subject of the original complaint.
10. **West Devon Borough Council – Town and Parish Clerks Briefing Meeting**  
Sarah Say will provide feedback on the recent briefing meeting attended at Kilworthy Park, Tavistock.
11. **Air Ambulance Night Lighting at North Tawton Rugby Club Grounds**  
Cllr Mrs G Hoggins has advised that the night lighting will be operational as from Saturday 1 October 2016. Invoices will be submitted in due course and the Clerk will liaise with DCC Cllr J McInnes reference this.

**12. Okehampton Hospital – Consultation on ‘Your Future Care Community Services’**

The Council has received an email from Cllr J McInnes (DCC) advising that he has attended a briefing by NEW Devon CCG about a forthcoming consultation, ‘Your Future Care Community Services’. Cllr McInnes advises that this consultation will have four options, all of which remove acute beds from Okehampton Hospital. Cllr McInnes further advises that it is very important that we all take part in this consultation, as this is a big blow to our local community – we need to ‘speak with a strong voice’. Please refer to Annex C, a copy of the newsletter from Your Future Care, which introduces the consultation document considered by the CCG Governing Body on 28 September, when a decision was due to be made as to whether to go ahead with public consultation on the proposals, as from 7 October for 12 weeks. (If update information reference the public consultation is available by the date of the Council Meeting on 4 October, this will be provided then).

Councillors are further advised that Cllr McInnes has called into the office today (28 September) and urges the Council to participate fully in this consultation. Cllr McInnes has suggested that surrounding Parish and Town Councils might liaise with Okehampton Town Council to provide a coordinated response, as well as making individual responses.

**13. PLANNING MATTERS**

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

**13.1.1 Reference number: 2791/16/TPO**

**Proposal:** T1 & T2: Cherry trees – trim new growth; T4: Horse Chestnut – trim new growth.

**Location:** 4 Webbs Orchard, North Tawton, Devon, EX20 2FE

**Date of receipt:** 26 August 2016

**13.2 Information about ‘Rent Plus’ – a new model for affordable housing.**

Please refer to Annex D (enclosed), which outlines how Rent Plus works, and its benefits for local communities.

**13.3 Public Consultation for Proposed Floodlight and Telecommunications Installation at North Tawton Rugby Club**

The Council has been contacted by Pegasus Group who are working as planning consultants in partnership with Shared Access, who are preparing a planning application for a scheme of floodlighting to be installed at North Tawton Rugby Club. It is proposed that one of the floodlights will have an integrated telecommunications system to improve network coverage and capacity; it is intended that the telecoms structure will deliver 4g infrastructure to the area. Pegasus are asking for comments from the Town Council by 5 October 2016.

**14. Request from Rev. Nick Weldon reference possible laying of gravel on areas of cobbled pathway within the churchyard**

Rev. Nick Weldon has made the following request with reference to the cobbled paths in the churchyard: *‘I’ve had a couple more comments recently from parishioners about the slipperiness and unevenness of the cobbles through the churchyard. I know the TC are well aware of the problem, and have taken steps to improve it in places in the past, but can I ask for it to be kept on the agenda as in need of improvement. The footfall through the churchyard is considerable with folk walking to and from the school (as we do twice a day) and to and from the Doctors surgery also. I realise the cost of relaying the path would be astronomical and probably out of the question, but would the TC consider laying a thin layer of gravel over the length of the path? This was done on the cobble path in Bondleigh churchyard a few years ago. The layer is thin enough that you can still see the cobbles, but substantial*

*enough that the gravel fills the cracks and gives extra grip to pedestrians. Having talked informally with our church architect about this matter (who is also the architect for Bondleigh church) this is his recommendation.'*

## **15. FINANCE**

**15.1 Invoices.** To approve payments listed at Annex B in accordance with bank mandate.

**15.2 Monthly statement** – to receive the monthly statement and to consider adoption. Make the appropriate transfers, from reserve accounts to the current account, to allow payments to be made.

**15.3 Insurance** – To receive an update from the Clerk on the renewal of the Public Liability/Insurance.

**15.4 Audit 2015/16** – To receive the final Audit Report from Grant Thornton regarding the Annual Audit 2015/16.

**15.5 Consideration of the Ring & Ride and Community Car Services in the North Tawton Parish Precept** - To consider a letter from the Okehampton District Community Transport Group. Funding previously received from the NHS, in the sum of £6993, has been withdrawn with no notice. Funding from DCC and WDBC has not increased over the past five years, although costs are higher. There is therefore a desperate need of financial support in order to keep the service running. Parishes of a similar size to North Tawton typically offer financial support in the region of £200 - £500. The predicted shortfall for the coming financial year is £4300.00. There are 1100 clients registered with the organisation, and last year 4662 health appointment journeys alone were made.

## **16. Questions/Comments from members of the public**

The meeting shall be suspended prior to Parish Matters to allow members of the public to comment/ask a question on any **AGENDA ITEM ONLY**. Time is limited to 2 minutes per person, up to a maximum of 3 persons, unless the Chairman rules otherwise. A brief record of any points made will be included in the minutes of that meeting.

## **17. 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.

**17.1 Parish Paths Partnership Newsletter** – The Summer edition of this newsletter advises that there are free Strimmer Training Courses available for parish volunteers – several P3 parishes organise and undertake all the planned cutting in their area after attending one of these courses.

## **18. Date of next meeting**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council shall be Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016.

## **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.