

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 6th JUNE 2017 AT 7.30 pm.**

Dated this 31 May 2017

Temporary Clerk of the Council

AGENDA

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 2 May 2017 at 7.45 pm (copy previously circulated).
- 3.2 To approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 30 May 2017 at 7.30 pm (copy to be circulated at meeting on Tuesday 6 June 2017).

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

- 4.1 Chairman to update the Council on various issues.
 - 4.1.1 **St Peter's Church, North Tawton** – The Rector has advised that, further to incidents of minor damage, littering, etc, the Police were recently called out by a visiting member of the public. This has resulted in the Police advising that the church be locked at all times except during services etc. This will remain in force at least until after the 'Oliver' production. The police are to increase patrols and ensure they visit the churchyard when they are in the area.
- 4.2 Updates from WDBC Ward Member Cllr Mrs L Watts.
- 4.3 Cllr Ms J Trehwitt to update Members on the NT Neighbourhood Plan.
- 4.4 Cllr Mrs C Burrow to update Members on the Section 106 Monitoring Group.

5. **Ongoing issues**

'Action Log' attached at Annex A.

6. **Co-Option of Councillors**

To consider Co-Option of Councillors – Prospective councillors have been asked to attend and speak to the Council for a few minutes. [NB – at the time of printing of the agenda there have been no expressions of interest – the final date for prospective applicants to contact the Clerk is Monday 5 June, therefore any communications received on that date will be circulated on the evening of Tuesday 6 June and prospective candidates invited to speak accordingly].

7. **Consultations/Newsletters/Invitations**

8. **Area of pavement damaged by tree roots – western side of Station Road just below mini-roundabout.**

8.1 At the Council's meeting on 2 May, the Temporary Clerk was asked to go back to the DCC Local Highways Engineer with a view to obtaining a quote for the necessary remedial works. The Engineer's response was as follows:

'Asking for us to provide quote and then paying that sum to us complicates the issue apparently. We wouldn't be able to complete a quotation without being supplied with a design which you would have to pay our Engineering Design Group to complete which I can only imagine would be expensive.

Once EDG have a design they can quote for the amount it will cost and then tender contractors to complete the work. Effectively you become a "client" in this method.

If you decide to go down the route of finding your own contractors I personally have no problem working with you myself to check compliance before undertaking any works. '

Therefore it appears that obtaining an independent quotation for the works in question, and liaising with the Highways Engineer to ensure the works meet the required standards, would be the most suitable option. The Council are to decide whether to proceed with this option or not.

8.2 The Temporary Clerk was requested by the Chairman of the Council to ask the DCC Local Highways Engineer as to the possibility of installing a 'pinch point' below the mini-roundabout, adjacent to the problem area, with the view that the extra area of pavement created by the pinch point might alleviate the problem. The Council to note the Engineer's response, which was as follows:

'I also thought about the possibility of narrowing the road here creating a bit of a traffic calmer, like most things it is possible but again it would have to go through the process of being a scheme and being considered for funding in the same way the footway would, I would think the costs would be quite a lot more and the "bring the footway out" part of the scheme would be seen as a lower priority than just fixing the footway as we have no recorded collision on this part of the road in the last 5 years it would be difficult to justify traffic calming especially with the mini roundabout just up the road.

We also have to consider if the footway was to come out here would we need to put an illuminated bollard either end with a blue arrow on, and new road narrow signs to warn drivers.'

9. **Possible improvements to width of pavement at Station Road, North Tawton – Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund (HMCEF)**

Further to suggestions that the pavement safety could be improved if it was wider, and that at least 30cm could be gained by cutting back the overgrown area where the bank abuts the pavement, enquiries have been made to DCC Highways as to whether such works would qualify for funding under the HMCEF scheme.

10. **Drain and Gully Clearance**

Further to a complaint from a member of the public, the local DCC Highways Engineer was contacted with a request to arrange for certain specific drains to be cleared. The Council has received a response to say that there is currently nothing that can be done, as the department in question currently has no budget for these issues. The highway engineer has clarified that a blocked gully does not in itself constitute a 'defect'. It was suggested that formal complaints can be made if this answer is not satisfactory. The Council are to consider if they wish to make a formal response or complaint with regard to this matter.

11. Planning Section 106 Public Art Contribution

The Council are to discuss suggestions for using the S106 Public Art Contribution monies currently held by West Devon Borough Council in respect of housing developments within North Tawton. (See Annex B for details of the WDBC policy in relation to S106 Public Art Contributions).

12. PLANNING MATTERS

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

As at the time of printing the agenda, there are no new planning applications to be considered.

13. FINANCE

13.1 Invoices. To approve payments listed at Annex D in accordance with bank mandate (to be circulated at meeting).

13.2 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.

14. 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.

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.

15.1 Further to previous planning consultation, Devon County Council have advised that planning permission for the replacement modular classroom at NT Primary School has been granted.

15.2 NTTC have been sent a copy of email correspondence between the Clerk to Sampford Courtenay Parish Council and the local DCC Highways Engineer, regarding the state of the road from Greenhill Cross to North Tawton Bridge – reference potholes and ruts making road especially dangerous for cyclists. The Highways Engineer advises that the road will be inspected and defects repaired. However, the majority of the alleged defects do not meet the criteria for repair. The state of the road in general has been brought to the attention of the Highways Asset Management team to consider reconstruction in due course.

15.3 A further complaint was made on 30.5.17 regarding a Gregory Transport lorry passing through the town and causing congestion. The temporary clerk telephoned the company and was advised the transport manager saw the lorry arrive and will be speaking to the driver, he confirmed that drivers have been told not to drive through the town.

16. Date of next meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council shall be Tuesday 4th July 2017.

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.

There are no items for inclusion in Part II as at the time of printing of the agenda.