

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk:
Mrs R Rice

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

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council at the Council Offices on Tuesday 3rd April 2012 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Dr. P Brickley Cllrs Mrs C Burrow
Cllrs Mrs G Hoggins (Chairman) Cllr I MacLeod
Cllrs Mr A Ponsford Cllr Mrs J Rosser
Cllr P Ward

Two members of the public were in attendance.

Open Forum – There were no members of the public present who raised any issues.

Mrs S Knott raised the problem of dog fouling, in particular at the bottom of Letherans Lane. The problems have worsened over the last few months despite signs and dog waste bin. After discussion it was agreed that the Dog Warden at West Devon Borough Council should be contacted, to request whether or not he could visit North Tawton on an adhoc basis over the next few months. Also to discuss with the Dog Warden whether more signage would be appropriate. Another article should be placed in the May edition of the Roundabout magazine.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs B Acaster (other commitments), Cllr K Hodge (work commitments) Cllr Mrs J Morgan (annual leave), Cllr N Morgan (annual leave), and Cllr Mrs D Rice (other commitments)

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 the Council held in the Council Offices on 6th March 2012, previously circulated to all Councillors, were agreed and signed.

3.2 The minutes of the Planning and Estates Meeting of the Council held in the Council Offices on 20th March 2012, previously circulated to all Councillors, were agreed and signed.

4. **Updates**

4.1 The Chairman read out an invitation to Councillors from Lakeway United Church to an event to celebrate St Georges Day on 22nd April at 3 p.m.

4.2 **North Tawton Community Games and Culture Week 2012**

Mrs C Hughes asked the Clerk to update the Council.

“Everything is progressing satisfactory. A full itinerary would be published towards the end of April”.

4.3 Den Brook Community Council

Cllr Mrs J Rosser and Cllr Dr P Brickley updated the Council on the progress of the meetings of the Den Brook Community Council. Negotiations regarding the apportionment of funds between the five parishes have still not been agreed. The various permutations of apportionment were outlined and it was felt that North Tawton Town Council's approach should be 80/20 or revert back to basing the apportionment on population size.

5. Ongoing issues

The 'Action Log' was updated:

1. Flagpole on Town Hall. A reply from the Town Hall Management Committee was read out. "The Committee felt that an upright pole to the left of the Town Hall steps would not stop the flag winding around the pole and may lead to vandalism". It was suggested that perhaps the Town Council Offices would be an appropriate place to have a flag pole. The Clerk was requested to investigate this.
2. Access gate to the infant playpark – Mr G Cawse to carry out the work himself. Members were informed that the monkey bars in the infants playpark were to be removed following a few accidents.
3. Fireproof Safe – as no response had been received regarding transferring the safe from "The Clink" to the offices, the Clerk was to investigate disposing of the safe as scrap.

6. Standing Orders

After some discussion it was agreed to amend Standing Orders to include the following:

Invitations received by the Council

Normally if an invitation is received to attend a function or even the Chairperson with their partner will attend.

If the Chair cannot attend the Vice-Chair and partner will take their place.

In the case that neither of the above are able to attend it will brought back to council for it to choose a Councillor to take their place.

The exception will be when an invitation is received for a Royal Garden Party then the longest serving member and their partner of the council will be asked if they would attend on behalf of the council.

If they cannot attend the council will asked to nominate a Councillor to attend.

At this point Cllr Mrs J Rosser left the meeting

7. North Tawton Community Games and Culture Week

It was agreed to donate a cup for a Class in the Craft and Produce Event, the cup should be returned after 12 months and was not to be inscribed.

8. Queen's Diamond Jubilee Plaque

It was agreed that a Plaque to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee should be erected on the Clock Tower when funds became available.

9. Insurance – Public Conveniences

It was agreed not to have the Public Conveniences valued by an RICS Valuer for insurance purchases. Further it was agreed that the Public Conveniences should be insured for a sum of £40,000. The Clerk was requested to contact the insurance company.

10. Ground Inspection Training 21st April 2012 Exminster

It was agreed not to send a delegate to the Ground Inspection Training course organised by Community Council of Devon. It was further agreed that the Handyperson be requested to carry out inspections on a regular basis.

11. Pharmacy Shop, Exeter Street, North Tawton

It was agreed to defer this matter until the Planning Application for the surgery was received.

12. Trees in the Churchyard

It was agreed that the trees in the Churchyard should be lightly trimmed, as advised by the Landscape Officer, West Devon Borough Council and the Diocese of Exeter. The Clerk was requested to contact the Church Warden to see if this light trimming could be done when the works to Church Cottage were being carried out.

13. North Tawton Burial Ground – Interment of Ashes

It was agreed that if a request is received for the interment of two caskets of ashes that there should be two fees paid.

It was also agreed that the Planning and Estates Committee should review the Fees and Charges for the Burial Ground.

13. Bandstand Marathon – Communities in Tune

It was not agreed that North Tawton Town Council should participate in Bandstand Marathon – Communities in Tune on 9th September 2012 –

It was further agreed that the Clerk should pass the information to the Primary School, ANTS, and the North Tawton Community Games and Culture Committee.

14. Devon Oil Collective

It was not agreed that North Tawton Town Council should participate in the Community Council of Devon's initiative – Bulk-buying scheme for domestic heating oil.

It was further agreed that the Clerk should pass the information to DARE.

15. St John Ambulance – Defibrillator

It was agreed that this matter should be brought before the Durant Trust. The Clerk was requested to write to the Fire Station to ask if they have a defibrillator.

16. Wallingbrook Patient's Participation Group

It was agreed that the Wallingbrook Patient's Participation Group could use the Council Offices for a monthly meeting.

It was further agreed that Cllrs I MacLeod should attend this Group on behalf of the Town Council.

17. Consultation documents

Golden Leaf Landscaping report for March

The Golden Leaf Landscaping report for March was received. It was agreed that the wild flowers on the left hand side of the cemetery should be left, but they should be cut back when they start fading.

PLANNING MATTERS

18. 02463/2012

62 Fore Street, North Tawton, EX20 2DT

Listed Building Consent application for removal and replacement of front door.

It was agreed to support this application.

19. Finance

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

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

20. Urgent matters at discretion of Chairman – There were no urgent matters.

21. Date of next meeting

The Annual Town Meeting will be held on 17th April and the Annual Meeting of the Town Council will be held on 1st May.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.