

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 1st October 2013 at 7.30 pm.**

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

3 Members of the public were present.

Open Forum No members of the public raised and issues.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr K Hodge and Cllr Mrs A Ponsford.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr S Whiteley declared an interest in Item No. 13.2 – Planning application 00917/2013 as he is an acquaintance of the applicant.
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 3rd September 2013, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.
4. **Co-Option of Councillor**

The Clerk reported that two applications had been received for the vacancy. Both applicants had been invited to attend the meeting and speak to the Council for a few minutes. Unfortunately one of the candidates could not attend because of illness. The Chairman felt that in fairness to both applicants that the matter should be deferred. After some discussion it was resolved to defer the matter to the next meeting of the Town Council to be held on the 6th November 2013.
5. **Updates**
 - 5.1 The Chairman updated the Council on various issues:
 - The Den Brook Wind Farm Community Liaison Group meeting was to be held on 10th October 2013
 - A Marketing your Town workshop was due to be held in Ivybridge on 22nd October 2013. If any Councillor wishes to attend they should contact the Clerk.
 - The Appeal Decision for Land adjacent to Shellsey, North Tawton had been received. The Appeal was allowed with conditions.
 - Complaints had been received regarding the new part night street lighting. The Clerk was requested to include this as an item on the Agenda for the 6th November 2013 meeting.

- Problems had occurred over the allocations of the houses in Barkers Way. The Clerk was requested to contact Devon and Cornwall Housing Association asking for someone to attend the next meeting of the Town Council on the 6th November 2013.
- The next meeting of the Devon Heartlands was due to be held on the 3rd October 2013.
- 5.2 There was nothing to report on the Den Brook Community Council meetings. The next meeting was due to be held on the 10th October 2013.
- 5.3 Cllr Dr. P Brickley gave an update regarding the Neighbourhood Plan project.
 - 7th September 2013 a Social Housing Event was well attended and informative.
 - 22nd October 2013 a Neighbourhood Plan Project could was due to be held, Rebecca Black, Strategic Planning Officer was due to attend.
 - There had been a slight problem with the “Call for Sites”, it had been agreed that a note would be added to the specific site.
 - West Devon’s Calls for Sites will feed into our sites, and both will receive a Technical Evaluation organised by West Devon. The Neighbourhood Plan Project Group would also do their own Technical Evaluation – both results would be put to the Town for their response, then there would be three sets of views.
 - Wainhomes application – whether it is premature in the light of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan had now been weakened. Prematurity can only be used at the end of a Neighbourhood Plan process.
 - The questionnaire was nearly complete – the question of whether or not prize(s) should be offered for the return of questionnaires was being explored. – An item would be placed in the Roundabout Magazine.
 - The application for funding was being worked on.
 - A useful conversation with Bob Vickery, Dawlish Neighbourhood Plan Project Group revealed that their plan had been turned down because of lack of connection with Teignbridge District Council’s Core Strategy.
 - Alex Rehaag from West Devon had stated that there was no need for a Housing Needs Survey, but the Project Group was not happy with this and were going to insist that a survey be carried out.

7.50 pm a member of the public left the meeting.

- The possibility of using the Electoral Roll as a basis for the distribution of the questionnaire was being explored.
- 5.4 There was nothing to report on the proposed recycling project. Questions were being included in the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire, and when this had been analysed the recycling project would be investigated.
- 5.5 The Lottery Bid application was being pulled together, and would be shown to the Town Council before submission.
- 5.6 An update on the details on the Centenary of the start of the First World War included:
 - The wording for the commemorative stone had been agreed, and a price obtained. An application to the Durant Trust was to be submitted.

- The British Legion would be sourcing the poppy seeds, possible sites for the planting of the seeds were: avenue from the Lych Gate to the Church; the area above the wall to the Cemetery; road to De Bathe Cross (but there may be problems there because of the grass bank); Cheese Factory to Greenhill Cross (both sides).

6. Ongoing issues

The 'Action Log' was updated:

- The Clerk had received details of one volunteer to act at Snow Warden in the Barton Street area.
- The Clerk was requested to contact the Highways Safety Audit Team at Devon County Council to request a meeting.

7. NALC Consultation

The NALC consultation regarding filming of town council meetings, previously circulated, was discussed. It was resolved that the Clerk should send a response to the consultation as follows:

- Do you think that filming should be allowed at local (parish and town) council meetings? Yes.
- Do you think that filming of these meetings should only be carried out by local councils themselves? No

8. Police and Crime Commissioner's Small Grants Scheme

Details of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Small Grants Scheme, previously circulated, was discussed. After some discussion it was resolved that the Town Council should investigate the installation of a CCTV camera in the Memorial Park. The Clerk was requested to obtain information on a suitable system and submit a grant application.

9. Electoral Review of West Devon

The details of the Electoral Review of West Devon, previously circulated were discussed. After some discussion it was resolved that the Clerk should respond to the consultation stating that not enough information had been provided at this stage for the Town Council to comment.

10. RENTPlus Scheme

The West Devon Borough Council's RENTPlus Scheme, previously circulated, was discussed and noted.

11. Litter Bin/Dog Bin – Exeter Street

The problem of litter and dog fouling bags being strewn in the hedge and road in the vicinity of the School/Cemetery was discussed. After some discussion it was resolved that a new litter/dog bin should be sited in the vicinity of the Cemetery. The Clerk was requested to obtain costings from West Devon Borough Council. When these had been received the Chair and Vice-Chair were authorised to agree the price.

12. **Golden Leaf Landscaping report**

The Clerk gave a verbal update on the work carried out by Golden Leaf Landscaping. As the weather has been mild the third weed spraying of the pavements/road would be done early in October.

13. **PLANNING MATTERS**

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

Cllr Mrs G Hoggins took the Chair, as Cllr N Morgan as Ward Member had not forwarded his comments to West Devon Borough Council.

13.1 00884/2013

Bowling Green, North Street, North Tawton, EX20 2ES

Proposed Clubhouse/Pavilion

After some discussion it was resolved that a site visit should take place on Friday 4th October 2013. The main area of concern was the car parking.

13.2 00917/2013

Nichols Court, North Tawton, EX20 2BP

Erection of agricultural building for livestock

After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.

To note decisions of West Devon Borough Council

13.3 00574/2013 – Report attached

Land at SS 665 019 Devonshire Gardens, North Street, North Tawton

Outline application for erection of 2 live-work units

Conditional Consent – 02/9/13

Noted.

14. **FINANCE**

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

14.2 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.

14.3 West Devon Citizens Advice Bureau

The grant request received from West Devon Citizens Advice Bureau, previously circulated, was discussed. After some discussion it was resolved that a grant of £100 should be made to West Devon Citizens Advice Bureau.

15. **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 on any **agenda item only.**

A query was raised regarding the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire and the proposal to offer prize(s) for the return of the questionnaire. Mrs C Hughes agreed that she would pursue this with some of the local businesses.

The meeting was opened again.

16. Any other business

Cllr Whiteley gave details of the recent Twinning exchange. 2015 will be the 40th anniversary of the Twinning when there would be two exchanges. The next visit will be in 2014.

Cllr Whitely raised his concerns about the brick pavements outside Spar and J Store. The Clerk was requested to report these matters to Devon County Council. It was suggested that it would be a good idea for Councillors to have a tour of the town to check on various matters including seats.

The planning application for the Solar Park had still not been submitted to West Devon. As soon as the Town Council are notified about the application a town meeting would be arranged.

17. Date for January 2014 Council Meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that because of the Christmas and New Year Holiday Period the Clerk would not be able to publish the Agenda for the 7th January 2014 meeting within the defined statutory time. After some discussion it was resolved that the meeting should be changed to the 14th January 2014.

18. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council shall be Wednesday 6th November 2013.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.