

# 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 to be held at the **Council Offices** on **Tuesday 2nd July 2013** at **7.30 pm**.

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

**Open Forum** – No members of the public raised and issues.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were received from Cllr K Hodge and Cllr Mrs D Rice.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None were made at this stage
3. **Devon & Cornwall Police – Inspector Andy Oliver**  
Inspector Andy Oliver thanked the Town Council for inviting him to the meeting. He explained that he new to the post, it is 3 – 4 years since there has been and Inspector for the West Devon area. He lives in Okehampton so has a vested interest in West Devon. He has moved from the Control Room. His first job is to try and visit parish and town councils to introduce himself. The crime figures for West Devon are low. The priorities are road traffic, and he wanted to ensure that the public have confidence in the police. There are 4 keys things for fatal accidents; speeding; drinking; mobile phones/distractions and seat belts.

They are carrying out campaigns on travelling criminals and have auto recognition cameras in their vehicles. Recent crime figures for this area have been 4 assaults, 1 dog out of control and 1 criminal damage.

Inspector Andy Oliver said he had a good team, he cannot promise that someone will attend every Town Council meeting, but if we do require a police presence he will send someone. He explained that there is now a 24/5 patrol from Okehampton.

Inspector Andy Oliver answered questions

- Attitude to Special Constables – they do have some in Okehampton. If we know of anyone willing to become a Special Constable to let him know. He would send any vacancy information to the Clerk so that it can be published in the office window and placed in the Roundabout magazine.
- Housing – will the crime rate go up with so much housing in Okehampton and maybe more development in North Tawton– this is a matter that does concern him. The PCSO work up to 10.00 pm and do regularly deal with minor anti-social behaviour.

- No apparent response from the Police Architectural Liaison Officer on planning applications – he is aware that a new Architectural Liaison Officer has been appointed and he will contact them with our concerns.

\* *amended at Town Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013*

Have things settled down in the Park, Inspector Oliver said yes.

There being no further questions the Chairman thanked Inspector Andy Oliver for attending.

At this point Inspector Andy Oliver left the meeting.

#### **4. Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

- 4.1 The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.
- 4.2 The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.
- 4.3 The minutes of the Estates Committee Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013, previously circulated, were agreed and signed, subject to a minor amendment regarding the payment of professional fees.

#### **5. Updates**

- 5.1 Chairman to update the Council on various issues.
  - A thank you letter received from Dr. Mrs J Shields was read out following the Town Council's letter of congratulations sent upon her award of the British Empire Medal.
  - A questionnaire received from DALC regarding Town and Parish Mayors – the response to this questionnaire was to be that having a Town Mayor is too expensive for the Council.
  - The Scoping Opinion submitted to West Devon Borough Council was still ongoing.
  - The Neighbourhood Plan Designation Area was approved by West Devon Borough Council.
  - West Devon Borough Council were considering more Dog Control Orders.
  - West Devon Borough Council were considering delegation of their grounds maintenance to town and parish councils.
  - West Devon Borough Council were considering delegation of their Waste and Leaves Outlet Contract.
  - Denbrook – Variation of Noise Condition – this was still being considered by the noise consultants.
  - Devon Heartlands meeting on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013 – with guest speaker Alex Rahaag, Housing WDBC and a representative from Castle Drogo.
- 5.2 Nothing to update on the Den Brook Community Council meetings. The next meeting was due to be held in August.
- 5.3 Cllr. Dr. P Brickley updated the Council regarding the Neighbourhood Plan project.

- A complaint had been received about our process; this was being dealt with under the Terms of Reference.
  - The threat of large numbers of houses has now been lifted, Rebecca Black, Strategic Planning, has confirmed that the ~~SLAR~~ \* *amended at Town Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013* SHLAR does not have a set number of houses for North Tawton.
    - The impression Cllr. Dr. P Brickley is getting from the consultations is that people in the town do not want 400 houses or 183 houses, 60 maybe, but not keen; people seemed to want things to stay as they area, which is not a problem.
  - The revised Housing Assessment may say we need ~~homes~~.\* *amended at Town Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013* Social housing.
    - Wainhomes had promised to let us have information on the comments that they received following their exhibition, but nothing has been forthcoming.
    - Open morning being arranged in the Town Council offices 9 am – 12 noon.
    - A details questionnaire was being prepared.
    - The calls for sites are the developers/land owners ideas, they were not the Town Council's or the Neighbourhood Plan Project Group's ideas.
    - The Referendum will decide upon the outcome of the Neighbourhood Plan.
    - We need to engage with the younger people of the town as this was a 20 year plan.
- 5.4 Nothing to report on the proposed recycling project.
- 5.5 Nothing further to report on the Lottery Bid application, except Devon Heartlands would be sending an explanation letter of how the scheme will work.

## 6. **Ongoing issues**

The 'Action Log' was updated as follows:

- Market Street Junction/Traffic Speeds – the Clerk was requested to contact
- Cllr James McInnes, and Inspector Andy Oliver would make some enquiries about the Market Street Junction.

## 7. **Friends of North Tawton Park**

After some discussion it was resolved to that Cllr S Whiteley would be nominated to represent the Council on the Friends of North Tawton Park group.

## 8. **Standing Orders – Policy 28 – Dealing with press/media**

Cllr S Whiteley read out his suggestion for amending the Standing Orders Policy for dealing with the press and media. After considerable discussion it was resolved that Cllr S Whiteley's suggested should be circulated with the Agenda for the next Council meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013 so that Councillors could consider the wording before attending the meeting. The matter was therefore deferred until 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013 meeting.

## 9. **Planning Enforcement – Service Level Agreement**

After some discussion it was resolved to that North Tawton Town Council should enter into a Planning Enforcement Service Level Agreement with West Devon Borough Council, as previously circulated. The Clerk was requested to contact West Devon Borough Council confirming the details.

- 10. West Devon Borough Council Planning Workshop – Neighbourhood Planning**  
After some discussion it was resolved that Cllr Mrs C Burrow, Cllr Mrs G Hoggins, Cllr Dr. P Brickley, Cllr S Blood and Mrs R Rice, Town Clerk, should attend the Neighbourhood Planning Workshop to be held at Kilworthy Park, Tavistock on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2013.
- 11. Centenary of the start of the First World War**  
After some discussion it was resolved to that Cllr S Whiteley would make contact with the British Legion giving them details of how Northlew are going to mark the Centenary of the start of the First World War, which had previously being circulated to Councillors. The Clerk was requested to ascertain whether Northlew were going to plant poppy seeds or use poppies as worn on Remembrance Day.
- 12. Local Planning and Onshore Wind**  
**The** letter received from Rt. Hon Eric Pickles MP regarding local planning and onshore wind, previously circulated, was noted.
- 13. North Tawton Primary School**  
After some discussion regarding the consultation from North Tawton Community Primary School regarding proposed change to foundation status, previously circulated, the Clerk was requested to obtain a copy of the questionnaire and e-mail it to Councillors for completion and return to the Primary School.
- 14. Dartmoor National Park Management Plan**  
The consultation received from the Dartmoor National Park regarding the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan, previously circulated, was noted. If any Councillors wished to complete the questionnaire it can be done online.
- 15. Cemetery Regulations**  
After some discussion it was resolved to amend the Cemetery Regulations/Fees to allow for exclusive right of a plot in the Garden of Remembrance for the internment of ashes. It was further resolved that the fee for parishioners should be £150 and £300 for non-parishioners. Cllr Mrs G Hoggins and Cllr S Whiteley abstained from the vote.
- 16. Golden Leaf Landscaping report for June**  
The Clerk reported on the work undertaken during June by Golden Leaf Landscaping.
- 17. PLANNING MATTERS**  
**To consider the planning applications received from West Devon Borough Council and to make recommendations.**

**17.1 00574/2013 –**

Land at SS 665 019 Devonshire Gardens, North Street, North Tawton  
Outline application for erection of 2 live-work units  
After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.

**17.2 00583/2013 –**

Southview, 73 High Street, North Tawton, EX20 2HG  
Revised design for the erection of a dwelling  
After some discussion it was resolved that a site inspection should be arranged.

**17.3 00587/2013 –**

North Park Veterinary Group, 64 Fore Street, North Tawton, EX20 2DT  
Installation of window and door  
After some discussion it was resolved that a site inspection should be arranged.

**To note decisions of West Devon Borough Council**

**17.4 0028/2013**

23 Butts Way, North Tawton, EX20 2HP  
Householder application for erection of porch  
Conditional Consent 16/5/13  
Noted.

**17.5 00313/2013**

12 Barton Hill, North Tawton, EX20 2HQ  
Householder application for erection of 2 storey side extension  
After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.  
Conditional Consent 22/5/13  
Noted.

**17.6 00309/2013**

17 Strawberry Fields, North Tawton, EX20 2GX  
Householder application for erection of first floor extension over existing garage  
After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.  
Conditional Consent 31/5/13  
Noted.

**17.7 00474/2013**

Wildridge, North Tawton, EX20 2DQ  
Prior Approval application for agricultural equipment storage building  
No objections 10/6/13  
Noted.

**17.8 00484/2013**

Wildridge, North Tawton, EX20 2DQ  
Prior Approval application for agricultural storage building  
No objections 10/6/13

Noted.

**Appeal Lodged**

**17.9 02914/2012**

Land Adjacent to Shellsley, Webbs Orchard, North Tawton  
Erection of 3 detached dwellings, access and external works  
Refused by WDBC 15/3/13  
Appeal lodged 28/5/13 – Written representations  
Noted.

**18. FINANCE**

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

**18.2 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.

**19. Questions/Comments from members of the public**

The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to comment/ask a question on any agenda item only. Time shall be limited to 2 minutes per person, up to a maximum of 3 persons.

No questions/comments were raised.

The meeting was opened again.

**20. Any other business**

The Local Directory was last updated in 2007/9. This publication was self-financing and perhaps it could be circulated by the Guides or with the Roundabout. The Clerk was requested to put this matter on the agenda for the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013 meeting.

It was suggested that a letter of congratulations should be sent to the Cheese Factory on how well they have done in recent competitions.

It was suggested that Mrs R Rice, Town Clerk, as the Property Officer, should attend a workshop which was included in the West Devon Voice, on the subject of Finance for Local Councils. This is a free workshop.

**21. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Council shall be 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013.

The meeting ended at 9.30 pm.