

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk:
Mrs R Rice

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

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the **Council Offices** on **WEDNESDAY 16th July 2014** at **7.30 pm**.

Present

Cllr Dr P Brickley	Cllr Mrs C Burrow
Cllr Mrs G Hoggins (Chair)	Cllr K Hodge
Cllr A Gillespie	Cllr I MacLeod
Cllr Mrs D Rice	Cllr Mrs L Watts
Cllr S Whiteley	

4 members of the public were present.

Open Forum – No members of the public raised any concerns.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received from Cllr S Blood, Cllr Mrs A Ponsford and Cllr N Morgan.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr A Gillespie declared an interest in Item 9.1 (planning), and Cllr Dr P Brickley declared an interest in Item 10.1 (invoices).
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 1st July 2014, previously circulated were agreed and signed, subject to an amendment to Item 5.5. An Ombudsman Complaint may be submitted regarding this.
4. **Updates**
 - 4.1 The Chairman updated the Council on various issues.
 - Jubilee Clock, the mechanism was to be taken away for maintenance; work was anticipated to take 3 – 4 weeks.
 - Notification had been received that the Tour of Britain Devon Stage (Exmouth to Exeter) would be passing through the parish on the A377 past De Bathe Cross, on the 11th September 2014.
 - An invitation had been received from the British Legion to attend the Commemorating of the outbreak of World War I and the unveiling of the monument stone on 4th August at 10.30. The Durant Trust donated the new memorial stone. All Councillors are invited.
 - 4.2 Cllr Dr. P Brickley updated the Council regarding the Neighbourhood Plan project.
 - Focus groups had been held, the last one being tomorrow, 17th July. These Focus groups had been well attended, some good suggestions had been made, will report back at the end of the summer.
 - The funding had been received, which must be spent by the 31st December 2014.

- A meeting with Stuart Todd, Town Planner, was being arranged for 8th September 2014, which would be open to the public. From now on we should be relying heavily on the advice of Stuart Todd.
- The call for sites responses will be sent to WDBC.
- WDBC's call for sites only gave "green" for one site.
- First stage of comments will be integrated with all the other information collected.
- This is not just a 20 year plan, but will be reviewed every 4 – 5 years.
- Thanks to everyone on the Group.

4.3 To receive update from Cllr S Blood regarding the Lottery Bid application. Cllr S Blood was not in attendance, but asked the Clerk to read out the following:

"I have had the opportunity to talk at length to the assessor who looked at our bid at the H.L.F. The bid failed because it needed some additional community and educational benefits and was also up against some very strong competition. It was felt that this was in principle something the H.L.F. would like to support and that we should resubmit the bid with some adjustments. The H.L.F. have offered to provide a consultant development worker to help us refocus the community benefit element. I am now waiting for a package of information from the H.L.F. so that I can take it forward to the next stage. Hopefully I will be able to do this within the next couple of weeks. I have taken this back from Devon Heartlands to undertake personally".

After some discussion it was resolved that Cllr S Blood should not be taking over the submission personally, having regard that it was a Council resolution that Devon Heartlands should submit the application. It was further resolved that a team/sub committee or even a community committee should be formed.

A suggestion that some ideas from the Neighbourhood Plan consultations should be taken on board, i.e. a Heritage Trail, community facilities at the woollen mill.

The matter would be discussed again at the 2nd September 2014 meeting.

4.4 Cllr I MacLeod updated the Council regarding the Patients Participation Group.

- Mel Stride, MP, had a meeting with the Chief Executive of the Health Service.
- Karen Aycock had meetings in London with various bodies.
- The National Association of Patients Participation Groups were organising a petition to highlight the problems with rural GP's funding etc.

4.5 Cllr I MacLeod updated the Council regarding Denbrook.

- LED scheme – all the other parishes had held meetings, and a letter was being drafted by Mike Bostock regarding the lack of consultation

regarding the LED scheme, and all the parishes would prefer the money to come directly to the community fund.

- Mike Hulme was considering submitting a Judicial Review regarding the noise condition being discharged – it is felt the scheme is flawed. Mike Hulme needs to raise £10,000 to submit the Judicial Review.

4.6 Cllr N Morgan Update (WDBC Ward Member) not in attendance.

5. **Ongoing issues**

The 'Action Log' was updated.

- An e-mail to be sent to Rhys Davies again regarding the signage at De Bathe Cross
- The Clerk was requested to contact Will Jury regarding the signage for the road closure at Taw Bridge. It was felt that it was very confusing for HGV drivers at De Bathe Cross.

Item 6 was moved to the end of the agenda.

7. **Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic and Parking Period 18th July 2014 – 30 September 2014**

1. Road from Bouchiers Close past The Holt – Surface Dressing and Associated works – Noted.
2. Exeter Street – Carriage patching and associated works. - Noted

8. **Let's Talk Renewables! Workshop**

Details a training workshop "Let's Talk Renewables!" being organised by West Devon Borough Council on 25th July 2014, previously circulated, was discussed. If any Councillors wished to attend this workshop they should contact the Clerk.

9. **Sustainable Communities Act**

The Government's announcement that allows local (parish and town) councils to be able to send agendas electronically rather than in the post; ending a budgetary burden on councils and enabling them to benefit from 21st Century technology, previously circulated, was discussed. After some discussion it was resolved that agendas and enclosures would remain being circulated in paper form.

9. **PLANNING MATTERS**

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

9.1 00739/2014

2 Bouchiers Close, North Tawton, EX20 2DB

Householder application for erection of extensions to provide a double garage and sun room adjoining patio area.

Cllr A Gillespie declared an interest in this item.

After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.

To note decisions of West Devon Borough Council

9.2 01037/2013

Hybrid planning application comprising: Full application for 61 residential dwellings with associated roads, footways, parking, landscaping, drainage and open space and allotments;

together with Outline application (with all Matters Reserved) for 0.876 ha of land for employment use and medical centre.
Land south of Moorview and west of High Street, North Tawton
Conditional Consent – 30/6/14
Noted. The Clerk was requested to obtain a copy of the Section 106 Agreement for reference.

9.3 00365/2014

The Barton, North Tawton, EX20 2BB

Works to reduce Weir and associated works including removal of trees.

Conditional Consent 1/7/14

Noted. Cllr N Morgan, Ward Member, had indicated that he would be requesting this application to be called back to West Devon's Planning and Licensing Committee.

10. FINANCE

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

10.2 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.

11. 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.

Mrs C Hughes commented on the derogatory remarks about Mr Geoff Cawse made at the last meeting. Mrs Hughes also stated that the Council had been asking to have sight of the Lottery Bid applications, and perhaps if they had things would not have got this far.

The Chairman advised that the matter was to be discussed in Part II of the meeting.

Mrs C Hughes also commented on the planning application for the reduction in the height of the weir at The Barton. West Country Rivers Trust, was not a quango, it was formed by Ted Hughes. The agent, Mr Dowling, was acting on behalf of the West Country Rivers Trust. The papers submitted with the application were very comprehensive. In principle the reduction in the height of the weir encourage more salmon to get up river towards Dartmoor.

Cllr Dr P Brickley responded. The Town Council's concerns regarding the matter were that Mr Dowling did attend a Planning Committee meeting, and all the Town Council asked was that the project should not reduce the amount of water going to the leat and to repair the fish ladders.

6. Electoral Review of West Devon: Draft Recommendations

Cllr Dr P Brickley circulated the finalised response, for approval, to the Local Government Boundary Commission regarding their Draft Recommendations – Electoral Review of West Devon. After some discussion it was resolved that the response should be sent by Recorded Delivery to the Boundary Commission.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Dr P Brickely.

12. Any other business

Cllr I MacLeod stated that there was a petition regarding the GP funding, notices would be put up in the Town.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council shall be 2nd September 2014.

Part I of the meeting ended at 9.10 pm.

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.

Concern was expressed regarding derogatory comments made about Mr Geoff Cawse at a recent meeting. The Clerk was requested to write to the Councillor concerned.

Details regarding the Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Community Rehabilitation Company Community Payback Unit were discussed. After some discussion it was resolved that initially 1 weeks work, plus materials, would be agreed, and Cllr S Whitley would liaise with the Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Community Rehabilitation Company Community Payback Unit. Work, initially, suggested was:

- Jubilee Clock, pointing around the lead, cleaning the roof tiles, painting the wood.
- Painting the park railings.
- Repairs and painting the seats.
- Painting the park equipment.

Part II of the meeting ended at 9.50 pm.