

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 3rd June 2014 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllr S Blood Cllr Dr P Brickley
Cllr Mrs C Burrow Cllr Mrs G Hoggins (Chair)
Cllr A Gillespie Cllr I MacLeod
Cllr N Morgan Cllr Mrs D Rice

3 members of the public were present.

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

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies for received from Cllr K Hodge and Cllr Mrs A Ponsford
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr S Whiteley declared an interest in Item 15.1 Finance – in receipt of cheque.

4. **In Accordance with Standing Order 2 j:**

- Review of delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, employees and other local authorities and Review of the terms of references for committees.
After some discussion it was resolved that the wording of 15 (a) vii should be amended:

The Planning Committee shall have executive power to take decisions, on planning matters only, as if they were taken at a full meeting of the Town Council or may make recommendations to be referred to the next or a subsequent ordinary meeting of the council. Any decisions arising from meetings shall be referred to in the minutes as required in 9(a) above.

It was confirmed that the Estates Committee and Finance Committee terms of reference should remain the same, i.e. resolutions to be confirmed by Full Council.

- Establishing or reviewing the Council's complaints procedure. –
After some discussion it was resolved that the complaints procedure, as previously circulated, should be adopted.
- Social Media policy
After some discussion concerning a Social Media Policy, previously circulated, it was resolved to defer the matters.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

- 5.1 The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 6th May 2014, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.
- 5.2 The Minutes of the Planning Committee of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 13th May 2014, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.
- 5.3 The notes of the Planning Site Inspection held on Friday 23rd May 2014, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.
- 5.4 The Minutes of the Finance Committee of North Tawton Town Council held at the Council Offices on Tuesday 27th May 2014, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

6. **Updates:**

- 6.1 The Chairman informed the Council that the Parish Lengthsman was due to make a visit week beginning 9th June 2014.

- 6.2 Cllr Dr. P Brickley gave a brief update regarding the Neighbourhood Plan project:
- The data input for the questionnaire was nearly completed, particular thanks to Cllr Mrs C Burrow and Mr M Kennedy.
 - The students from Plymouth University were now unable to help in the summer, and it was felt that the traffic survey would be distorted because of the bridge closure.
 - The grant application from the Locality Fund had been submitted, a response should be received within 10 days.
 - WDBC call for sites analysis would be made public towards the end of June.
 - The Project Group were going to consider their calls for sites analysis within the next couple of week.
 - Work on drafting policies will be started in the autumn.

The Chairman thanked the team for their hard work.

- 6.3 Cllr S Blood gave a brief update regarding the Lottery Bid application.
- A letter had been received requesting justification on community benefit.
- 6.4 Cllr I MacLeod gave a brief update regarding the Patients Participation Group.
- Concern had been raised regarding the funding for the new surgery on the Wainhomes site. A meeting had been arranged for 13th June 2014 with Mel Stride MP and other interested parties.
- 6.5 Cllr N Morgan – WDBC Ward Member gave a brief update.
- A meeting with the Independent Group had been arranged to discuss the response to the Boundary Commission on the draft warding arrangements.
 - There appears to be a problem with the planning application for 2 live/work units on land adjacent to Devonshire Gardens. The Environment Health Department have raised an objection to the proposal.
 - At the Planning and Licensing Committee the application for the weir was discussed, and a site visit was to be arranged.
- 6.6 The Chairman allowed Mr M Hulme to update the Council regarding Denbrook
- A meeting of the Community Liaison Group was due to take place on 10th June 2014. There was a difference of opinion on the noise condition. Mr Hulme was considering whether to take to matter to Judicial Review again.
 - Some householders in North Tawton had received a letter from RES regarding the LED scheme (Local Electricity Discount Scheme). Mr Hulme was of the opinion that if householders took up the offer of the LED scheme then they would be subject to a higher noise level criteria. The matter was being investigated. Mr Hulme suggested that householders should be made aware of this.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hulme for attending the meeting and updating the Council.

7. Ongoing issues

The 'Action Log' was updated.

Flooding problems – the Clerk had requested information from DCC regarding when they were going to carry out the gulley emptying.

8. Devon & Cornwall Police Public Contact Strategy Station Enquiry Offices' Rationalisation

The letter received from the Devon and Cornwall Police dated 13th May 2014, previously circulated, was noted.

9. Cllr J McInnes (DCC) Report

The Annual Report received from Cllr J McInnes, previously circulated, was noted.

10. DCC Library Consultation

The Devon County Council Library Consultation, previously circulated, was discussed.

After some discussion it was resolved that a response to the Consultation should be sent. The Town Council very much valued the library van service and would not want to see the service reduced any more, as some people rely on it and it is really important to them.

- 11. 150th Anniversary of the Opening of the Railway to North Tawton**
Councillor S Blood informed the Council that it was 150th Anniversary of the Opening of the Railway to North Tawton in 2015. North Tawton Railway Station was opened by London and South Western Railway in 1865. The Dartmoor Railway Supporters' Association are going to mark this Anniversary.
- Destination Okehampton Working Group has been set up to rejuvenate Okehampton, and to try and get Network Rail to open the railway from Exeter to Plymouth via Okehampton and Tavistock.
- After some discussion it was proposed to defer the matter.
- 12. North Tawton Bowling Club – New Clubhouse Project**
The letter received from the Bowling Club regarding a letter of support to Sport England in connection with the Clubhouse Project, previously circulated, was discussed.
- After some discussion it was resolved that a letter should be sent to Sport England supporting the Clubhouse Project.
- 13. Road Access Protection lines – White Hart, North Tawton**
The request for access protection line (solid white line) outside White Hart, North Tawton, previously circulated, was discussed.
- After some discussion it was resolved not to object to the access protection line. The Clerk was requested to inform Devon County Council.
- 14. Golden Leaf Landscaping**
The Clerk updated the Council on work carried out by Golden Leaf Landscaping in May.
- 15. To consider the planning applications received from West Devon Borough Council and to make recommendations.**
15.1 00490/2014
21 Fore Street, North Tawton, EX20 2DT
Works to Trees in a Conservation Area for the removal of a conifer from the front garden of 21A Fore Street.
- After some discussion it was resolved to support the application.
- To note decisions of West Devon Borough Council**
15.2 00377/2014
Gregory Distribution Ltd., Fore Street, North Tawton, EX20 2EB
Erection of new porch and lobby and associated alterations to building
Conditional consent 14/5/14
Noted.
- 16. FINANCE**
16.1 Invoices. Members inspected the invoices and bank statements and appropriate payments were made in accordance with bank mandate.
- 16.2 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.
- 16.3 NSPCC**
The request received from the NSPCC for a grant was discussed.
- After some discussion it was resolved, with regret, that the Town Council could not approve a grant.
- 17. 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. Time shall be limited up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

A member of the public asked a question about the Weir and development at the Wool Factory.

A member of the public asked when the Durant Trust meeting was due to be held; a meeting was to be arranged later in the month.

18. Any other business

The Chairman informed Councillors that she and Cllr Mrs C Burrow were arranging a summer meal, which would be held in July.

Two street lights are faulty, one near Gregorys Yard and the other in Webbs Orchard.

A question was asked about the recent e-mail correspondence between Councillors, the Chairman informed the Council that this would be discussed in Part II.

19. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council shall be 1st July 2014.

PART II

EXEMPT REPORT

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 recent e-mail correspondence, after some discussion the matter was resolved.