

**Northam Town Council** – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Windmill Lane, Northam commencing at 7.00 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Brading (Chairman), Mrs Whittaker, Davis, Edwards, Hames, Hancock, Himan, Leather, Sherborne and Tisdale

**In attendance:** Mrs M J Mills, Town Clerk  
Reverend Arnold  
Member of the public

- 1804/1324 Apologies**  
Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllrs, Berryman, Eastman
- 1804/1325 Chairman's Announcements**  
List attached
- 1804/1326 Declarations of interest**  
Members were reminded that all interests must be declared prior to the item being discussed.
- 1804/1327 To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (*confidential information*)**  
It was **resolved** to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B.  
Proposed: Cllr Hancock, Seconded: Cllr Leather (all in favour)
- 1804/1328 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March as a correct record.  
Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Leather (majority in favour, 2 abstentions, not present at the meeting)
- 1804/1329 To note and adopt the reports of minutes and resolutions contained therein from Committees and Sub-Committees (Items contained in Part B to be considered under Part B)**  
Planning – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (*draft*)  
Town Projects – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (*draft*)  
It was **agreed** to note and adopt the reports of minutes and resolutions.
- 1804/1330 Action Points**  
It was **agreed** to note the Action points.
- 1804/1331 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk**  
It was **agreed** to note the reports.
- 1804/1332 To receive a Police Report**  
No Police were present
- 1804/1333 To receive questions and/or deputations or petitions from parishioners. All deputations or petitions to be referred without discussion to the Clerk for action, or to the next Council meeting for discussion as appropriate. Any question requiring an answer at the meeting to be submitted at least five working days before the meeting to the Town Council office.**  
No questions had been received.

**1804/1334 Public Participation**

*Members of the public are permitted to make representations answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. The period of time which is designated for public participation in accordance with standing orders shall not exceed fifteen minutes.*

No members of the public wished to speak

**1804/1335 To consider a Five Member motion requesting that the decision to allow the Town Clerk to participate in training through a two-year university course should be rescinded for the following reasons:**

- a) we have not been supplied with full details of the course;
- b) it has not been made clear what benefit the Council will derive once the Clerk completes the course;
- c) the £2500 per annum to fund the course will be over three times the Council's total annual training budget and will be devoted to the training of only one member of staff;
- d) given the sum involved it seems unlikely that further funding could be afforded to support training for other members of staff.

It was **resolved** to rescind the decision to allow the Town Clerk to participate in training through a two-year University course.

Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (6 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention)

**1804/1336 To consider a request for support for the Richmond Dock project**

Cllr Mrs Whittaker advised that Torridge District Council are committed to support the project and Cllr Brading advised that there is a copy of the Business Plan available and he will forward one to Torridge District Council.

It was **resolved** to send a letter of support for the Richmond Dock project to the group with a copy to Torridge District Council.

Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Edwards

**Action Point – Town Clerk to send letter of support**

**1804/1337 To consider correspondence**

- Invitation to all Councillors to attend the Open Meeting of the Appledore Lifeboat
- Invitation to Golden Rendezvous

Members were advised to respond to both invitations individually.

**1804/1338 To consider an update on Civic Twinning (information on all herewith)**

- Civic Twinning Dinner
- Invoice for Coach Hire

It was **resolved** that during the forthcoming year serious discussion will take place with the Twinners. Historically it is a Civic Twinning and Northam Town Council would like to hold a specific Civic event. In the future Councillors and staff will be expected to pay if they attend the Civic event, however there will be no charge for the Mayor and Mayoress. Northam Town Council will contribute £1500 towards the event in May.

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)

Cllr Hames gave his apologies and left the meeting at this juncture.

It was **resolved** that the cost of the coach would not be met by the Town Council  
Proposed: Cllr Sherborne, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (7 votes in favour, 1 vote against, 1 abstention)

In the circumstances the Mayor has agreed personally to pay for the coach.

**1804/1339 To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Leather advised that the last meeting had been on 16<sup>th</sup> April where a minute's silence was observed in memory of Cllr Durkin who had contributed a significant amount of work. The visions, aims and objectives were set at the meeting and the focus groups will be appointed at the next meeting which will be on 14<sup>th</sup> May.

**1804/1340 To consider a request for additional cemetery provision**

It was **resolved** to write to Torridge District Council requesting that urgent consideration be given to additional cemetery provision.

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Sherborne (all in favour)

**Action Point – Town Clerk to write to Torridge District Council**

**1804/1341 To consider a seven-member motion**

**“That Northam Town Council hold an extraordinary meeting of the Council at a date and time agreed by the majority of Members to discuss the proposals and funding for the three parks and that no applications for funding are made until agreed at this meeting.”**

It was **resolved** to put forward three dates. Members would prefer a Wednesday evening at 7 pm.

Proposed: Cllr Sherborne, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)

**Action Point – Meeting to be arranged**

**1804/1342 To consider correspondence received regarding Lords Meadow**

This was noted and the Town Clerk was asked to respond.

**Action Point – Town Clerk to respond to correspondence**

At this juncture Cllr Hancock gave his apologies and left the meeting.

**1804/1343 To consider membership of TTVS £25 per annum**

It was **resolved** to pay the membership fee of TTVS

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Sherborne (all in favour)

**Action Point – Pay membership fee**

**1804/1344 To consider naming the boat planters**

It was **resolved** to name the boat adjacent to Northam Hall “Butch”; the one off the A39 at the entrance to Westward Ho! “Mic”; the one adjacent to Morrisons “Alasdair” and the Appledore boat “Sam”.

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)

**1804/1345 Street Matters**

- Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic and parking; Quayside Appledore from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (both dates inclusive) to enable service trench for gas and water
- Devon County Council - Temporary prohibition of through traffic and parking; Merley Road, Westward Ho! from Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (both dates inclusive) to enable disconnection of water service
- Devon County Council – Temporary restriction; A39 Higher Waytown to Horns Cross from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

It was agreed to note the Street Matters.

Cllr Tisdale raised the issue of the potholes in Avon Lane.

**1804/1346 Summary Report from a District Member**

- Cllr Mrs Whittaker advised that Cllr Nick Laws has been appointed Lead Member for Internal Resources. This year she is chairing the Devon District Forum. There has been a problem for local people to attend the Devon Youth Games but events will now be held so that no one has to travel further than 20 miles. It is hoped this will help with exercise and obesity. Waste and Recycling – moving forward will not be easy; there are a number of boxes being supplied, all different sizes. Food and recycling will be collected weekly. Torridge are aware of problems in Appledore and will be very tough on business waste, particularly from holiday cottages. A lot has already been learned from North Devon District Council and any problems will have to be looked at. Torridge have appointed two Compliance Officers.
- Cllr Brading advised that the maintenance men are already finding local hedges full of cuttings.
- Cllr Mrs Whittaker went on to say that 1500 people have signed up for the green waste bins.
- Cllr Leather expressed concern about the boxes for glass.
- Cllr Himan advised that at a recent Community Resources meeting there had been a revision of Public Space Protection Orders and a review of Dog Control Orders. Janet Williams, from Torridge District Council will be pleased to come and talk to the Council.

**1804/1347 Report from County Councillor**

In the absence of Cllr Eastman all Members were given a copy of the HATOC agenda for Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Brading is unable to attend; however, Cllr Leather and Cllr Davis will go to the meeting. Concerns were expressed regarding the crossing outside St George's School and contrary to the reports in the minutes Cllr Brading has not had any meetings with anyone. Further concerns are with regard to lack of signage adjacent to the traffic lights in Churchill Way and the decision to take no action regarding a crossing in Northam Square.

**PART B**

**1804/1352 To resolve to readmit members of the press and public**  
It was **resolved** to readmit members of the press and public.  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Whittaker, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed..... Dated.....

DRAFT