

Northam Town Council – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 26th July 2017 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Windmill Lane, Northam commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Brading (Chairman), Mrs Whittaker, Berryman, Davis, Durkin, Eastman, Edwards, Hames, Hancock, Himan, Leather, Sherborne

In attendance: Mrs M J Mills, Town Clerk
Reverend Derek Arnold

1707/288 Apologies

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllrs Miller and Tisdale

1707/289 Chairman's Announcements

Members were reminded of the Highways meeting on Monday 31st July.

1707/290 Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that all interests must be declared prior to the item being discussed.

1707/291 To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (*confidential information*)

It was proposed to move item 16 on the agenda to item 12.

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Davis

There was a further proposal by Cllr Sherborne, seconded by Cllr Edwards, that item 17 be moved to item 12 and item 16 be moved to item 13 (all in favour)

It was further **resolved** to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B as amended
Proposed: Cllr Hancock, Seconded: Cllr Leather (all in favour)

1707/292 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 28th June 2017

It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 28th June 2017 as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr Berryman, Seconded: Cllr Brading (majority in favour 1 abstention, not present at previous meeting)

1707/293 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 – 28th June 2017
- Town Projects – 3rd July 2017
- Northam Burrows Committee – 10th July 2017
- Planning – 12th July 2017
- Finance & Staffing – 17th July 2017

It was **agreed** to note and adopt the reports of minutes and resolutions.

1707/294 Action Points

It was **agreed** to note the Action points.

1707/295 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk

It was **agreed** to note the reports.

1707/296 To receive a Police Report

There were no Police present

- 1707/297** **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.
- 1707/298** **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 15 minutes.
No members of the public wished to speak
- 1707/299** **To receive a recommendation from the Finance and Staffing committee that Northam Town Council approach TDC and DCC requesting a contribution from the two Councils in respect of work performed on their behalf**
It was **resolved** to place this matter on the next agenda with an update from Cllr Mrs Whittaker with regard to street cleaning in the Northam area.
Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Brading (all in favour)
Action Point – item to be placed on next agenda
- 1707/300** **To receive a recommendation from the Finance and Staffing committee that an additional maintenance person be appointed**
It was proposed by Cllr Durkin and seconded by Cllr Leather, that the recommendation from Finance and Staffing to proceed with appointing an additional maintenance person be accepted.
There was a subsequent proposal (amendment) that additional information should be brought to the next meeting with full costings of the implications.
Proposed: Cllr Edwards, Seconded Cllr Hames. There were 5 votes in favour of the amendment and 7 votes against. The amendment failed.

A vote was taken on the original proposal with 7 votes in favour, 4 votes against and 1 abstention.
Action Point – Town Clerk to proceed with the appointment

Cllr Hancock gave his apologies and left the meeting.
- 1707/301** **To consider the purchase of business cards**
It was **resolved** that business cards could be produced by the office.
Proposed: Cllr Himan, Seconded: Cllr Brading (all in favour)
There was a further **resolution** that all Councillors should be permitted to use the Town Crest on their Councillor business cards.
Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Edwards (all in favour)
- 1707/302** **To receive an update on Festoon Lighting in Westward Ho!**
Members were advised that the festoon lighting at Westward Ho! is now in place. The top dressing will be applied this week.

- 1707/303 To receive an update on Festoon Lighting in Appledore**
Members were advised that the Section 278 Draft Agreement had gone to Devon County Council from Nicholas Hancox Solicitors. Cllr Edwards requested that a specification for the Devon County Council lamp posts is sought and circulated.
- 1707/304 To consider a recommendation from Northam Burrows Committee that**
“The Corporate Trustee (Northam Town Council) hereby appoints the Members of the Northam Burrows Committee to receive delegated powers to operate the Charity on behalf of the Corporate Trustee. Further that the signatories should be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to the Charity. Signing authority to be one Member and one Staff Member.”
- It was **resolved** to accept the recommendation from Northam Burrows Committee that
“The Corporate Trustee (Northam Town Council) hereby appoints the Members of the Northam Burrows Committee to receive delegated powers to operate the Charity on behalf of the Corporate Trustee. Further that the signatories should be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to the Charity. Signing authority to be one Member and one Staff Member.”
Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Brading (8 votes in favour, 3 abstentions)
- 1707/305 To consider a proposal from Cllr Brading that**
“Given Brexit; is it not time Northam Town Council in Great Britain re-establishes its links with those towns both in the present Commonwealth and in the past Empire? I would propose establishing Twinning with Northam in Western Australia (Near Perth) be the first twinning.”
- It was **resolved** to move forward in establishing an association with Northam in Western Australia and Northam in South Africa
Proposed: Cllr Sherborne, Seconded: Cllr Mrs Whittaker (all in favour)
Action Point - The Town Clerk was asked to contact Alderwoman Mrs Biggs to obtain further information on the gift received from Northam in Australia
- 1707/306 To receive a report on back-up (Cllr Durkin)**
It was **resolved** to move forward with these procedures and bring full costings to the next meeting in association with Cllr Durkin.
Proposed: Cllr Sherborne, Seconded: Cllr Edwards (all in favour)
Action Point – Town Clerk to bring full costings to the next meeting.
- 1707/307 To consider a report on Bone Hill**
It was agreed to note the report and to ask Torridge District Council if they hold a copy of a risk assessment for Bone Hill and if so, could they forward us a copy.
Action Point – Town Clerk to contact Torridge and ask for copy of risk assessment.
- 1707/308 To consider correspondence**
- CPRE Devon – Annual Report 2016
- It was agreed to note the correspondence.
- 1707/309 To consider installation of a water cooler for the Town Hall**
It was **resolved** to defer a decision and place on the next Full Council agenda.
Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Edwards (all in favour)
Action Point – matter to be placed on the next agenda.

1707/310

Street Matters**Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic (one way)****Roads affected** – A39 TORRIDGE BRIDGE (Heywood Roundabout west side to junction with B3233 east side) BIDEFORD LONG BRIDGE (B3233)**Diversion Route – INBOUND TRAFFIC:** A39, A386, Bideford Long Bridge**OUTBOUND TRAFFIC:** Bideford Long Bridge, Barnstaple Street, B3233, A39**TEMPORARY SPEED LIMIT:** No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on the sections of Affected Roads when temporary traffic signing is in place.**Roads affected** – A39 TORRIDGE BRIDGE (Heywood Roundabout west side to junction with B3233 east side)**TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF PARKING:** No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to park or wait on the sections of Affected Roads.**Roads affected (except any existing allocated parking)** A386, THE QUAY (Bideford Long Bridge to Kingsley Road) B3233, BARNSTAPLE STREET (Bideford Long Bridge to B3233 junction with A39)**To enable - BRIDGE WORKS** from Monday 2nd October 2017 to Monday 19th March 2018

It was agreed to note Street matters with Cllr Himan raising the fact that a number of tiles have fallen off the roof of the Windmill Lane building adjacent to the end garage and requested that Torridge be notified as soon as possible because of the danger.

Action Point – Town Clerk to notify Torridge

1707/311

To receive reports from Members on outside bodiesIt was **resolved** that the Town Clerk should prepare a review report to be considered at the next Full Council meeting.**Action Point – Town Clerk to write to outside bodies and prepare report**

1707/312

Summary Report from a District Member

Cllr Mrs Whittaker spoke about the serious implications for the planned work on the Bideford Longbridge which could last between 4½ and 6 months. She had attended a briefing by Devon County Council but businesses and other essential services had not been invited. She has requested a meeting with Phil Norrey and all relevant Devon County Council Officers for further discussion and requested that everyone impacted by the proposed works be invited to attend.

It was then **resolved** to write to the Head of Highways expressing Northam Town Council's extreme concern and requesting a re-think on the situation, perhaps to include 24-hour work.

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

Action Point – Town Clerk to write to the Head of Highways

She went on to say that there was concern about Richmond Dock and the required level of repair. She had attended a recent meeting and understands it is for sale at a cost of £1.2 million. There is very little development possibility on the site. She has also recently attend a Link Road meeting and was advised that to complete the desired improvements would cost in the region of £250 million. Torridge would have to match fund at a level of 20%. It has been calculated that £5 to £6 million would be available so the maximum spend for the scheme would be in the region of £80 million and it was considered that the best option was to proceed with plans between South Molton and Portmore. She had recently attended a Local Government Association conference

where the Transport Minister had advised that in the next few years licence money will be invested in road improvements. She went on to say with regard to Westward Ho! park there are no current decisions. Westward Ho! Cricket Club have found an alternative site and are completing a feasibility study. With regard to Brunswick Wharf 5 developers will be providing presentations at the meeting on 7th August.

Cllr Davis spoke to advise Members that plans for Marsh Farm were passed at the Torridge Planning Committee meeting.

1707/313

Report from County Councillor

County Councillor Eastman spoke about the proposed move by Westward Ho! Cricket Club which was partly due to the distance that the ball travels and causes damage to vehicles and properties.

He distributed a feedback leaflet and asked Members to complete it and return it to the Town Clerk before the next meeting so that the responses could be collated. He went on to speak about a hedge at Pitt Hill where the overgrowth completely covered the pavement. This has been cleared by the County Council and he will be addressing issues at the HATOC meeting on Tuesday 10th October where any Members are welcome to attend and he hopes to see the majority of issues on the agenda relating to concerns in the Northam Town Council area.

PART B

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.14 pm

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

DRAFT