

Northam Town Council – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 28th March 2018 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Windmill Lane, Northam commencing at 7.00 pm

Prayers were said by Reverend Arnold and a minute's silence was held in memory of former Cllr Miller

Present: Cllrs Brading (Chairman), Davis, Durkin, Eastman, Edwards, Hames, Hancock, Himan, Leather, and Tisdale

In attendance: Mrs M J Mills, Town Clerk

1803/1244 Apologies

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllrs Mrs Whittaker, Berryman and Sherborne

1803/1245 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman read a list of announcements, copy attached to the minutes

1803/1246 Declarations of interest

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

1803/1247 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 Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Hancock (all in favour)

1803/1248 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 28th February 2018

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

Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Leather (majority in favour, 2 abstentions, not present at the meeting)

1803/1249 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 February 2018
- Town Projects – 5th March 2018
- Planning – 14th March 2018
- Finance – 19th March 2018

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

1803/1250 Action Points

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

1803/1251 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk

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

1803/1252 To receive a Police Report

No Police were present

- 1803/1253** 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.
- 1803/1254** **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 were present.
- 1803/1255** **To consider work required on the Mayoral Chain and additional purchases**
- **Medallions and collarettes**
- It was **resolved** to purchase medallions and collarettes at best value. The design to be the crest with a Northam Town Council surround and a ceiling on expenditure of £750
Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Davis (majority in favour 1 abstention)
Action Points - purchase medallions and collarettes. Cllr Brading to seek quotes from Katherine Bishop.
- 1803/1256** **To consider correspondence**
- **E-mail re local plan**
 - **CPRE Devon Voice Newsletter**
- It was **agreed** to note the correspondence. Members were advised to email their responses to Torridge District Council
- 1803/1257** **To consider a Men's Shed at Bonehill**
It was **resolved** to reconsider this when Torridge District Council has confirmed the completion of the Community transfer.
Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)
Action Point - place back on the agenda when the transfer is confirmed
- 1803/1258** **To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan**
Cllr Leather updated Members, the next meeting has been moved to the 16th April when there will be a presentation of the responses and seeking agreement on the policies. It is expected there will be 4 or 5 main policies. There is a lot of work to do. The Mayor offered grateful thanks to Cllr Leather for all his hard work.
- 1803/1259** **To consider a request for funding from the Northam Methodist Church**
It was **resolved** to support the request for funding in the sum of £2000, and whilst replying to advise of other possible funding that might be available.
Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Himan (majority in favour one vote against)
Action Point - respond to the Methodist Church

1803/1260 To consider a proposal from Bideford Town Council with regard to the TAP Fund 2018-19

It was **resolved** to reply to Bideford Council that whilst the Members were interested in the idea they would require a lot more detailed information before they can make a decision. They have concerns on the viability of the project to be able to run to the proposed destinations.

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (majority in favour, 1 abstention and 1 vote against)

Action Point - respond to Bideford Town Council

1803/1261 To consider updated Flag Policy and current list of all policies

It was **resolved** to accept the flag policy and list of policies

Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Brading (majority in favour 1 abstention)

1803/1262 To consider an application to the PWLB to fund play areas at Anchor Park, Lords Meadow and Ridgeway Drive, as agreed at Town Projects in January 2018 to include a report to Council

- To consider additional proposals to complete works at Anchor Park – It was resolved to complete the work at Anchor Park as per the Business Plan dated 7th January 2018, funded through a Public Works Loans Board loan over 25 years.

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

- It was resolved to raise up the level of the children's play area and move forward as quickly as possible. This will be funded through the Public Works Loans Board over a period of 25 years.
- Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Brading (all in favour)
- It was further resolved to proceed with the Business Plan with the addition of new surfaces around the play area for older children and construction of a partial perimeter path to join with the existing paths and to enable access to the equipment for older children.

Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Durkin (all in favour)

It was **resolved** to hold a special meeting to discuss the proposals for the three parks. Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Edwards (majority in favour 3 votes against and one abstention)

It was further **resolved** that the PWLB loan application be approved in principle to complete the works up to the sum of £145,000, if other funding is not available.

Proposed: Cllr Durkin, Seconded: Cllr Leather (majority in favour with two votes against)

Following a heated exchange of views between Members, Cllr Himan left the meeting.

Action Points - Town Clerk to arrange a special meeting and seek alternative funding and any possible additional quotes.

1803/1263 To consider lighting the flagpole at Bone Hill

It was **resolved** to proceed with the lighting of the flagpole and to include both yard arms and gaff yard.

Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Durkin (majority in favour 1 vote against)

Action Point - order the lighting for the flagpole and advise Dermot McGough immediately of NTC's need for further use of his scaffold.

1803/1264 To consider the fortnightly and black bag collection in Appledore and other difficult and remote areas

It was **resolved** to write to Torridge District Council asking for clarity on their waste collection proposals, there is great concern about fortnightly collections especially in Appledore and other difficult areas. It was also suggested that bags similar to those used in Cornwall could be employed.

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

Action Point - Town Clerk to write to Torridge District Council

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

1803/1265 To consider replacement vehicle options

It was **resolved** to proceed with the purchase of the Ford tipper and retain the two small vans for more frequent use

Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Davis (majority in favour with one abstention)

Cllr Hames proposed an amendment but there was no seconder.

There was a further proposal that the cost be met from reserves for a replacement vehicle, with the balance to be met from Community reserves.

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

Action Point - Town Clerk to place an order for the tipper on Thursday March 29th 2018

At this juncture, Councillor Tisdale gave his apologies and left the meeting

1803/1266 Street Matters

Members had nothing to report

1803/1267 Summary Report from a District Member

1803/1268 Report from County Councillor

These two reports were combined, and Cllr Eastman's report is attached
Cllr Davis advised of changes to the ward boundaries

The meeting had now been in progress for two and a half hours

It was **resolved** to continue the meeting.

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

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm

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

DRAFT