

# NORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

# NORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL SPRING NEWSLETTER 2018

## COUNCILLORS

### Northam Ward

Cllr D Berryman	07989 825931
Cllr H Brading	01209 611988
Cllr J Himan	01237 422227
Cllr R Hancock	07581 203493
Cllr Mrs J Whittaker	01237 472315

### Appledore Ward

Cllr K Davis	01237 472136
Cllr A Eastman	01237 474550
Cllr B Edwards	01237 477441
Cllr P Hames	01237 421065

### Westward Ho!

Cllr Tisdale	01237 474703
Cllr Durkin	01237 422002

### Orchard Hill

Cllr Leather	01237 425940
Cllr Sherborne	01237 700948

## STAFF

Town Clerk	Mrs M J Mills MILCM
Assistant Clerk	Mrs P Moores
Administration Officer	Miss A Kendall
Maintenance Men	Tim Martin Ivan Heuze Dominic Callebaut Dean Stewardson
Town Beadle	Gerry Montague

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

9 <sup>th</sup> April	Town Projects
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Planning
18 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual Electors Meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Finance
25 <sup>th</sup> April	Planning & Full Council

8 <sup>th</sup> May	Town Projects
9 <sup>th</sup> May	Planning & Annual Town Council
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Finance & Northam Burrows
30 <sup>th</sup> May	Planning & Full Council

Agendas are published 6 days before the meeting and can be found on the website and in notice boards around the area.

## THE OFFICE

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

This year spring seems a bit late in arriving just like some of the projects Northam Town Council hoped would have been completed by now. I refer especially to the much needed pedestrian crossing in Jackets Lane which appears to have come to a standstill.

On Remembrance Sunday Suzanne and I attended the Services at Appledore and Northam in their Churches followed by the laying of

wreaths at the memorials. I was heartened to see so many attending despite the bitter cold and blustery weather. Special thanks must go to Mr John Williams for organising the Appledore event following the demise of the Appledore branch of the British Legion.

Suzanne and I were delighted to be invited to the switching on of the Christmas lighting in all three villages in early December. Turn out at all three events proved there is plenty of community and festive spirit about. Now that the festoon lighting in Westward Ho! has survived the winter storms the second phase of extending the lighting along the promenade has commenced. I hope it will be up in time for the peak 2018 tourist season.

A new bus shelter on Heywood Road will shortly be erected thanks to funding from District Cllrs Eastman, Hancock and Mrs Whittaker. This year's Northam Mayfair on Saturday 5th May is almost organised. It will be similar to last year's which everyone felt was a success. However, there will be two different attractions; the first is the front end of a British jet fighter – a Lightning which Bideford Air cadets are restoring will be on show. Those brave enough should be able to actually sit in it. Secondly, there will be a Viking/Saxon presence demonstrating not only their weapons but how they lived and cooked. A small mint with a replica Saxon coin is also promised. But what will be really exciting is there will be two opportunities for youngsters to enter the arena and spar with the Viking warriors.

Finally as my term as Mayor draws to an end may I beg some of our younger residents to seriously consider standing for election as Northam Town Councillors next year? Believe me you can bring about changes and improvements in your Communities.  
**Mayor, Cllr Hugh Brading. Photo courtesy of Graham Hobbs.**

## WASTE PLASTIC

At a recent meeting of the Town Projects committee, it was recommended to Full Council that *'Northam Town Council adopt the Surfers Against Sewage stance opposing the proliferation of single use plastics in this area in order to both cut down on coastal pollution and the waste of natural sources they represent.* This was accepted by Full Council on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018. Cllrs Berryman and Hames will be attending upcoming Surfers Against Sewage meetings and moving this forward through the Town Projects Committee.



## NORTHAM MAY FAIR 5TH MAY 2018

All the preparations for this year's May Fair are now well under way. This year there will be two additional attractions; demonstrations by Viking/Saxon warriors and a Lightning Fighter (above). There will also be May Pole dancing, traction engine rides and fairground rides. Look out for the official programme which will be published soon. You can also keep up to date via the Northam May Fair Facebook page.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

At the end of last summer Northam Town Council decided to produce a Northam Neighbourhood Development Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led planning framework for guiding the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. When adopted, after a referendum of residents in the Northam area, it will be a legal planning document. Torridge District Council planning officers will have to refer to it when determining planning applications in the Northam area.

We have formed a steering group to undertake the production of the plan consisting of local councillors, residents and business representatives. We have issued two questionnaires to gain input from residents. Response to the first one was primarily from the older generation, we issued a second this year to try and gain responses from a younger age group. You can complete the survey on-line at: [www.northamneighbourhoodplan.co.uk](http://www.northamneighbourhoodplan.co.uk). The leaflet is also available from various local outlets, and can be returned using FREE POST. There is also a Facebook page to keep you up to date with the progress of the Plan, just search for Northam Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Chris Leather — Steering Group Chairman

## MANOR PASSES

The application forms for Manor Passes are now available. You can pick up a form from the Town Hall or they can be downloaded from the website. This year, charges remain at £12 and can be paid by cheque, postal order or card. Passes are limited to one per household.

## RIGHTS OF WAY

As some of you may already be aware, the Town Council is part of the P3 Scheme with Devon County Council. This provides us with funds to improve the Public Rights of Way in the area. A plan of works has been put into place for paths 14 (Orchard Hill - Hanson Park) and 21 (Silford Cross). Path 14 will see its bridge replaced and steps refurbished. The entrance to path 21 becomes very water logged in wet weather, it is planned to install a French drain soakaway to help ease the problem. The old stile will also be replaced with a gate to allow easier access. The Admin Officer is currently in the process of compiling a booklet of circular walks in the area, taking in the Public Rights of Way and the Coast Path. Be sure to look out for it in local shops and the Town Hall in the coming months. A copy will also be available online.

## PUBLIC TOILET IN NORTHAM

The Town and Parish (TAP) Fund is a joint scheme available from Torridge District Council and Devon County Council. The amount available each year is based on the number of electors in that Town or Parish. The Town Projects Committee recently considered various projects that the funding could be used for and it was resolved to renovate the public toilet behind the Community Centre in Fore Street. A new hand washing station will be installed as well as a complete new toilet system and energy saving PIR lighting system. An electronic timed lock will mean the facility will be more easily accessible. New tiling and flooring throughout will also be included.

## BENCHES

Last year, Torridge District Council handed over responsibility of the benches on Appledore Quay to Northam Town Council. A dowry of £1,725 was paid to the Council for repairs. This money has been spent on new wooden slats for the majority of the seats. The Maintenance Men have been busy preparing the wood and benches so you will soon start to see a great improvement to them. The Town Council have also now set up a sponsorship scheme, please contact the Town Hall for more details.

