

Minutes of the Northam Burrows Forum Meeting held on Monday 21st January 2019 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Windmill Lane, Northam at 10am

Present: Cllrs Laws (Chairman), Rev Arnold, Davis, Hames and Tisdale
In attendance: Mrs M J Mills – Town Clerk
Mr M Day (Ranger TDC), Mr S Kearney (TDC), Mrs S Jobson-Scott (Grazier) and Mrs H Wise (Grazier)

1901/738 Chairman's announcements

- The Chair advised that the Higher Level Stewardship will now be managed by the Rural Payments Agency and not Natural England, although natural England will deal with SSSI matters.
- Southwest Water had asked whether or not they needed to attend future meetings, Members agreed to invite a representative when they had queries to raise at a meeting. They would like to receive regular updates such as that presented by the TDC Ranger.

1901/739 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Eastman and Hancock. Also, Hazel Tranchant (Southwest Water), Rebecca Aston (Natural England) and Mark Evans (Royal North Devon Golf Club).

1901/740 Declarations of interest:

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

1901/741 To agree agenda as published

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published.

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

1901/742 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.

1901/743 To receive a power point presentation from the Burrows Ranger

The Ranger presented a very interesting power point presentation. The hydrology report will be attached to the minutes with details of future management plans.

He then took questions

1901/744 To receive reports and observations from:

- Natural England – apologies were received from Natural England
- Rural Payments Agency – apologies were received
- Torridge District Council – Most matters were covered in the Ranger's presentation, in addition it was confirmed that a bid for funding has been submitted in respect of a new Burrows Centre. TDC are looking at options for bike racks. These will hopefully be in place for the season, initially at Sandymere and Appledore gates and eventually adjacent to the new Burrows Centre
- Royal North Devon Golf Club – apologies were received from the Golf Club.
- 1716 Committee – No one present.
- South West Water – apologies were received from South West Water
- Taw Torridge Estuary Forum. The representative spoke about planning applications which their group had not supported because of the effects when walking on the Burrows. He understood that although there was a very high tide expected shortly, high winds were not forecast so there should be no problems

1901/745 To receive items from the Graziers representatives

There was no sheep grazier present.

The horse graziers queried the grazing allocations and were advised the current stocking levels.

There was a discussion on maintenance of minor bridges over the ditches and the Ranger spoke of the possibility of installing a boardwalk to enable easier access, this will be discussed with NTC.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.25am

Signed..... Date.....

DRAFT