

**Northam Town Council – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in the Town Hall at 6.30 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs Hodson (Chair), Miss Manley, Mrs McCarthy, Mrs Woodhouse, Davis, Edwards, Hames, Laws, Leather, Newman McKie, Sargent and Tisdale

**In attendance:** Mrs M J Mills – Town Clerk  
Mr G Langton - Deputy Town Clerk  
Mr Tom Hart - General Manager Harland and Wolff, Appledore  
7 members of the public

**2201/1032 Apologies**

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllr Himan.

**2201/1033 Chairman's Announcements**

The Mayor welcomed new Councillor Mrs Carrie Woodhouse to her first Full Council meeting. She reminded Members to respond in good time regarding the invitation for 11<sup>th</sup> February. She went on to speak about the changed timetable for the bus services and advised Members that she had requested the Town Clerk to write to Stagecoach who had responded and will endeavour to amend the schedule to assist with the schoolchildren.

She advised Members that the arrangements for the May Fair were going ahead apace and we can look forward to the appearance of the Vikings and dinosaurs. Members agreed in principle to additional dinosaurs being ordered.

The Mayor went on to suggest that there is a future agenda item with regard to burial capacity in the area.

**2201/1034 Declarations of interest**

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

**2201/1035 To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B**

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)

**2201/1036 To receive a presentation from Mr Tom Hart General Manager Harland and Wolff Appledore**

Mr Tom Hart gave a very interesting presentation and then took questions from Members.

It was **resolved** to suspend Standing Orders to enable members of the public to speak.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Laws (all in favour)

Standing Orders were then reinstated.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Davis (all in favour)

The Mayor thanked Mr Hart very much for attending and congratulated him on the work he is doing with links to Petroc and the schools. We would welcome him to return in a few months' time with more updates.

**2201/1037 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and Special Full Council held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

It was **resolved** to sign the minutes of Town Council Meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and Special Full Council held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Proposed: Cllr Sargent, Seconded: Cllr Leather (majority in favour but there were abstentions from Members who had not been present at some of the meeting).

BA

- 2201/1038 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)**
- Neighbourhood Plan – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021
  - Town Projects – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021
  - Westward Ho! Park – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021
  - Climate Emergency – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022
  - Planning – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022
  - Finance & HR – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021
- It was agreed to note and adopt the reports minutes and resolutions contained therein from Committees and Sub-Committees (Items contained in Part B to be considered under Part B)
- 2201/1039 Action Points**
- It was agreed to note the Action Points. Issues with parking enforcement were raised and it was suggested that the Enforcement Officer could be contacted with information on the most appropriate times and areas to visit.
- Action Point – Contact Enforcement Officer**
- 2201/1040 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk**
- It was agreed to note the reports from the Town Clerk
- 2201/1041 Public Participation**
- We welcome Parishioners speaking or making representations, asking questions or giving evidence at the meeting of the Full Council in respect of any issue affecting the Northam Town Council area. A period of twenty minutes is allocated for this unless directed by the Chair of the meeting and a member of the public shall not speak for more than 4 minutes.*
- At this juncture it was **resolved** to bring forward item 15  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Miss Maley (all in favour)
- 2201/1042 To receive a verbal update on the Civil War Fieldwork on Staddon Hill**
- The Deputy Town Clerk advised Members that the site is now protected from significant development and any planning proposals will need to demonstrate that there would be no damage to the Fieldwork and archaeological surveys will be required.
- It was then **resolved** to suspend Stading Orders  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Laws (all in favour)
- A member of the public spoke briefly about the Fort and asked about future management of the site and the possibility of the Council erecting an Interpretation Board there.
- It was then **resolved** to reinstate Standing Orders  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)
- 2201/1043 To consider committee vacancies**
- The following Members are happy to serve as follows:
- Planning – Cllr Mrs Woodhouse  
Northam Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr Mrs Woodhouse  
Climate Emergency – Cllr Mrs McCarthy  
Westward Ho! Park – Cllr Mrs Woodhouse  
Review Committee (2 vacancies)
- It was **resolved** to accept the nominations for the vacancies  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)

- 2201/1044 To receive a verbal update on the Neighbourhood Plan**  
Members were advised that a small sub-group had been working on the Neighbourhood Plan and it is almost ready to go to the District Council for the next stage.
- 2201/1045 To consider gifts for school children for the Platinum Jubilee (*herewith*)**  
It was proposed by Cllr Tisdale and seconded by Cllr Laws that the Kensington medals be purchased for the children. There was a further proposal by Cllr Davis, which was seconded by Cllr Sargent that the Balmoral medal should be purchased.  
There were 9 votes in favour and 3 votes against so that proposal was carried and the first proposal failed.  
**Action Point – Place an order for the medals**
- 2201/1046 To consider an update on the “WBF” and recommendations for the balance**  
It was **resolved** to proceed as shown on the report with the final items being the re-painting of the sea wall at Westward Ho! and any remaining balance being spent on organic printed canvas bags with artwork promoting “shop local”.  
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Miss Manley (majority in favour, 1 abstention)
- 2201/1047 Correspondence:**
- Countryside Voices (*held in office*)
  - New Year card Mayor of Mondeville
- Correspondence was noted.
- 2201/1048 Street Matters:** All street matters forwarded by e-mail.
- Street matters were noted and some Members raised the issue of some very bad potholes. It was suggested that they report them on the Devon County Council website.
- 2201/1049 To receive a Police/Councillor Advocate Report**  
Cllr Sargent reported that the Speedwatch Group had their first training last week and this Friday they will have training outside.
- 2201/1050 To consider an update on NALC/DALC (*Cllr Chalmers*)**  
Cllr Chalmers was not present.
- 2201/1051 Summary Report from a District Member (*3 minutes*)**  
Cllr Miss Manley advised that Torridge had received a report from Citizens Advice about a massive increase in debt in the area.
- Cllr Hames advised that reports and recommendations for housing are due to be received soon. Cllr Laws advised that Torridge are bringing Leisure and General Maintenance in house. He went on to advise that the Westward Ho! area had recently lost a valued Torridge staff member “Chunky” who went above and beyond his duties to provide an excellent service. Cllr Laws asked that we write a letter of condolence and thanks to his family. Cllr Mrs McCarthy advised Members that there is a collection taking place, proceeds of which will go to the RNLI and suggested that a donation could be made by the Town Council. She suggested a sum of £250. After some discussion it was:  
Proposed by Cllr Miss Manley and seconded by Cllr Mrs McCarthy that a donation of £250 should be sent in recognition of the service that had been provided. The majority were in favour, there was 1 vote against and 1 abstention and it was agreed that the payment would be taken from the Projects fund.  
**Action Points – Write letter of condolence to the family and arrange for donation to RNLI**

**2201/1052 Summary Report from County Councillor (3 minutes)**

There was no report from the County Councillor but he sent his apologies.

GH