

Northam Town Council – Minutes of a VIRTUAL meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 28th April commencing at 6.00 pm.

Present: Cllrs Chalmers (Mayor), Davis, Edwards, Hames, Himan, Mrs Hodson, Laws, Leather, Miss Manley, Mrs McCarthy, Newman-McKie (from minute 2104/1476), Sargent, Shelley and Tisdale

In attendance: Mrs M J Mills - Town Clerk
Mr G Langton – Deputy Town Clerk
Mrs P Moores – Assistant Town Clerk
2 members of the public

2104/1470 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2104/1471 Chairman’s Announcements

The Chairman announced that this would be his last meeting as Mayor and he was looking forward to next week when the new Mayor would be chosen at the Annual Town Council meeting. The main event of the last month had been the death of the Duke of Edinburgh and he reported that wreaths had been laid at the two war memorials by himself and the Town Clerk, flags had been flown at half-mast and black armbands had been worn by Members. A minute’s silence had been held at all meetings and a book of condolence had been set up on our website.

He thanked Members for giving him the opportunity of being Mayor in what had been a difficult year for everyone.

The Mayor reminded Members that there would be a meeting of the Appledore Parking Working Group tomorrow.

2104/1472 Declarations of interest

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

2104/1473 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 Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Davis (all in favour)

2104/1474 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting 31st March 2021

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 31st March 2021 as a correct record. The minutes will be signed at a later date.

Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Sargent (majority in favour, 1 abstention Member not present at the meeting)

2104/1475 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 – 1st April 2021 (herewith)
- Planning – 24th March and 7th April 2021 (herewith)
- Westward Ho Park Committee – 6th April 2021 (herewith)
- Northam Burrows – 7th April 2021 (herewith)
- Climate Emergency – 8th April 2021 (herewith)
- Town Projects – 12th April 2021 (herewith)

- Review Committee – 15th April 2021 (herewith)
- Appledore Park Working Group - 15th April 2021 (herewith)

It was agreed 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)

Cllr Newman-McKie joined the meeting at this juncture.

2104/1476 Action Points

It was agreed to note the Action Points.

2104/1477 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk

It was agreed to note the reports from the Town Clerk.

2104/1478 Public Participation

We welcome Parishioners speaking or making representations, asking questions or presenting petitions 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.

A member of the public congratulated the Mayor on his work throughout the year and Council Members and staff, as a whole, for the way in which they have operated through the pandemic.

2104/1479 To consider the result of the High Court Action on 21st April and how the Town Council should move forward.

Members were advised of the recent result of the High Court Action which had just been notified and that Council meetings must now be held physically from 7th May. Various options of how and where to hold future meetings were discussed and it was agreed that the Town Clerk would arrange a risk assessment of the Council Chamber and look at the possibility of using other venues.

Action Point – Town Clerk to carry out risk assessment and look at the possibility of using other venues.

2104/1480 To consider a proposal that the Town Clerk and other officers as necessary are given delegated authority, liaising with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chair of Finance & HR to take any actions necessary for the continued running of the Council, during the coronavirus outbreak and return from lockdown, subject to decisions at item 10

It was proposed by Cllr Chalmers and seconded by Cllr Mrs Hodson, that the Town Clerk and other officers as necessary are given delegated authority, in conjunction with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chair of Finance & HR to take any actions necessary for the continued running of the Council, during the coronavirus outbreak and return from lockdown, notifying all Members of any decisions made. There were 6 votes in favour and 8 against so the proposal was defeated.

2104/1481 To consider a request from Northam Burrows Committee that the resolution made at the Northam Burrows meeting on 7th April 2021 be endorsed by Full Council

“That we accept Tozers response and that Tozers now proceed to contact the Charity Commission with a view to regularising this issue” (explanatory email from Tozers sent 21/4/21)

Following a discussion it was **resolved** to accept Tozers response and that Tozers now proceed to contact the Charity Commission with a view to regularising this issue"

Proposed: Cllr Mrs McCarthy, Seconded: Cllr Leather (12 for, 1 abstention and 1 against (Cllr Edwards).

2104/1482 To discuss the future calendar of meetings for 2021-22

It was agreed that the Town Clerk will look at the calendar of meetings in conjunction with the schedule of meetings from Torridge District Council and endeavour to prepare this in time for the Annual Town Council meeting.

Action Point – Town Clerk to prepare calendar of meetings.

21041483 Correspondence:

Helipad – *(held in office)*

CPRE – Countryside voices – *(held in office)*

Correspondence was noted.

2104/1484 Street Matters:

Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic –

Wednesday 23rd June to Friday 25th June (both dates inclusive) between the hours of 19.00 and 07.00 - Churchill Way, Northam to enable highway works.

This was noted and an email will be sent to Councillors advising of the alternative route.

Cllr Shelley raised the issue of works being carried out on the footway along Bay View Road in connection with the development at Daddon Hill. He had been advised by residents that they had not been notified of the commencement of the works and they were experiencing great difficulty when driving from their properties.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk will contact Devon Highways and Torridge District Council Planning regarding the work.

Action Point – Town Clerk to contact Devon Highways and TDC Planning.

2104/1485 To receive a Police/Councillor Advocate Report

Cllr Sargent reported that Inspector Lefort had now been appointed as the new Section Inspector. Inspector Lefort was very proactive in the area and she will be arranging for a representative to attend the Annual Town Council meeting. With regard to the Speedwatch campaign Cllr Sargent will be forwarding all the names of participants to PCSO Liz Rendle who will be commencing her checks and getting training done as soon as possible after 21st June. The traffic management report is still awaited.

2104/1486 To consider an update on NALC/DALC (Cllr Chalmers)

Cllr Chalmers advised that the main topic had been the outcome of the High Court action and he had nothing further to report.

2104/1487 Summary Report from a District Member (3 minutes)

Cllr Mrs Hodson reported that she had been re-elected as Deputy Leader of Torridge District Council at the recent Torridge AGM and the Leader, Cllr Ken James, had also been re-elected. The new Chair of Torridge was Cllr Doug Bushby and the Vice Chair was Cllr Peter Christie.

She reported that the Public Order Protection Notice for Bideford had been extended. She stated that there had been experience of anti-social behaviour in Westward Ho! recently and she encouraged members to report such behaviour to

the Police. It would seem that we will be getting the support of street marshals in Westward Ho! and it was hoped that they will also be supplied for Appledore.

2104/1488

Presentation to County Councillor

Unfortunately due to ill health the County Councillor was unable to attend but the Mayor read a brief speech highlighting his service to the area for many years and a presentation certificate will be given to him at the earliest opportunity.