

Northam Town Council – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 28th July 2021 in the Northam Hall at 6.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Chalmers, Davis, Edwards, Hames, Himan, Laws, Leather, Miss Manley, Mrs McCarthy, Newman-McKie, Sargent and Shelley
In attendance: Mrs M J Mills – Town Clerk
 Reverend Tim Sutton
 33 members of the public

2107/357 Apologies

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllrs Mrs Hodson and Tisdale

2107/358 Chairman's Announcements

In the absence of Cllr Mrs Hodson, Cllr Laws took the Chair. He explained that she was unable to attend the meeting due to the recent death of her husband. He went on to advise that the vaccine centre at Westward Ho! has been given approval to continue until January 2022.

2107/359 Declarations of interest

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

2107/360 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 Davis, Seconded: Cllr Sargent (all in favour)

2107/361 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 30th June 2021

It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 30th June 2021 as a correct record.
 Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Miss Manley (all in favour)

2107/362 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)

- **Town Projects - 5th July 2021**
- **Climate Emergency – 8th July 2021**
- **Westward Ho! Park – 13th July 2021**
- **Planning – 14th July 2021**
- **Neighbourhood Plan – 20th July 2021**

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)

2107/363 Action Points

It was agreed to note the Action Points.

2107/364 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk

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

2107/365 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.

Four members of the public wished to speak, all regarding the temporary road closure of Pitt Hill.

The members of the public spoke about the issues regarding the proposed road closure at Pitt Hill. The Appledore Residents' Association has funded the cost of a solicitor who has written to Devon County Council and it has now been agreed that there will be a postponement until 8th August, enabling Highways to be in contact with the Appledore Residents' Association for a meeting. It appears that the construction management plan has not been complied with.

A further member of the public expressed his thanks to the Council for the beautiful flowers on Appledore Quay.

2107/366

Correspondence

No correspondence had been received.

2107/367

Street Matters:

- Notification of Intended Temporary Road closure – Pitt Hill (*herewith*)
- Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic – Morwenna Park Road, Northam o/s No 27 Morwenna Park Road to o/s 30 – 48 Morwenna Park Road - Monday 4th October to Thursday 7th October (both dates inclusive) to enable core drill into FW4 chamber on corner of junction outside of No 27 Windsor Road etc –(*forwarded by e-mail*)
- Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic – Windsor Road, Northam o/s No 22 Windsor Road to o/s No 19 Windsor Road. Northam – Monday 4th October – Thursday 7th October (both dates inclusive) to enable 2 x core drill with overlay required etc – (*forwarded by e-mail*)
- Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic – Golf Links Road, Westward Ho! on Monday 30th August 2021 between the hours of 06:30 and 12:30 to enable the Legendary Grand Tour (*forwarded by mail*)
- Devon County Council – Temporary prohibition of through traffic – Benson Drive, Northam – Wednesday 13th October to Friday 15th October 2021 (both dates inclusive) to enable Core drill into existing JBF4 (*forwarded by e-mail*)

Street matters were noted.

2107/368

To consider moving forward with Northam Burrows (*report sent by e-mail*)

The Town Clerk read out the report which had been circulated and answered some queries.

It was **resolved** to appoint the current Northam Burrows Committee as the new Management Committee

Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Chalmers (majority in favour, 1 against)

It was suggested that the first Corporate Trustee meeting be held in approximately 3 months' time.

2107/369

To receive a Police/Councillor Advocate Report

Members were advised that the Northam Town Council Speedwatch Group is now official and Cllr Sargent is the co-ordinator. He is getting the volunteers together and hopes by the next Full Council meeting that all the volunteers will be authorised to carry out their duties. PCSO Rendle has to perform Health and Safety Checks at the Speedwatch site, including taking photographs, and this information is passed to a higher authority.

It was **resolved** to award £1,000 to enable the Group to get up and running with the necessary equipment and clothing. This will come from the existing Road Safety cost centre.

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

2107/370

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

Cllr Chalmers advised there had been no meetings last month and spoke about the DALC conference which will run from 5th to 7th October. The conference will be by Zoom and there are opportunities for everyone to join various sessions. The initial attendee will cost £40 and all others £10. The Town Clerk will circulate any information as it is received.

2107/371

Summary Report from a District Member (3 minutes)

- Cllr Hames advised that Torridge District Council are taking their grounds maintenance back in house. The Climate Group will be working to encourage biodiversity. He had recently visited Polyfield where they have already commenced engagement with biodiversity.
- Cllr Leather advised that following the discussion on Pitt Hill he will be visiting Torridge District Council to find out whether or not the Construction Management Plan is being observed, if not the developers must abide by the regulations.
- Cllr Laws advised Members that he had been honoured to speak at the opening of the new Northam Burrows Centre. It is an excellent asset and well worth a visit.
- Cllr Miss Manley spoke about chairing her first meeting of Overview and Scrutiny External and a speaker had attended giving an excellent talk on alcohol problems and how they had increased during the pandemic.

2107/372

Summary report from County Councillor (3 minutes)

The County Councillor had sent his apologies and his report had been circulated by e-mail.

Cllr Chalmers is very concerned about Pitt Hill and had wished to raise the issue with the County Councillor.

It was **resolved** to write to him urging him to set up an urgent meeting with the ARA, Highways and Torridge District Council.

Proposed: Cllr Chalmers, Seconded: Cllr Newman-McKie (majority in favour, 3 abstentions)

Action Point – Town Clerk to write to the County Councillor urging him to set up a meeting with ARA, Highways and Torridge District Council

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

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

It was further **resolved** to reinstate Standing Orders.

Proposed: Cllr Chalmers, Seconded; Cllr Davis (all in favour)

It was further **resolved** to suspend Standing Orders to enable a member of the public to speak again.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs McCarthy, Seconded: Cllr Miss Manley (all in favour)

It was then **resolved** to reinstate Standing Orders.

Proposed: Cllr Miss Manley, Seconded: Cllr Edwards (all in favour)