

Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Town Projects and Asset Management Meeting held on Monday 7th February 2022 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Windmill Lane, Northam

Present: Cllrs Tisdale (Chairman), Mrs McCarthy, Edwards, Hames, Himan, Laws, Leather, and the Mayor (ex-officio)

In attendance: Mrs Jane Mills – Town Clerk
Cllr Woodhouse

2202/1076 Apologies

All Members were present.

2202/1077 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman advised that the junction on the A39 with Westward Ho! is now completed and he requested that the boat planter be returned. The Town Clerk has already enquired about this and is looking into forwarding the necessary information to the County Council.

2202/1078 Declarations of interest

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

2202/1079 To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (confidential information)

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B after bringing forward items 11 to 15 and 18 to follow Public Participation. (There was no Part B)

Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Laws (all in favour)

2202/1080 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Projects Meeting held December 15th 2021 as a correct record

It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Projects meeting held on 15th December 2021 as a correct record

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

2202/1081 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 4 minutes. The period of time which is designated for public participation in accordance with standing orders shall not exceed 20 minutes.

No members of the public were present

2202/1082 To consider notices in Anchor Park and Lords Meadow re planting schemes

It was **resolved** to use the following wording for planting at Lords Meadow: "These trees have been planted to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022"

Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded; Cllr Mrs McCarthy.

It was further **resolved** the wording for Anchor Park

"The new trees, shrubs and bulbs have been planted to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022"

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

Action Point – Go ahead with the wording at Anchor Park and Lords Meadow

- 2202/1083** Consider installing a notice, stating which ship the anchor in the park is from (Cllr Hames)
This was deferred to the next meeting to enable further advice to be sought.
Action Point – Further advice to be sought and brought to next meeting
- 2202/1084** Consider laying the roadside hedge at Anchor Park (Cllr Hames)
Cllr Hames spoke briefly about laying hedges. It was agreed that a decision will be delayed enabling further growth of the hedge and there will be no cuts to it this year.
- 2202/1085** Consider state of roadside path given that crack has appeared due to tree root encroachment (Cllr Hames)
It was agreed that the Maintenance Men would do the necessary repairs to the small crack that has appeared in the path.
Action Point – Arrange for Maintenance Men to carry out necessary repairs
- 2202/1086** Report on progress of the planting scheme (Cllr Hames)
Cllr Hames advised that the majority of the work has now been completed. It was **resolved** to give a vote of thanks to Cllr Hames and Cllr Edwards for their efforts.
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)
- 2202/1087** To consider an update on Footpaths (Cllr Hames)
Town Clerk to advise Cllr Hames on the closing date for returns in respect of the P3 agreement. It is felt there is very little work required this year.
The Town Clerk was asked to write to the National Trust regarding the footpath which joins the old railway track. There is a significant accumulation of stones there. Cllr Hames will also check another footpath where there are signs advising Beware of the Bull.
The Town Clerk was also asked if the Maintenance Men could check a path which is used by the schoolchildren to ensure it is bramble free (this is not a public footpath)
Action Points – Town Clerk to advise Cllr Hames on closing date for returns; also write to the National Trust regarding the footpath which joins the old railway track. Maintenance Men to check the path used by the schoolchildren
- 2202/1088** To consider Action Points (completed previously)
Action Points were noted.
- 2202/1089** To review the Boat Park terms and conditions and charges (existing herewith)
It was **resolved** to accept the current terms, conditions and charges.
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Mrs McCarthy (majority in favour, 1 abstention as Cllr Edwards declared a personal interest)
Action Point – Proceed with current terms, conditions and charges
- 2202/1090** To consider installation of Wi-Fi at Northam Hall
It was **resolved** to go ahead with installation
Proposed: Cllr Himan, Seconded: Cllr Leather (majority in favour, 1 abstention)
Action Point – Proceed with the installation of Wi-Fi at the hall.

2202/1091 To consider replacement noticeboards

It was **resolved** to bring a further report to the next meeting and invite the Men's Shed to put forward a quote to include the use of sustainable wood where possible.

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

Action Point – Bring report to the next meeting and invite the Men's Shed to quote

2202/1092 To consider an update on the benches in Irsha Street (Cllr McCarthy)

The Town Clerk advised that she had spoken to Torridge District Council and was awaiting a decision from their new Estates Manager.

2202/1093 To consider installation of dog bins Avon Lane entrance Westward Ho! Park and Highfield

It was **resolved** to request Torridge to install an additional bin at the entrance to Westward Ho! Park.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs McCarthy, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale. (5 votes in favour, 2 votes against and 1 abstention).

It was further **resolved** to request Torridge to install a bin at Highfield

Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (al in favour)

Action Point – Request Torridge District Council to install dog bins at Avon Lane and Highfield

There being no further business the meeting finished at 7.48 pm

Signed

Dated.....