

Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Town Projects and Asset Meeting held in the Committee Room, Windmill Lane, Northam

Present: Cllrs Tisdale (Chairman), Mrs McCarthy from minute no:, Edwards Hames, Himan, Leather and the Mayor (ex-officio)
In attendance: Mrs Jane Mills – Town Clerk
 Cllr Davis
 4 Members of the public

- 2207/191 Apologies**
 No apologies were received
- 2207/192 Chairman’s announcements**
 The Chairman commented on how lovely the flowers are looking all around the Town Council area and asked for thanks to be conveyed to the Maintenance men. He was pleased to see the boat re-instated at Buckleigh. Members were given an update on the bench at Honey Street, this will be an agenda item next meeting.
- 2207/193 Declarations of interest**
 Members were reminded that all interests should be declared prior to the item being discussed.
- 2207/194 To agree the agenda as published**
 It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published after moving agenda item 12 to follow Action Points.
 Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Edwards (all in favour)
- 2207/195 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.
 Two members of the public wished to speak.
 Queries raised were regarding the King George V Playing field and has Northam Town Council paid a contribution to the fencing? A response will be sent out.
 A further question was in relation to fields in the area belonging to the National Trust which are currently unused. We were unable to response to this.
- 2207/196 To consider Action Points**
 Action Points were noted.
- 2207/197 To ratify decision under Chairman’s Announcements at last meeting that “it was recommended to move Town Projects to Tuesdays and have alternate morning and evening meetings”.**
 It was **resolved** to ratify decision under Chairman’s Announcements at last meeting that “it was recommended to move Town Projects to Tuesdays and have alternate morning and evening meetings”.
 Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Laws (majority in favour, 1 abstention)

At this juncture the Chairman suggested moving item 5 further down the agenda as requested by a Member who had not yet arrived at the meeting. Other Members pointed out that there had been a resolution regarding item 5 to consider it following Action Points so the Chairman agreed to proceed with item 5.

- 2207/198** **To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Projects Meeting held 6th June as a correct record**
 It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Projects meeting held on 6th June 2022 as a correct record.
 Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Laws (majority in favour, 3 abstentions, not present at the meeting)
- 2207/199** **To consider an update from Devon County Council regarding tree planting in Golf Links Road**
 It was **resolved** that the idea of planting trees along Golf Links Road cannot be pursued because of the large number of constraints that have come to light but Members will look at alternative proposals at the next meeting.
 Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Mrs McCarthy (all in favour)
 It was agreed to advise the applicant of the situation.
Action Point – Place item on the next agenda after looking at alternative proposals and discussing them with the County Council. Write to the applicant.
- 2207/200** **To consider action list (Cllr Hames)**
 It was agreed to note the Action List as Members had an opportunity prior to the meeting to read through the list and were invited to make comments if concerned. There were no questions.

 At this juncture Cllr Edwards arrived at the meeting and requested that in item from the Action List regarding benches at Irsha Street should be an agenda item for the next meeting after discussion with Torrridge District Council's Estate Manager.
Action Point – Place item regarding benches at Irsha Street on future agenda after Town Clerk has discussed with Torrridge District Council's Estate Manager.
- 2207/201** **To consider weed control**
 It was proposed by Cllr Leather and seconded by Cllr Edwards, that weed spraying continues as currently and is reviewed on an annual basis. There was an amendment to the proposal put forward by Cllr Mrs McCarthy and seconded by Cllr Miss Woodhouse, that as the Council continues to use glyphosate for weed killing this should be reviewed on an annual basis and not used in parks or their surrounding walls.
 There were three votes in favour, 2 votes against and 1 abstention.

 The original proposal was then considered and all Members voted in favour. It was therefore **resolved** that weed spraying continues as currently and is reviewed on an annual basis.

 There was a further proposal with regard to the purchase of a weeder and it was **resolved** to proceed with a request for a demonstration for the Maintenance men and Members.
 Proposed: Cllr Laws, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)
- 2207/202** **To consider a handrail alongside the steps from the Lookout Path to the Mount (deferred from last meeting awaiting landowner issues and specification Cllr Hames)**
 It was **resolved** to attend a site visit at 9.15 am on the day of the next meeting Please assemble at the bottom of the path.
 Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Miss Woodhouse (all in favour)

2207/203 To receive an update on Burrough Farm fencing (following meetings)
Members were advised that following a meeting with the Football Club a re-arrangement of the layout has been agreed.

It was **resolved** to accept the layout of the fencing and to meet with the contractor to get the fencing sorted out. Arrangements regarding the King George V Playing field will be dealt with at a later date.
Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Mrs McCarthy (4 in favour, 2 against)

There was a further proposal that proper non-removable signage should be installed advising of No Car Parking and access to King George V playing field should be arranged showing signage with a telephone number where keys can be obtained. There were 3 Members in favour 3, Members against and the Chair supported the proposal. It was therefore so **resolved**.

There was a further proposal by Cllr Miss Woodhouse that as the fence is sub-standard the contractor should be invited to remove it. There was no seconder.

There was a further proposal by Cllr Tisdale, seconded by Cllr Mrs McCarthy that the cost of unlocking and locking the gates morning and evening should be investigated. Members were all in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Action Point – Investigate the cost of unlocking and locking the gates.

2207/204 To consider a request to erect a shed on Windmill Lane allotment
It was **resolved** to grant permission for the erection of a small shed subject to the Town Council’s regulations and this will also apply to planting soft fruit bushes.

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

Action Point – Advise tenant of approval

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8.40 pm

Signed

Dated.....