

Minutes

Northam Town Council – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 31st May 2023 in the Town Hall at 6.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Hames, (Chair), Bach, Bruins, Edwards, Ford, Himan, Mrs Hodson, Leather, Lo-Vel, Newman- Mckie, Singh, Tait, and Whittaker
In attendance: Mrs J Mills, Town Clerk,
 Reverend Harris
 Members of the public (1)

2305/042 Apologies
 Apologies. There were no apologies

2305/043 Chairman's Announcements

- Members were advised that the proposed road closure at Limers Lane will be between 8am and 4pm, but it is expected to be shorter than that, also residents and emergency vehicles will be allowed access. It was agreed to write to DCC advising that so long as both conditions were met, NTC has no objections.
- Members were further advised that following discussions with TDC there is an opportunity to rent 10 or 20 spaces in Bone Hill car park for the duration of the road works in Northam Square. Members agreed to rent 10 spaces for the duration and members of the public will be requested to limit their parking time, to enable residents to visit the local shops. A further announcement confirmed an opportunity to send in an expression of interest to the community ownership fund in order to help with funding of Westward Ho pavilion. All the above will be ratified at the next meeting.
Action Point: proceed with all the above and place on the next agenda for ratification.
- An email has been received advising that approximately 30 colleagues from the shipyard will be doing a litter pick on the 9th of June around the area and including Northern Burrows.

2305/044 Declarations of interest
 Members were reminded that all interests must be declared prior to the item being discussed.

2305/045 To agree the agenda as published
 It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published,
 Proposed: Cllr Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Newman-Mckie (all in favour)

2305/046 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held 17th May 2023
 It was **resolved** to sign the minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held 17th May 2023 after inserting "for his charity work" to follow Nick Laws under minute number 2305/002
 Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Himan (all in favour)

2305/047 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

- Westward Ho! Park – 21st March 2023

- Planning – 13th April 2023

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

2305/048 Action Points

It was agreed to note the action points

2305/049 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk (bank reconciliation)
It was agreed to note the reports from the Town Clerk

2305/050 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.

A question shall not receive a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The chair of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given

A member of the public wished to speak and thanked the Council for their decision on the spaces at Bone Hill car park, they went on to express their disappointment that TDC was making a charge.

2305/051 To consider IT hardware for councillors

It was **resolved** to proceed with the purchase of the Apple ipads (9th generation) and set up and configuration

Proposed: Cllr Himan Seconded: Cllr Mrs Hodson, (majority in favour, one abstention)

Action Point: Proceed with purchase

2305/052 To receive the draft calendar of meetings to the end of December 2023

It was **resolved** to accept the draft calendar of meetings as presented

Proposed: Cllr Leather, seconded: Cllr Newman McKie (majority, in favour two abstentions)

2305/053 To consider appointments to committees not included in the AGM appointments'

It was **resolved** to accept the appointments proposed:

Town projects, Cllr Bach

Climate Emergency, Cllrs Bruins and Hodson

Westward Ho! Park, Cllrs Bach and Bruins

Finance and HR, Cllr Mrs Whittaker

Planning, Cllrs Bruins and Leather

Proposed: Cllr Newman McKie, Seconded: Cllr Bach (all in favour)

- 2305/054 to consider the appointment of a representative to attend the DALC Larger Councils meetings**
It was **resolved** to appoint the Mayor and the Town Clerk to attend the meetings.
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Hames (all in favour)
- 2305/055 To consider a report on replacement vehicles.**
It was **resolved** to appoint a task and finish group of four Cllrs: Cllr Hames, Cllr Leather, Cllr Edwards, and Cllr Lo-Vel, Cllr Hodson was also appointed to Chair the group. A member of the maintenance team, and a member of a neighbouring authority (which uses electric vehicles) will be invited to attend as appropriate.
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Tait (all in favour)
- 2305/056 Correspondence**
There was no correspondence
- 2305/057 Street Matters**
After some discussion regarding the problems at Victoria Court off Irsha Street, it was **resolved** to write to Devon County Council expressing concerns about the parking, which is blocking the access to a number of properties,. This prevents access by emergency vehicles and also residents to enter their homes. Further concerns also relate to the lack of parking wardens.
Proposed: Cllr Edwards, seconded: Cllr Mrs Hodson (all in favour)
Action Point, Town Clerk to write to DCC
- 2305/058 Summary Report from the County Councillor**
The County Councillor gave a brief report covering new staff at DCC, weeding, funding for NTC and drains.
- 2305/059 Summary Report from a District Member**
There are a number of changes to the makeup of the District Council with seats won and lost but it is felt there is a definite mood for Members to work together.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.27 pm

Signed.....Dated.....
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