

Northam Town Council – Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 23rd August 2023 in the Town Hall at 6.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Hames, (Chair), Bach, Brading, Bruins, Edwards, Ford, Himan, Mrs Hodson, Leather, Lo-Vel, Newman-McKie, Singh, Tait, and Whittaker
In attendance: Mrs J Mills Town Clerk, Mr G Langton Deputy Town Clerk
Reverend Harris
Members of the public (2)

2308/270 Apologies

Apologies: None, all Members present.

2308/271 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Brading to the Council following his recent election success and looked forward to working with him.
Members were advised that the Crowdfunder page in support of a "Changing Places toilet facility" is now live.

2308/272 Declarations of interest

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

2308/273 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
Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Bach (all in favour)

2308/274 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 12th July 2023 (Part A)

It was **resolved** to sign the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 12th July 2023 (Part A)
Proposed: Cllr Bach, Seconded: Cllr Leather (majority in favour three abstentions, not present at the meeting)

2308/275 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)

Finance and HR – 21st June 2023

- Planning – 15th June, 6th July 2023
- Westward Ho! Park – 28th June 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).

2308/276 Action Points

It was agreed to note the action points

It was **resolved** to move forward with recycling the IT equipment

Proposed: Cllr Ford, Seconded: Cllr Brading (all in favour)

- 2308/277 To receive and consider reports from the Town Clerk** (bank reconciliation)
It was agreed to note the reports from the Town Clerk
- 2308/278 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
No member of the public wished to speak.
- 2308/279 To consider suggestions for a Vision Statement and possible formation of a Working Group** (Cllr Mrs Hodson fact sheet information sent 17th July 2023)
It was **resolved** to set up a small working group to consider Vision, Strategy and Delivery.
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Mrs Whittaker (all in favour)
It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllr Mrs Hodson, Cllr Mrs Whittaker, Cllr Tait Cllr Lo-Vel, and Cllr Brading to the working group, to produce a separate vision and strategic intent.
Proposed: Cllr Mrs Hodson, Seconded: Cllr Bach (all in favour)
Action Point: working group meeting to be arranged, agenda item report next meeting.
- 2308/280 To consider the Finger Post at Westward Ho!**
Members were advised that contrary to advice given to NTC, the positioning of existing finger post to be replaced, is actually on land belonging to TDC. However, TDC are happy for NTC to proceed with the removal and replacement. A Licence is being prepared.
- 2308/281 To consider changes to the Climate Emergency terms of reference**
It was resolved to accept the changes to the terms of reference for the Climate Emergency Committee.
Proposed: Cllr Brading, Seconded: Cllr Bruins (all in favour)
- 2308/282 To consider a review of the Emergency Plan, with a view to including climate resilience.**
The Town Clerk was asked to circulate a copy of the emergency plan to TDC and DCC, asking if it continues to be appropriate or needs amendment. contacts will be updated to include mobile numbers and the matter will be an agenda item for the next meeting for approval
Action Point: Circulate the emergency plan to TDC and DCC, make necessary updates. Agenda item next meeting.
- 2308/283 To consider appointment to committees, Neighbourhood Plan, Westward Ho! Park and Planning** (Cllr Brading)
It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr Brading to the above positions after **resolving** to amend the Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Plan (6 elected members) to accommodate this.
Proposed: Cllr Ford, Seconded: Cllr Leather (all in favour)
- 2308/284 Correspondence:** There was none.

2308/285 Street Matters: All street matters forwarded by e-mail

- There was a discussion on police attendance in Westward Ho!
- No response has been received on the installation of dropped kerbs from correspondence to the County Councillor.
- Provision of dropped kerbs will be an agenda item on the next Town Projects meeting. (to include investigation into painting a disabled sign on roads where there is a dropped kerb)
- Also, Town Projects agenda, to consider installing speed strips information from DCC
- Liaise with Highways about overgrown verges
- Request moving lifebelt from the old coastguard railings to as near as possible to the slipway (Appledore) contact TDC.

Action Points: dropped kerbs follow up, request re lifeboat, speed strips

2308/286 Summary Report from County Councillor

The County Councillor was not in attendance. The Town Clerk was asked to request a written report in the event he is unable to attend future meetings.

Action Point: Write to County Councillor

2308/287 Summary Report from a District Member (3 minutes)

Cllrs gave updates:

The risk assessment on the promenade wall(Westward Ho!) is ongoing, the wall has been painted, planting on the green has been completed and looks nice.

There was a successful workshop on future strategy recently which was well attended.

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

DRAFT