

**Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Windmill Lane, Northam.**

Present: Cllrs Bach, Edwards, Hames, Himan, Hodson, Leather, Newman-McKie, Singh, Whittaker and Tait (Mayor). Two vacancies.

In attendance: Guy Langton (Town Clerk & RFO); Cllr D McGeough (County Councillor); Mr Eastman (Honorary Alderman), Mr Lane (Chair of Northam Twinning) and Rev Vidamour.

The Council heard from Mr Keith Lane, Chair of the Twinning Association and previous member and Mayor of Northam Town Council.

Mr Lane presented a brief history of the Town's twinning, which in the case of Mondeville, France was over 50 years old. In that time, Mondeville had had only two Mayors. Exchange visits with Northam's twin towns, Mondeville and later to include Helmstedt (formerly Buddenstedt) had taken place annually since 1974, with only the Covid-19 restrictions causing a pause. These visits helped create and strengthen the close ties between the communities, notably the visit to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day Normandy landings. Northam twinning association was a member of the Devon and Somerset Twinning Circle.

The Council and Twinning Association hosted visitors from Helmstedt in 2024 and from 29<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025, representatives of Mondeville would be visiting Northam. The Association held events to raise funds to help pay for these events but hoped that other local groups and organisations would also attend to help spread the cost.

There were no questions from the Council.

The Mayor thanked Mr Lane for his informative presentation.

*Mr Lane left the meeting at this point (6.45pm)0.*

**2503/664 Apologies**

Cllrs Edwards, Lo-Vel, Roscoe, and tendered their apologies, the reasons for which were approved by the Council.

There were two vacancies.

**2503/665 To agree the agenda as published.**

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published.

Proposed Cllr Whittaker, Seconded Cllr Bach (all in favour)

**2503/666 To receive any dispensations and disclosable pecuniary or other interests.**

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

**2503/667 Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor reminded the Council that her Civic Dinner, raising funds for the Appledore RNLI in this, it's bi-centenary year, was on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Tickets were still available and any attendance and menu choices should be sent to the Community Engagement Officer by the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025.

The Town Clerk announced that having reviewed the PPL/PRS licence for Northam Hall, it would be in excess of the £500 budgeted, at £1,390. The use of music and thus the licence required had not been reviewed in 2024.

The May Fair in 2026 may have to move back a week to the first Saturday after the first bank holiday, there was a wedding booked at St Margaret's Church.

In response to a question raised by a member of the public regarding the purchase of dwellings in Northam parish by other local authorities he had contacted the officers at the District Council. Mr Kearney, at that Council, confirmed that he was not aware of any other authorities purchasing houses in Torridge and would expect any planning on doing so to contact Torridge District Council.

**2503/668 To confirm as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes, with a typographical error amended.

They were signed by the Mayor.

Proposed: Cllr Bach, Seconded: Cllr Hodson (majority in favour, 2 abstained – not present at meeting)

**2503/669 To receive and adopt the minutes and resolutions of Committees and Sub-Committees**

- Finance 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Planning and Development 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025

The minutes were received and adopted.

**2503/670 Public Participation**

Cllr Bach had been asked to bring three matters to the attention of the Council by a resident of Westward Ho! who was unable to attend:

- Graffiti continues to be a problem in Westward Ho!
- The path from the seafront to Nelson Road was in bad condition.
- Could Councillor meeting attendance be published on the Council's website?

Mr Eastman (Honorary Alderman) Welcomed the pedestrian crossing recently installed in Appledore, close to the school and welcomed the planned increase in funding for schools in Devon.

**2503/671 To receive a written report (if any) from Devon & Cornwall Constabulary**

The below report was received by the Town Clerk and reported at the meeting.

***Between 01/01/2025 – 28/02/2025***

***In Northam, Appledore and Orchard Hill (beat code):***

- Domestic/harassment/stalking 17 (For the purpose of these statistics I have included crimes involving children under 16 as perpetrators/victims as part of a family setting within this number)
- Vehicle Crime (damage/taking a vehicle without consent) 3
- Criminal Damage 3
- Violent 7 (a number of these offences involved persons in a care setting assaulting their carers etc)
- Sexual 1
- Hate Crime 2 (same incident)
- Theft 3
- Malicious Communications 1
- Fraud 1
- Dog dangerously out of control 1
- Public Order/drunken and disorderly 2

*Total Crime Occurrences 44 (some Occurrences were not crimes but recorded as such)*

***Westward Ho! (beat code)***

- Domestic/harassment/stalking 13
- Vehicle crime (damage/taking a vehicle without consent) 3
- Criminal Damage/arson 4 (This includes graffiti)
- Hate Crime 1
- Breach of restraining order 1
- Hit and run (damage to vehicle) 1
- Violent 3
- Hoax call 1
- Public order 1
- Burglary 1
- Threats 1
- Fraud 2
- Dog dangerously out of control 1
- Sexual 3
- Child neglect 1

*Total crime occurrences 39 (some Occurrences were not crimes but recorded as such)*

*A Significant proportion of the recorded crimes involved a domestic element (crimes that involved either family members or ex partners as suspects). Devon and Cornwall Police take domestic abuse seriously. We have a positive action arrest policy in relation to reports of domestic abuse and have a specialist domestic abuse unit (Moonstone) in which we have access to specifically trained vulnerability lawyers, officers who have had enhanced Stalking training and we also work closely with specialist charities such as North Devon Against Domestic Abuse (NDADA).*

*If you would like more detailed input how we respond to reports of domestic abuse, this can be arranged.*

**Local Policing priorities for the area include:**

*Knapp House – a derelict structurally unsafe property in Appledore which has unfortunately become a local attraction especially to youths. The property is not secured and has been subject to significant damage over time. There have been a number of fires in the property and frequent reports of youths climbing onto the roof of the site.*

*The police have been working closely with Torridge District Council Legal Team, Community Safety Team, Planning and enforcement team and Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service to try to work towards a long term solution for the site. Actions taken have include home visits and antisocial behaviour letters issued to youths found on site, Community Protection Warnings/Notices to the company directors who own the site, emptying the swimming pool on more than one occasion and the removal of a large gas storage tank at the site. Police are still regularly patrolling the site.*

*Police are also keeping an eye on other derelict sites in the area including on Nelson Road. Police are aware that damage was caused to the public toilet blocks in Appledore and Westward Ho!*

*Police are also aware that wooden fencing protecting certain areas on Northam Burrows has also been set on fire.*

*Police are conducting regular patrols in these areas.*

Cllr Tait asked that Torridge District Members raised community concerns regarding the Churchfields toilet block with that Council.

Cllr Himan asked if the Council could have any successful police work also reported.

**Action point: Town Clerk to request this of the Force.**

Cllr Hames reported that fires at Knapp House had become a regular occurrence.

Cllr Hames noted that the cost of CCTV at Churchfields was prohibitive for the District Council, though he understood the Police favoured its installation.

Cllr Hodson noted that as Police Councillor Advocate, if members were unable to report the matters to her to raise, she asked if they could they copy her in to email reports in the future.

*Cllr Edwards entered the meeting at this point (7:03pm)*

**2503/672 To receive a written report (if any) from Devon County Councillor**

Cllr McGeough reported that with the forthcoming election and the concentration on Local Government Reorganisation he would provide a detailed report in due course. He asked if Northam Town Council could present a formal view on the reorganisation proposals being brought forward and that Town and Parish Council's roles in providing local services would increase as an outcome of the reorganisation process.

Cllr McGeough reported that Golf Links Road would soon reopen.

Cllr Hodson noted that there were a number of proposals for local government reorganisation in Devon at the current time.

Cllr Hames asked in Cllr McGeough could champion the aims of the *Barnstaple and Bideford with Northam Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)*, which this Council had helped fund.

*Cllr McGeough and Mr Eastman (Honorary Alderman) left the meeting at this point (7.25pm)*

**2503/673 To receive reports (if any) from Torridge District Members**

Cllr Bach circulated the report copied below.

*My report for this week's full council meeting, is mainly about the £20M awarded to TDC, under what was referred to as the "Community Regeneration Partnership"*

*Therefore, I attach herewith the media news report from TDC, which gives the exact details.*

*Secondly, The Standards Committee recently heard an application from a TDC Councillor and landowner, requesting dispensation to represent his ward members, whilst having a pecuniary interest in land, which he would financially benefit from, in relation to the proposed X Links project.*

*Although the TDC Councillor eloquently presented his case, supported by an independent witness, the committee was more or less unanimous in refusing the application.*

*The point about this, is to demonstrate that it would be very difficult to be independent and impartial, when clearly a member has a conflict of interests, even though he/she may have declared an interest at some time. You can't have both!*

*The standards committee hearing can be viewed on YouTube.*

Cllr Hames circulated the report copied below, adding that regarding the X-Links proposal to bring power from Morocco ashore in northern Devon, a District Council working group had submitted a statement to central Government. Torridge District officers would be preparing a more detailed response.

*Proposals for a unitary authority to include TDC were discussed at Full Council last Monday. A unitary combining TDC, NDC, Mid and East Devon and Exeter was proposed for approval. I proposed investigating an alternative of combining TDC and NDC. I suggested that the proposal before us for an authority covering half of Devon and based in Exeter would be undemocratic and would involve councillors, the public and officers travelling long distances to access services and meetings. My proposal was defeated.*

*Money for allocating to Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans in Devon has been given to DCC under the Government's active travel initiative. At TDC Active Travel Group we suggested yesterday that funding in our area could go to the creation of a cycle and walking route along Wooda Road. This proposed route is part of the Appledore to Bideford LCWIP.*

Cllr Hodson reported that she had recently attended a District Councils Network event recently. The key messages are that District Councils are concerned about the timescales, no matter which tranche they are in and considered there to be a lack of a democratic process. There was a view that this could not be a cost saving exercise and that the size of the eventual unitary authorities (500,000 residents) would be unworkable in more sparsely populated areas. Cllr Hodson ended by reporting that the Torridge Housing strategy had been approved on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**2503/674 To consider the action point update****Page 246**

The action points were noted as follows:

10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 Request for a free car parking day at Churchfields for the 200 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RNLI Appledore station. (minute 2404/907)	The District Council Officer responded saying: <i>On balance I cannot approve free parking on the day requested. The potential detrimental impacts are far too great, and I do not believe the suggested benefits for the event outweigh them.</i>  <i>Torrige District Council remains supportive of the RNLI and the celebration of their connection to Appledore, and I am more than happy to see if there are other that we can assist in making the event a success.</i> COMPLETE
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 Re-engage with Surfers Against Sewage Plastic Free Campaigns (minutes 2407/192 and 2411/416)	The Town Clerk, Community Engagement Officer, Cllrs Bach, Hames and Lo-Vel all attended the meetings arranged for the 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2024. The Northam Burrows Rangers both apologised in advance. The meeting was positive, with both the Council and SAS agreeing to share information so the Plastic Free Communities could restart. Prior to the meeting, the Town Clerk spoke to Mr Cross, who had been very supportive in the past and had arranged to speak again and plan for 2025 in the new year. ONGOING
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 (minute 2411/413)	Drop kerbs. Quotations received and relevant Devon County Council officer contacted. ONGOING
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 (minute 2411/418)	Town Clerk to prepare a report into the costs of the three options for future work at the pavilion. This work has been overtaken by urgent work required at Northam Hall. ONGOING
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 (minute 2412/494)	Prepare a lease for the rental of Blue Light Hall and pass the matter to the Finance committee. ONGOING
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 (minute 2412/498)	Request an exemption from parking charges at Windmill Lane on weekdays for Northam TC members. Request made, response awaited. ONGOING
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 (minute 2412/499)	The member of the public planning a podcast project had not contacted the Town Clerk. COMPLETE.
22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2025 (minute 2501/551)	An email was drafted asking the Head of Legal Services at TDC for their opinion of the 1978 minute indicating the land was owned by Northam Town Council and responded saying that a transfer of ownership form, signed by both parties, would be required to identify ownership. ONGOING
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 (minute 2502/613)	i. Replace the whole set of maintenance equipment with electric models and purchase sufficient batteries and chargers, and QUOTATION RECEIVED AND BEING REVIEWED ii. That the committee resolves to purchase a petrol powered ‘two-wheel tractor’ and three attachments – a weed ripper, a brush and collector set and a rotary mower, and ORDER PLACED iii. That the committee resolve to replace the DFSK with a new ORCA, equipped with a cage tipper body and a towbar. ORDER PLACED iv. That in all cases, the Council seek to reduce the cost by effective negotiation and offering the Council’s current equipment and truck in part-exchange. ONGOING v. That the spending (approximately £59,000) be allocated to the cost centres, for replacing a Truck and larger Council machinery (combined total of £43,250 in 2025-26), with any shortfall being identified from the Council’s end of year carry-forward including unspent funds from the climate emergency budget or earmarked reserves. ONGOING
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 (Minute 2502/615)	Submit an application for the land at Knapp House to be an asset of community value. Application submitted. Response from the District Council expected by 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2025. COMPLETE

**2503/675 Clerk's report – Finance Committee March 2025**

**At 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (or according to the last available statement balance), the Council's balances were:**

Nationwide (Business 95 day saver)	£93,474.76	interest rate is 3.9%	General and Earmarked Reserves
Cambridge & Counties Bank (31 day)	£94,430.95	interest rate is 3.55%	Earmarked Reserves
Cambridge Building Society	£5,027.04	interest rate is 2.2%	Tennis Reserves
Petty Cash	£50.15		
Coop Bank (current account)	£173,913.50	no interest	Includes budgeted carry-over
Hinkley & Rugby Building Society general (account not yet open)	£0.00	interest rate is 2.2%	holding account for expenditure
<b>Total cash in hand</b>	<b>£366,896.40</b>		

**Payments**

The Council made 124 payments in January 2025, totalling £41,116.43 (exVAT), including a £32.05 refund for unused event refreshments and a VAT refund of £7,058.89. There were 45 payments of £100 or more (exVAT):

- £25,287.88 in payroll and associated costs
- £6,962.34 as a deposit against a new Truck for the Council
- £1,689.80 to print the May Fair 2025 booklets
- £1,090.81 direct debit for monthly insurance payment
- £969.30 monthly charge for the Council's general insurance
- £967.50 as deposit (25%) for a pump track as resolved at the Parks & Rec committee and in the Council's budget
- £805.00 for external play park inspections
- £796.31 for 2 May Poles (covered by a grant from the County Councillor)
- £633.57 for gas to heat Northam Hall in December
- £1,616.92 for materials to complete agreed footpath works, comprising multiple payments:
  - £605.00, £249.44, £287.04, £329.15, £152.96 and £146.29
- £540.45 for repairs to vehicle to pass MOT (HY16UOL)
- £455.00 to clean the CP Toilet
- £443.23 to service council mowing equipment
- £428.49 monthly room rental at the Town Hall
- £400.00 to clean Northam Hall in December
- £365.00 to maintain the Maintenance team's skills
- £315.65 on refreshments for the Mayor's Ceilidh and other events
- £312.10 monthly IT contract
- £307.80 staff travel expenses
- £275.00 First Aid/Medical cover for May Fair

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- £250.00 as Float for Mayor's Ceilidh
- £250.00 as grant for Appledore Crafters (2024-25)
- £248.00 for Fire extinguishers at Northam Hall and Pavilion
- £240.00 to PEAR Technology (mapping software provider)
- £195.00 to replace damaged hanging baskets
- £188.99 on fuel for vehicles and equipment
- £150.00 training administrative staff team
- £140.81 electricity at the Pavilion
- £140.00 training Fire Wardens
- £136.28 to TDC for buildings insurance recharge (Town Hall)
- £134.14 fencing at Anchor Park (steps)
- £125.00 stationery
- £119.98 hand wash water heater (Northam Hall, arising from FRA)
- £114.00 water bill (Northam Hall)
- £108.32 110v hammer drill
- £105.32 electricity works at Northam Hall (arising from FRA)
- £100.00 to hire St Mary's Hall for the Mayor's Ceilidh

**Receipts:**

In February 2025, the Council received 68 payments, totalling £5,665.26.

**Tennis courts:**

The gross volume of sales since 1st January 2024 is £5,610. After fees, the Council has received £5,222.11. The LTA expect the Council to earmark approximately £3,600 per year for 15 years (index linked) to meet the costs of court maintenance and refurbishment. The Council is £1,622.11 over the target, in this extended year (1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 25). After the 31<sup>st</sup> March, a payment will be made to the Council's Cambridge Building Society account, where this earmark is held.

**Petty Cash:** The draft Financial Regulations for 2025-26 expect that petty cash is held at £100 or thereabouts in the account, £50 was withdrawn on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to maintain that level.

Petty Cash					2024-25	Name:	Northam TC Petty Cash										
Details					Income			Expenditure						Balance at start of FY			
Date	Transaction	Description	Ref	Scribe No	Petty Cash Withdrawal	Carry forward	Total in	VAT	Events	Milk etc	Maintenance	Office expenses	Total out	£	136.47	Reconciliation balance	
2.1.25	107	Milk	PC24-25.94				0.00			1.35			1.35	92.94			
6.2.25	108	Milk	PC24-25.95				0.00			1.70			1.70	91.24			
8.1.25	109	Milk and coffee	PC24-25.96				0.00			4.55			4.55	86.69			
15.1.25	110	Milk	PC24-25.97				0.00			1.89			1.89	84.80			
20.1.25	111	Milk	PC24-25.98				0.00			1.35			1.35	83.45			
23.1.25	112	Milk	PC24-25.99				0.00			1.35			1.35	82.10			
20.1.25	113	Twine	PC24-25.100				0.00	0.58			2.92		3.50	78.60	£	78.60	
30.1.25	114	Milk	PC24-25.101				0.00			1.70			1.70	76.90	£	76.90	
Number of transactions	114	TOTALS			660.00		660.00	28.56	310.97	141.42	106.07	132.55	719.57	-59.57		Difference between receipts and payments	
budgetted figures (12 month)					-		-	-	-	-	-	-					
variance (to date)					660.00		660.00	-	-310.97	-141.42	-	106.07	- 132.55				
										Variance				£ 136.47	76.90		

**Mayor's Ceilidh (21.02.25)**

The event, held in St Mary's Hall, Appledore was a success, with 74 tickets sold at £10 each. The Council provided refreshments that were sold to those attending the event. The account for the event is below, with the proviso that at the time of writing, the Council had not received all the revenue from ticket sales.

For information, the cost of staffing the event has been included, though the sum has not taken that away from the bottom line.

	Float	Takings	Tickets (£10)
Card/BACS	£ -	£ 205.50	£ 330.00
Charges	£ -	-£ 3.63	£ -
£20	£ -	£ 360.00	£ 320.00
£10	£ 100.00	£ 330.00	£ 90.00
£5	£ 95.00	£ 5.00	£ -
£2	£ 16.00	£ 2.00	£ -
£1	£ 20.00	£ 4.00	£ -
50p	£ 19.00	£ 1.00	£ -
20p	£ -	£ -	£ -
10p	£ -	£ -	£ -
5p	£ -	£ -	£ -
2p	£ -	£ -	£ -
1p	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 250.00</b>	<b>£ 903.87</b>	<b>£ 740.00</b>
<b>Grand total of cashbox</b>		<b>£ 1,643.87</b>	
Float		£ 250.00	
Cost to Council of refreshments sold		£ 100.05	
Hall rental		£ 100.00	
<b>Total costs</b>		<b>£ 450.05</b>	
<b>To the Charity</b>		<b>£ 1,193.82</b>	
Staff 1	4hrs equivalent	£ 96.88	
Staff 2	7.5hrs equivalent	£ 101.03	

**2503/676 To note the timetable for elections in the Northam Orchard Hill and Appledore Wards of the Town Council**

The timetable was noted as:

Publication of Notice of Election	Thursday 13 March 2025
Receipt of Nominations	4:00 pm Friday 21 March 2025
Withdrawal of Candidate	4:00 pm Friday 21 March 2025
Appointment of Election Agents	4:00 pm Friday 21 March 2025
Publication of Notice of Election Agents	4:00 pm Friday 21 March 2025
Publication of Statements of Persons Nominated	4:00 pm Monday 24 March 2025
Last Date for Registration	Tuesday 1 April 2025
Receipt of Postal Vote Applications	5:00 pm Wednesday 2 April 2025
Last day for Voter Authority Certificates	5:00 pm Wednesday 9 April 2025
Publication of Notice of Poll	Wednesday 9 April 2025
Receipt of Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Wednesday 9 April 2025
Appointment of Poll and Count Agents	Thursday 10 April 2025
First Day to Issue Replacement Lost Postal Ballot Papers	Friday 11 April 2025
Last Day to Issue Replacement Spoilt or Lost Postal Ballot Papers	5:00 pm Thursday 17 April 2025
Receipt of Emergency Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Thursday 17 April 2025
Day of Poll	7:00 am to 10:00 pm Thursday 17 April 2025
Declaration of Candidates Expenses	Thursday 15 May 2025



**2503/677 To consider nominating the Grade II listed ‘Leisure Centre’, the Square, Northam as an asset of community value**

It was **resolved** to complete the forms to nominate the ‘Leisure Centre’ as an asset of Community Value.

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

**Action point: complete the necessary forms**

**2503/678 To note DALC’s Larger Council’s Forum on the topic of local government reorganisation**

The Council **noted** that further to DALC’s e-bulletin #11, DALC has arranged a Larger Councils Forum (a virtual meeting) for 1st April, 2pm – 3.30pm so that DALC can provide an update to member Councils on what we know about local government reorganisation in Devon at that point. Members were asked to register for the event if they wished to attend.

**2503/679 To consider the possible impact of local government reorganisation**

It was **resolved** to include the matter as a standing item on Full Council agendas.

Proposed: Cllr Tait, Seconded: Cllr Hodson (all in favour)

**Action point: include on future agendas until further notice.**

**2503/680 To consider if, and how to make use of available Section 106 funds**

**MUGA / playing pitches in Westward Ho! Ward:** It was noted that the Council was able to access a sum of money (£182,786) held at Torridge District Council to fund the installation of a MUGA in the Westward Ho! ward of this Council. The contribution arose from planning proposal 1/1084/2015/OUTM (145 dwellings on land off Cornborough Road). The S106 agreement defined part of the sum (£130,000) for capital spend and £46,800 for ongoing maintenance.

It was **resolved** to commence the background work for the installation of a MUGA at Westward Ho! Park and delegate its oversight to the Parks & Recreation Committee.

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

**Action point: include on the Parks & Recreation Committee agenda until further notice.**

**Public Art:** It was noted that the Council was able to access a sum of money for Public Art (£66,000) held at Torridge District Council to providing public art on in the vicinity of the Land or otherwise enhancing the environment. This contribution arises from planning proposal 1/0251/2013/FULM (132 dwellings on land off Buckleigh Road). It was **resolved** that Ward members and the Town Clerk arrange a meeting with the relevant officer(s) and member(s) at Torridge District Council, together with other interested parties (for example the Burton at Bideford) to explore how this fund may be used.

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

**Action point: Arrange the meeting with TDC and others**

**2503/681 To note a proposal from Fernbank regarding bus shelters along the 21 and 21a bus routes within the parish and consider how to proceed**

It was noted that *Fernbank*, working with Devon County Council, were in the early stages of proposing the installation of new Living Roof bus shelters ones in return for an extension to the existing agreement with this Council, to 2045.

The shelters under consideration were:

- Three along Golf Links Road (outside new development), adjacent to Aysha Gardens & adjacent to the Co-op (should this be a Northam TC asset).
- Haywood Road opposite Durrant Hotel
- Opposite Hanson Park against the wall

The shelters in Appledore would not be included, nor would the wooden shelter opposite the war memorial in Northam, nor the stone shelter outside Torridge Pool. Any shelters in usable condition would be sympathetically removed and retained by this Council for future use.

It was **resolved** to agree the proposal in principle and delegate oversight of this to the Environment & Maintenance Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Leather, Seconded: Cllr Hodson (majority in favour)

**Action point: advise the provider and include on an appropriate future Environment & Maintenance Committee agenda.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:35pm.

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