

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.00 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Bowden (Chair)
Councillors Jenkins (for minutes 151 - 167), Knight, Needham, Norman,
Short and Steer.

NDC Councillor Knight

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – 6

145. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Bowden be appointed Chair until re-appointments are made in the next municipal year.

Councillor Bowden thanked Councillors for their support and signed the declaration of acceptance of Office.

146. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Lines and Lofthouse, DCC Councillors Henderson and Leaver and NDC Councillor Saxby

147. PUBLIC SESSION

The following matters were raised by Parishioners:

- a) Development of field behind Grange Avenue.
Was there any information regarding the development behind Grange Avenue?
Councillor Knight agreed to contact the Parishioner.
- b) Removal of 1 street light Old Torrington Road
Why was one of the street lights along Old Torrington Road removed?
Councillor Knight agreed to report to DCC Councillor Henderson
- c) Tower View s106 funds for Older Children Play Equipment
Could the s106 monies for the Tower View Recreation Area be used to purchase play equipment for older children?
Councillor Knight stated that such play equipment would require additional space and the size of the site was restricted.
- d) Tower View Play Equipment – Cleaning of bird droppings/Overgrown land Broadclose Road.
Mr Tucker stated that he had cleaned bird mess off the play equipment in Tower View and that the Clerk was chasing NDC for a response regarding the overgrown land in Broadclose Road.

148. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

There were no issues raised.

149. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

150. RESIGNATION/CO-OPTION

The Clerk reported that there were 2 vacancies for co-option. He was, however, waiting for notification from North Devon Council that the Parish Council could co-opt to the vacancy following the resignation of Helen Blackman.

He further reported that he had received expressions of interest from 3 Parishioners to be considered for co-option to the other vacancy. Details of candidates had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

It was agreed that Dennis Jenkins be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

151. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair reported the receipt of an email from a Parishioner regarding anti-social behaviour from a neighbour and informed Council of her response to the Parishioner.

152. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

a) Payments

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary + Admin Fee	£578.55
Gavin Hendry Tower View Spraying/Pruning	£210.00
M. Isaac Clerks Expenses	£10.01
Gavin Hendry Grounds Maintenance	£1,254.00
U canstore.com Storage	£26.00
Hire of Church Hall (Aug-Oct)	£85.00
Gardeners Delight Tower View – Bulbs	£198.00
Microsoft Subscription Renewal	£59.99

153. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

154. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(a) DCC REPORTS

In the absence of DCC Councillors Henderson and Leaver there was no DCC report

(b) NDC Councillor Knight

Councillor Knight reported that NDC would soon be considering its budget and council tax for the next financial year.

155. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no issues raised.

156. HIGHWAY ISSUES

a) Shorelands Road roundabout

The Council noted a report by Councillor Norman (previously circulated) regarding his survey of vehicles driving passed the roundabout.

It was noted that only 25% of the 369 vehicles were complying with the Road Traffic Act. The most concerning point being that 50% of vehicles who crossed the roundabout were on the wrong side of the road.

Councillor Knight reported that the design of the new arrangement had been agreed but that DCC included block paver rumble strips which would cause a noise nuisance to neighbouring properties.

It was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Knight seek information from Barnstaple Town Council on the scheme in St Georges Road that had rubber blocks.

b) Bus Gate – Old Torrington Road: Update.

There was no update

Councillor Knight reported that relevant documents were still awaited from Persimmon.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact the NDC Head of Legal Services regarding the legal planning position on the non-delivery of the bus gate.

157. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT.

a) Bulb planting in wildflower area.

Councillor Bowden reported that she had taken delivery of the bulbs for the wildflower area.

It was agreed that Community support be sought to plant the bulbs and clear the weeds. Councillor Bowden agreed to put a message on the social media groups seeking assistance.

b) s106 Funds. Consideration of quotes.

The Clerk reported that the s106 funding had been agreed, £12,000 of which had been transferred into the Councils Bank account.

It was agreed to seek further quotes to tarmac the southern end footpath and central bank footpath in the park

c) Solar CCTV.

Councillor Bowden reported that due to anti-social behaviour, vandalism and removal of signs in the recreation area consideration should be given to the provision of CCTV to eliminate the problems.

Councillor Short reported that he had obtained a quote to provide CCTV in the Tower View Recreation area of approximately £12,480. This included 1 camera and pole, power supply and cabinet and cabling.

Councillor Jenkins stated that he had a CCTV camera that could be used.

It was agreed that:

- i) That Councillor Needham seek costings etc from Mole Valley Farmers for a CCTV system.
- ii) That Councillor Steer seek advice from N D Council regarding their CCTV systems.
- iii) That the offer from Councillor Jenkins be accepted on a trial basis at a location to be agreed.
- iv) That Councillor Bowden research the data control requirements and registration and the provision of signs.

d) Unauthorised Fencing: Update.

The Clerk reported that former Councillor Blackman had reported the unauthorised fencing to NDC. An NDC Officer had attended and the fencing was required to be removed by 14 November. It had also been reported that the wall to the rear of No 10 Elizabeth Drive had been secured. Councillor Knight agreed to look at the wall to establish its safety.

158. HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

The Council considered a report by Councillor Norman (previously circulated) regarding a Health & Safety Policy.

He stated that the Council had a duty of care to its employees and volunteers and that it was good practice to have such a policy.

It was agreed that the Policy be agreed and Councillor Norman produce a final condensed version for adoption at the next meeting.

159. GREEN WASTE-TAWSTOCK CEMETERY.

Clerk to report that following a conversation with Councillor Lines the green waste from the cemetery was inter dispersed with other waste and therefore a Trade Waste bin was required.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact NDC Waste and Recycling regarding the provision/costs of a trade waste bin at the cemetery

160. WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

a) Website Updating the Way Forward: Update.

Councillor Bowden stated that she was looking to arrange a meeting with the consultant in January.

It was agreed that Councillor Knight be appointed as an additional member to meet the consultant.

b) Social Media.

Councillor Bowden reported that she would reset the Tawstock Facebook page and enable access for all Councillors to put Parish Council messages on page.

She also stated that the What's App Group was a good way for Councillors to pass information to each other quickly and all Councillors should be involved. Councillor Short agreed to be added to the group.

She also added that responses to emails from the Clerk to all Councillors should be responded to by clicking 'reply all'.

161. LOCAL PLAN: UPDATE.

The Council noted the following update from Councillor Lofthouse

Progress was behind schedule due to a reduction in staff leaving. The Stakeholder feedback report from the workshop highlighted the following:

Housing and economic land availability assessment and 5-year land supply. The council was in the process of evaluating the land being offered to meet the 5-year supply requirements, this process would take some time to complete.

Strategic Viability assessment Local plan review. It was decided to put in additional meetings to try to decide what the review would consider, a be a full review would take years to complete or a targeted review which could be finalised much more quickly.

Councillor Knight expressed concern at the lack of a Larkbear strategic extension as (BAR 02) was not viable.

162. PARISH GATEWAY SIGNS.

Councillor Norman reported that provision of Parish Gateway signs could raise the profile of the Parish Council at locations to be considered.

It was agreed that the Clerk seek quotes for the provision of an elaborate modern notice board to be located at the entrance to Larkbear.

163. APPOINTMENT OF A PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE.

Councillor Bowden suggested that a Planning Sub Committee be appointed to consider minor planning applications.

The Clerk had previously circulated a draft terms of reference for consideration.

It was agreed:

- i) That a Planning Sub Committee be appointed
- ii) That Councillors Jenkins, Knight, Norman and Short be appointed to the Sub Committee
- iii) That meetings be held on the third Tuesday each month prior to the Parish Council meeting @ 6.30 p.m.
- iv) That the Chair of the Sub Committee report on the Sub Committee decisions to the following full Council meeting.
- v) That the terms of reference (previously circulated) be adopted.

164. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) 76060 Proposed machinery store, Rowden Barn, Roundswell, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval

- b) 76108 Application for consent for works to trees covered by a tree preservation order in respect of selective branch reduction of various trees and removal of 2 Ash trees, Larkbear, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED Refusal unless the trees were dangerous or diseased.

- c) 76147 Demolition of barn and erection of dwelling, installation of ground source heat pump and associated works (following approval ref 75550), Little Higher Rolleston, Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Refusal due to lack of information regarding the use of the dwelling and the views expressed by Building Control regarding fire access

Councillor Jenkins declared an interest in the above application as he knew the applicant and was not present during the consideration or voting thereon.

- d) 76149 Erection of roof over existing farm yard manure store, Week Farm, Harracott

RECOMMENDED Approval

- e) 75650 - Application under Regulation 3 of the Town & Country Planning General Regulations 1992 notification by NDC for replacement of the upper car park gravelled surface with tarmac and erection of storage unit & storage bunds, The North Devon Crematorium, Old Torrington Road, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval

- f) 76169 Renovation and modernisation of F Block to include new external cladding and new roof finish, PETROC, Old Sticklepath Hill, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval

165. PRECEPT 2023/2024.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council precept for a Band D property for 2023/2024 be increased by 0.16p to £18.50 for the year.

166. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

The following issues were raised:

Tudor Park
Warm Rooms Funding

167. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would be on Tuesday 20th December 2022 @ 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.