

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL, TAWSTOCK ON
WEDNESDAY 16th JULY 2019 AT 7.00 pm**

Present: - Councillor Luggar (Chairman)
Councillors Blackman, I. Capon, L. Capon, Knight Lines Thorne,
M. Ward and S. Ward

NDC Councillors Knight, Lofthouse and Saxby.

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public - None.

55. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Short and DCC Councillors Edgell and Mathews

56. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no issues raised by Parishioners.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were announced:

Councillor M. Ward a prejudicial interest in item 10 Social Media as her sister had submitted a quote to provide the web site

Councillor Thorne a personal interest in application 66749 The Lodge, Tawstock

58. REPORTS

a) DCC Councillors Report

In the absence of Councillors Edgell and Mathews there was no DCC report.

b) District Councillors Report

Councillor Knight stated that the caravan outside the Crematorium had been removed. He further stated that concerns had been raised regarding parking opposite the Crematorium as there were currently no parking restrictions. He would raise the possibility of the provision a waiting bay at the front of the Crematorium with a 2hour waiting limit at the next HATOC meeting.

Councillor Lofthouse stated that the District Council was looking to trial 3 weekly black bin collections and seeking feedback from Parishes.

Councillor Saxby stated that she had nothing to report at present but that she had obtained a Parish boundary plan if anyone wished to view it.

59. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2019 be approved as correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

It was noted that there were no issues arising from the previous meeting not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

It was agreed that an update on the speed checks in Old Torrington Road, the bus gate at Grange Avenue and access onto the A361-A39 from the Larkbear development be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

61. NOTICE OF MOTION

The Council considered and adopted the following notice of motion submitted by Councillor I Capon

‘Following the decision by North Devon Council’s Planning Committee to approve the school at Tews Lane and the subsequent effect on Tawstock of having yet further proposed development on the Old Torrington Road, together with the Planning Committee’s acknowledgement of the serious traffic congestion in the area, I ask that Tawstock Parish Council writes to the Leader of North Devon District Council and the Chairman of the North Devon District Council Planning Committee requesting that Devon County Council as the Highway Authority carry out a comprehensive strategic infrastructure review of the local road network to consider the impact of development before any more large scale developments are considered in the Parish of Tawstock’

It was agreed to inform Barnstaple Town Council of the motion.

62. NOTICE OF MOTION

The Council considered and adopted the following notice of motion submitted by Councillor L Capon

‘As decisions taken by one Parish Council can often have implications for neighbouring parishes, I ask that Tawstock Parish Council considers forming an informal joint working group initially with Fremington Parish Council to discuss issues where they have a shared interest’

It was agreed that the following members be appointed to the above mentioned Working Group:

Councillors L. Capon, M. Ward and S. Ward

63. PLANNING MATTERS

The Council considered the following planning applications:

- a) 66749 Listed Building Application for alterations & renovation works to dwelling including insertion of roof light to lower ground floor bedroom & erection of replacement railings on terrace, The Lodge, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED that the application be approved

Councillor Mrs Thorne declared a Personal interest in the above application

- b) 66575 Application for a lawful development certificate for an existing conversion of barn to form one dwelling with unrestricted use, Westacombe Farm, Eastacombe.

The application was noted

- c) 66694 Extension to dwelling 32 Elizabeth Drive, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED that the application be approved

64. HIGHWAY ISSUES

The following highway issues were raised:

- That funding was available for the re-surfacing at the top of Old Torrington Road.
- That TRANSCO were renewing the gas main around Sticklepath and that following the completion of the works the road and grass verges would be properly restored.
- Councillor Knight updated Council on the recent HATOC meeting. He stated that the meeting had recommended:
 - (a) To progress a scheme at the Cedars Junction as a matter of priority in view of the success of the experimental trial and identified benefits to mitigate current heavy congestion and poor air quality; and
 - (b) To review the wider transport strategy for the Barnstaple area, in conjunction with the proposed improvements at the Cedars Junction.

65. SOCIAL MEDIA: COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

Councillor Mrs Ward reported the receipt of 2 quotes from The Organised Blogger and Web Design. She stated that although the quote from The Organised Blogger was cheaper for the web site design the on-going costs were more expensive.

It was agreed to accept the quote from Web Design, Charles Waldron as follows:

Web Site Design £725
Monthly Costs – Maintenance £11.50; Hosting £6.18
Hourly rate for any amendments £18.00

Councillor M. Ward declared an interest in the above matter and after her report left the meeting during the consideration and voting thereon

66. TAWSTOCK VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK RESURFACING

It was agreed defer the above matter to the next meeting

67 PURCHASE OF LAPTOP

Councillor Knight reported that he had purchased the new laptop and passed it to the Clerk

68. VEVUES FOR FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Councillor Blackman stated that the Parish Council had a duty to encourage parishioners to attend Parish Council meetings. Parishioner attendance at meetings very low as a number of residents had stated that it was difficult for them to get to the Tawstock Village Hall and the majority of Tawstock Parish residents lived in the urban part of the parish.

It was agreed that Councillors Blackman, Knight, Thorne and M. Ward be appointed to investigate other possible venues in the Parish and report back to the next Parish Council meeting.

69. FINANCE MATTERS

The Council considered the following Payments:

a) Payments

RESOLVED that the following payments be agreed:

Tawstock Village Hall Hire of Hall 18/6	£	15.00
Clerks Expenses – Mileage/Postage	£	6.75
North Devon Council Clerk Salary/Admin Fee	£	553.72
Ucanstore.com Hire of storage space	£	72.00
ROSPA Play Area Inspection	£	164.40
D. Knight Purchase of Laptop and software	£	563.48

b) Current Financial Position

The current financial position as at 5 July 2019 was noted

Current A/C £36,388.76, Business Reserve £15,971.81

70. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the following:

- a) The Council noted an E Mail from Gwawr Jones relating to the recreational area in Tudor Drive

It was agreed to seek whether s106 funding from the Grange Avenue site could be used for works to the Tudor Drive recreational area

- b) The Council noted an E Mail from Ian Sweetland regarding the footpath between Rhododendron Avenue and Manor Park

The Clerk reported that this had been an on-going issue for many years. No owner had been identified according to the land registry

Councillor Knight agreed to contact North Devon Council

- c) Tower View Open Space.

The Clerk reported that £22,588.71 was currently held towards the enhancement of the Tower View Open Space

It was agreed that the monies be used to undertake the necessary repairs to the play area including the widening of the gate for disabled access and the dropping of the kerbs

71. AGENDA MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING

There were no further issues raised.

72. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 17th September 2019 at 7.00 p.m. at Tawstock Village Hall

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.37 p.m.