

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 27TH JANUARY 2016** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

PRESENT Councillors M E Ryan (Mayor) Presiding

Councillors

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Mrs C Bunday | D Howe |
| Mrs J Cleave | Mrs J A Jones |
| C Coyle-Moore | C N Parker |
| D Corney-Walker | M J Pilkington |
| Mrs J Grainger | K L Purchase |
| R Grainger | T Ward |
| M Hocking | |

By Invitation: County and District Councillor Gordon Hook
District Councillor Mrs Jackie Brodie
District Councillor Philip Bullivant
Honorary Freeman Mr Henry Cole

In attendance: Mr Philip Rowe – Town Clerk
Miss Samantha Scott – Deputy Town Clerk

The Mayor invited his Chaplain, The Reverend John Doble, to deliver prayers.

327. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Jenks, Mrs S Kingdom and Ms L Roberts (Deputy Mayor),

328. INTERESTS

The Chairman confirmed that Members of the Council present had signed the required Dispensation Notice permitting involvement in the discussion and decision making regarding the Council's Precept.

Councillor R Grainger declared an interest in agenda item 12 – The Local Council Award Scheme, as he was a member of the local accreditation panel.

329. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11th November 2015 were received and signed as a correct record.

330. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

331. REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

A. County and District Councillor Hook reported on the following issues in which he had direct involvement:

- ❖ A successful notice of motion concerning the banning of Neonicotinoids as one of the possible causes of the declining bee population in Devon;
 - ❖ The new Devon County Council boundaries had been adopted and made public, and, a consequence there would be a reduction in the number of district and county councillors within Teignbridge.
 - ❖ Diversions on Aller-Brake Road.
- B. District Councillor Mrs Brodie reported on the following issues in which she had direct involvement:
- ✚ Objections raised against the Aldi planning application in relation to employment and heritage issues;
 - ✚ An application for floodlights at Newton Abbot College had been refused;
 - ✚ Retrospective planning permission was sought from the car-wash facility at Jetty Marsh;
 - ✚ A new car-parking strategy was to be formulated for Newton Abbot via a review group;
 - ✚ There was currently a national planning policy consultation taking place, which was open for comment until 22nd February 2016.
- C. District Councillor Bullivant reported on the following issues in which he had direct involvement:
- ✚ Car-parking review group – this was trying to encourage more cohesive communications between the on-street, (Devon County Council) and off-street (Teignbridge District Council) authorities.
 - ✚ The Homeless review, which was to be discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny panel in the near future. The homeless facility in Albany Street had been operational for approximately six months and had provided 1,555 nights' service to users.
- D. Town and District Councillor Pilkington reported on the following issues in which he had direct involvement:
- ✓ Bishop Dunstan School application;
 - ✓ The proposed bridge over the railway to Brunel industrial Estate.
- E. Town and District Councillor Mrs Grainger reported on the following issue in which she had direct involvement:
- The Coastal Communities Team, which had made a successful bid for funding to facilitate regeneration projects.
- F. Town and District Councillor Hocking reported on the following issue in which he had direct involvement:

- ❖ The devolution proposals and the financial implications for town and parish councils.

332. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. The Council received the list of engagements (previously circulated) which the Mayor had carried out since 11th November 2015.

The Mayor explained that he and the Mayoress had enjoyed all the events attended however drew particular attention to the following:-

- ✓ Assisting the Salvation Army in serving Christmas lunch to the homeless on 25th December 2015;
- ✓ Christmas visit to Mapleton Care Home.

B. The Mayor expressed thanks to members for their support at the recent Christmas events.

C. The Mayor reported that the official opening of the South Devon Link Road was scheduled for the 22nd February 2016.

333. **PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES**

A. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 24th November 2015 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;

B. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 15th December 2015 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;

C. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 12th January 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;

D. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Finance & Resources Committee** held on 13th January 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor Colin Parker, were received and approved (with the exception of minutes 321 and 322/01/16).

334. **PRECEPT 2015/17**

Arising from minute 321/01/16 the Mayor reminded the Council that it was the statutory duty of the Council to approve a Precept for 2016/17.

It was proposed by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Hocking that a Precept in the sum of £629,913 be adopted for the year 2016/17.

The Town Clerk reported that Teignbridge District Council had confirmed that the Town Council would receive Council Tax Support Grant of £70,190 for 2016/17.

Arising from a detailed discussion on the matter it was

RESOLVED that a Precept of £629,913 for 2016/17 be hereby approved representing an increase of 9.4% or £6.76p p.a. (.13p per week) for a Band D property in Newton Abbot and that Teignbridge District Council be therefore requested to collect on the Town Council's behalf the sum of £559,723 and provide a Council Tax Support Grant in the sum of £70,190.

335. **COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

Further to minute 322/01/16 the Council gave consideration to a recommendation from the Finance & Resource Committee that a new Council Committee Structure be adopted.

Arising from consideration of the recommendation it was

RESOLVED that the new Council Committee Structure be adopted and facilitated, however, be reviewed prior to the end of the next civic year.

336. **NEWTON ABBOT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN - UPDATE**

The Town Clerk reported that an Inspector had been appointed by Teignbridge District Council for the next stage of the adoption of a Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Development Plan.

It was noted that it was hoped the inspection would be completed by the end of February with the Referendum taking place on 5th May 2016 in conjunction with the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner Election.

337. **NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL TRAINING POLICY**

The Council was invited to adopt a Training Policy for both staff and Councillors (previously circulated).

Arising from consideration of the Policy it was

RESOLVED that the Training Policy as submitted to the Council be hereby approved and adopted.

338. **LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME**

Members were reminded that in 2014/15 the Quality Council Scheme concluded with a replacement scheme being adopted entitled the 'Local Council Award Scheme'. The new Scheme unlike the previous Quality Council Scheme involved three levels, Foundation, Quality and Gold awards.

The Town Clerk explained that as the Council was an accredited Quality Council at the time the Scheme concluded, it was automatically granted accreditation into the Local Council Award Scheme at Foundation level for twelve months. That grant had now expired and the Council, if it so wished, was invited make a formal application.

Arising from consideration of the proposal it was

RESOLVED

(a) that the Council hereby confirms that it meets the Local Council Award Scheme accreditation criteria and publishes all the necessary documentation on-line and/or has adopted appropriate policies and procedures by resolution;

(b) that the Town Clerk be authorised to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme at Foundation level.

339. LATE CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk drew members' attentions to the fire safety literature that had been circulated during the meeting. The Fire Safety Officer was to give a presentation to a future meeting of the Finance & Resources Committee, detailing its Home Safety scheme.

340. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 9th March 2015.

Chairman