

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH 2019** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

PRESENT Councillors K Purchase (Mayor) Presiding
R Jenks (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors

Mrs C Bunday	Mrs A Jones
Mrs J Cleave	M Joyce
D Corney-Walker	Mrs S Kingdom
C Coyle-Moore	C N Parker
R Hayes	Ms L Roberts
M Hocking	M E Ryan
D Howe	Mrs L Sheffield

By Invitation: Honorary Freeman Mr Henry Cole
The Reverend Patrick Parkes
Mr Toby Russell, Devon Air Ambulance Trust
Mrs Karen Jenks

County & District Councillor Mr Gordon Hook
County & District Councillor Mrs Jackie Hook
District Councillor Mr Phillip Bullivant

Representative of the Press: Sam Hall, Mid Devon Advertiser

In attendance: Philip Rowe – Town Clerk
Samantha Scott – Deputy Town Clerk
Sally Henley – Town Development Manager
Alexandra Robinson – Committee Administrator

The Mayor invited his Chaplain, The Reverend Patrick Parkes, to deliver prayers.

405. **WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Full Council Meeting, it being the last meeting of the Council prior to the ordinary local elections in May 2019.

406. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Terry Ward and Mike Pilkington.

407. **INTERESTS**

None Declared.

408. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30th January 2019 were received and signed as a correct record.

409. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

410. **PRESENTATION - DEVON AIR AMBULANCE TRUST**

The Mayor welcomed Mrs Karen Jenks and Mr Toby Russell, Community Landing Sites Development Officer and invited them to update Members on the work of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust in securing landing sites in and around Newton Abbot.

Mrs Karen Jenks introduced Mr Toby Russell and explained that she had personal experience of the work of the Devon Air Ambulance and at a subsequent meeting of the Women's' Institute they had committed to raising funds towards developing a landing site in Newton Abbot.

Mr Russell explained that his role was to develop night time landing sites for the region and in particular in and around Newton Abbot. He raised the following points with the aid of presentation slides:

- ❖ To extend the number of 'night time' landing sites across the town;
- ❖ Prospective sites are thoroughly surveyed to give the pilot maximum information about potential hazards and ensure safety;
- ❖ Each site is floodlit to assist the paramedics on the ground with their access to the patient;
- ❖ The lighting can be remotely accessed to facilitate the landing and onward transfer of the patient;
- ❖ The local community oversees the development and management of the site with part-funding from the Air Ambulance Trust;
- ❖ Sites needed to meet the criteria; with a land expanse of at least 50m x 50m, located within a community and with pedestrian/vehicle access;
- ❖ There are currently 114 confirmed landing sites in the Devon;
- ❖ The intention is to develop the number of landing sites to approximately 250 over the next two to three years;
- ❖ Mr Russell had surveyed five potential sites in Newton Abbot and whilst he noted that these were owned by the District Authority he encouraged the Town Council involvement in developing the suitable sites;
- ❖ The Air Ambulance meets a growing need to reach trauma patients and those with potentially life-threatening or life-changing incidents;
- ❖ Each year the demand for the service has grown in and around Newton Abbot (2018 – 23 incidents) and patients have been transferred to the most appropriate hospital or trauma centre which could be outside of Devon eg Bristol or Swansea;
- ❖ Early intervention and specialist care has contributed to improved outcomes for patients year on year.

Mr Russell identified the next steps as:

- ❖ The Trust needed the assistance of the Town Council in providing details of the prospective sites;
- ❖ Raising 50% of the funding needed for each site, up to £3,000 per site to be matched by the Trust;
- ❖ Local Consultation in reassuring to local communities on the need for the night time service and the implications for residents; and
- ❖ Planning Applications in respect of lighting installations at the sites;

Mr Russell invited questions from Councillors and Members raised the following points:

- Offered positive support for the work of Devon Air Ambulance and the growing need for the service;
- Clarified the costs associated with each potential site;
- Endorsed the importance of developing landing sites and suggested this be a matter for the new Council following the elections;
- Whilst the potential sites are owned by Teignbridge District Council that these could be developed by the Town Council and community;
- The 'night time' provision is until 2am based upon an assessment of need for the service;
- Recommendations of additional potential sites could be forwarded to Mr Russell.

Following the discussion, accordingly it was;

RESOLVED that the Council supported the development of five proposed landing sites in and around Newton Abbot as identified by the Devon Air Ambulance Trust and that the matter be further considered by Council following the ordinary elections in May 2019.

The Mayor thanked both Mrs Jenks for her introduction and to Mr Russell for his informative and encouraging presentation on the development of landing sites in Newton Abbot and for the continued work of the Devon Air Ambulance, whereupon they were invited to leave the meeting.

411. **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

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

- Offered County Councillor Community Fund contribution towards the proposed Air Ambulance Landing Site in Buckland;
- Welcomed the reduction to 30 mph speed limit in St Marychurch Road;
- Reinstate the town's Fair Trade status – the Deputy Town Clerk to assist with the local steering group;
- Stagecoach consultation on recently revised bus routes; and
- Support for local branch of Refurnish.

Members raised questions and clarified the following points:

- Clarified Refurnish's ability to carry out house clearance or the sale of second hand items;
- Commended the reduction on speed limit on both St Marychurch Road and the South Devon Highway, both of which should provide a notable reduction in noise and pollution;
- Vehicles caught by Average Speed Cameras on the South Devon Highway, driving in excess of 100mph;
- Re-establish the town's Speed Watch programme; and
- Residential speed restrictions to 20mph.

B. District Councillor Phillip Bullivant reported on the following issues in which he had direct involvement:

- Commended the approval of the Devon Air Landing Site in Bishopsteignton;
- Teignbridge approval for the enhancements to Baker's Park and invited the additional specification requirements for the proposed air ambulance landing site to be included in the plans;
- Planning Consent would be applied for the proposed cycle route from Teignmouth to Newton Abbot;
- Approval for the all-weather pitch at Coach Road but restrictions on operational hours threatened the grant funding for the project;
- Proposed 'free day' at Newton Abbot Leisure Centre for local residents to experience the facilities available and
- Congratulated the Town Council on its achievements during the last four years of office.

C. County and District Councillor Mrs Jackie Hook reported on the following issues in which she had direct involvement:

- Welcomed the support for the reduction in speed limits;
- The County Traffic Speed Task Group had concluded its investigations and proposed a redrafted Speed Limit Policy for the county;
- The notable reduction in pollution and noise associated with a reduction in vehicle speed;
- Invited the Town Council to apply for trial status on lowering speed limits in the town;
- Road works on A382 to install cycle lanes was due for completion late Spring;
- The Planning Application for the link road at Jetty Marsh Road was due to be submitted in the spring; and
- The roadworks for the A382 and A383 were under consideration.

Members raised questions and clarified the following points:

- Welcomed the reduced speed limit on St Marychurch Road and the establishment of Speed Watch;
- Enforcement of local speed restrictions; and
- Speed reductions improves the outcome of those involved in traffic incidents.

There being no further questions from Councillors, the Mayor thanked the County and District Councillors for their reports.

412. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Council received the list of engagements (previously circulated) which the Mayor had carried out since 30th January 2019.

The Mayor noted the variety of events he had attended since January and made particular note of the Newton Abbot Society of Arts concert held in February. The Mayor commented that all their events were of a high standard and a 'sell-out'.

413. **PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES**

- A. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 5th February 2019 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;
- B. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Community & Heritage Committee** held on 6th February 2019 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Cleave, were received and approved;
- C. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Policy & Resources Committee** held on 13th February 2019 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor M Ryan, were received and approved;
- D. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 26th February 2019 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;
- E. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Finance & Audit Committee** held on 27th February 2019 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor C Parker, were received and approved;

414. **SUB COMMITTEES - NEWTON'S PLACE PROJECT BOARD**

The Minutes of the Newton's Place Project Board held on 28th February 2019 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor M Ryan, were received and approved.

The Chairman Councillor Mike Ryan noted that the Minutes had been presented as it was the last meeting of the Council who had instigated the Newton's Place Project and it was fitting that Members should note the progress made to date.

415. **NEWTON'S PLACE PROJECT – UPDATE**

The Mayor invited the Town Clerk to update Members on the Newton's Place project. The Clerk congratulated the efforts of the Town Council in achieving the progress on the project to date and the fantastic improvements that it would make for the residents and wider community. The Clerk presented a 3D video impression of the interior of Newton's Place based upon initial designs produced by Leach Studio.

Members commended the visual resource and the opportunity to use it update the community. Members thanked staff for their continued efforts and commitment to the project and noted that despite being a project of £2.2million that it had not had a financial impact on the Council Tax. The project had been funded and supported from the Heritage Lottery Fund, numerous other funders and to a lesser extent from Community Infrastructure Levy income. Members endorsed their gratitude to fellow Councillors, staff and the design teams for achieving such a high standard of project that was anticipated to deliver on time and within budget. Members discussed the naming of the three community rooms in Newton's Place. Following discussion, it was;

RESOLVED that the names for the three community rooms on the first floor of Newton's Space, be hereby approved and adopted as:

Room 1 – St Leonard’s Room (large room undivided or when split into the larger subdivision)

Room 2 – Rowell Room (smaller section of sub-divided room)

Room 3 – Ditchburn Room

416. **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

The Mayor referred to the notice, tabled at the meeting, which advertised the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday 6th April from 10.30am-2.30pm. The Mayor encouraged all Councillors to attend and support the important event.

417. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

418. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 15th May 2019, Annual Meeting of the Council.

Chairman (Mayor)