

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022** AT 7.00 P.M. AT NEWTON'S PLACE, 43 WOLBOROUGH STREET, NEWTON ABBOT

Present: Councillors C Bunday (Mayor) Presiding  
L Sheffield (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors: D Corney-Walker D Howe  
C Davieson A Jones  
A Hall M Joyce  
R Hayes C Parker  
M Hocking M Ryan

Officers in attendance: Phil Rowe Town Clerk  
Sam Scott Deputy Town Clerk  
Sally Henley Town Development Manager  
Linda McGuirk Principal Administrator

In attendance: Nigel Canham Communications Adviser

By invitation Reverend Ben Maynard  
Emily Farrell Newton Abbot CIC Manager  
Jackie Hook District Councillor  
Gordon Hook District Councillor  
Janet Bradford District & County Councillor  
Liam Mullone District Councillor  
Martin Wrigley District & County Councillor

268. **WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Reverend Ben Maynard to open the meeting with prayers.

Members were informed that the Council had launched its new website. The website was displayed on the screen during the meeting for Members to view.

269. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors K Crout and M Pilkington.

Councillors P Bullivant, R Hall and C Jenks did not attend.

270. **INTERESTS**

None declared.

271. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were received and signed as a correct record.

272. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

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

The Mayor invited County and District Councillors to provide a report on their recent activity.

District Councillor Jackie Hook reported on issues in which she has had direct involvement:

- Future High Street Fund - Teignbridge District Council (TDC) has agreed to delay the decision regarding the proposed new four screen Cinema.
- Bradley Lane planning application
- Local Plan, public consultation period will start in January 2023, this is the last chance for public to comment. Adoption of the Local Plan is scheduled for adoption in 2024.

District Councillor Gordon Hook reported on issues in which he has had direct involvement:

- Issues with the Police 101 system.
- As a member of the TDC Car Park Review Working Group, he has been investigating potential future uses of car parks.
- Liaised with a resident regarding the installation of a streetlight and luminous paint on steps to facilitate residents going out at night. Councillor G Hook asked the Town Council to consider painting luminous paint on all steps across the town.
- Liaised with a resident regarding taxis parking on zig zag lines.

District and County Councillor Janet Bradford reported on issues in which she has had direct involvement:

- Potholes
- Children’s Scrutiny Committee, investigating SEN services in Devon.
- 20mph speed limits outside schools
- Queen Street enhancements
- Anti-social behaviour in Buckland Ward
- Baker’s Park - investigating methods of communicating information to people contemplating suicide, including access to helplines.
- Contributed £1000 from her Locality Budget to the Art In The Subway project
- Supported the Wellbeing In Action tea party.

District Councillor Liam Mullone reported on an issue in which he has had direct involvement:

- Liaised with a resident about the condition of the Multi Storey Car Park.
- The Alexandra Theatre re-development and the proposed four screen cinema.

The Mayor thanked the County and District Councillors for their reports as they provided a valuable insight into the issues within Newton Abbot.

274. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a) The Mayor updated Members on her recent engagements, as previously circulated, and highlighted several events of significance, which included:

- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November - Re-opening of Little Linda’s Library.

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- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November - Laid a wreath on the Poppy Train bound for London.
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Parade and Service.

The Mayor gave thanks to Councillors and Officers for assisting with a successful Remembrance Parade and Service. It was noted that an issue had occurred with the sound equipment at the Service. Replacement sound equipment has been purchased to use at future events.

The Mayor advised she will be attending the following future events:

- The opening of a Funeral Parlour in Newton Abbot.
  - Assisting the Salvation Army prepare Christmas parcels.
  - Attending the Farmers Christmas Show.
- b) Deputy Mayor Councillor Lesley Sheffield reported on her attendance at the Coombeshead Academy Armistice Day assembly, commenting on the exemplary behaviour of the students.

Councillor A Hall read a statement thanking the Mayor for her dedication, however, in his opinion he felt the Mayor had been let down by Councillors who had failed to attend the Mayor's recent Civic Service. Further to this lack of support at civic events it was apparent that many Councillors do not attend or support the many Town Council Events. Councillor Hall is therefore concerned about the future of Town Council events.

275. **COMMUNITY PLAN**

The Mayor introduced the draft Community Plan, circulated prior to the meeting, and invited Councillors to comment

The Town Clerk reminded Members that the Community & Heritage Committee had considered the document at its meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and recommended that the Council adopts the Community Plan (Minute Number 22/10(223)). The Town Clerk advised there had been one major change to the Plan since the Community & Heritage Committee had made its recommendation, the change referred to the inclusion of Newton Abbot Garden Community on page 4.

Arising from the discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED** that the Town Council hereby adopts the Community Plan 2022 to 2032.

276. **DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT CONSULTATION**

The proposed Devon County Council 20mph speed limit consultation maps were displayed on the screen for Members to view and had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk invited Members to comment on the proposed scheme.

Arising from the discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED** that Newton Abbot Town Council hereby supports the 20mph Speed Limit Order as set out in the proposed 20mph Speed Limits Consultation Plan (reference IMR/DEV001/066).

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277. **DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSED QUEEN STREET PEDESTRIANISATION ENHANCEMENTS**

The proposed Devon County Council Queen Street Pedestrianisation Enhancements were displayed on the screen for Members to view and had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk suggested that Members considered the three Traffic Regulation Orders separately.

a) Traffic Regulation Order 6018

Members considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - 6018 (Queen Street & Albany Street, Newton Abbot) (20mph Zone) to introduce 20 MPH SPEED ZONE on specified lengths of Queen Street & Albany Street.

Arising from the discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED** that Newton Abbot Town Council hereby supports the proposed Traffic Regulation order 6018 (Queen Street & Albany Street, Newton Abbot) (20mph Zone).

b) Traffic Regulation Order 6019

Members considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - 6019 (Queen Street area, Newton Abbot) (Traffic Regulation) Order 6019 to introduce Prohibition of motor vehicles on specified lengths of Devon Square, King Street, Oak Place & Queen Street; One way on a specified length of Hopkins Lane; width restriction on a specified length of Hopkins Lane; length restriction on a specified lengths of Devon Square, King Street and Queen Street.

Members were concerned that large vehicles delivering to Queen Street will cause an obstruction and cause congestion, it was noted that Albany Street is already congested. The proposal will also have a detrimental effect on Devon Square.

Arising from the discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED** that Newton Abbot Town Council hereby strongly objects to the proposed Traffic Regulation order 6019 (Queen Street area, Newton Abbot) due to the economic and environmentally destructive impact the scheme will have on Newton Abbot.

*Councillors C Parker, C Davieson, L Sheffield and R Hayes abstained from voting.  
Councillor D Corney-Walker voted against the motion.*

c) Traffic Regulation Order 6020

Members considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order – 6020 (Queen Street Area, Newton Abbot) (Waiting/parking/loading) Amendment. To introduce NO WAITING AT ANY TIME on specified lengths of Courtenay Street, King Street, Queen Street, St Pauls Road & Victoria Place; NO WAITING MON-SAT 8AM-6PM on specified lengths of Albany Street & King Street; NO LOADING AT ANY TIME on specified lengths of Albany Street, Courtenay Street, King Street, Queen Street & St Pauls Road; PAY & DISPLAY (TARIFF NEWTON ABBOT A) MON-SAT 9AM-5PM MAX STAY 1 HOUR : 20 mins 60p, 40 mins £1, 1 hour £1.70; Sun free on specified lengths of Queen Street, St Pauls Road & Victoria Place; DISABLED BADGE HOLDERS ONLY AT ANY TIME on specified lengths of Courtenay Street, Queen

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Street & Victoria Place; LOADING ONLY ANY TIME on a specified length of Queen Street; LOADING ONLY MON-SAT 7AM-6PM MAX STAY 30 MINS NO RETURN WITHIN 1 HOUR on a specified length of Queen Street; GOOD VEHICLES LOADING ONLY MON SAT 8AM-6PM MAX STAY 30 MINS NO RETURN WITHIN 1 HOUR on a specified length of Victoria Place. Where appropriate there will be the usual exemptions including those in relation to picking up/setting down passengers, loading/unloading goods & disabled persons vehicles

Members were concerned about the detrimental impact of deliveries to businesses on Queen Street who will not be able to have their premises effectively serviced and will be forced to block the road with no alternative route. The proposed scheme will cause rat runs, congestion, and access issues in the area. In addition, the proposal will result in a loss of disabled parking spaces and cause traffic chaos in the town.

The Town Development Manager confirmed that businesses on Queen Street fear the proposal would cause them significant issues.

Arising from the discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED** that Newton Abbot Town Council hereby strongly objects to the proposed parking restrictions outlined in the Traffic Regulation Order 6020. Due to the economic and environmentally destructive impact the scheme will have on Newton Abbot.

*Councillors L Sheffield, R Hayes, D Corney-Walker, C Davieson and C Parker abstained from voting.*

## 278. PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES

- a) The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the **Finance & Audit Committee** held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor Colin Parker, were received and approved; and
- b) The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor Ann Jones, were received and approved; and
- c) The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Community & Heritage Committee** held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022, as presented by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor Ann Jones, were received and approved; and
- d) The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Policy & Resources Committee** held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor David Corney-Walker, were received and approved; and
- e) The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor Ann Jones, were received and approved, and
- f) The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Finance & Audit Committee** held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor Colin Parker were received and approved.

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279. **POLICIES**

a) Snow Plan

Members considered the Snow Plan, as circulated prior to the meeting. Following a review of the plan among Members it was:

**RESOLVED** that the Snow Plan be hereby, approved and adopted.

b) H&S Display Screen Equipment

Members considered the H&S Display Screen Equipment, as circulated prior to the meeting. Following a review of the policy document among Members it was:

**RESOLVED** that the H&S Display Screen Equipment Policy be hereby, approved and adopted subject to the inclusion of a sentence to confirm the maximum sum paid towards eye glasses will be in line with current guidance provided in the Green Book.

c) H&S Electrical Safety Policy

Members considered the H&S Electrical Safety Policy, as circulated prior to the meeting. Following a review of the policy among Members it was:

**RESOLVED** that the H&S Electrical Safety Policy be hereby, approved and adopted.

d) H&S Guidance on Manual Lifting & Handling

Members considered the H&S Guidance on Manual Lifting & Handling Policy, as circulated prior to the meeting. Following a review of the policy among Members it was:

**RESOLVED** that the H&S Guidance on Manual Lifting & Handling Policy be hereby, approved and adopted.

280. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

281. **DURATION OF THE MEETING**

In accordance with Standing Order 26, it was:

**RESOLVED** that the meeting continue until 9:30pm or until the business to be transacted is complete, whichever is the soonest.

Members discussed the behaviour exhibited by one of the District Councillors earlier in the meeting and expressed the view that a letter should be sent to the Councillor reminding them that their attendance at Town Council meetings is by invitation in order that they provide a report on their activities. It was agreed that a period of restriction on their attendance should be imposed.

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282. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 (Precept)

Meeting closed at 21:05

Chairperson (Mayor).....Date.....

Chairperson (Mayor) initials.....