

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 23RD JULY 2014** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

PRESENT Councillors M Hocking (Mayor) Presiding
M E Ryan (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors

Mrs C Bunday	K C Lewis
Mrs J Cleave	C N Parker
Mrs L M Cooke	M J Pilkington
D Corney-Walker	K L Purchase
Mrs A Fry	Ms L Roberts
J A Gadie	K Shantry
D Howe	Mrs D Watts
	Mrs M Voaden

By Invitation: Mr H L J Cole, Honorary Freeman
Councillor G Hook, Devon County and Teignbridge District Councils
Mr Neil Blaney, Principal Planner, Teignbridge District Council

Representative of the Press: Mr Nigel Canham – Mid Devon Advertiser

In attendance: Mr Philip Rowe – Town Clerk

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend John Doble, delivered prayers.

110. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs J A Jones and Councillor Mrs J Brodie, Teignbridge District Council.

111. **INTERESTS**

None declared.

112. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6th June 2014 were received and signed as a correct record.

113. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

114. **TEIGNBRIDGE LOCAL PLAN 2013-2033: UPDATE**

The Mayor introduced to the Council Mr Neil Blaney, Principal Planner at Teignbridge District Council, who had been invited to attend the meeting to make a presentation on the Teignbridge Local Plan and its implications for Newton Abbot over the next 20 years.

Mr Blaney thanked the Council for the invite to address the meeting. He intended to update Members on the Local Plan since its adoption on 6th May 2014 and to explain its impact on Newton Abbot (and the Heart of Teignbridge which included Kingskerswell and Kingsteignton) in the short and medium term. With the aid of slides, Mr Blaney dealt with the issues under the following headings:-

1. Summary/Overview of the Local Plan – it was noted that the first review was due by 2018;
2. Role of the Local Plan;
3. Implications of having a Plan;
4. Newton Abbot/Heart of Teignbridge – map displayed showing focus for growth, approx. 50% of new homes and at least 60% of new employment areas. Requirement for larger areas to be ‘master planned’;
5. Next steps for delivery;
 - a. Tasks – including introduction of Community infrastructure Levy (CIL);
 - b. Masterplans – focus on NA1(Houghton Barton), NA3(Wolborough) and NA8(town centre). It was noted a bid had been submitted to central government for fund towards the work;
 - c. CIL (1) – non-negotiable levy on new market housing development; Newton Abbot rate = £70 per square metre; 15% of income to parish and town councils (25% if a Neighbourhood Development Plan in place); can be spent on infrastructure ‘or anything else which is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area’;
 - d. CIL (2) – Investment Board to be established to agree funding priorities;
 - e. IDP (1) (Infrastructure Delivery Plan) – subject to change over life of LP; steps required = Strategy, Design, Funding, Build;
 - f. IDP (2) – Example given of infrastructure required to support development at NA1 (Houghton Barton) based on Project, Priority, Delivery (date), Estimated cost, delivery partners and sources of funding;
6. Likely short/medium term changes:
 - a. 0 – 2 years – includes South Devon Link Road; Hele Park, Buckland and Hele Park; detailed Masterplans; small scale enhancements such as cycle routes; Queen Street improvements; ‘Granite & Gears’ bridge over A38 Road at Drumbridges; and sourcing funding;
 - b. 3 – 5 years – larger schemes and infrastructure commenced; town centre improvements; CIL receipts increasing significantly; and A382 corridor scheme, including Jetty Marsh II;

7. Teignbridge District Council's role in influencing growth; including – acquiring sites for employment and regeneration e.g. Bradley Lane; timely delivery of infrastructure; bidding for funding; supporting 'sustainable development'; seek out opportunities (e.g. University technical College); and engage with business, the Town Council and local residents in developing projects and decision making.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr Blaney answered questions put to him by Members, on the following topics:-

- ❑ Delivery of infrastructure in relation to the rate of development;
- ❑ Level of development in Newton Abbot compared to Kingsteignton and Kingskerswell;
- ❑ Design aspects of housing and influences thereon;
- ❑ How the CIL income received by parish/town councils could be spent;
- ❑ Consultation with the local health sector on needs arising from the proposed new development, especially in NA1;
- ❑ The need for two pedestrian/cycle bridges over the A38 at Drumbridges;
- ❑ Potential new road through Baker's Park to serve Bradley Lane;
- ❑ Why Masterplan for Whitehills for example was carried out by a developer where others would be driven by the District Council;
- ❑ Underfunding of the Plan and the expected population growth over the life of the Plan;
- ❑ Membership of the proposed Investment Board;
- ❑ Existence of the funding required for improvements to the A382 road;
- ❑ Future maintenance responsibilities for the green spaces created on the new housing developments;
- ❑ Clarification of the trigger date for the payment of CIL.

Following the question and answer session the Mayor thanked Mr Blaney for his attendance and comprehensive presentation, whereupon Mr Blaney left the meeting.

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

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

- i. Notice of Motion to the District Council regarding the loss of the 'front office' at the Newton Abbot Police Station;
- ii. Recent report of decline in the percentage of waste being recycled in the District;
- iii. Changes to the Milber bus stops and bus timetable;
- iv. Possibility for investment in wild flower areas on roadside verges;
- v. Possible promotion of a community energy scheme for Newton Abbot.

116. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Council received the list of engagements (previously circulated) which the Mayor and ex-Mayor had carried out since 4th June 2014.

The Mayor drew particular attention to the following activities enjoyed during that period:-

- ▣ WWI Writing and Art Competition presentation – 10th June
- ▣ Commemoration in words and music of WWI 'Keep the Home Fires Burning' – 1st July

Arising from the event held on 1st July, the Mayor read to the Council a poem entitled 'False Advertising' written by a Newton Abbot primary school student highlighting propaganda relating to WWI.

117. **PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES**

- A. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 24th June 2014 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;
- B. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held on 25th June 2014 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs C Bunday, were received and approved;
- C. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Finance & Resources Committee** held on 2nd July 2014 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Corney-Walker, were received and approved;
- D. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 15th July 2014 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved.

118. **STANDING ORDERS**

Further to minute 59/06/2014 consideration was given to the following new Standing Order regarding Reports of Representatives of County and District Councils which had stood adjourned without discussion since the last meeting of the Council (SO 34):-

'38. **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS**

If at a meeting of the Council arising from a report by a representative of the County and/or District Council a Member of the Town Council wishes to ask a question of the representative, it shall be permitted if:-

- (a) The question relates to a matter affecting Newton Abbot directly; and
- (b) The person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion the Council as a whole would benefit.

If the person presiding at the meeting is of the view the matter is of such import as to require a full debate, the issue be deferred to a future meeting of the Council or referred to an appropriate committee or sub-committee.'

Arising from a debate on the matter it was

RESOLVED that a new Standing Order 38 be hereby adopted as follows:-

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- (c) The question relates to a matter affecting Newton Abbot directly; and
- (d) The person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion the Council as a whole would benefit.

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119. LATE CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk reported on a poster circulated at the meeting advertising a joint event promoted by the Town and District Councils regarding a Responsible Dog Owner day on Saturday 2nd August 2014. All Members of the Council were invited to attend and take part during the day.

120. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 24th September 2014.

Chairman