

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2016** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

**PRESENT** Councillors Ms L Roberts (Mayor)  
Mrs J A Jones (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors

Mrs C Bunday	Mrs S Kingdom
Mrs J Cleave	C N Parker
D Corney-Walker	M J Pilkington
C Coyle-Moore	K Purchase
R Hayes	M Ryan
M Hocking	Mrs L Sheffield
D Howe	T Ward
M Joyce	

Representative of the press: Mr Sam Hall – Mid Devon Advertiser

By Invitation: Henry Cole – Honorary Freeman  
Mr Peter Snook – Newton Abbot Street Pastors  
Mrs Mary Sherwood – 4Dementia Carers

In attendance: Mr Phil Rowe – Town Clerk  
Mrs Sally Henley – Town Development Manager  
Mrs Alex Robinson – Committee Administrator

## **INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Mayor welcomed representatives from Bradley Barton School and HITS Foodbank presenting them both with a Grant from the Town Council, for projects and similarly she welcomed Newton Abbot Community Trust where upon she presented a Financial Assistance Grant in support of the work that they do. Each organisation thanked the Town Council for their ongoing support.

The Mayor also thanked her Chaplain, The Reverend Patrick Parkes for hosting this year's Civic Service at St Paul's Church Devon Square and presented him with a cheque as a token of her appreciation. The organisations having received their cheques, were applauded by the Members of the Council, where upon they left the meeting.

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

Following which, she read a letter from Mr Lee Howell of Devon and Somerset Fire Service in response to the letter of thanks sent by the Council in regard to the major Fire incident in Cathedral Square, Exeter.

## **297. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of County and District Councillor Gordon Hook, District Councillors Ms Jackie Brodie and Mrs Judy Grainger and Councillor Richard Jenks.

298. **INTERESTS**

The Mayor, Councillor L Roberts and Councillor M Joyce gave notice of their intention to declare a personal interest in Minute 305 below.

299. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were received and signed as a correct record.

300. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Mayor welcomed Mrs Mary Sherwood from '4Dementia Carers' and invited her to speak. Mrs Sherwood thanked Members for the opportunity as she wished to promote Newton Abbot as a Dementia Friendly town. She highlighted the following points:

- She was responsible for two-year pilot study at Met Office – to create a Dementia Friendly workplace,
- 850,000 people in UK? have dementia,
- 670,00 are primarily cared for by unpaid carers usually family members or friends,
- 77% of those with Dementia are anxious or depressed,
- 44% feel they have lost friends following their diagnosis,
- Research suggests that there will be a 30.6% rise in cases over the next 15 years due to an aging population,
- A lack of understanding can contribute to poor conditions,
- The former Prime Minister initiated a 2020 challenge that National and Local Government should take a leadership role in creating an alliance,
- The work with the Met Office hugely benefitted the organisation and wider community.

The Mayor thanked Mrs Sherwood for her informative presentation and although she invited questions from Members there were no further comments made as the matter would be discussed later in the meeting.

301. **PRESENTATION FROM NEWTON ABBOT STREET PASTORS**

The Mayor welcomed Mr Peter Snook, from Newton Abbot Street Pastors to update Members on the work of the organisation in Newton Abbot. Mr Snook gave a background to the history of the organisation nationally and explained how it had developed a presence within Newton Abbot. He made the following points:

- Founded in 2003 in Brixton London as a church response to concerns about issues within the night-time economy,
- The organisation has expanded throughout the UK and overseas and today has 300 venues;
- Supported and guided by Ascension Trust who provide the uniform, training and legal support for the Street Pastors,
- Today there are over 11,000 Street Pastors in the UK,
- Prayer Pastors support the teams (of four) street pastors whilst they are out on the streets,

- Newton Abbot Street Pastors (NASP) have their own charitable status, with trustees and carry out their own fund-raising – their Mission is to ‘Care, Listen and Help’
- Newton Abbot has 25 members who operate on a rota basis from 10pm Saturday through to 2.30am Sunday,
- The Street Pastors have to meet certain requirements such as minimum of 12-month church membership; fulfil 50 hours of training and meet the Person Specification,
- Working with the police they assist in minor situations and have a calming effect.

The Mayor thanked Mr Snook on behalf of the Town Council for his informative and heartening presentation, she then invited questions from Members who raised the following points for clarification:

- A number of Members had attended Commissioning Services for new Street Pastors and welcomed their presence in the town,
- Requested whether the service would be extended to include Friday nights as well, but that depended on cover and sufficient members to facilitate,
- The view was that there had been significant improvement in the night time economy during the five and half year period of operation within Newton Abbot,
- Increased collaborative working with the police and ‘door-staff’ of night time outlets,
- The operational base was held within the Salvation Army Hall,
- Equipment carried to assist in variety situations, it was noted that they supplied ‘flip-flops,’ water and helped vulnerable individuals, but they also cleared broken glass from pavements to avoid further injury,
- An Invitation was extended to all Councillors to join them one night as an observer.

The Mayor extended her thanks on behalf of the Council and recorded that the work of the Street Pastors in Newton Abbot did a very worthwhile job, where upon Mr Snook left the meeting.

### 302. **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

A. District Councillor Philip Bullivant reported on the following issues in which he had a direct involvement:

- ✓ Meeting held to discuss high speed Broadband for areas of Highweek and Mile End - British Telecom had accepted responsibility for delivery,
- ✓ Developers at Hele Park finalised resurfacing and lighting prior to transfer to Devon County Council,
- ✓ Allotments at Hele Park made available, ownership to be transferred to Teignbridge District Council,
- ✓ Decision awaited from Secretary of State following Appeal from Linden Homes regarding development of Whitehill,
- ✓ Agreed free car-parking during Christmas period as 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2017,
- ✓ Parking Meters illegally removed would be replaced at cost of £22,000 to the Council plus additional loss of 8 week charging period,

- ✎ Great Western Railways had considered bridge across the railway line to Brunel Estate and station improvements,
  - ✎ Teignbridge would consider renewal of Insurance Fees for Council's vehicle fleet and premises.
- B. Members noted District Councillor Judy Grainger's report, previously circulated,
- C. District Councillor Mike Hocking reported on the following issues in which he had a direct involvement:
  - Devolution raised at DALC conference, invited voluntary involvement of Town Councils in consultation period for which the Town Council gave their full support for Councillor Hocking to be involved.
- D. District Councillor Colin Parker reported on the following issues in which he had a direct involvement:
  - Buckland Skate Park – designers Maverick Designs had incorporated the views of local young people and potential users of the upgraded site into their plans with a planned launch of late spring/early summer 2017.

### 303. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. The Council received the list of engagements (previously circulated) which the Mayor had carried out since 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
  - B. The Mayor reported that she had thoroughly enjoyed the variety of events she had undertaken during the autumn period. The Mayor gave particular note to the lunch and town visit with Bishop of Plymouth and she thanked all those who joined her for the Civic Service. The Mayor particularly appreciated the students of Newton Abbot College for their Remembrance Assembly and the welcome Members received at Newton Abbot Rugby Club.
- Councillor Roberts reminded Members of the Christmas Lights 'switch-on' on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November and extended her invitation for all Members to join her at the Mayor's Carol service and Christmas drinks that followed on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

### 304. **PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES**

- A. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 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 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs C Bunday, were received and approved subject to Minute 248 being noted;
- C. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;

- D. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Finance & Audit Committee** held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor C Parker, were received and approved subject to Minute 273 being noted;
- E. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Policy & Resources Committee** held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor M Hocking, were received and approved subject to Minute 281 being noted;
- F. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved.

### 305. **LOCAL DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE**

The Mayor referred to the earlier report from Mrs Sherwood (Minute 300) regarding a Local Dementia Alliance for Newton Abbot and the document 'Creating A Local Dementia Alliance' (previously circulated). Councillor Roberts updated Members on the recent meetings of the Newton Abbot Caring Alliance she had attended with the Town Development Manager. The Mayor took a further question from Mrs Sherwood as part of the discussion, where Mrs Sherwood asked the Council to take the lead in committing to an Alliance for Newton Abbot. In response, several Members offered their full support for the initiative but that it could not make an additional commitment whilst officers were fully utilised in the relocation project. It was noted that there were no known cases where a local council had taken the lead in the establishment of such an alliance.

Following considerable discussion among Members, it was

**RESOLVED** that

the Council offered its full support to the establishment of a Local Dementia Action Alliance but that their resources were limited to the attendance of meetings and not being the lead party in the establishment of the Alliance.

*Having previously declared an interest, both Councillor Ms Roberts and M Joyce took part in the discussion and voting thereon.*

### 306. **NEWTON'S PLACE – PROJECT UPDATE**

The Mayor invited the Chairman of Newton's Place Project Board, Councillor M Ryan to update Members on the project. He referred Members to Minute 16/11(272) where upon much of the information had previously been disseminated. He reported that a meeting of the Project Board would be held on 24<sup>th</sup> November and that the Council would promote and publicise the progress to the community of Newton Abbot. Following further comment from Councillors it was,

**RESOLVED** that the Project would be included on all Committee Agendas to ensure regular and timely updates to Members.

307. **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND POLICIES**

The Town Clerk introduced the Policy documents, previously circulated and reminded Members that it was necessary to review the documents as a requirement of the annual audit. Following clarification on points contained within the documents it was: -

**RESOLVED** that the:

- a) Financial Regulations and
- b) Standing Orders, be hereby, approved and adopted.

308. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

309. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – Precept Meeting.

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Chairman