

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

**PRESENT** Councillors Ms L Roberts (Mayor) Presiding

Councillors

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

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

In attendance: Philip Rowe – Town Clerk  
Alexandra Robinson – Committee Administrator

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

345. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of District Councillor Mrs J Grainger and Councillors Mrs J A Jones and Mrs S Kingdom.

346. **INTERESTS**

The Mayor 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.

347. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 were received and signed as a correct record.

348. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

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

The Mayor introduced Nigel Canham the recently appointed Press and Marketing representative for the Newton's Place Project and invited him to update Members.

Mr Canham, previously a senior reporter for the Mid Devon Advertiser had considerable experience within Newton Abbot. He welcomed the opportunity to be involved in the project. The project was to deliver a vibrant and flexible community space with much needed increased capacity for the museum and would incorporate a new home for the Town Council.

He noted that the project group had been working hard on the bid for the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) application, the funding for which would help deliver a long-term aspiration and vision to provide a centre in the middle of the town accessible to all.

He had concentrated on keeping the public informed and encouraged their engagement and involvement.

Mr Canham finished by inviting comments, suggestions and ideas and was keen to take the project forward and make it a huge success. He thanked Councillors for enabling him to be involved and added he was proud to be a part of it.

The Mayor thanked Mr Canham, on behalf of the Council, for his involvement and participation in the project and she then invited the Chairman of the Newton's Place Project Board, Councillor Mike Ryan to give a update to Members.

Councillor Ryan thanked the Mayor and reported to Members that following the very successful open-day at Newton's Place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> with almost 400 visitors that they had an equally successful open-day earlier that day with a further 180 visitors. The comments had been overwhelmingly supportive with visitors from Newton Abbot and the wider community offering their assistance and encouragement for the project.

Councillor Ryan added that the Project Group had worked extensively on the application to be submitted to the HLF at the end of February. That the project was working to the timetable and further information would be disseminated following a meeting of the Project Board to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> January. He extended his thanks to all Members who have been involved in the Open-days and in the project to date. The Mayor thanked Councillor Ryan for his update and expressed her thanks and pleasure in the success of the two open-days and encouraged the Project Board to keep up the momentum and offered her full support to the project.

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

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

- ❖ Consideration to be given at future meeting of the Council to establish a fund to assist residents of major developments where key elements of infrastructure are delayed;
- ❖ The impact of the proposed fair-funding formula on local schools and significant lower than average cost-base of £268 allocation per child in Devon compared to the national average.

- ❖ The impact of the South Devon Highway had resulted in 370 claims for compensation.
- ❖ Reported on pending remedial patch repairs to roads and additional on-street parking restrictions,
- ❖ Anti-litter campaign and deposit scheme to reduce plastic wastage and promote recycling and reuse.

B. District Councillor Jackie Brodie reported on the following issues in relation to Bushell Ward in which she had direct involvement:

- ❖ Redevelopment of Prospect Chapel site,
- ❖ Car-free Development sites and Car-Sharing schemes,
- ❖ Aldi supermarket Planning Application,
- ❖ Redevelopment of Queens Hotel,
- ❖ Sibelco Development Application,
- ❖ East Street, proposed planning application,
- ❖ On-Street parking restrictions and residential disabled parking

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

- Proposed increase in funding for Education for less advantaged children;
- With the increase in Development that the Ward Member have access to regular site visits to ensure delivery is as per statement of requirements.
- Loss of street lighting on major road junction on A383
- Coombeshead School planning application

### 351. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Council received the list of engagements (previously circulated) which the Mayor had carried out since 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016.

The Mayor advised Members that she had thoroughly enjoyed all the events attended however she drew particular attention to the following: -

- ✓ The various Christmas events which were all well attended and greatly supported by Members to which she offered her sincere thanks;
- ✓ The Holocaust Memorial Service and associated events including tree planting and folk dance.

The Mayor commented that whilst she had been extremely busy with engagements that she had been made to feel very welcome and had enjoyed the contrast and variety of events.

352. **PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES**

- A. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved subject to Minute 320 being noted;
- B. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor D Howe, were received and approved;
- C. The Minutes of the Meeting of the **Finance & Audit Committee** held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017 as presented by the Chairman, Councillor Colin Parker, were received and approved with the exception of minute 17/01/(340).

353. **PRECEPT 2017/18**

Arising from minute 17/01/(340) the Mayor reminded the Council that it was the statutory duty of the Council to approve a Precept for 2017/18.

It was proposed by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Hocking that a Precept in the sum of £666,913 be adopted for the year 2017/18.

The Town Clerk reported that Teignbridge District Council had confirmed that the Town Council would receive Council Tax Support Grant of £70,880 for 2017/18.

Arising from a detailed discussion on the matter it was

**RESOLVED** that the Council at its meeting to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 be **RECOMMENDED** to adopt a Precept sum of **£666,913 for 2017/18** representing an increase of £2.48p p.a. (0.05p per week) or 3.06% 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 **precept sum of £666,913** and provide a **Council Tax Support Grant in the sum of £70,880** and to complete in full the table provided by Teignbridge District Council (below).

Line 1	Town/Parish Council Name	Newton Abbot Town Council
Line 2	Cash Required from Teignbridge (budget requirement)	£737,793
Line 3	Less: Council Tax Support Grant as shown in bold on attached table	£ 70,880
Line 4	Equals: precept from which council tax will be calculated	£666,913

354. **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN – NA3**

The Mayor invited the Town Clerk to raise a request from Abbotskerswell Parish Council to sign the Memorandum of Agreement in relation to NA3. The Clerk reminded Members that due to the boundary division of NA3

overlapping across both Newton Abbot and Abbotskerswell an agreement was drawn up by Teignbridge District Council in 2014 to reflect this arrangement.

He noted that the Town Council involved the neighbouring parishes, including Abbotskerswell, during its consultation process and the production of the neighbourhood development plan and therefore did not need to rely upon the Memorandum of Agreement. By contrast Abbotskerswell had prepared their draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and had included reference to the agreement in their plan and therefore now needed Newton Abbot and Teignbridge to sign the Memorandum, retrospectively.

Following discussion, it was;

**RESOLVED** that the Mayor be authorised to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between, Newton Abbot Town Council, Abbotskerswell Parish Council and Teignbridge District Council in relation to the Neighbourhood Development Plan NA3.

**355. BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY NOMNATIONS 2017**

The Mayor invited the Committee Administrator to advise Members of the invitation to Buckingham Palace Garden Party. She advised that Members should seek to nominate a Councillor in recognition of past service, perhaps as Mayor or as a chairman and whom had not had not been a guest previously. Councillors suggested that given there were a number of Members in this position that all those eligible should be put forward and that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to select a name randomly. This name would be put forward to DALC who in turn would make a similar random selection from all their member nominations. Councillor Hocking advised District Councillors that they could also make a nomination via Teignbridge District Council.

Accordingly, it was;

**RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to select a name randomly from the nominees eligible to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party and for their name to put forward to DALC prior to the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> February to be included in their selection process.

**356. LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**357. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

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Chairman