

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024 AT 7.00 p.m.**

**Present: -** Councillor Bowden (Chair)  
Councillors Bates, Jenkins, Knight and Short.

NDC Councillor Knight.

DCC Councillor Leaver

M Isaac (Clerk)

**In Attendance:** Parishioner/Members of the Public – None

**113. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors East, Lines, Lofthouse, Mason, Needham and Norman and NDC Councillor Renshaw.

**114. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE  
CHAIR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

Need for urgent Traffic Monitoring between Phillip Avenue/Gratton Way Junction and the bus gate.

Councillor Bowden reported that she and Councillor Norman had been abused by a Member of the Public whilst undertaking a car count through the bus gate. They had been verbally abused but Councillor Norman had also been physically abused. The matter had been reported to the Police. During the 90 minutes session approximately 460 cars had illegally driven through the bus gate.

Councillor Bowden also reported that she had attended the recent HATOC meeting and on behalf of the Community Speed Watch and provided the Committee with the speed watch data. The Committee, however, deferred the review of the decision on the Bus Gate pending the receipt of further data regarding traffic numbers and speed.

Councillor Knight stated that the Parish Council should formally request that DCC provide traffic monitoring (counting of cars) in the area between the Phillip Avenue and Grange Avenue Junction and The New position of The bus gate in Old Torrington Road over a 7 day period.

This would provide clear data of the number of vehicles committing moving vehicle offences and provide formal data that would be recognised by the relevant authorities and provide evidence of the scale of the problem that was currently being facing.

DCC Councillor Leaver stated that she had submitted a formal request for traffic monitoring and asked for details of what was currently planned and timescales.

It was agreed that:

- a) That DCC be formally requested to undertake a traffic monitoring (counting of cars) in the area between the Phillip Avenue and Grange Avenue Junction and the new position

of the bus gate in Old Torrington Road over a 7 day period on community safety grounds.

- b) That following clarification from DCC Councillor Leaver regarding where and when the traffic counts would take place a letter be sent to DCC Chief Executive Donna Manson and copied to Meg Booth, Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport to seek clarification of the validity and weight of Speed Watch data and what other source of data would be acceptable to highlight the volume of traffic illegally passing through the bus gate.

Remembrance Wreath.

It was agreed that a remembrance wreath be purchased from the British Legion up to a maximum of £40. The Chair agreed to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

#### **115. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no questions from Parishioners.

#### **116. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **117. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to report

#### **118. FINANCIAL MATTERS.**

##### **a) Payments**

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary + Admin Fee	£666.93
Ucanstore.com – Storage	£28.60
M. Isaac – Clerks Expenses	£10.95
L. Evely – Grounds Maintenance Contract	£940.43
London Hearts – Donation re Harracott Defibrillator	£750.00
Zurich Insurance – Renewal	£725.37
PKF Littlejohn – External Audit	£252.00

##### **b) Financial Position**

The Clerk updated Council on the current financial position as at 5 September 2024 Current A/C £31,403.15 (includes £6,581.62 ringed fenced for Tower View Project) and Business Reserve A/C £16,391.11

- c) Draft Budget 2025/2026 and Bank Reconciliation as at 31 August 2024.  
Council noted the current budget and bank reconciliation position (previously circulated).  
It was agreed to consider the budget and precept for 2025/26 at the next Parish Council meeting.

d) Audit 2023/24.

The Council noted that the accounts for 2023/24 had been signed off by the external audit and the issues raised regarding the consideration of policies and procedures and the budget and precept setting which were being actioned. Report and Certificate (previously circulated)

### **119. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

### **120. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

There were no matters arising.

### **121. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

DCC Councillor Leaver reported the following:

- That she would seek further information where, when and over what period the traffic monitoring count for the bus gate would take place.
- That the OFSTED report on Childres Services was awaited.
- That the Local Government Association peer review of the Council had been deferred until after next year's DCC elections.

### **122. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

#### **a) NDC Councillor Knight**

Councillor Knight reported the following:

- That the improvements to the Waste and Recycling Service had greatly improved and the number of missed collections reduced.
- That he had supported a volunteer litter picker with the provision of equipment. The Council agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to the volunteer litter pickers.
- That the Local Plan review official response had been submitted and that an additional Enforcement Officer had been appointed to help reduce the back log.
- That DALC had arranged a meeting at the Roundswell Community Centre for Parish Councillors to meet the Leader of DCC.
- That he would report the parking of a caravan outside the Crematorium that was being lived in.

### **123. HIGHWAY ISSUES**

- a) Devon Countywide Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – Consultation  
That the consultation be noted.  
Councillor Knight stated that there were numerous cycleways in the Parish that were not connected to each other.
- b) Draft Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan – Consultation  
That the consultation be noted.

- c) HATOC Update – Bus Gate  
See minute 114 above.

#### **124. PLANNING MATTERS**

The Chair updated Council on the Planning Applications considered by the Planning Committee.

#### **125. PARISH SURVEY**

In the absence of Councillor Mason there was no update. It was noted that Councillor Mason would be organising a meeting of the appointed Councillors prior to the presentation to Council.

#### **126. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH - PURCHASE OF LAMPOST SIGNS**

Councillor Bowden stated that she had obtained a quote to purchase 6 lamppost signs to raise awareness of the Community Watch scheme. Each sign would cost £13.00. Permission would be required to attach the signs to the lampposts.

It was agreed to purchase 6 Community Watch lamppost signs at a cost of £78.00.

#### **127. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTING.**

Councillor Knight shared a link to report anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Bowden reported that there had been another incident of anti-social behaviour in the Tower View Play Area with a group of older people.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Principal of PETROC highlighting the issues and requesting that he meet Councillors informally.

#### **128. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING**

There were no issues raised.

#### **129. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 @ 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.