

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER 2022 AT 7.00 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Bowden (Chair)
Councillors Jenkins, Knight, Lines, Lofthouse, Needham, Norman, Short
and Steer.

NDC Councillors Lofthouse and Knight

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – 8

The Chair reminded Councillors of the Code of Conduct and the etiquette at Parish Council meetings.

168. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Thorne and NDC Councillor Saxby

169. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Norman be appointed Vice Chair until re-appointments are made in the next municipal year.

170. PUBLIC SESSION

The following matters were raised by Parishioners:

a) A Parishioner asked when the defibrillator training would be provided. The clerk stated that he was looking to arrange the training in January.

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

There were no issues raised.

172. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

173. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence reported.

174. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

a) Payments

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

Tawstock Parish Council Minutes 20 December 2022

North Devon Council Clerks Salary + Admin Fee	£937.67
Gavin Hendry Grounds Maintenance	£972.00
M. Isaac Clerks Expenses	£7.12
U canstore.com Storage	£26.00
J. Bowden Names Plates/CCTV Signs	£40.98
Barnstaple Town Council Graffiti Removal	£96.00
C. Waldron Website Maintenance	£36.00

b) Financial Position

The financial position as of 4 November 2022 current account £40,624.60 and Business Reserve £16,018.83 was noted.

175. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

176. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no issues raised.

177. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(a) DCC REPORTS

In the absence of DCC Councillors Henderson and Leaver there was no DCC report

(b) NDC Councillor Knight

Councillor Knight reported:

- i) That a sign had been erected stating that the pavement in Old Torrington Road would be delivered in January but omitted to say that it would be on the west side of the road.
- ii) That NDC was introducing an on-line digital form for Councillors to report broken, damaged, over flowing etc litter bins linked to the updated mapping tool.

(c) NDC Councillor Lofthouse

Councillor Lofthouse reported that the local plan working group had held a workshop to look at areas within the plan that needed to be addressed. The group would be looking at ways in which development could be provided without the need to be retrofitted in future. The plan review would take 2-3 years to complete. It was hoped that the proposed reforms of the National Plan Framework for the 5-year land supply to be 'just a consideration' and not a requirement would be approved.

He also reported that the Climate Action Team would be holding a Climate Action Week in March.

178. HIGHWAY ISSUES

a) Shorelands Road roundabout

Both Councillor Knight and the Clerk stated that they had tried to contact the Town Clerk but without success regarding the provision of rubber blocks. Councillor Knight agreed to again contact the Town Clerk.

The Council noted an email from DCC Councillor Henderson regarding Expressions of interest regarding 20 mph speed limit areas.

It was agreed to put an item on the next agenda for consideration and find out the decisions regarding the previously submitted areas and whether those areas that were not successful if they needed to be re-submitted or would be reconsidered automatically.

b) Bus Gate – Old Torrington Road: Update.

The Chair reported that she had spoken to Damon Buckle Persimmon Technical Director who has advised that the Bus Gate has been technically accepted but amendments are required regarding signage. When agreed the contract will be put out to tender mid to end of January. The Traffic Road Order (TRO) was valid until end of May 2023. The Bus Gate should be situ by the end of the first quarter of 2023.

Councillor Knight stated that the TRO would not run out.

179. PRECEPT: UPDATE.

Clerk to report that the increase of 0.16p per year on a band D Property recommended at the last meeting equated to an additional £174 per year.

Councillor Knight reported that the Council Tax Base for 2023/2024 was 1183.98.

It was agreed that the final precept be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting

180. PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor Norman, Chair of the Planning Sub Committee reported that Application 76038 St Johns Garden Centre, Roundswell a major application had been recommended for Refusal on highway grounds by the Sub Committee.

Council agreed the recommendation of the Sub Committee

181. TUDOR PARK.

Councillor Needham to stated that he had sent a photo on What's App to Councillors regarding growth on fencing in the corner of the Tudor Play Area. He also stated that the 2 wooden benches and picnic table needed re-treating. Councillor Needham agreed to re-treat the benches and picnic table. Councillor Lofthouse agreed to help.

It was agreed:

- a) That a quote be sought from Gavin Hendry to remove all the growth on the fencing adjoining the park and remove the cuttings.
- b) That Councillor Needham's offer to re-treat the benches and picnic table be accepted.

182. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2023/2025.

The Clerk reported that the Grounds Maintenance Contract was up for renewal.

It was agreed:

- a) To appoint a Working Group to consider the grounds maintenance tender document and proposals for the Tower View Recreation Area.
- b) That Councillors Bowden, Jenkins, Knight, Needham, Norman and Lofthouse be appointed to the Working Group.

183. TAW TORRIDGE ESTUARY FORUM.

The Clerk reported that the Taw Torridge Estuary Forum was being resurrected and a request had been received inviting the Parish Council to re-join the Forum .

It was agreed that Councillor Needham be appointed as the Council's representative on the Forum.

184. WARM ROOMS.

It was noted that there were no volunteers to run the Methodist Hall as a warm room. Councillor Steer reported that no one had turned up to use the Beechfield Centre in Fremington.

185. HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY.

The Council considered and agreed a condensed version of the Health & Safety Policy (previously circulated) by Councillor Norman.

186. TRADE WASTE BIN-TAWSTOCK CEMETERY.

The Clerk reported that the provision of a Trade Waste Bin, emptied on a monthly basis would cost £5.50 per month.

It was agreed that the provision of a Trade Waste Bin to be located at the cemetery inside the cemetery gate be agreed.

187. LOCAL PLAN: UPDATE.

See minute 177 (c) above.

188. PARISH GATEWAY SIGNS.

It was agreed not to proceed with the provision of Gateway and look at the provision of noticeboards in several locations. Clerk to seek costs.

189. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT.

- a) Wildflower areas and Banks.

See minute 182 above

Councillor Steer stated that lower wildflower fencing was bent and distorted.
Councillor Knight agreed to purchase a chain and padlocks to stabilise the fence.

- b) Footpath Tarmacking

The Chair reported that she had spoken to Gregory Tarmacadam for another quote.

190. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

The following issues were raised:

Councillor Lines stated that lorries were still driving up to the arch and then having to turn Around. The sign at the bottom of Sticklepath Hill did not include the distance to the arch.

It was agreed to contact DCC Councillor Henderson regarding the updating of the wording on the warning sign at the bottom of Sticklepath Road.

Councillor Norman briefly updated Council on the financial challenges facing DCC outlined by the Leader of DCC in his online briefing.

191. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would be on Tuesday 17th January 2023 @ 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 8.22 p.m.