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Teignmouth Town Council

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Minute Item 8

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 6.00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BITTON HOUSE

Present: Cllr. P. Williams - Town Mayor
Cllr. R. Ash - Deputy Town Mayor
Cllr. J. Atkins
Cllr. J. Orme (*left 7.26pm, during minute number 128*)
Cllr. D. Cox
Cllr. B. Cox
Cllr. A. Henderson
Cllr. D. Matthews
Cllr. R. Phipps
Cllr. E.S. Russell
Cllr. C. Williams

In attendance: Mrs. T.J.T. Rowe - Town Clerk
Mr. I. Wedlake – Project and Facilities Manager
Miss. A. Winston – PA to the Mayor
Cllr. M. Wrigley – Devon County Councillor
Members of the Public

The Mayor brought the presentation by the Air Show Committee forward. Members of the Committee reminded members of the success of the event in 2019 and their plans for the event next year.

Council not in formal session

For Councillors and Members of the Public

Prior to the commencement of the Full Council meeting, for those who wish to do so, there will be a short period of reflection or prayer given by the appointed Mayoral Chaplain to which all are invited.

Questions and Statements Public Time

There were none.

Police Report

The report below was received from the Police after the meeting.



Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Crimes Recorded - 01/10/2021 to 31/10/2021 - Teignmouth

Offence	Recorded Crime 01/10/2021 to 31/10/2021	Recorded Crime 01/10/2020 to 31/10/2020	Recorded Crime % Difference
Violence with Injury	12	10	20.0%
Violence without Injury	8	11	-27.3%
Stalking and Harassment	9	5	80.0%
Other Sexual Offences	4	2	100.0%
Robbery	0	1	-100.0%
Burglary Dwelling	0	2	-100.0%
Burglary Non-Dwelling	0	2	-100.0%
Shoplifting	2	30	-93.3%
All Other Theft Offences	0	4	-100.0%
Arson	0	1	-100.0%
Criminal Damage	10	6	66.7%
Public Order Offences	4	6	-33.3%
Possession of Weapons	1	1	0.0%
Trafficking of Drugs	1	2	-50.0%
Possession of Drugs	1	5	-80.0%
Other Offences	0	1	-100.0%
Total	52	89	-41.6%

Non Notifiable Offences	7	3	133.3%
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Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Incidents Recorded - 01/10/2021 to 31/10/2021 - Teignmouth

Incident Closing Category	Incidents - 01/10/2021 to 31/10/2021	Incidents - 01/10/2020 to 31/10/2020	Incidents % Difference
Anti Social Behaviour	15	23	-34.8%
Crime Not Recorded	2	2	0.0%
Crime Recorded	25	25	0.0%
Public Safety	71	85	-16.5%
Transport	11	13	-15.4%
Total	124	148	-16.2%

County Councillor Reports

Cllr David Cox:

I was very humbled to receive a lovely painting by Robin signed by members of Broadmeadow Allotment Association. I am very pleased to have played a small part in helping the association, after the sheds were attacked by an arsonist. It reminds us Teignmouth is a community and an injury to one is an injury to all. The support of local people was amazing, Teignmouth people always support each other in adversity.

The removal of the lighting columns on the sea front is obviously very concerning so close to Christmas. We need to thank Councillor Phipps for alerting us to the situation and averting what could have been a serious incident. I know Cllr Phipps agrees with me now is not the time for recrimination but to work together to make sure Teignmouth has appropriate lighting on the sea front.

Fly tipping is a continuing problem in the town, there's no easy way to say this - but businesses must stop storing their dumpsters on the street and in alleys. For reasons unknown this seems to be the green light for some dirty people to dump their household rubbish in the street by the dumpster.

Incredibly Devon County Council has in effect put a moratorium on 20 m.p.h. zones. Despite neighbouring Cornwall Council allowing communities to be designated at 20, Devon insists we wait three to five years whilst a trial is undertaken in Newton Abbot.

It was very sad to attend the funeral of Terry Boulton. Terry was the commander of Teignmouth detachment of the Army Cadets. He was an inspirational leader who taught many other young people the importance of service to community. We need to value and thank all the youth leaders in our town who do so much for young people, often unseen and unsung.

Cllr Martin Wrigley:

- a) The council has caught up on double yellow line painting and the next lot of lines have been submitted
- b) There has been a big issue regarding the co-ordination of road works. Cllr Cox had managed to prevent works on Shaldon bridge happening at the same time as works on the A380
- c) The Highways and Traffic Orders Committee meeting is taking place on Thursday this week.

District Councillor Reports

Cllr Ash said the Air Quality working group had met on 26 October 2021 and a draft mitigation strategy is being prepared. He is contacting Teignbridge District Council (TDC) to see what affect the bushes at the front of Bitton Park have on air quality.

Cllr Phipps conveyed that there is a big problem with the slipway in lifeboat lane and that no-one wants to take responsibility. The Mayor asked the Clerk to ascertain who is responsible and to work with them to expediate a solution.

Town Councillor Reports

Cllr Joan Atkins:

Another area in the Ward seems to be having a problem with rats (coming in from a neighbouring area). TDC have been informed and are dealing with it. St James seems to be much improved in the rat dept.

An update on the Teignmouth Neighbourhood Plan – as indicated last month our Plan has gone to Teignbridge now for a screening opinion on any environment/habitat regulation assessments issues. Coincidentally the TDC Executive are due to vote today (2nd) to approve an 8-week consultation (Cllr Wrigley confirmed this is now 10 weeks and approved) starting at the end of November seeking residents' views on possible renewable energy sites as well as site options for small new housing development and for a new gypsy and travellers' site. Documents and a feedback questionnaire will be available on-line as well as being available in Town and Parish Council offices, libraries and at Forde House. This is coincidental in that, if our plan had gone out for consultation as planned it would have clashed with this and TDC's intention to do the above screening first has put our whole plan back many months. In the near future, however, the Responses to our consultation on the Plan and associated documents back in May/ June will go on the website for people to peruse, as we wait for TDC's comments on the draft Plan itself.

There is also another consultation available, this one is on the famous 20mph scheme trial in Newton Abbot – whether you live in, commute or just visit Newton Abbot, you can now give your views on a 20 mph speed limit in the town.

[The consultation will run until Thursday, 25 November 2021](#)

Since last Council, I circulated several other consultations from the OPCC about street safety, gun safety and hope Members took the time to pass the information and respond themselves.

As you know, from the paper coming later a request to find more door-to-door paper deliveries of Wavelength is coming, but it may not be feasible to do this for Christmas – this may just have to be online again this time. The warm of its reception has been very gratifying as I work really hard on its content.

On 14th Oct I attended the Teignbridge Webinar, Wild About Teignbridge (a workshop aimed at safeguarding wildlife in local areas), as within Central Ward we do have some large swathes (and some much smaller links between) of green space, e.g. the cemeteries, TCS/Trinity/Hazeldown school sites, and, even down in the town periphery, some large domestic properties with large gardens, St James churchyard (and some much smaller) which provide links/green corridors for insects/birds/foxes/rats, etc. Organised jointly by TDC and Action on Climate in Teignbridge (ACT), local wildlife wardens and council officers joined the webinar for a wide-ranging, lively discussion highlighting the many examples of good work being taking place across the district and what else could be done. The four main presentations were:

Connecting to Nature Project, the Wildlife Warden Scheme, Dawlish Countryside Park and Ridge Top Park SANGS (Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces) and the Wild about Devon Project

And are all given links in the TDC Residents Update newsletter which was sent out on 22 October (which I can forward if you don't already get it). It's also available on Youtube and I can supply a link if required.

A couple of recommendations which we should consider is that one (or two) councillors should take on the Environment Brief to be focus for all things environmental and also to contact our Allotment Groups and ask them about how they are addressing bio-diversity as organisations – a 10% net gain is a suggested level for people to aim at (and water capture come to that) since both are things that they could (and maybe already are) addressing.

As well as sharing information and ideas, the prime objective was to create links between the Town and Parish Councils and Action on Climate in Teignbridge and in particular the Wild Life Wardens – who can offer town and parish councils help and advice – I have raised a query about these Wardens as they are all trained, apparently, but trained, by whom, to do what and with what effective competence is what I've asked since we need to be assured that if they are brought in to work with communities they lead them the right way and obtain appropriate permission for use of land, etc.

Cllr Jacqui Orme thanked everyone involved in organising the fireworks display which took place on 30 October 2021 and was very successful.

Reports from Outside Bodies

Presentations from Outside Bodies

- a. **Teignmouth Air Show Committee – item was brought forward**

Council in formal session – Part 1 (6.55pm)

116 Use of Mobile Phones

In accordance with Minute 30, mobile phones be limited to personal use only (in case of emergencies) and in which case the Councillor is to leave the room to respond. Councillors must switch their mobile phones to silent during the meeting to avoid disruption.

117 The Freedom of Information Act 2000

Deems that all information held by this Council should be freely available to the public unless it falls under one of 23 exemptions.

118 Apologies for Absence

Cllr. I. Palmer

119 Declarations of Interest and Consider Requests for Dispensation(s)

Cllrs Matthews and Phipps declared an interest in the Air Show presentation as they are both Directors on the Air Show Committee.

120 Clerk's report

The following items were received/took place in October 2021: -

6th October – I attended the Devon Association of Local Councils A.G.M. via zoom. They presented their [Annual Report](#) They are now a limited company with 352 member councils – 97% of Devon Councils.

They will be making a 4% increase in their subscriptions for 2022/23. Cllr Sue Baxter of N.A.L.C. addressed the meeting encouraging Councillors to become involved in the County Committee and attend association meetings. She also touched on N.A.L.C.'s lobbying of central government particularly regarding standards in public life.

7th October – I requested Councillors to indicate if they would wish to join a working group to look at the Town Council's Priorities and Objectives; only Cllrs Atkins and Ash responded.

12th to 14th October – SLCC conference at Hinckley Island, Leicestershire
Over 200 clerks from across the country attended the conference.

- In his speech, Lord Blunkett was full of praise for the sector, saying local councils “are not just the glue but the cog that makes our communities work”. He took forward issues raised by Clerks concerning standards in public life and the subject of remote meetings.
- Phil Peacock from Huntingdon Town Council was appointed as the SLCC's new president, taking over from Linda Larter from Sevenoaks Town Council.
- The SLCC launched the Financial Introduction to Local Council Administration (FILCA), a Level 2, online sector-specific learning tool to support all new responsible financial officers.
- Becky Walsh, a personal power specialist gave a presentation on dealing with difficult people.
- Patricia Marks the Founder and CEO of the Somerset Business Agency led a presentation on coping with “information overload”; all data including emails.
- The chair of NALC, Cllr Sue Baxter, delivered a keynote speech on Wednesday in which she expressed her thanks to the sector for the last eighteen months, reflecting on the last five years as NALC's chair and setting out some issues and challenges for the future including the development of a workforce strategy.
- Jonathan Goolden a regulatory solicitor spoke to conference about Freedom of Information requests and Subject Access requests and the law surrounding these.
- Philip Clifford a senior advisor to the Local Government Association gave a presentation on engaging with principal authorities to facilitate devolution.
- Steven Griggs of De Montfort University spoke to the meeting on the '5 P's' of Public Leadership
 - i) Place – Boundary Spanning
 - ii) Participation – Engaging Communities
 - iii) Pragmatism – problem focussed leadership
 - iv) Puzzling – Critical questioning
 - v) Politics – local and national
- Members of the Civility and Respect in Public Life Project Working Group gave an update on progress.

- Tracey Robbins the Head of UK delivery for the Eden Project Communities gave details of The Big Lunch and its link with the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022. Cllr Keith Tilley of Stony Stratford Parish Council told the meeting about the success of the Big Lunch in his parish and how the event had grown year on year.
- Anj Handa, Founder of inspiring Women Changemakers gave a talk on Self-care for Changemakers and its importance in planning workloads.

26th October – Details of the Devon Highways Parish and town Councils Conference to be held on 24th and 25th November.

28th October – Devon Communities Climate Emergency Support Network meeting planned for 30th November 2021.

29th October – Parish meeting called by West Teignmouth residents to discuss parking.

Cllr Atkins asked what is happening about the Priorities and Objectives working group as only two members had volunteered, the Mayor asked everyone to give some thought to joining the group.

121 Business (if any) especially brought forward by the Mayor

The Mayor said he had received lots of compliments on Monday regarding the fireworks display and thanked everyone involved.

Thanks had been received from Broadmeadow allotments for a grant.

A Certificate of Participation had been received for flying the Red Ensign.

Requested Councillors support to attend the services on Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Phipps said he has contacted TDC to ensure that the catering van currently on the Promenade does not run its generator during the service.

122 Mayor's Announcements

There were none.

Items requiring Approval

123 To receive, approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 5 October 2021

Cllr Cate Williams proposed to approve the Minutes as presented, seconded by Cllr Atkins and agreed by majority. Cllrs Ash, B.Cox, Henderson, Matthews and Phipps abstained as they were not present at the meeting.

Cllr Atkins asked for an update regarding information about banners being put on the website, the Clerk replied that she is still waiting for clarification from TDC.

124 Summer Entertainment 2022

The Clerk presented a report outlining proposed plans for entertainment and costs for next year.

Cllr Matthews suggested seeking other quotes and Cllr Atkins agreed that it would be good practice given the high amount of money.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to go back to the supplier to review the cost and invite him to the next Full Council meeting on 7 December 2021.

125 Parish Paths Partnership

The Clerk presented a report.

Cllr David Cox said he will contact local groups including the Teignmouth and Dawlish Ramblers to ask if they are interested in taking the project forward.

126 Sewage in the river and sea

Cllr David Cox presented a report and members discussed the item.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to invite South West Water to attend a Full Council meeting.

127 Christmas 2021

The Clerk presented a report and two recommendations:

Pitch fee for Christmas market - Cllr Phipps proposed to approve a pitch fee of £10 if a stall holder brings their own gazebo or £20 if they require use of a council gazebo, seconded by Cllr Matthews and agreed by majority. Cllr Atkins voted against.

Event support – Cllr Orme proposed to approve quotes for event support as detailed in the report, seconded by Cllr Matthews and agreed by majority. Cllr Atkins voted against.

128 Finance Committee

Cllr Atkins presented the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2021.

Noted, Cllr Orme left 7.26pm during the presentation.

Cllr Russell proposed to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Cllr Cate Williams and agreed by majority. Cllr David Cox voted against. Cllrs Matthews, Becky Cox and Henderson abstained.

129 Production of Wavelength newsletter

Cllr Atkins presented a report and said she is planning to do an online version for the November/December edition. Councillors discussed the item.

Cllr Atkins made a recommendation to do the next edition online, produce a hard copy for door-to-door distribution in February/March and then to do half-and-half for the next financial year.

Cllr Phipps proposed to approve Cllr Atkins' recommendation, seconded by Cllr Cate Williams and unanimously agreed.

130 Review of Town Council Policies

The Clerk presented a report which included a review of the policies below:

- a) Document Retention and Disposal Policy
- b) Information and Data Protection Policy
- c) Petitions Policy

Councillors gave feedback on the draft policies and the Clerk will amend and check points as required and bring back to the next meeting.

131 Local Council Award Scheme

Cllr Atkins had raised the item and the Clerk presented a report.

After a discussion, Cllr Ash proposed to consider applying for the NALC Foundation Award as part of the Local Council Award Scheme, seconded by Cllr Atkins and agreed by majority.

132 Grants Committee

The Mayor presented the grant decisions made at the meeting held prior to the Full Council meeting as below.

Teign Valley Sea Cadets - £1,000 towards canopy, drainage and makeover for parade ground. Cllr Russell declared an interest as she is the President of the Sea Cadets.

Teignmouth Mutual Aid Community Larder - £200 for 'Christmas boxes for their customers' (Cllr Atkins ward grant)

133 Schedule of Payments

Cllr Matthews declared an interest in the payment to Sonic Fireworks. He said he volunteered to help at the event on 30 October 2021.

Cllr Phipps proposed to approve payments totalling £60,960.24 for October 2021, seconded by Cllr Ash and unanimously agreed.

134 Data Protection Act 2018

Precludes this authority from publishing the names, addresses or other private information of individuals unless written permission is given by the individual for such details to be made public.

Therefore, where necessary, personal details have been removed from the papers attached to ensure that information held is available, but individuals are protected.

Date of next meeting: 7 December 2021

The Mayor reminded Councillors of the Civic and Carol Service on 5 December 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

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COUNCILLOR PETER WILLIAMS
TOWN MAYOR

Bitton House, Teignmouth
5 November 2021