

Dawlish Town Council
Minutes of the
Annual Meeting of the Town Council
held at The Manor House, Dawlish on
Wednesday, 2 May 2018

Present:

Councillors Wirgley (retiring Mayor), Mayne (retiring Deputy Mayor), Bloomfield, Clemens, A. Fenne, G. Fenne, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury, Lowther, Mawhood, Nickless, Prowse, Robins, Tamlyn and Taylor.

In attendance:

Andrew McKenzie (Town Clerk), Councillor John Clatworthy (Devon County Council), 1 Police Officer from Devon & Cornwall Police and 42 members of the public, three of whom wished to speak in respect of agenda Item 14 – Waterfowl Update.

Urgent Items

The Mayor advised that there would be one urgent item to take in respect of approving the calendar of meetings for 2018/19 as previously circulated.

Declarations of Interest:

- Councillor Mayne declared an interest in the urgent item relating to Dawlish Community Transport by virtue of being a trustee of the organisation;
- Councillor Prowse declared an interest in the urgent item relating to Dawlish Community Transport by virtue of being a trustee of the organisation;
- Councillor Tamlyn declared an interest in relation to agenda item 14 by virtue of her association with an employee of Dawlish Town Council.

Public Participation

Three members of the public spoke to item 14 – Waterfowl Update and the plight of the Black Swans on the Brook following two dog attacks. They presented a petition with over 400 signatures which called for the prosecution of the offenders, better and bigger signage on the Lawn relating to the requirement to keep dogs on leads, and improved CCTV of the area. The Petition was presented to, and received, by, the Mayor of Dawlish.

The Neighbourhood Beat Manager for Dawlish reported as follows for the month of April:

During the month of April there have been 124 incidents reported to the Police for Dawlish town. Including 8 domestic related and 9 missing person reports.

There have been crimes 52 recorded including:

4 Assaults

1 Burglary

5 Common Assaults

12 Criminal Damage
1 Dog Dangerously out of Control
3 Fraud
3 Harassment
1 Racial / Religious Harassment
1 Unnecessary suffering to animal
6 Send article of indecent / offensive nature
1 Stalking (domestic related)
9 Thefts
3 Threatening Abusive Words / Behaviour
2 Vehicle Interference

Pc Mark Hogan is to start as the new Neighbourhood Beat Manager for Dawlish from 1st May 2018.

On the 6th April Police received calls from members of the public regarding a dog attacking a swan. The dog owner had allowed all 3 of his dogs off the lead while out walking them on The Lawns. As a result, the Swan died from its injuries. All witnesses have now been spoken to and Police enquiries are still ongoing in relation to this matter.

Teignbridge District Council have reported Graffiti in the Public Shelters on Lea Mount. Photos of tags / graffiti have been provided to Rob Kingdon at Teignbridge District Council.

SMS contract cleaners have reported damage to toilet roll holders in the female toilet cubicle at Boat Cove public toilets. 8 toilet rolls were taken & believed used to light fires on Coryton Cove beach.

The following minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Town Council and may be subject to change until that time.

1 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR 2018/19

It was proposed by Councillor Clemens and seconded by Councillor Lowther that that Councillor Mayne, the retiring Deputy Town Mayor be elected for the 2018/19 municipal year. There were no further nominations.

Resolved that Councillor Mayne is elected Town Mayor for the 2018/19 municipal year.

At this juncture, the Mayor duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Almond.

Resolved that the apologies be noted.

3 MINUTES

Members considered the minutes of the previous meeting.

Resolved that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 4 April 2018 be approved.

At this juncture, the Mayor advised that agenda Item 14 – Waterfowl Update would be taken as the next item.

4 WATERFOWL UPDATE

The Clerk read out the following statement:

I am sure most here this evening will be aware of the recent dog attacks on the Black Swans which resulted in the loss of two females.

As an organisation we take very seriously the safety of our Waterfowl for which we are nationally and internationally known and continue to push for the appropriate sanctions to be levied against the offenders, where possible.

As I advised the Civic Amenities Committee last week, there are currently two investigations taking place in respect of the attack, firstly by the Police and second by the Environment Wardens at Teignbridge District Council.

The Police have advised that 5 witnesses have been interviewed and statements taken. They have reviewed CCTV footage which exists on the piazza, which showed the dogs off their leads. The Police were examining two pieces of legislation which may enable them to bring forward charges. The first relates to a dog dangerously out of control however, to prosecute on these lines a member of the public had to feel threatened and this has not been reported by any of the witnesses.

The second is the unnecessary suffering of an animal, which in this instance is actually the dog in question due to witnesses stating the owner was seen to be beating the animal during and after the attack.

The second investigation has seen witness statements being collected by Environment Wardens from Teignbridge, as the Lawn is owned by them. They are in the process of preparing a file to be passed to their Solicitors to determine whether there is enough evidence to prosecute through the civil courts, because the dogs being off their leads was in breach of the existing by-law.

Only one course of action can be pursued through the courts, and it will likely be the one that has the best chance of success.

Further updates will be reported to the relevant Committee and Council, as and when necessary.

The by-law is there to protect our Waterfowl; we would ask residents and visitors to be respectful of it so that everyone can enjoy all that Dawlish has to offer.

Thank you, Chairman.

Members expressed their thanks to the Waterfowl Warden who did an amazing job looking after one of Dawlish's main attractions.

Resolved that the update be noted.

5 ADDRESS BY RETIRING MAYOR OF DAWLISH, COUNCILLOR MARTIN WRIGLEY

I have really enjoyed my year as Mayor, and along with meeting so many wonderful people across Dawlish I had a chance to see the vast range of contributions they all make to our community. I really wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

Mayor's charity and citizen awards

I'd like to thank everyone who helped with the Mayor's charity contributions this year, shaking buckets, attending events and so much more.

The recent record is probably still held by John and Linda Petherick who raised £12K in John's year as Mayor, and we haven't passed that this year, but we have raised £2,000 to be split between my two charities (Friends of Dawlish Hospital and RNLI) and £130 for HITS. Thank you to everyone who put their hands in their pockets to support these vital causes.

Last month, we postponed the annual citizen awards and we hope to hold them in July, and I'd like to formally present the Mayor's charity cheques then as well.

It has been a busy year – with many elections, snow, roadworks, South West Water and Network Rail.

But rather than focus on the past, today I'd like to look forward.

It will be a great year for events in the town:

We have already held the walking festival, and I understand that over 500 people have walked all over and around the town.

The Crash Box rally had some 200 cars through the day, and the Lawn was filled with people. My thanks to the volunteer marshals who directed cars, and I hope we will see more events like this.

I know that the week of events at the end of May is shaping up, and I'm excited about all the things planned for that week, and so much more through the summer.

There are two items I'd like to highlight in particular:

2018 is significant as the centenary of the end of the First World War, and Armed Forces Day and Remembrance Day will be events to remember. Just to mention that the Dawlish 2018 poppy badges are available now so please show your support.

And of course the main event – Carnival. I'm going to encourage as many Councillors as possible to get involved in the carnival events this year – in the parade, events on the Lawn, or perhaps even a Councillors' team in the pram race? Maybe a council staff team too? Last year was great fun and even though I got soaked in beer, covered in flour and even a bit wet at the raft race, I'll be there again this year!

This whole schedule of events is only possible due to so many hard-working people inside and outside the council, and I'd like to thank you all; Dawlish is really boosted by everything that you do. And that applied to all the support groups, clubs and societies as well.

It's dangerous to focus on one person, since there are so many I could mention, but I'll risk it as I'd like to take the opportunity to thank one in particular. Angie Weatherhead is not only a mainstay at Open-Daw, helping people around the town in all sorts of ways, but is also always there at so many events and happenings in the Town, often filming and recording what is going on. Thank you, Angie, and thank you to all who make these events such a success.

Thinking about the events for the years brings us to the Lawn Working Group. This group has met a number of times and has started by looking at the way residents and visitors use the lawn. It is looking at both what is valued and needs to be kept and what needs to be improved or enhanced.

Balancing the needs for an open flexible green space – the heart and lungs of Dawlish – with the needs to attract and keep people in the centre of town is not simple. I'm grateful to the group who are working together well and having productive meetings that are starting to draw out a vision for the Lawn. We need to build a consensus in the town for that vision to enable Dawlish to flourish.

I'm pleased too, to see that we are having many ongoing improvements around the town – good maintenance is critical and cost effective. Together with Teignbridge

staff we are building a more co-operative spirit in looking after our Town and long may that continue.

I would to finish by thanking the Dawlish Town Council staff. We have been through difficult times, and now we have a cracking team in place to support Dawlish. Thank you for putting up with me for the last year, and thanks for all your efforts for Dawlish, and that goes for the Councillor's too!

As I pass on the bling, I'd like to wish the new Mayor well, and hope that she has as good a year as I have had.

Thank you.

6 PRESENTATION OF CHAIN OF OFFICE TO THE MAYOR'S ESCORT

The Mayor presented the Chain of Office to her daughter, Sammi Mayne.

7 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2018/19

It was proposed by Councillor G. Fenne and seconded by Councillor Wrigley that Councillor Foden be elected Deputy Mayor of Dawlish for the 2018/19 municipal year. There were no further nominations

Resolved that Councillor Foden be elected Deputy Mayor for the 2018/19 municipal year.

At this juncture, the Deputy Mayor duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

8 INVESTITURE OF THE MAYOR'S CADET

The Mayor advised that her cadet would be invested with the badge of office at a future meeting of the Council.

9 ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES

Councillors were nominated and elected to serve on Council committees for the 2018/19 municipal year.

Finance & General Purposes Committee

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Clemens be elected Chairman of the Committee. It was further proposed that Councillor Wrigley be elected Chairman of

the Committee. A vote on the two nominations ensued and resulted in a tied vote. The Mayor used her casting vote and it was

Resolved that Councillor Clemens be elected Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Members then approved as set out the composition of the Committee as follows:

1. Cllr Humphrey Clemens (Chairman)
2. Cllr Terry Lowther (Vice Chairman)
3. Cllr Angela Fenne
4. Cllr Greg Fenne
5. Cllr Lin Goodman-Bradbury
6. Cllr Noel Nickless
7. Cllr Gary Taylor
8. Cllr Martin Wrigley

Civic Amenities Committee

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Foden be elected Chairman of the Committee. It was further proposed that Councillor Mawhood be elected Chairman of the Committee. A vote on the two nominations ensued and it was

Resolved that Councillor Mawhood be elected Chairman of the Civic Amenities Committee.

Members then approved as set out the composition of the Committee as follows:

1. Cllr Val Mawhood (Chairman)
2. Cllr Rosalind Prowse (Vice Chairman)
3. Cllr Angela Fenne
4. Cllr Greg Fenne
5. Cllr Terry Lowther
6. Cllr Judith Robins
7. Cllr Gary Taylor
8. Cllr Martin Wrigley

Planning Committee

Resolved that the composition of the Committee be approved as follows:

1. Cllr Pauline Bloomfield (Chairman)
2. Cllr Gary Taylor (Vice Chairman)
3. Cllr Greg Fenne

4. Cllr Lin Goodman-Bradbury
5. Cllr Rosalind Prowse
6. Cllr Judith Robins
7. Cllr Carole Tamlyn
8. Cllr Martin Wrigley

Staffing Committee

Resolved that the composition of the Committee be approved as follows:

1. Cllr Alison Foden (Deputy Mayor)
2. Cllr Howard Almond
3. Cllr Angela Fenne
4. Cllr Noel Nickless
5. Cllr Gary Taylor

Events Committee

Resolved that the composition of the Committee be approved as follows:

1. Cllr Terry Lowther (Chairman)
2. Cllr Judith Robins (Vice Chairman)
3. Cllr Howard Almond
4. Cllr Greg Fenne
5. Cllr Carole Tamlyn

10 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO REPRESENT THE COUNCIL ON EXTERNAL BODIES

Councillors were nominated and elected to represent the Council on external bodies.

Resolved that the Council representatives on external bodies be as follows:

Age Concern	Cllr Howard Almond
Assist Teignbridge	The Mayor
Coastal (Teign Estuary) Partnership Steering Group	The Mayor
Coastal Locality Engagement Group	Cllr Howard Almond
Cockwood Sod Fairways Committee (Cockwood Boat Club)	Cllr Pauline Bloomfield, Cllr Martin Wrigley
Community Interest Company	Cllr Howard Almond
Dawlish Action for Youth	Cllr Angela Fenne, Cllr Terry Lowther
Dawlish & District Chamber of trade & Commerce	Cllr Noel Nickless, Cllr Gary Taylor, Cllr Martin Wrigley
Dawlish Arts Festival	Cllr Rosalind Prowse
Dawlish Against Plastic	Cllr Martin Wrigley
Dawlish Carnival Committee	Cllr Martin Wrigley
Dawlish Museum	Cllr Greg Fenne, Cllr Carole Tamlyn

Dawlish Transition Group	Cllr Gary Taylor
Dawlish Twinning Association	The Mayor
Dawlish Warren Tourism Group	Cllr Lisa Mayne
Devon Association of Local Councils	The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk
East Teignbridge Community Transport Association	Cllr Howard Almond
Exe Estuary Partnership	Cllr Terry Lowther, Cllr Noel Nickless, Cllr Martin Wrigley
Fairtrade	Cllr Alison Foden
Friends of Dawlish Hospital	Cllr Alison Foden
Holcombe Resident's Association	Cllr Gary Taylor
Holcombe Village Hall Committee	Cllr Val Mawhood
Open Daw	Cllr Carole Tamlyn
Teignbridge Association of Local Councils	Cllr Howard Almond, Cllr Val Mawhood
Teignbridge Citizens' Advice Bureau	Cllr Lin Goodman-Bradbury

11 BANK SIGNATORIES AND OPERATION OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved

A The Nat West Bank Plc And Lloyds Bank PLC ("the Banks") shall continue to be our bankers:

B The Bank shall be authorised to honour all cheques or other orders for payment drawn, made or accepted on our behalf including bills of exchange and promissory notes, even if any payment causes any accounts to be overdrawn or increase any existing overdraft, provided that such documents are signed by any two of the following Councillors:

- The Mayor
- The Deputy Mayor
- The Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee
- The Chairman of Civic Amenities Committee

in accordance with specimen signatures.

The Bank shall act on all specimen signatures in accordance with any instruction, notice, request or other document in writing concerning our account (including the opening of new accounts) affairs or property:

C The Bank shall be sent a copy of any future resolutions which affect the terms of the above resolutions:

D The Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of officials authorised to sign on our behalf:

E The Bank will permit the Town Clerk and/or Finance Officer subject to specimen signatures, to have access to the accounts for administration, including authorisation for:

- the transfer of funds between accounts

- the closing and re-investment of investment accounts
- the withdrawal of petty cash up to a limit of £250.00 in any one transaction.
- information on the accounts including withdrawals, payments in, standing orders, direct debits, direct credits, transfers and balances.

F The Bank shall otherwise continue to operate our account(s) in accordance with the mandate.

12 TERMS OF REFERENCE OF COMMITTEES

Members considered approving and adopting the recommendations made by the individual Committees regards their Terms of Reference.

Resolved

That the recommended updated be approved as set out in the agenda report.

13 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Members received notification that the Power of General Competence had lapsed following the retirement of the former Clerk who was CiLCA qualified, but noted that the Council could rely on Section 137 procedures until such time as the Power could be re-adopted.

Resolved that it be noted that the Council can no longer exercise the Power of General Competence until such time as the Clerk is CiLCA qualified.

14 DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL STANDING ORDER 2i (I-XVII)

Consideration was given to deferring the actions and reviews required under Standing Order 2i not covered in this meeting to a future meeting of the Town Council.

Resolved to defer the actions and reviews required under Standing Order 2i not covered at this meeting to a future meeting of the Town Council.

15 DAWLISH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Members considered whether to make formal representation to the Department for Transport regards the proposed implementation of EU regulations which, in the eyes of Community Transport organisations would have a devastating affect upon their operating model and to the thousands of users their vehicles served.

Following discussion, it was

Resolved that the Town Clerk make formal representation to the Department for Transport by the consultation deadline of 11.45 a.m. on Friday, 4 May 2018.

16 LLOYDS BANK, DAWLISH BRANCH

Members considered the notification that Lloyds Bank was consulting on closing the Dawlish Branch in October 2018 and whether the Town Council should make representation to the organisation.

Following discussion, it was

Resolved that the Town Clerk make formal representation to Lloyds Bank objecting most strongly to the proposed closure of the Dawlish Branch, and to invite a representative of the Bank to address the Town Council on the reasons why it feels the Branch should close.

The meeting was closed by the Mayor at 8.25 p.m.

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Cllr Lisa Mayne
MAYOR OF DAWLISH