

**Dawlish Town Council**  
Minutes of a Meeting of the  
Town Council  
Held at The Manor House, Dawlish on  
Wednesday, 3 October 2018

**Present:**

Councillors Mayne (Mayor), Foden (Deputy Mayor), Almond, Clemens, Goodman-Bradbury, Mawhood, Taylor and Wrigley.

**In attendance:**

Andrew McKenzie – Town Clerk, Councillor John Clatworthy (Devon County Council) and 6 members of the public, none of whom wished to speak.

***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.***

Part I

**85 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Almond, Bloomfield, A. Fenne, G. Fenne and Robins.

**Resolved** that the apology be noted.

**86 AGREEMENT OF THE AGENDA BETWEEN PARTS I AND II**

Members noted there was no Part II business to be transacted.

**87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**88 DEVON & CORNWALL POLICE**

The Mayor read out the Police report for September as follows:

*During the month of September there have been 145 calls to the Police for Dawlish town. Including 9 domestic related and 9 missing person reports.*

*There have been 41 crimes recorded including:*

*6 Actual Bodily Harm*

3 Assaults  
1 Attempt Robbery  
8 Common Assaults  
4 Criminal Damage  
1 Distribute Indecent Photograph  
1 Fail to Provide Specimen for Analysis  
3 Harassment  
1 Hold a Person in Slavery or Servitude  
2 Neglect / Abandon Child  
1 Non Counting Fraud  
1 Possess controlled drug with intent to supply  
2 Malicious Communications  
1 Rape of a Woman over 16  
4 Thefts  
2 Use of Threatening abusive language

*Local Police have received information of rough sleeping in the bunkers at Lea Mount. Police have attended this location on regular occasions during daylight hours and darkness but have been unable to find a person sleeping rough. As a result of these patrols a large amount of discarded clothing, bedding and other items were removed by Police to keep this area tidy.*

*Police have received a complaint of noise nuisance from a local resident coming from the bandstand on The Lawns at weekends. A group of musicians are using this area for a couple of hours on a Saturday to play amplified music. Holly Warren at Teignbridge District Council is aware and has confirmed they do not have permission / licence to play music in this area. Police have been able to supply Teignbridge Council with names and address of those found involved and Holly is currently dealing with the complaint as this currently falls under a civil matter.*

*On 25<sup>th</sup> September Teignbridge Council have reported criminal damage to a store at Church Lodge within Oak Hill Cemetery. A lock has been broken, it is believed entry was gained by persons to sleep rough.*

*On 28<sup>th</sup> September at 6:30pm Police were called to youths on the roof of the old pavilions on Sandy Lane. Officers responded quickly. No further damage was discovered to the abandoned building.*

## **89 MINUTES**

Members considered the minutes of the previous meeting.

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council meetings held on 5 September be approved.

## **90 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES FOR ADOPTION**

**Resolved** that the minutes set out below, approved by the relevant Committee and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting, be adopted:

- Civic Amenities Committee – 18 July 2018
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 26 July 2018
- Manor House & Riverside Centre Sub Committee – 20 June 2018
- Planning Committee – 28 August and 6 September 2018

Adoption of the Events Committee minutes for the meeting held on 13 June 2018 would be deferred to the next meeting in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

## **91 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised she had attended the following events in September:

16<sup>th</sup> – Chudleigh Civic Service in the afternoon and the Battle of Britain service at St Gregory's Church in the evening.

17<sup>th</sup> – Teign Estuary and Coastal Partnership Steering Group

19<sup>th</sup> – Dawlish Warren Tourism at Lady's Mile

20<sup>th</sup> – Dawlish Twinning Association AGM

24<sup>th</sup> – Dawlish Action for Youth AGM

26<sup>th</sup> – Dawlish 2<sup>nd</sup> Brownies 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday

27<sup>th</sup> – Opening of Orchard Manor School

29<sup>th</sup> – Dawlish Indoor Bowls open day

30<sup>th</sup> – Dawlish Civic Service

And today, together with the Town Clerk I attended the Devon Association of Local Council's annual conference and AGM and took part in several workshops at Exeter Racecourse.

Finally, there will be a programme on Friday at 9 p.m. on BBC2 featuring someone from Dawlish promoted by Christian Action for Poverty, highlighting the homelessness situation and would be worth watching.

## 92 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

### Councillor Clatworthy

- County Revenue budget suggesting an overspend of £7.4M which is down to children's services and other departments had been asked to identify areas of savings to compensate;
- Disposal of assets had resulted in £1.658M savings from surplus properties this year;
- TDC have asked DCC to deliver link road, TDSC got letter from Homes England of 4.9M, meeting yesterday between the two councils relating to the funding, land access agreements needed to be in place by 31 December and DCC will be submitting a planning application to TDC for the bridge and delay in getting the formal letter offer means completion likely to be October 2020.
- DCC agreed to fund 13 drop kerbs in John Nash Drive, waiting to hear when this will be
- Helen Frankpit is the new Neighbourhood Highways Officer for Dawlish
- Wooden steps on coastal footpath, these have now been replaced
- Details relating to the resurfacing of East Cliff Road are still awaited
- Greater Exeter Strategic Plan – this was now on hold until after the May 2019 elections; transport ambitions – to have a bus service every 15 minutes and trains every 30 minutes from key towns – funding was an aspiration.
- Priority of junction of Sea Lawn Terrace and Exeter Road appears to be resolved; and
- DCC granted consent to South West Water at Secmaton Lane. I was told this would occur in the Spring, however works on upsizing the main sewer would start on 22 October and would last until 30 March 2019.

Councillor Wrigley had received complaints relating to the resurfacing works on Strand Hill and Commercial Road, concerned about the state of the pavements in the locations. He asked whether Councillor Clatworthy could have a look and report back his findings to the Highways Department.

Councillor Clatworthy advised that the method of resurfacing used would settle overtime and he suggested we should wait and see before looking to take further action.

Councillor Mawhood submitted that many of the gullies reported as requiring emptying were not known to clearance crews. She suggested a map was needed to

show where such gullies were to ensure all received the required clearing.  
Councillor Clatworthy advised he would bring this attention to the Highways Officer.

Councillor Taylor submitted he was pleased to see

## **93 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

### Councillor Prowse

- Standards Committee had taken up a large amount of time including several meetings with the District Monitoring Officer. Most issues came from Parish / Town Councils but there were ongoing issues at District Council;
- Thanked Members and public for those who took time to complete the Access for All consultation from Great Western Railway; it was hope Dawlish Train Station would be successful in obtaining funding;
- Tuesday 5 September, enforcement review meeting had taken place. Minor changes to the policy would be made but in line with new legislation. All new developments were receiving this information, so they were fully apprised of the situation;
- Attended several meetings for Holcombe Village Hall and Disability Transport as a trustee for both

### Councillor Wrigley

- Attended the local Redeeming Our Communities meeting and was good to see so moany organisations coming together to help the Parish;
- Decision about stopping Town and Parish Councillors attending site visits; this had been overturned at the O&S meeting and referred to Executive this week; for now, the status quo would remain. Officers were concerned of associated risks of allowing this to continue;
- Teignmouth Hospital protest on Saturday, concern about the closure of the hospital – spoke with he local doctors and issues needed to be addressed. All 3 surgeries in Teignmouth required better facilities;
- Exe Estuary Management Partnership Stakeholder meeting – evidence was sought about why Teignbridge were recommending particular courses of action – I had hoped to attend the South East Habitat Regulatory Partnership but and learn more, but it has been cancelled; and
- Teams are being trained to use the new floodgates at Cockwood and Starcross to coincide with the completion of works at Cockwood Harbour.

## Councillor Clemens

### September

**6th** I was asked to speak at the Exe Estuary Forum on the work of the South East Devon Habitats Regulation Partnership. (SEDHRP)

I reported that the wildlife refuges are now active and a marked by yellow buoys, new advisory signage has been installed both at Exmouth and Dawlish Warren on the new Codes of Conduct.

The two Habitats Regulation Officers have now taken charge of the new patrol boat and their role is to observe, advise, educate and ensure users of the Exe are doing so safely.

And finally, to report on the success of the Dawlish Country Park.

**10th** Leadership. A meeting between the Executive members with service leads on progress of Council projects.

Overview and Scrutiny. My PH decision to stop inviting Town and Parish members to TDC Planning site inspections was called in. I explained that it has been identified as a medium to high risk of being challenged in court as an unfair practice as no other interested parties were allowed at such meetings. To the public and applicants, it can be seen to be an unfair opportunity for covert lobbying of members of the Planning Committee. I explained that less than 1% of the 1500 applications made to TDC actually are subject to site inspections and as Town and Parish members can only report the views given to TDC by their Planning committee it was considered to be not worth the risk of a costly challenge. O&S voted to recommend overturning that decision to be referred back to Exec.

**14th** TDC hosted a visit by the CEO and SW area manager for Homes England. (Previously the HCA) This is the Government agency that have approved the 4.9 million funding for the Secmaton Link road and it was good to be able to thank them personally and express how much it is appreciated by the residents of Dawlish. After a round table discussion on the successes of TDC's housing delivery which has been exemplary since the adoption of our Local Plan we toured specific sites where Housing Infrastructures Funding would unlock difficult developments. It left us feeling confident that further investment will be forthcoming. Such funding is only available to Council's who's housing delivery records are high.

**17th** Teign Estuary Partnership at Teignmouth Yacht club.

**19th** Launch of TDC's Property Agents Rating Scheme, PARS. We are only the 2nd authority in the country to launch a scheme whereby letting agents can apply to be assessed and rated as either bronze, silver, gold or platinum. This gives private Landlords the confidence that the agents they are using are giving them the best advice on update safety legislation and tenants the confidence the property they are renting is safe and warm.

**20th** Exe Estuary Partnership Management Committee meeting at Starcross Yacht Club where I was asked again to give an update on SEDHRP.

**25th** 10am Planning

12.30 Town Team at Newton Abbot Council. A meeting between NA Council, Chamber of Trade, Police, DCC Education, Town Centre Manager, DCC Highways, NA CCTV partnership and TDC Economic Development officers.

5.30pm. Strata Executive at Exeter City Council standing as deputy for Jeremy Christophers. Strata is the IT company set up by TDC, East Devon DC and Exeter City Council to handle all the IT for the three authorities. It is now performing well and delivering in excess the saving first predicted.

**27th** Met with a delegation of Japanese students based on London on a course on Local Government and they spent two days with the housing dept. in Teignbridge.

**28th** Heart of the South West Planning Seminar at Sandy Park conference suite with speakers from across the housing sector on how they see opportunities to meet the housing need.

**2nd** Executive where the call in on the site inspections was referred back. It was agreed to continue with the status quo but to refer it to the, soon to be carried out, constitution review.

## **94 TOWN COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

### **Councillor Almond**

#### **Coastal Engagement Group.**

The results of the engagement exercise regarding possible changes to the location and nature of doctors' surgeries, wellbeing services and outpatient clinics in Teignmouth has been published, and the next stage is to go on to a consultation in which the preferred option put forward by the Trust will be open to discussion.

Do not think that this is just a Teignmouth problem, as the outpatient clinics and the wellbeing services are for the wider area including Dawlish, so the location and nature of the services is hugely important to our community.

### **CCTV working party**

The next meeting of this working party will take place on Thursday 11th October at 10am. There will be a walkaround with one of the possible suppliers to look in detail at what is required in the town.

### **Teignmouth and Dawlish CIC**

A meeting of the CIC to discuss what happens now that the funding from Teignbridge and Dawlish has effectively ceased has yet to be arranged. The interim arrangements where the Information screens, the Love Dawlish and Teignmouth web-sites and the various guides are continuing using the existing funding.

### **East Teignbridge Community Transport Association – Dawlish Community Transport.**

On the face of it, the organisation is providing much needed services and is keeping its head above water financially. There is a need however for more trustees, especially with a legal, HR, PR or transport background, and a drive for more volunteers, especially to take on fund-raising activities, which are an important source of finance for the organisation.

Please note that on Thursday 18th October at 8:30pm there will be an Antiques 'Call my Bluff' fundraiser for Assist Teignbridge, Open Daw, Dawlish Community Transport and The Strand Centre. This will be in The Council Chamber at The Manor. – Tickets £8 to include a meat or veg pasty! Should be a good evening.

### Councillor Foden

As well as attending Dawlish Town Council meetings, I reported the overgrown hedges concealing the view from the benches below the Rockstone Flats.

30 September I attended the Civic Service at St Gregory's Church, and was honoured to do one of the readings.

01 October Dawlish Fair Trade Friends

I attended this month's meeting, and they reported that Devon is celebrating the 10-year anniversary of Fairtrade county status. There is a conference on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October at County Hall in Exeter, to which town, district and county councillors are invited. I have registered to attend.

### Councillor Prowse

Councillor Prowse highlighted the forthcoming works to the railway line over the winter months and suggested those requiring travel check with the rail operators prior to doing so.

### Councillor Mawhood

- Attended the Town Council Civic Service
- Red Rock AGM
- CCTV Working Party
- Lawn Working Group
- Attended BBQ at Brown's Brook Allotments – made contact with association members and receive feedback and news they might have. Encouraged to see the plots were productive and much appreciated
- Following up and resolving a number of issues raised by residents.

Councillor Wrigley suggested it may be useful for reports circulated amongst Members prior to the meeting to be printed and made available, should any Members of the public attend the meeting.

## **95 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Prowse provided an update:

*The Town Clerk and I held a meeting with Stuart Todd, consultant for the Neighbourhood Plan on Thursday, 27 September. It was a useful meeting helping to forge a way forward for the Parish to realise the benefit of a Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that documents produced to date would be forwarded to Stuart to read through and send a costing of his fees and establishing a realistic time frame for hopefully achieving a Neighbourhood Plan.*

*He would inform us on what could and could not be done to have a "made" plan and what other help he may require.*

*He has stated that this cannot be achieved without a NP Steering Group made up of members from across the parish, consultation on a draft document and must be worked within Plan Teignbridge. He would attend meetings and we would do our best to have a proactive committee. It is worth noting that he is working with Teignmouth on the production of their Neighbourhood Plan, and this is a natural progression. He would help get any external grants and in the case of towns and parishes CIL monies could be accessed.*

*The costings of his workings would be put before F&GP likely in October for approval.*

*This is not a political project and is a cross party working group for the good of the Parish.*

## 96 CONCLUSION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk updated Members that although a formal response had been received from the External Auditors, PKF Littlejohn, it stated they had not completed their review and would issue a further completion certificate in due course.

**Resolved** that the update be noted.

### Urgent item

## 97 GWR – ACCESS FOR ALL FUNDING

The Clerk advised that he and many Members had been made aware of the Access for All fund by GWR without much notice and time to respond. Survey completions had to be submitted by midnight on Monday, 1 October. He had made a submission as Clerk to the Council and had advised Assist Teignbridge that they might like to make a submission also. Several Councillors had also made individual submissions, as had several local businesses and organisations. Any successful funding would complement the works of Network Rail when increasing the resilience of the rail network from Dawlish Station to Boat Cove, and further along to Teignmouth.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Taylor that the Council allocates elector funds towards any project that brings about increased accessibility to Dawlish Station.

It was suggested by Councillor Prowse that Council could use Community Infrastructure Levy funds towards any project that may come forward by GWR in the future.

Councillor Taylor withdrew his original proposal but proposed that the Council writes to GWR to request an extension to the funding survey. Councillor Wrigley proposed an amendment to include that the Council would in general terms look favourably upon trying to find a potential contribution towards such a project.

**Resolved** that

- (a) The Council writes to GWR requesting an extension to the Access for All survey;
- (b) That the Council would in general terms look favourably upon trying to find a potential contribution towards such a project, should one come to fruition.

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Cllr Lisa Mayne  
MAYOR OF DAWLISH