

Dawlish Town Council
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Town Council
held at The Manor House, Dawlish on
Wednesday, 3 July 2019 at 7 p.m.

Present:

Councillors Foden (Mayor), Mawhood (Deputy Mayor), Dawson, Goodman-Bradbury, Heath, James, M. Lowther, T. Lowther, Mayne, J. Petherick, L. Petherick, Prowse, Tamlyn, Taylor, Woods and Wrigley.

In attendance:

Andrew McKenzie – Town Clerk

Councillor Clatworthy – Devon County Councillor

3 members of the public, two of whom wished to address Members in respect of agenda item

Public Participation

Two members of the public implored the Council to act now in respect of making representations to Network Rail for improved accessibility arrangements on the South Bound side of Dawlish Train Station. In addition to the want of a lift, they believed it was essential to have a ramp put in place which would have no maintenance issues, would not break down and be available all year round. It was suggested the previous access to the platform by means of stairs which had since been blocked up could be utilised.

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.

42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

43 AGREEMENT OF THE AGENDA BETWEEN PARTS I AND II

There was no Part II.

44 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

45 DISPENSATIONS

There were no dispensations.

46 MINUTES

Members considered the minutes of the previous meeting.

Resolved that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 5 June 2019 be approved as a correct and accurate record.

47 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:

- Events Committee – 23 April 2019
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 24 May 2019;
- Planning Committee – 20 June 2019

48 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk advised he had been made aware of a series of consultation events from the Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service as to the proposed closures of some stations in the area. Whilst Dawlish was not one of them, Teignmouth was. The Clerk would circulate the information to all Members.

49 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

18 June: I attended the Teign Estuary Coastal Partnership meeting, to represent Dawlish Town Council.

It was very good to learn that the licence from the Marine Management Organisation for the Exmouth Marina sludge dredging and dumping at Sprey Point has been suspended until at least the end of October 2019.

I also learnt that while Network Rail are working on our railway here, both the Environment Agency and Teignbridge District Council will be keeping a check on our sea-water quality.

18 June: Dawlish Action for Youth AGM at the Red Rock Centre. I chaired a really interesting meeting, and I was truly inspired to see and hear the enthusiasm and plans of the young people and all the volunteers there.

25 June: Dawlish Community Transport AGM. I was honoured to be invited to chair this AGM, and I know from personal experience how important and vital the work of Dawlish Community Transport is to the local community. Thank you to the

dedication of the volunteer drivers, and I know they are always keen for more volunteers.

26 June: Assist Teignbridge AGM. Another truly interesting AGM showcasing the amazing work and outreach of this local charity and thank you to all the staff and volunteers at Assist Teignbridge.

28 June: Dawlish World War One Project's dedication of a new tablet to the war memorial and act of commemoration to the 12 men and 1 woman, whose names have been missing from Dawlish war memorial. My thanks to all at the Dawlish World War One Project for their work to make this happen.

29 June: Dawlish Armed Forces Day, a day of recognition, appreciation and thanksgiving to our Armed Forces community, both currently serving and veteran. I was honoured to march our servicemen and women, both currently serving and veteran, and to be asked to make a speech as part of the ceremony. Thank you to all.

50 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Clatworthy

The County Councillor reported as follows:

- *Corporate Resources Scrutiny Committee had considered a report from the 20mph Task Group and Newton abbot and Kingskerswell had been suggested as pilots due to the size and diversity of the towns. Many towns had been put forward – the matter goes to the Cabinet next week. He had asked for local members to be included in the SCARF (speed complaints action forum) as observers;*
- *Speed reduction at the Sainsburys roundabout would be considered in August due to delays caused by the SWW works;*
- *Suggestions had been made to make Shutterton Lane one way – one option could be to have 'No vehicles except for Access Only' signs at each end of the lane and this should be explored;*
- *Concern for joint due by residents and cyclists where the access has limited visibility and he was awaiting advice from officers on how to move forward*
- *He had supported 12 grants from his locality budget including one for the Teignmouth Air Show which he considered to be important for the local economy;*
- *An estates report had highlighted that properties owned by the County Council since 2012 had reduced by 87, the revenue budget had reduced by £4.7M, maintenance liabilities by £15.1M, capital receipts from CIL are over £16M, estates service budget had been reduced by £1.6M, £1.7M had been invested into communities by transferring community assets, recycling office*

- equipment saved £578K, reduced space they occupy by 66K sqm. Capital receipts;*
- *Regards the Town Council's motion regards bus services, he noted that the present service runs commercially without financial or contractual involvement by the county council and therefore decisions rest solely with stagecoach. Using monies from the Shutterton developments the CC supported service 2B – the annual support cost was £119,183 which indicated the sums of monies to underpin services which were not commercially viable. Dawlish also had 2 trains per hour each day. Stagecoach had made clear their commercial position and virtually no local authorities were funding additional services;*
 - *The link road agreement between Teignbridge and Homes England was nearly at a point to be signed.*

33 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor L. Petherick

Council Report June 2019

I paid a visit to Community Transport as Council Rep, I wanted to get an understanding of what they do and what they need to be able to achieve their goals. One of the things they don't have time to do is looking for funding streams, so hopefully I will be able to help with this. I also attended the AGM on the 25th June.

Path between Finistere Avenue and the footpath from the Leisure Centre

A resident emailed me about the lack of a proper footpath between Finistere Avenue on the Cavana Estate and the footpath from the Leisure Centre, he sent pictures to show what the issue was. I have spoken to Cllr John Clatworthy, who is trying to resolve it at County, and as we are not sure whose responsibility it is I have emailed the case officer at Teignbridge to see if they own the land, hopefully between us we can find the answer to this issue.

Gypsy/Travellers

Some residents emailed and telephone me about some Gypsies/Travellers that had set up camp in Blackstone Road. They had broken into the field next to the road and set bonfires and had also been tipping waste into the fields. The mess in the road and around the caravans was not acceptable. I contacted Cllr Clatworthy, who spoke to the Gypsy Officer at DCC who agreed to go out and visit, but they explained that it is not that easy to get them to move on as they are classed as homeless. During the week the police had to be called and the fire service were also called out. They did leave on the Friday, which meant they had been there for a week. I telephoned the officer responsible for cleansing at Teignbridge and he got cleaning vehicles out there straight away, they did have to do a second visit on the Monday as for some reason more waste was put on the road over the weekend, I assume the waste from the field.

Public Space Protection Order

I am on this review group, listening and learning at the moment. I did take back to the group the concerns that people have about the dog bins being full. The dog bins only come in the one size; people can put the dog bags into the litter bins as well. The number for out of hours reporting is 01395 516854. A big thank you goes to Cllr Byron Wood for cleaning up around the bins. The question does have to be asked though, if the bin is full and overflowing why anybody leaves a dog bag on the floor, and they do not either take it to the next bin or home to their own bin.

East Cliff Gardens

I met the officer responsible for open spaces, Mark Payne at East Cliff Gardens, there is a piece of land that belongs to Teignbridge at the bottom of the Cul De Sac which hasn't been touched for a long time and the residents wanted to know why it hadn't been done. Mark acknowledged that it is theirs and that it should be kept tidy, he will make sure it happens in the next few weeks and then he will put it in the schedule for a regular tidy up.

Meetings attended at Teignbridge

Full Council

Executive

PSPO meeting

Overview and Scrutiny.

Councillor Wrigley

- *Meeting with officers to talk about Lea Mount and the closed pathway at its base. The cliff side is part of a Geological Site of Special Scientific Interest (GSSSI) and therefore required approval from Natural England before any works are undertaken in the area. The cliff is still considered unstable, but options were being investigated as to how best to reopen the footpath, if it at all possible.*
- *Exploring options for restoring the WWII buildings located at Lea Mount particularly with the 75th anniversary of VE Day next year.*
- *Attended the Armed Forces Day event over the weekend and the War Memorial event unveiling the new plaque, and he was investigating the Armed Forces Charter and how that might apply.*
- *He was now the Teignbridge representative on the South East Devon Habitat Regulatory Partnership;*
- *Exploring ways of building stronger partnerships between the district council and town and parish councils in his role as Portfolio Holder for Communities and IT.*
- *Still working to try and get Network Rail to change its design for the Dawlish Sea Wall and the five District Councillors had sent a joint letter to the Chief Executive of Network Rail and will report back with any progress;*

- *Attended the first meeting of the Lawn Working Group since the election, happy to hand over to the new Chairman Cllr Linda Petherick and Cllr Byron Woods as Vice Chair.*

Councillor Petherick

10 June – Planning Committee – application at Bradley Barton, Newton Abbot – recommended for approval for 97 dwellings, originally 109, then down to 104. The site was in the Local Plan for at least 70 dwellings, without exception everyone was opposed. The application said there would be 209 car parking spaces but only 142 could be counted, and they were assuming garages were included in the 209 but as we knew, many garages get converted or used for storage so the application was refused for overdevelopment and lack of parking.

Land adjacent to Morrisons had been due to be cleared but Teignbridge officers were ready to impose a Tree Preservation Order on the site however the applicant withdrew

Councillor Taylor

June Teignbridge DC

3rd FH Executive meeting

4th FH Full Council meeting. Announce Phase 1 Newton Abbot A382 road upgrade - £5.1m from CIL receipts, Dawlish Link Road - £4.9m from Homes England)

5th FH Assets of Community Value meeting

*6th FH TDC Executive meeting.
Site visit with officers (NA3)*

7th County Hall Exeter - Devon Rail Forum

12th FH Planning officer meeting, Building Control meeting

13th Holcombe Village Hall re Network Rail line resilience

14th FH Executive meeting

21st FH Executive meeting

24th OFH Armed Forces Flag raising, Transport Review meeting, Executive forward planning

25th FH Network Rail presentation, Overview & Scrutiny

26th Exeter Community Centre – T&C Affordable Housing training event

27th FH Housing workshop

Dawlish Parish – Information, issues raised and residents’ concerns during period: Construction Management Plan breaches at Little Leigh, Holcombe. Notified developer via relevant planning officer

Repairs and maintenance of social housing (Teign Housing). Helped bring forward insulation programme, kitchen refurb and offer of kitchen appliance.

Site habitat management (post-sale) boundary issue. Ongoing

*Permitted development issue SW Ward. Construction plan amendment
GWR Metro timetable scheduled for Dec 2019
Marsh Barton plans coming forward summer 2019 – work to commence (STPP) 2020.*

*Dawlish Seawall works / Holcombe to Teignmouth proposals:
Signatory to 'joint communique' from all Dawlish TDC reps to Network Rail. There remains much public concern in Dawlish regarding Marine Parade with battle now joined also by the 'Save Holcombe Beach' group who have recently submitted a 1000 signature petition to NR project manager at the 'consultation event' at Holcombe Village Hall in response to latest plans.
Initiated discussions with NR project manager and NR public spokesperson about accessibility improvements to Dawlish Station during any future 'station section' resilience works.*

34 TOWN COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Heath

Councillor Heath advised:

- *would be attending a Climate Action meeting at Coombeshead College on 4 July; and*
- *Holcombe Residents at a recent Association Meeting expressed their displeasure at the proposed loss of beach due to the rail resilience works.*

Councillor J Petherick

Some of the buildings at Lea Mount could benefit from renovation as being of interest to the war years and this may be something that the Civic Amenities Committee could pick up on.

Friend had been walking in front of the toilet building at the bottom of Lea Mount and had narrowly missed a drinks bottle being thrown from the cliffs above.

Improving the area may help to reduce this antisocial behaviour.

Councillor Dawson

Coastal Engagement Group – CCG confirmed offer into TDC for below market value offer at the site at Brunswick Street – they had been unable to confirm whether some Teignmouth Hospital services would be lost and how much the new project would cost. A community model of wellbeing based on a pilot being trialled in Holsworthy being considered for implementation locally.

Complaints from Marine Parade residents relating to fencing blocking parking and alleged inappropriate language from workmen. Temporary fencing had been removed to make things easier for residents.

Looking to gain support for a pilot of having a lawn bench temporarily signed as a 'chatty bench'. It had been proven in other areas to improve social isolation and she was happy to monitor its use and would report back to Members at a later date.

Councillor Mawhood

June was a very busy month.

*In addition to trying to deal with matters raised by electors, as I am sure all Cllrs do, I attended 3 AGMs, notably **Red Rock, (18th June) Community Transport (25th June) and Assist Teignbridge. (26th June)**. I was pleased to learn that generally speaking all three organisations are in good heart although there are some needs. This is always the case. Fortunately, I was able, after the Assist AGM was closed, to connect them with another possible funding source.*

*I also Chaired the CAC meeting on **19th June** which was very productive and in conjunction with this I attended a site meeting with the contractor for the Littleweek Play park and am delighted to report that a date has been agreed for work to begin. This has been a long time in progress but not through lack of trying from DTC. Our local contact is being kept up to date with proceedings and is excited to learn that the work is about to proceed in the next few weeks.*

*I attended the Network Rail Presentation at Holcombe **on June 27th** and I can emphasise with residents there regarding the major changes proposed. Although a section of beach has been protected at the bottom of Smugglers Lane, further along towards Teignmouth it would appear that much of the Beach could be lost? The proposed new alignment appears to take in the whole of Sprey Point and much of the Beach between there and Teignmouth itself. I trust that this Council will consider the proposals seriously and take up the concerns of the Holcombe residents in particular whilst there is time?*

On that same date I also attended a meeting of TALC (Teignbridge Association of Local Councils) where we heard a very interesting talk by Cllr Hook among others. If only a percentage of the aims of the new Council are realised it could be a very interesting few years ahead. I have asked the Clerk to circulate the Minutes of this and the April meeting to all Councillors.

***Friday 28th June**, I attended the unveiling of a new Memorial Plaque commemorating those persons who had not been previously recognised or recorded and who lost their lives in connection with WW1, this being researched and provided by the (members of) the WW1 Project. Like many people I never knew my grandfathers because of the Great War and very much appreciate the work undertaken by the Group.*

*Lastly, I was pleased to take part in the Armed Forces Day last **Saturday June 29** when we remind ourselves of the part our Forces play in the International Arena and for our benefit. It was a very important but also enjoyable Event, thanks to the local branch of The British Legion.*

Although this was technically July, this Monday I too was pleased to attend the first meeting of the Lawn Working Group since the new Council was formed and I look forward to all the initial work being built upon (pardon the pun).

35 SNOW WARDENS

Nominations were sought for two Councillors acting as the Council's appointed Snow Wardens under the auspices of Devon County Council's Snow Warden Scheme.

Resolved that Councillors Dawson and Woods be appointed Dawlish Town Council's Snow Wardens.

36 DAWLISH TRAIN STATION

Members considered making representations to Network Rail as to the accessibility needs of Dawlish Train Station whilst phases 1 and 2 of the seawall resilience works were undertaken.

Members noted that engineers were currently looking at Phase 2 of the resilience works which included the possibility of improving the accessibility of train station at the same time as the scheduled works. An offer had been made for representatives to attend a future Town Council meeting in September.

Councillors were aware of a now redundant stairwell that had been bricked up that could house a ramp that doubled back on itself that would be protected from the element. This would ensure a secure, safe and long term means of access for the station.

Resolved that

- (a) The Town Council makes representations to Network Rail regards the necessity of an all-weather ramp to improve means of access to the south bound platform in addition to the need of a lift;
- (b) That representatives of Network Rail be invited to make a presentation to the Town Council at its meeting on 4 September.

37 PARISH BOUNDARY SIGNS

Members considered whether investigate the possibility of erecting ‘Welcome to the Parish of Dawlish’ signs as the Parish extended to Holcombe in the west and Cockwood in the east and was not simply the town of Dawlish.

Resolved that the possibility of erecting such signs be investigated.

38 MARKING THE DEATH OF A SENIOR NATIONAL FIGURE

Members received the Town Council’s protocol on marking the death of a senior national figure and the process through which the Council would undertake in the event this were to occur. It is otherwise known as Operation London Bridge.

Resolved that the protocol be noted, and the Town Clerk be authorised to ensure all necessary arrangements were in place to fulfil the requirements of the Protocol.

The meeting was closed by the Mayor at 8.16 p.m.

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Cllr Alison Foden
MAYOR OF DAWLISH