

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk Melanie Bickell, 14a The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2EP, 01837 880121, townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Meeting of North Tawton Town Council Transport Committee: Monday 9th October 2023 at 7.30 pm – North Tawton Town Council Office

MINUTES

PRESENT Cllr Lee (Chair) Cllr Whiteley Cllr Kennedy Cllr Hodge
Cllr Martin Nicola King Noah Smith Peter Hawkes
Peter Brickley
Melanie Bickell Town Clerk, 6 members of public

44.23T APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Cllr Ranford and Cllr Simmons were unanimously approved

45.23T DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

46.23T PUBLIC PERIOD

Mrs Hughes requested her name to be recorded in the Minutes and made an observation on agenda item T7 [Public Value Conflicts], and in the Minutes of the Transport Committee of 18th April, 27.23T, there is a clerks post script which reads "*The memorial park and the area in question by the monkey puzzle tree are designated as green recreational space in the North Tawton Neighbourhood Plan and the Joint Local Plan for West Devon, therefore, this is not possible until or if such time as this status is removed from both plans*", which is referring to the various requests that have come forward since October last year about carparking on that side. Agenda item T9 [Disabled carparking in the Town Centre Carpark] the Minutes of 18th July Transport Committee Meeting 39.23T reads "*the Committee to consider a new survey of the use of the disabled bays prior to next meeting*". This is the next meeting and I wondered if anything has happened about that?

Mrs Knott requested her name to be recorded in the Minutes and commented on agenda item T6 [large agricultural vehicles use of residential streets], we choose to live in rural community and farmers and contractors have a very small window of opportunity in which to prepare the land, till, seed and then harvest and it is all down to what the weather conditions are and which have a severe impact on their ability to prepare the land and harvest crops and their livelihood depends on this.

47.23T EV CHARGING POINTS *Actions List 032/22*

47.1. RAW charging has reported they are unable to provide a fully funded solution for the town centre carpark site. They are happy to provide costs for equipment and their management service, however, as they would be connecting to the substation on site rather than the building supply, this would involve a DNO application to find out the cost of connecting to this new power supply. Currently the DNO have a 60 working day response timeline, so we would not be able to confirm installation cost until they receive this response. No cost involved to obtain DNO – Clerk has instructed to proceed in submitting a DNO application. DNO (Distribution Network Operator) is National Grid who operate the electricity distribution network. Note we cannot apply for a DNO connection ourselves - this will be done by the EV charging Company as part of their costings.

47.2. Joint enterprise

Resolved Clerk to obtain 3 quotes from Companies to include 'BP Plus' to install 2 EV charge points in the Town Centre Carpark, Hembury homes site, and Rugby club bottom carpark by substation, to copy in Rugby Club and Hembury Homes reference relevant permissions as the landowners, on the proposal of Cllr Lee seconded by Cllr Whiteley, all in favour, 4 non-Cllrs supported but were not permitted to vote.

Resolved to specify the 2 parking bays in the Town Centre Carpark, alongside the electricity substation facing the Square, for EV charge points, on the proposal of Cllr Martin, seconded by Mr Brickley, all in favour.

Clerk to investigate options to obtain Installation grants, DNO grants, UK Electric Vehicle infrastructure.

47.3. Hembury Homes – Oakwood Park off Devonshire Gardens (Doc T4.2.1023)

Are very open to the possibility of North Tawton Town Council utilising the approximate area shown on the agenda document for EV charging for the benefit of the town however, their concerns would need to be investigated by NTTC/EV partner: Delegated to Clerk to investigate.

48.23T 7.5 TONNE WEIGHT LIMIT THROUGH NORTH TAWTON

No progress has been made with DCC – Clerk will chase

49.23T LARGE AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES USE OF RESIDENTIAL STREETS AT NIGHT

Agreed that a working party of Nicola King, Peter Brickley and Cllr Martin approach farmers and contractors for an informal meeting with appointed members with the aim to amicably resolve noise complaints at night.

50.23T PUBLIC VALUE CONFLICTS – Peter Brickley (Doc T7.1023)

The paper written by Kay Caldwell was received and considered.

Resolved to hold a public meeting for all people of North Tawton who are concerned about the lack of parking, on the proposal of Cllr Whiteley, seconded by Cllr Martin, all in favour, 4 non-Cllrs supported but were not permitted to vote.

51.23T STREET LIGHTING FROM HIGH STREET TO BUDD CLOSE BATHEWAY

Agreed to form a petition to DCC to install a streetlight from High Street to Budd Close on Suds Pond side, in accordance with monies they have already received from Wainhomes s.106 for installation of a streetlight. Cllr Martin to lead the petition which will be written by Clerk.

52.23T DISABLED CARPARKING IN THE TOWN CENTRE CARPARK

The Committee will monitor for misuse and bring back to future meeting if appropriate.

53.23T NORTH TAWTON SPEEDWATCH GROUP

Mr Mansfield is now leading the speed watch group and efforts are continuing to get the group up and running

54.23T VERBAL REPORTS/UPDATES ON ACTIONS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Cllr Kennedy asked if local businesses who have lost trade due to the gas road works and gas disruption can claim any compensation.

Clerk Postscript – Businesses and residents can make a claim through their gas supplier for any unplanned disruption.

8.55pm Cllr Martin left the meeting

55.23T PUBLIC PERIOD

Mrs Hughes made observations on agenda item T7 [Public value conflicts] and agreed in many respects with the public meeting for everyone to have their say about the parking and felt it was

important that people understand and learn the history of the planning application for the memorial park carpark which was back in 2003, when the original application was for 26 carpark spaces and it was WDBC itself who wouldn't agree and that is why the application was amended down to 15 and this is very important for those who feel passionately about the other area in the park being utilised in some way. It was West Devon who said no.

I would also compliment the Council's Project Development Group who have been trying earnestly for years to find areas small around the town for parking in general. The late Jack Gregory when he was on the Council said the best thing you can do in the town for parking is to find small areas around the town, and that kind of search this council has gone on doing for years and I do feel that the Council, over all these years, deserves a great deal of support and thanks for the effort they have put in, which sometimes must feel thankless, they are all giving their time voluntarily sometimes it is vital to recognise and value their efforts.

56.23T DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Transport Committee Meeting Monday 12th February 2024 – 7.30pm Council Office
Tuesday 7th November 2023, Full Council – 7.30pm Council Office

57.23T EXEMPT REPORTS (Part II):

Resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by S.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

57.1. Quotes for installation of VAS Batheway

Resolved to recommend to full council to purchase VAS from stock Signs at £3,500 plus VAT £360 DCC Highways for installation of a pole on site, on the proposal of Cllr Whiteley, seconded by Cllr Hodge, all in favour, 4 non-Cllrs who are not permitted to vote supported the recommendation.

Meeting closed 21.14pm