



Ashburton Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 July 2015 AT 7.30PM IN THE
INFORMATION CENTRE**

Present: Cllr Slater, chairman
Cllrs Dennis, Irens, Daw, Nutley, Baker, Giles, Daw.

In attendance: The clerk, deputy clerk and one member of the public

034/15GP Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Brewer who is on annual leave. Acceptance of these apologies was proposed by Cllr Dennis, seconded by Cllr Daw. All in favour.

035/15GP Public comments/statements. The public may speak for a maximum of 10 minutes on items on the agenda or items that may be considered for a future agenda at the chairman's discretion.

The member of the public did not wish to speak.

036/15GP Declarations of interest. To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

037/15GP Minutes of the previous meeting of 27 May 2015

These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

038/15GP Matters arising from the previous minutes of 27 May 2015

There were no matters raised.

039/15GP Parish boundary stones

The clerk read an email from Mr Dave Crook regarding the parish boundary stones, which stated:

Now, I've been looking at the parish boundary again and wondered if we could possibly persuade the council to ask the highways and water people if we could get the Holne, Dart and water bridges inscribed with the A, Ashburton and H, Holne and B, Buckfast letters in the centre of each parapet. I've already talked to the River Dart C,P people who have no objections. I've also talked to Caroline Bowden about inscribing a boulder on their property, Caroline said she would need to talk to her husband but saw no problems. If all this is possible, I suppose the other parishes might be interested. It would have to be established who owns the bridges etc.

The clerk was asked in the first instance to ask DNPA for its thoughts and establish who would be the authority to deal with this.

RECOMMEND: CLERK TO ACTION ABOVE.

040/15GP Town Crier general discussion

The clerk stated Mr Brophy had now decided that as he was living in Teignmouth he will have to resign as Town Crier. The clerk had had a couple of people show an interest in becoming the Town Crier. Councillors discussed in detail and the clerk stated that the position is a town council appointment, which then goes to the six-a-side meeting and is presented to the Courts at the October meeting.

Councillors decided that a competition should be held on a Saturday to be decided. Applications should be invited from prospective candidates.

041/15GP Steward to the Courts discussion

The clerk stated he would finish in November 2016 as the steward. This is also a town council appointment Cllr Daw commented that traditionally this has been the clerk to the town council. This appointment also goes to the six-a-side meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Daw and seconded by Cllr Nutley, that the town council appoint the clerk as the steward to the courts. All in favour.

042/15GP Drains/gullies discussion

Cllr Nutley had sent photographs of blocked gullies to Highways and the clerk had chased up the cleaning of these. The clerk stated that the blocked and very smelly gully outside 22 St Lawrence Lane had been reported and was due to be dealt with.

Cllr Nutley stated that to wait to February was unacceptable and had been a Devon County Cabinet decision to only clean drains once a year.

Cllr Baker stated that the state of the drains affected safety, public health and flooding problems.

RECOMMEND: CLERK TO REQUEST AGAIN THAT ALL DRAINS BE CLEANED. ALSO THE GULLES AT THE BULL RING.

043/15GP Grass verges issues

Cllr Slater stated that the verge he had reported to the clerk at Dolbeare had been cut.

The clerk was requested to write to Devon County Council and Highways requesting details of what and when they are cutting in Ashburton and if they are asking volunteers to do some verges, who will pay for equipment, insurance, removal of cuttings and who will deal with Health and Safety.

RECOMMEND: CLERK TO WRITE AS REQUESTED.

044/15GP TDC 10-year strategy for Teignbridge - survey

The clerk gave councillors details and requested they fill in the survey individually.

045/15GP Correspondence

- i. Patching works Whistley Hill (copied to councillors). Noted.

046/15GP Matters raised by councillors for information only or possible inclusion on a future agenda.

- Cllr Giles stated that the bench outside the doctor's surgery was in need of repairs.
- The clerk stated that the bench outside St Andrews Close was also in need of repairs.
- Cllr Dennis stated the telephone exchange at Balland Lane was in need of painting/tidying up.
- Cllr Daw asked if Cllr Barker could be requested to give an update on Kenwyn.
- Cllr Baker stated that she believed that a group was requesting that the Methodist Church was being applied for as a community asset. (NOTED)
- Cllr Daw stated that once again the fishmonger had been moved on again from St Andrews Close and this was unfair and not acceptable as they have attended Ashburton for many years.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

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CHAIRMAN