



# Ashburton Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 JUNE 2016 AT 7.45PM IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Cllrs Hitchcock, Nutley, Dennis, Baker, Brewer, Giles, Irens, Parker-Khan. Also Cllr Distin and Cllr Daw

**In attendance:** The clerk.

**038/16GP Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr Slater. (Work Commitment) Acceptance of this apology was proposed by Cllr Parker-Khan seconded by Cllr Giles. Carried

**039/16GP 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.**

No members of the public present.

**040/16GP Declarations of interest. To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda.**

There were no declarations of interest.

**041/16GP Minutes of the previous meeting of 25 May 2016**

These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

**042/16GP Matters arising from the previous minutes of 25 May 2016**

There were no matters raised.

**043/16GP Discussion with Kate Pearson (Environment Agency) regarding proposed flood warning system for Ashburton**

Kate gave the committee an update on the Emergency flooding issues in Ashburton and confirmed that Ashburton has been identified as a high risk of flash flooding therefore a proposed new warning system for Ashburton would seem appropriate. This would mean that should any flash flooding be expected, all councillors and volunteer wardens could receive a phone call/text or email notifying them of such a warning and therefore the emergency plan could be implemented.

The committee agreed that this would be an excellent service but concerns were raised regarding the gullies and drains in Ashburton. A large proportion of them are blocked and even though many requests have been submitted to get these cleaned no action has been taken so no excess water would be able to drain away as they are all blocked and would cause considerable problems. The committee asked various general questions and the chairman thanked Kate for attending the meeting.

Noted: The clerk will forward Kate the contact details of all councillors, all volunteer wardens are noted on the emergency plan. Councillors details to be added to the emergency plan.

**044/16GP Ashburton Football Club issues**

The Clerk gave councillors a copy of the issues raised by the club in relation to South Dartmoor Community College.

Cllr Distin stated that clarification was required from both sides to try and resolve any problems there may be.

Cllr Dennis commented that funding is due to be allocated to Newton Abbot Grounds so many clubs may have an opportunity to use these facilities.

It was agreed that Councillor Parker-Khan would make investigations and report back accordingly to the Town Council.

**045/16GP Location of a second sand bag store**

Clerk reported there was a second sand bag store at a private residence in Balland Lane and that Councillor Dennis has been trying to locate where the sand bags are stored as they can be now stored at the Carnival Store and he would continue to research.

**046/16GP Issues regarding parking of vehicles near Longstone Cross**

The clerk confirmed that the Highways Department had contacted him to state that they will look into these issues and regarding the caravan, they may be able to do something but regarding the two large vehicles, providing they are taxed and MOT'd there is nothing they are able to do in connection with them.

**047/16GP Cutting of grass verges, slip road, Dolbeare**

The clerk confirmed he had received an email from the Highways Department stating that the footpath at Dolbeare Slip Road and the footpath along the Old Exeter Road and Linnay Hill will be attended to.

**048/16GP Correspondence**

- Email regarding Christmas Late Night Shopping. An email was received from the organiser stating that the proposal was that late night shopping would be on Thursday, 8 December and requested that the town council would hopefully support this proposal. The town council were happy with this proposal.

**049/16GP Matters raised by councillors for information only or possible inclusion on a future agenda.**

- Cllr Dennis stated that the order for the Christmas Lights had been placed and if more funds are raised then the committee would look into extending the lights further up the main streets.

It was agreed that a meeting of the Christmas Lights sub-committee needs to be arranged soon to discuss contacting owners of properties and establish if they are happy to have fixings attached to their property to enable future extension of the lights.

**Cllr Dennis to arrange suitable date for a meeting**

- Cllr Daw was asked to raise a problem by a resident regarding the council refuse lorry, the resident states that they were held up whilst the lorry collected refuse and saw one of the men reading correspondence in one of the bags, they rang TDC who at first did not appear to believe them but eventually did state that this would be passed on.

It was stated that everyone should not put confidential correspondence in the refuse but anything with details on it should be shredded.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

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CHAIRMAN