



Ashburton Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 MAY 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.

In attendance: The clerk.

In the absence of Cllr Slater, Cllr Hitchcock took the chair.

026/16GP Apologies

There were no apologies received.

027/16GP Election of chairman

Cllr Dennis proposed Cllr Hitchcock, this was seconded by Cllr Parker-Khan. All in favour.

028/16GP Election of deputy chairman

Cllr Nutley proposed Cllr Baker, this was seconded by Cllr Dennis. All in favour.

029/16GP 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 wished to speak.

030/16GP Declarations of interest. To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

031/16GP Minutes of the previous meeting of 27 April 2016

These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

032/16GP Matters arising from the previous minutes of 27 April 2016

There were no matters raised.

033/16GP Proposed flood warning system

The clerk stated he had a meeting with Kate Pearson from the Environment Agency regarding a proposal of a new major flood warning system for Ashburton and requested

that this be placed as an agenda item for the next GP meeting to allow Kate to explain in more detail.

Cllr Daw had attended a meeting and would give a report at the next Full Town Council meeting.

034/16GP Email regarding road closures for Ashburton Food and Drink Festival

The clerk read an email from the organiser of the next Food and Drink festival requesting support from the town council to also close off North Street. Councillors discussed this in detail and asked that the clerk respond stating the town council support, in principle, the proposal. They would however wish to raise their concerns regarding the route for heavy goods vehicles. Also, deliveries to the shops early in the morning, if there is a road closure. Regarding the closure of St Lawrence Lane and North Street, their only concern would be the pedestrians crossing from one to the other as this is the main thoroughfare and that this would need adequate stewardship to avoid any incidents. Generally, they feel it is a good idea to include North Street and would suggest that at all junctions and throughout the event there is plenty of stewardship.

035/16GP Location for second sand bag store

The clerk stated there was a second sand bag store at a private residence in Balland Lane and unfortunately the bags can no longer be stored at this location. Another site needs to be identified. It was suggest that perhaps the cricket club could be approached as they possibly have plenty of space to store sandbags. Cllr Dennis suggested that they could possibly be stored at the carnival store at Balland Lane and he would investigate this.

Sand bag store at the Town Hall, there is an excess of sand bags and these need to be reduced. I contacted TDC to ask them to come and take some away but they informed me that they do not remove old sand bags and that the Town Council would have to arrange to dispose of them.

Due to the Old Library now going ahead, waste bins have to be stored under the Fire Escape were the sand bags are kept at the moment, a separate partition will have to be installed i.e. cage type which then would leave room for approximately 50 sand bags so all surplus bags must be got rid of. We have placed a notice on the Town Council's Facebook page and someone has contacted us wishing to have 20 but this still leaves a lot more to dispose of.

Cllr Dennis stated that he would speak to a local resident regarding the removal of surplus bags and report back to the clerk.

036/16GP Correspondence

- i. Notification of Dartmoor Discovery Ultra Marathon Road Race on 4th June 2016.
NOTED
- ii. Letter of appreciation from visitor. The clerk read this out and councillors appreciated the comments.

- iii. Notice of road closure between 31 May and 4 June, Knowle Cross to Holne Bridge for surface dressing. Cllr Giles was concerned that this proposal would be taking place during the school half term and especially as this could affect access to River Dart Country Park.

037/16GP Matters raised by councillors for information only or possible inclusion on a future agenda.

- Cllr Nutley stated he would invite the Devon Air Ambulance representative to a meeting at the SDCC site with Cllr Parker-Khan.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

.....
CHAIRMAN