



Ashburton Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2015 AT 7.30PM IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN HALL**

Present: Cllr Slater, chairman
Cllrs Nutley, Distin, Baker, Slater, Dennis, Irens, Daw and Khan.

In attendance: The clerk

057/15GP Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Hitchcock who was unwell, Cllr Giles who had a previous appointment and Cllr Brewer who was at another meeting. Acceptance of these apologies was proposed by Cllr Distin and seconded by Cllr Baker

058/15GP 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.

There were no public present.

059/15GP Declarations of interest. To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

060/15GP Minutes of the previous meeting of 23 September 2015

These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

061/15GP Matters arising from the previous minutes of 23 September 2015

There were no matters raised.

062/15GP Discussions regarding Dolbeare Road Parking

Cllr Dennis stated that he had spoken to the Estates Office at Teignbridge Council who had informed him that they are reviewing all community assets and if interest is shown then they will decide what to do with the assets.

The clerk read an email from Teignbridge District Council parking services, which stated: I can confirm that Dolbeare Road car park is for general public use. However, the local residents do make a habit of telling people who park there that it is a residents only car park and therefore they have to move! If you are aware of this happening then please direct the public to this office.

Cllr Dennis stated that it is an area of land that people just park on and there have been problems at the area of damage to vehicles. The clerk stated that if any damage is done to any vehicles the people concerned should contact the police.

Cllr Daw stated that there are always problems with parking also at the Old Cattle Market car park. People parking there who do not have a permit. Again it was noted this should be notified to Teignbridge Council.

063/15GP Discussions regarding the graveyard at St Andrews

The clerk stated he had contacted Mr Lewis who had stated that he has forwarded the email to Rev. David Sherwood requesting that he respond.

Cllr Irens stated she had spoken to one of the church wardens who had commented that it is closed for burials, there are family graves, which allow for further burying. She had questioned whether the front area of the church could be used for burials and been told that this area is often used for church fetes etc and they wished to keep that as it is.

The clerk stated that he had not received any formal notice of closure and would write and ask Rev. Sherwood for details. If the council then felt a need the Rev. Sherwood could then be asked to meet with the town council to discuss in full.

RECOMMEND: Clerk to write to Rev. Sherwood

064/15GP Proposal for community awards

The clerk read a nomination for three candidates for the community award from the Bank Youth Project. Councillors discussed these and it was agreed that the BYP members should be encouraged. Presentation of these awards was proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Dennis. The awards would be presented at the December Full Council Meeting.

RECOMMEND: Clerk to write and request that the recipients attend the December meeting.

065/15GP Letter of complaint in connection with Ashburton Town Council

The clerk read a letter of complaint from a resident regarding email responses from the town clerk's office. The clerk explained that the response stated: Thank you for your email.

Ashburton Town Council will reply to this email if they are able to assist in your enquiry. Alternatively, they will forward onto the relevant authority to deal with.

Councillors discussed this in detail and it was proposed by Cllr Dennis and seconded by Cllr Nutley that the clerk keep this automatic response in place.

066/15GP Deputy Steward to the Courts

The clerk stated that this position was also a town council appointment. The clerk was asked to put this on the next Courts agenda. He would email the Court members asking for any recommendations for this position and would report back accordingly.

RECOMMEND: Clerk to put on next Court's agenda.

067/15GP Matters raised by councillors for information only or possible inclusion on a future agenda.

- Cllr Dennis stated that the signs on the post by Lloyds Bank were creating a problem. Cllr Nutley stated that he had brought this issue up once before and it was up to Lloyds to contact those involved and ask them to remove their signs. It was suggested that the clerk write a letter to the manager of Lloyds forwarding these comments.
- Cllr Daw enquired if the drains at the Bull ring had been cleaned as there was a large pool of water there. The clerk stated he had requested for it to be cleaned out and it appears it has now been cleared although the Ashburton gulleys are still full of mud with grass growing out of them. This would be followed up again.
- Cllr Daw wished to note that he had reported fly tipping of a mattress and bed at Roborough Lane to the Blitz Team and he wished to minute that there was a very fast response and it was cleared in no time..
- The clerk stated that following a recent accident where a young person ran through the arch at North street and slipped and fell under a car a request had been made from the parents to the possibility of siting a post on the kerbside to avoid this happening again. The committee felt this would need more than one post or even staggered rails. The clerk pointed out that this was the identified through route for disabled people so care would have to be taken but he would follow this up with Highways.
- Cllr Slater reported that at Dolbeare the slip road from the flyover to Western Power unit. All the drains are blocked.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

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CHAIRMAN