



# Ashburton Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.30PM IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Baker, chairman. Cllrs Brewer, Nutley, Giles, Slater, Ashford, Dennis, Vogel and Irens

**In attendance:** The clerk and one member of the public

**067/17GP Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Parker-Khan who was on annual leave. Cllr Dennis proposed acceptance of these apologies, this was seconded by Cllr Baker. All in favour.

**068/17GP 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 public statements

**069/17GP Declarations of interest. To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda.**

There were no declarations of interest.

**070/17GP Minutes of the previous meeting of 27 September 2017**

These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

**071/17GP Matters arising from the previous minutes of 27 September 2017**

The clerk confirmed that the work on costing a town warden was ongoing.

Stapledon Lane Youth Club updates, Kitsons Solicitors have been consulted and we are awaiting their response. The current position is that the firm of solicitors that handled the sale are no longer in business. There is a letter from a Plymouth-based solicitors to Sawdye and Harris in 1977 saying that the negotiations are not going well and there is a line in the accounts of the youth club saying that £725 was spent on the purchase of the building.

Councillor BAKER asked who would own the youth club then. The clerk replied that it would be for the benefit of the youth in Ashburton but the first step was to confirm legal ownership.

Cllr Baker suspended Standing orders so that a member of the public could speak. He mentioned that he understood that there were three trustees of the Youth Club and they should have the deeds. The clerk replied that this was also his understanding but the deeds were not available.

Cllr Baker reinstated Standing Orders

The clerk confirmed that there would be further updates as the search progressed.

**072/17GP Peripatetic town centre manager and if there is a need for this position in the town**

The clerk noted that he had spoken to Teignbridge District Council and they were going to arrange a meeting of all the five towns to discuss the plans.

The councillors discussed the role and felt that with a strong Chamber of Trade as the town has now, and the concern that the unique offering that Ashburton has may well be diluted with only having the town centre manager for one day a week.

It was also felt that the resources may be better spent on a town warden than the town centre manager.

Cllr Baker proposed that at this time there was no need for a town centre manager and the money would be better spent on a town warden. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Irens. All in favour.

**073/17GP Fire Brigade recruitment**

The Fire Brigade are actively recruiting for new retained fire fighters and the clerk has agreed that the fire brigade can use the town hall for a drill to improve their profile.

**074/17GP Matters raised by councillors for information only or possible inclusion on a future agenda.**

- Policing in Ashburton to be added to next GP meeting

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.34pm.

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CHAIRMAN