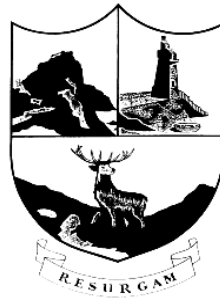


***LYNTON AND LYNMOUTH
TOWN COUNCIL***



Q
QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY
25th January 2007

***Town Hall
Lee Road
Lynton
North Devon EX35 6HT***

Tel : 01598 752384

LYNTON AND LYNMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, LYNTON ON THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2006 at 2.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs S Hibbert (Town Mayor)
Mrs C G Bowden
B J Howells
T Parker
B Peacock
T Prosser
Mrs E Rodway
Mrs C F Sim
J Travis
B Windsor

Officers: Town Clerk and Town Council Secretary

Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillors B Hobbs and P B Bolla and County Councillor Mrs A Davis

The meeting opened with Prayers led by Councillor Mrs S Hibbert (Town Mayor)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Prior to the commencement of the formal Council Meeting, The Mayor adjourned the meeting to enable to general public to ask questions of the Council.

There were 7 members of the public attending the meeting and on behalf of the Lynmouth Traders Association, Mr D Harding expressed their concern at the proposed siting of the Exmoor National Park Visitor Centre in Lower Lyndale Car Park. Whilst the Traders were appreciative of the importance of the Visitor Centre being re-located back to Lynmouth, they felt that alternative sites should be considered and asked the Council to consider holding a public consultation. Councillor Parker explained to those present that the proposed plans for this relocation had been in the public domain since the end of October and if members of the public were concerned the opportunity to attend meetings was open to them rather than to send emails. Councillor Bowden stated that she was pleased to see the traders attending the meeting and expressing their opinions. Councillor Travis briefly outlined the planning implications and reasons for relocating the Visitor Centre in Lower Lyndale Car Park but it was pointed out that this car park actually belonged to North Devon District Council.

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Councillor B Windsor left the meeting

The Mayor thanked members of the public for attending and expressing their opinion and it was

RESOLVED

A public consultation meeting would be held in the Town Hall in early January to include a representative from the Exmoor National Park Authority.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting.

199/06 MINUTES

RESOLVED

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 30th November 2006, copies of which had been previously circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

200/06 MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MINUTES

Minute 159/06 Matters for Recommendation (h) North Devon Homes – entry requirement for local needs housing. Councillor Bowden asked the present position with regard to a member of the North Devon Housing Enabler Team coming to Lynton as she had heard that two of the houses in Hobbs Yard had already been allocated. The Town Clerk informed her that all the houses had now been allocated but a programme for the properties in Burvill Street was being worked out and when this was completed the team were intending to set aside half a day to come to Lynton.

Minute 160/06 Matters under delegated Powers, resolution 2 Councillor Parker asked that this resolution be amended to conform with the Town Council's Standing Orders 15a and 23d .

RESOLVED:

Minute 160/06 Matters under delegated Powers, resolution 2

This resolution be amended to conform with the Town Council's Standing Orders 15a 'A motion to vary the order of business a) may be proposed by the Chairman or by any member and, if proposed by the Chairman, may be put to the vote without being seconded, and shall be put to the vote without discussion.' and 23 Resolution dealing with the following matters may be moved without notice d) to alter the order of business.

Minute 167/06 Matters referred from Estates & Amenities (a) Overview and Scrutiny Committee of NDDC – Review of Post Offices. Councillor T Parker declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as his daughter is a post mistress.

Councillor Travis informed the meeting that the Trade and Industry Secretary had announced that 2500 Post Offices were to close and expressed the importance and dependence of the public on the post offices in Lynton and Lynmouth and Barbrook due to the remoteness of this area.

RESOLVED

Minute 167/06 Matters referred from Estates & Amenities (a) Overview and Scrutiny Committee of NDDC – Review of Post Offices.

1. The Town Clerk to write to our local Member of Parliament asking him to lobby on our behalf to keep our Post offices

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2. Contact our local Post offices and ask them to inform the Town Clerk the very first moment they hear of any likely closure.

3. Although a letter already sent, another letter be sent to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee expressing very real concern at the possible closure of any of our Post offices.

Councillor Bowden was unable to stand due to back problems and with members approval remained seated while addressing the Council.

With members permission the Town Mayor moved agenda item 10 "Police Report" to this point in the meeting.

201/06 POLICE REPORT

PC Martin Beck reported that over the last 40 days 6 crimes had been reported (including one non crime) compared with a figure of 7 for the same period last year, all crimes being of a minor nature. He reported that Sergeant Ian Dawson would be coming to the area in the New Year and that PC Kidd would also be returning on the 17 January but that he himself would be moving to Violent Crime Team until the 17 April. He reported that youngsters on cycles and skates etc had been talked to as had the 'boy racers' but they were monitoring the situation and taking action where necessary. Councillor Howells enquired how budget cuts would affect the community but PC Beck was unable to answer his queries at the present time. Councillor Travis queried the time scale for the community support officers.

The Mayor thanked not only PC Beck but all serving officers in the area for their help and support and wished them all a very happy Christmas.

202/06 COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Clerk had forwarded copies of emails reference the proposed Exmoor National Park Visitor Centre directly onto Exmoor National Park. Councillor Travis expressed his great concern at the damaging effect these emails may have on the outcome of the siting of the Visitor Centre.

203/06 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

There was no outstanding business

204/06 COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLVED:

That the open reports of the following committees, having being circulated, be received and noted and the recommendations contained therein adopted, subject to any matters annotated.

Personnel Committee

30th November 2006

Minutes 187/06

Councillor Parker requested that personnel committee minutes be printed on a different colour paper other than pink which is for confidential minutes only.

RESOLVED

Personnel Committee minutes to be printed on a colour other than pink unless confidential.

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Estates and Amenities Committee

4th December 2006

Minutes 188/06 – 192/06

Councillor Howells informed the meeting that he had tendered his apologies for this meeting but they had not been recorded.

RESOLVED

Apologies to be recorded from Councillor B Howells

Minute 191/06 Matters for Recommendation a) Town Hall ii) Membership of Town Hall Refurbishment Group members already on this Group comprised Councillors T Parker, B Hobbs, B Howells and T Prosser.

Minute 191/06 Matters for Recommendation f) Decision Register Members enquired if the Town Clerk had heard anything from English Nature with regard to the rhododendrons on Hollerday Hill, the Town Clerk informed the meeting that he had heard nothing yet. Members expressed concern that proper steps would be taken to ensure Public money would not be spent without confirmation that the work had been properly carried out

Minute 191/06 Matters for Recommendation g) Town Clerks Report and questions to the Town Clerk 2) Questions of the Town Clerk Councillor Parker asked the present position with regard to the cattle grids as he had requested that a report be obtained from the engineers on the suitability of these grids back in June.

Councillor B Windsor re-joined the meeting

Councillor Rodway stated that she had spoken to Devon County Council when the possibility of shaving off the concrete rafters had been discussed. Most of the stock proof fence was acceptable but the contractors would return and strengthen any weak spots identified.

Policy & Finance Committee **Minutes 193/06 – 198/06**

11th December 2006

Minute 195/06 Matters for recommendation (b) Review of charges (ii) Other Charges (6) Town Hall charges. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the special evening rate for local organisations if hired on two or more occasions in one month to be £35.00 had been missed off the minutes circulated to members but inserted in the signed minutes. Councillor T Prosser informed the meeting that his declaration of prejudicial interest in the charges for the other rooms and exceptions was wrongly recorded in the minutes. He is a member of the Lyn Valley Society not the LVN as recorded.

RESOLVED

The special evening rate for local organisations if hired on two or more occasions in one month to be £35.00 be accepted and members to include this in their booklet.

Councillor Prosser's declaration of prejudicial interest be amended to read that he is a member of the Lyn Valley Society.

Minute 195/06 Matters for recommendation c) Decision Register 1. Meeting with South West Water Councillor Hibbert asked the present position as the smell was getting bad.

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RESOLVED

The Town Clerk to contact South West Water with regard to this problem.

Minute 195/06 Matters for recommendation d) Town clerk's Report and Questions to the Town Clerk 2. Questions to the Town Clerk ii abandoned car Councillor Parker enquired who paid for the removal of this car.

205/06 REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were none

206/06 MOTIONS

There were none

207/06 QUESTIONS

There were no questions pursuant to Standing Order No. 24

208/06 REPORT AND QUESTIONS OF NORTH DEVON DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

1. Report of the District Councillor

Councillor Travis started his report by confirming that he had intended to speak about the proposed siting of the Exmoor National Park visitor Centre but that this had already been considered, however he stressed that he was extremely worried that if too much opposition was received by the Exmoor National Park they would relocate this Centre elsewhere.

He reported that he had attended a meeting with Trevor Ives, the Investment Manager for the Housing Corporation which was the main funder for local needs housing. He explained the bidding process and stressed that in order for funding monies to be received suitable schemes have to be received before May 2007 to enable bids to be submitted with either planning permission gained or ready to be applied for.

2. Questions of the District Councillor

There were no questions to the District councillor.

209/06 REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR

In the absence of County Councillor Andrea Davis she had submitted her report as follows:

- 1. Lynton School** Since the last Town Council Meeting she had arranged and attended a site meeting with Miss House (Head teacher) and the road Safety Officer from DCC regarding the parking of cars outside the school at the start and end of the school day. Miss House stated that she was extremely grateful to the Town Council for the free use of the car park for the dropping off and collection of the children. County Council officers will be spending time with the children to raise awareness about road safety; included in this will be the parking of cars outside the school which compromises road safety for the pupils. County Councillor Davis would report further at the next Council Meeting. From January 1st the new federation of schools will be called the West Exmoor Federation of Schools. The Schools in the federation are; Lynton CofE VA School, Parracombe CofE VC school and Kentisbury Primary School. The three schools will share one governing body.

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- 2. Proposed removal of Emergency Telephones** She is concerned that no consultation has taken place with local communities or Parish and District Councils on the proposed removal of these phones:

- There has been no consultation with the Parish Councils along the route of the A39 or A361
- We do know how many emergency calls were actually made although a sum £7.19 is given as the actual cost of these calls.
- How urgent were the call that were made (were they a matter of life and death)
- Given the cost of the more severe accidents claimed to be on average something in the region of £1 million, is the savings and possible risks in not having this service a false economy?

She is appalled that this decision has apparently been made with no consultation with the Parish Councils and Ward members along what are the major roads into North Devon. This is a service that could mean the difference between life and death. We must be made aware of all the facts and the public and Parish Councils consulted before these emergency phones are removed.

3. **Proposed reorganisation of Local Government in Devon** Exeter City Council has bid to become a Unitary Authority. This would result in the City running all its affairs including highways, education and social services amongst others. There is much concern at DCC that the loss of this major catchment area would make the running of the wide spread remainder of Devon very difficult and expensive to manage. Devon has already lost Torbay and Plymouth who were awarded Unitary Status some years ago leaving the rest of Devon with large rural areas to administer with all the costs of road maintenance and specialised services such mobile libraries that are invaluable in the countryside but irrelevant in the cities.
4. **County Ward Members fund** At our meeting Tuesday it was agreed that the fund be increased for each Councillor by £1500 to £7000 for this year.

She ended by thanking members and the Town Council for the help and Support given to her during 2006 and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a very happy New year.

Questions of the Devon County Councillor

There were none

210/06 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST REPRESENTATIVE

No meeting had been held since last Council so no report was submitted.

211/06 TOWN CLERK

1. **Report of the Town Clerk**
The Town Clerk reported that Mr P Holsgrove (Scruff) was home from hospital having had his appendix removed.
2. **Enquiries of the Town Clerk**
There were none.

212/06 REPORTS OF ANY OTHER COUNCILLORS

There were none

213/06 EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

There were none that had not been reported to committee

**214/06 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS of which prior notice has been given
and which the Chairman considers to be urgent.**

There was none

The meeting closed at 3.58pm

Chairman

In answer to a Councillors query, it was confirmed that the Pavilion Scheme is in the Lyn-X plan.

The chairman thanked Mr Braund for his excellent presentation and for attending the meeting.

RECOMMENDED

The matter be referred to policy and Finance Committee to enable members to consider whether additional challenges should be added

217/06 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

The following items of correspondence and/or reports were noted by committee

- a. **Exmoor Local Access Forum – Annual Report 2005/06**
Available for members in the general office.
- b. **Exmoor National Park/North Devon Motor Club – Exmoor Trial 28 January 2007 – route of Trial**
Available for members in the general office.
- c. **Devon Association of Parish Councils – Newsletter Jan/Feb 2007.**
Available for members in the general office
- d. **Developing a Senior Council for Devon**
It was noted that this was a Council for Senior Citizens, details available in the general office.
- e. **Launch of ‘My Devon Customer Service Centre’**
Contact details available in the general office
- f. **Planning**
 - i. **Ref: 62/41/06/035 – 48 Lee Road, Lynton**
Conversion of garage to self-contained flat, including alterations to elevations (Full)
CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED
 - ii. **Ref: 62/41/06/037LB – West Ilkerton Farm, Lynton**
Listed Building consent for replacement of 3 windows and 3 doors with hardwood (Listed Building)
LISTED BUILDING PERMISSION GRANTED
 - iii. **Ref: 62/41/06/032 Lynton Post Office, Lynton**
Alterations and additions, including balcony, to create first floor living accommodation (Full)
CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED
 - iv. **Ref: 62/41/06/036 The Old Coach House, Hume Avenue, Lynton**
Extension to dwelling place namely 1) ground floor extension to kitchen 2) improved entrance combining a ground floor WC 3) extension to first floor studio and 4) a conservatory (Full)
CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED
- v. **Ref: 62/41/06/038LB The School House, Market Street, Lynton**
Proposed ground floor extension (Listed Building)

LISTED BUILDING PERMISSION GRANTED

218/06 MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION

a. Town Hall

i. Position Statement

Nothing further to report.

ii. Working Party Members

Councillors Prosser and Howells agreed to join the working party.

iii. Security

Councillor Mrs Bowden advised members of the security problems that existed when evening functions or activities were being held in the Town Hall, especially if the main hall was in use and the rest of the Town Hall vacant. In particular, she was concerned that unauthorised members of the public could be gaining access to the Town Hall and staying within the premises after the building was locked.

RECOMMENDED

The Town Clerk write to the Police Authority for advice on improving security within the Town Hall.

b. Preparation of Lottery Bids – Position Statement

i. Holman Park

It was noted that this would be a later submission.

ii. Valley of Rocks

- 1. Access Area }
- 2. Meadow Land Project }
- 3. Wringcliffe Bay }

iii. Town Hall

The Town Clerk advised members that he was re-writing these submission to take account of a new initiative shortly to be announced by the Government. It was prudent to ensure that although inter-relationship of the projects was stressed, the applications made it apparent that they could exist in isolation.

c. Valley of Rocks

i. Cattle Grids

Members discussed the present position regarding the cattle grids, in particular their seeming failure to act as a deterrent to the feral goat population in the Valley gaining access to the surrounding areas.

ii. Cricket Club - Ponies

Councillor Mrs E Rodway, although not a member of this Committee, declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as she is the commoner in the Valley, she left the room and did not take any part in the debate

The Town Clerk advised members that this matter had been discussed at the Valley of Rocks Management Group meeting although the representative from the Cricket Club was unwell and had been unable to attend. He undertook to distribute the minutes of the Valley of Rocks Management Group to all members as soon as they were prepared.

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iii Ice Cream Concession

Councillor Mrs C Bowden, declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as she is a friend of the present concessionary holder, she left the room and did not take any part in the debate

Councillor Mrs C Sim, declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as she is a friend of the present concessionary holder, she left the room and did not take any part in the debate

The Town Clerk advised members that he had received a request from an ice cream retailer seeking permission to tender for the concession in the Valley of Rocks. He outlined the present position whereby he was instructed on an annual basis to negotiate a concession price with the owners of 'Mother Meldrums Tea Rooms'. The advantages of this to the Council were that although this gave the owners of Mother Meldrums the right to place a concessionary van on the Valley of Rocks car park, they preferred to retail ice cream from within their own premises, which helped preserve the innate beauty of the Valley.

RECOMMENDED

- i. **Cattle Grids** - The Town Clerk to continue to negotiate with Devon County Council regarding improvements to the cattle Grids.
- ii. **Cricket Club/Ponies** – The problem be monitored and it be addressed in the first instance by the Valley of Rocks Management Group before a recommendation was passed through to the Town Council for a final decision.
- iii **Ice Cream Concession** – The Town Clerk be instructed to negotiate with Mother Meldrums Tea Rooms as in previous years in line with inflation.

d. Exmoor National Park Management Plan – Presentation by Exmoor National Park.

Dealt with earlier in the agenda

e. Second Home Council Tax.

The present position was considered and it was

RECOMMENDED

That the matter be referred to Policy Committee following the meeting with North Devon District Council to discuss financial issues on the 26th January 2007.

f. Goat Damage

Councillors discussed the issue of the damage caused by the goats once they have managed to gain access to surrounding areas across the recently installed cattle grids.

RECOMMENDED

That a meeting be held as a matter of urgency between Natural England, Exmoor National Park and the grazier together with the Town Council to discuss the issues.

g. Village Signs –contribution by the Town Council

It was noted that the sites of the Village Signs had been agreed and it was

RECOMMENDED

That the matter be referred to Policy & Finance Committee for consideration of a grant towards the costs.

h. Lynbridge Car Park

The present position was noted and it was agreed that a meeting was necessary to discuss the options before Council formally discussed the options.

RECOMMENDED

The Town Clerk to arrange a meeting as soon as possible and the issue then to be referred to Policy & Finance Committee.

i. Barbrook Toilets – Future

The Town Clerk briefly outlined the present position and the implications of the various option for the future of this facility.

RECOMMENDED

The Town Clerk prepare an options report and the matter be referred to Policy & Finance Committee.

j. National Trust – Offer to attend a meeting to talk about current work in the area by National Trust.

RECOMMENDED

The Town Clerk write to the National Trust, Arlington requesting that they attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish to give a brief presentation.

k. Lynton & Lynmouth Cliff Railway – Market Research

Councillors considered a copy of the letter from Lynton & Lynmouth Cliff Railway regarding the findings of a market research exercise undertaken recently which had been circulated with the Agenda. It had been suggested that additional signs be erected to increase visitor awareness of both the Cliff Railway and that Lynton and Lynmouth were physically separate. Members felt that additional signage would be inappropriate but agreed that there are issues regarding the circulation of visitors between the twin villages.

RECOMMENDED

That the Town Clerk arrange a meeting between the Cliff Railway and the Town Council to discuss the issue of improving circulation between the two bodies.

l. Decision Register

Members considered the items on the decision register and updated the actions that had been taken.

In particular they discussed;

1. Rhododendrons – The Town Clerk to request that the Council Foreman inspect the areas of rhododendron clearance that have been already treated by the contractor to ensure they had been treated successfully.
2. Manor Greens – Lights. It was noted that the replacement head units for the lights on Manor Green have been ordered by the original supplier and should be in place shortly.
3. Barnstaple & Lynton Railway Company – Position Statement to be amended to *'a meeting to be held on the 22nd November 2006 to discuss this matter and the Railway Company to contact the Town Clerk when they feel able to progress the issue'*.

m. Town Clerks Report and questions to the Town Clerk.

1. Town Clerks Report

- i. The Town Clerk reported that further investigation regarding the additional car parking space in Upper Lyndale had found that provision of the new space would provide insufficient turning area. It was agreed that the Town Clerk and Chairman of Estates meet to see if there was a possibility of providing the additional car park space.
- ii. He had received a letter from the organisers of the Senior Citizens party requesting that no charge be made for their annual event. It was agreed that no charge should be made.
- iii. A contractor had requested permission to erect a shed in Cross Street Car Park whilst undertaking work for the water Authority. The work was expected to last for 4 days. It was agreed that permission be given.

2. Questions of the Town Clerk

- i. Councillor Howells asked a question regarding the possibility of reinstalling lights in Russell Gardens. It was agreed that these be referred to Lynmouth Traders (MAPLE) but considered by the February Agenda of Estates & Amenities.
- ii. Cemetery – Valley of Rocks. It was noted that the work was ongoing for the rhododendron height reduction and the remaining tenders would be taken to Policy & Finance Committee in January 2007.
- iii. In response to a question regarding the sign post in Crossmead, the Town Clerk undertook to contact the appropriate authority and request it's replacement.
- iv. Town Hall Forecourt – Possibility of erecting a 'banner post', to be referred to Estates & Amenities Committee.
- v. The Town Clerk to contact Exmoor National Park regarding the possibility of placing picnic tables in the Valley of Rocks picnic area.
- vi. The Town Clerk confirmed that the new signs for the car parks would be prepared as part of the package of new charges.
- vii. It was noted that bins were appearing on Manor Grounds adjacent to Rock House despite the assurance given by the owner that this would not happen. The Mayor to write expressing the Councils concern.

219/06 MATTERS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Councillor Travis reminded members that in all planning matters should he obtain additional information on applications when attending Exmoor National Park Planning Committee this may necessitate him changing his views.

a. PLANNING

- i. **Ref: 62/41/06/045 R/O 12 Queen Street, Lynton, Devon**
Conversion of former dairy and part of existing flat to form 2 No dwellings.
Erection of entrance conservatory.
RESOLVED
To recommend approval
- ii. **Ref: 62/41/06/046 Lydiate Lodge Residential Home, Rock Lodge Park, Lynton**
Formation of footpath link between Hume Avenue and Rock Lodge Park for public use.

The Town Council could not consider this application as they had a prejudicial interest as they were part of the group who were pressurising to reinstate the original link, however had they been in a position to comment they would have strongly supported the application but it should be noted that the application is the reinstatement of a link and not the formation.

220/06 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS OF WHICH PRIOR NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN AND WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

There were none

The meeting closed at 8.31pm

Chairman

LYNTON AND LYNMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, LYNTON ON WEDNESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2007 at 6.30pm

Present:	Councillors T Parker (Chairman) B J Howells (Vice Chairman) Mrs C G Bowden Mrs S Hibbert B Peacock Mrs E Rodway J Travis B Windsor
Officers:	Town Clerk
Apologies:	Apologies were received from Councillors P Bolla and B Hobbs
Also in Attendance	Councillor T Prosser (although not a member of this Committee).

221/06 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 11th December 2006, a copy of which had been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

222/06 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

The following items of correspondence and/or reports were noted by committee.

- a. **Conservation appraisals by Exmoor National Park for Lynton and Lynmouth**
Available for members in the general office
- b. **PLANNING DECISIONS**
There were none

223/06 MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- a. **Town Hall – position statement**
No change from the position reported to Estates and Amenities Committee
- b. **Wedding Charges (referred from Policy and Finance Committee 11.12.06)**
A meeting to be held at 5.30pm on the 23rd January 2007 to discuss this issue.

c. Town Hall – list of exemptions from payment (referred from Policy and Finance Committee 11.12.06)

A schedule of regular users of the Town Hall together with a list of those exempt from payment had been circulated with the agenda. After discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

- i. That the Town Clerk to prepare a draft list of the criteria that members might wish to take into consideration when considering organisations for exemption from charges.
- ii. This item to be placed on the agenda for February Policy & Finance Committee.

d. Harbour Chains

The Town Clerk updated members on the progress of this scheme and warned them of a probable overspend. It was noted that final figures would not be available for another two to three weeks.

e. Vehicle Renewals

The Town Clerk advised members that the lease was due to expire later this year (April/June) on the two vehicles leased by the Council. After discussion, members proposed

- i. The Town Clerk investigate the possibility of extending the lease on both vehicles for one year.
- ii. The Town clerk to enter into discussions with North Devon District Council regarding the most cost effective method of replacing the vehicles.

An amendment to the proposal that the Town Clerk discuss the vehicle leasing options and other options with North Devon District Council, and he arrange for an extension of the lease if possible, for a 12 month period was amended to include that he examine other options open to the Council.

RECOMMENDED

That the Town Clerk discuss with North Devon District Council all options open to the Town Council regarding their vehicle requirements and arrange, if possible for the extension for 12 months of the lease on the two existing vehicles.

f. Decision Register

The decision register was tabled and members ran through the items relating to Policy & Finance Committee. In particular it was noted:

- i. Swings, Manor Grounds – the poor weather was likely to delay the commencement of this project.
- ii. Government Paper on Town Council's power to deal with dog fouling had now arrived in the office and would be distributed at full Council.
- iii. South West Water Systems – Maintenance etc., was progressing albeit slowly.

NB Members noted that the future of Barbrook toilets would be discussed at February Policy & Finance Committee.

g. Town Clerk's Report and Questions to the Town Clerk

There was no report from the Town Clerk as all items he wished to raise had been dealt with on the agenda. There were no questions to the Town Clerk

224/06 MATTERS REFERRED FROM ESTATES AND AMENITIES

a. Manor Ground car parking concessions (referred from Estates and Amenity committee 8.11.06)

After discussion a proposition was made that 5 free parking spaces on Manor Grounds should be made available to authorised users of Manor Grounds, with all other users of Manor Grounds to pay the standard rate.

An amendment that 10 free parking spaces should be issued to all authorised users of Manor Grounds and all others to pay was not carried.

The original proposition became the substantive motion and it was

RECOMMENDED

That 5 free parking permits be given to authorised users of Manor Grounds and all other users to pay.

b. Exmoor National Park Management Plan

Members discuss the presentation by Mr T Braund at Estates & Amenities Committee and confirmed that the targets identified by Exmoor National Park in the plan, in the Town Councils opinion, encompassed the all relevant issues.

c. Village Signs – decision required on whether the Town Council contribute to the cost.

Councillor Prosser, although not a member of this Committee declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as he is the organiser for the erection of the signs. Before leaving the meeting he update members on the present position whereby the costs for the supply etc of the signs had been met by local subscription. He requested that the Council consider allowing their workforce to erect the signs. He then left the meeting and took no further part in the debate.

After a brief discussion, it was

RECOMMENDED

That the Town Council's work force be used to erect the signs in the flower bed adjacent to the West Lyn in Lynmouth and the Castle Hill site adjacent to the Wishing Well Shop.

NB. It was noted that planning permission was required and had been applied for by the organisers.

225/06 MATTERS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

a. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statements for December 2006 was tabled and considered by Councillors

RESOLVED:

That the Statement, a resume of which is as follows be received be approved.

OPENING CREDITS	£346,792.91
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 10,145.55
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 19,882.96
CLOSING BALANCE	£337,025.50

NB. The closing cash balance includes committed funds and other liabilities.

b. CHEQUES

A List of the cheques was tabled for member's consideration.
The cheques were signed at Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the action of the Councillors in signing the cheques in accordance with the list circulated, be approved and the cheques be passed for payment. A copy of the list of cheques paid be attached to the signed minutes

c. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

i. Ref 62/41/07/001 LB 1 Castle Heights Lynton proposed installation of gas fired fireplace with balanced flue

RESOLVED

Permission be granted

ii. Ref 62/41/07/002 LB Rising Sun Hotel, Mars Hill, Lynmouth

Councillor T Parker declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as he is the agent dealing with this application. He left the room and did not take any part in the debate

Listed Building consent for the alteration and upgrading of toilet accommodation, upgrading of covered way and storeroom entrance

RESOLVED

Permission be granted

iii. Ref 62/41/07/003 Rising Sun Hotel, Mars Hill, Lynmouth

Councillor T Parker declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as he is the agent dealing this application. He left the room and did not take any part in the debate

Alterations and upgrading of covered way and store room entrances in connection with alterations to toilet accommodation.

RESOLVED

Permission be granted

226/06 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS OF WHICH PRIOR NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN AND WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

There was no urgent business.

PART 2

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Chairman will move

That pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as subsequently amended, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as it involves the likely disclosure of information which, in the opinion of the Council, would be prejudicial to the public interest and is of a confidential nature

227/06 QUOTATIONS

- i. Poets Corner – Valley of Rocks – refurbishment of mosaic
- ii. Cemetery – Valley of Rocks - hedge laying and ditching works
- iii. Car Parks – tarmac renewal
- vi. Longmead Cemetery – repairs to lychgate
- v. Tractor – renewal of cutter deck

**228/06 REVIEW OF COMMISSION PAID TO TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE
FOR SALE OF CAR PARK TICKETS.**

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm

Chairman