

# LYNTON AND LYNMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, LYNTON ON THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2005 @ 2.30pm

## PRESENT:

**Councillors:**

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

**Officer:** Finance Officer

**Also in Attendance:** County Councillor Mrs Andrea Davis

**Apologies:** There were no apologies

The meeting opened with Prayers led by Councillor C Lethaby

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Prior to the commencement of the formal Council meeting Councillor Parker adjourned the meeting to enable to general public to ask questions of the Council.

Mr B Peacock asked who was responsible for emptying the bottle bank as this was getting very full. The Finance Officer informed him that the Town Council are notified by their work staff when it requires emptying and North Devon District Council, Environmental Health Department are contacted. Councillor Hibbert requested that the Town Council be informed earlier to avoid overflow situations.

## 096/05 MINUTES

**Minute number 066/05 Matters Arising from Council Minutes**, Minute Number 039/05 Communications (a) Letter from Devon County Council concerning footpath Lydiate Lodge Lynton. Councillor Travis stated that this resolution had been wrongly worded.

## RESOLVED

Minute number 066/05 Matters Arising from Council Minutes, Minute Number 039/05 Communications (a) Letter from Devon County Council concerning

footpath Lydiate Lodge Lynton to read *'The Town Clerk to keep the pressure on Devon County Council, Social Services and request that a representative of Social Services attend a meeting of the Council as a matter of urgency'*.

County Councillor Andrea Davis joined the meeting and apologised for her lateness due to public transport.

**RESOLVED.** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 28th July 2005 copies of which had been previously circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **097/05            MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Minute number 066/05 Matters Arising from Council Minutes**, Minute Number 039/05 Communications (a) Letter from Devon County Council concerning footpath, Lydiat Lodge, Lynton. Councillor Travis stated that this was a very serious matter, the footpath had been closed for 2 months, depriving people of an attractive walk and amenity to the area. He felt it urgent that a representative of Social Services attend a meeting of the Council. County Councillor Davis confirmed that a meeting had been arranged between a member of the Social services, the Town Clerk and herself.

#### **RESOLVED**

A representative of Social Services attend a meeting of the Council as a matter of urgency.

**Minute number 069/05 Committee Reports Estates & Amenities 13th July 2005**, Minute number 055/05 Matters for Recommendation (c) Licensing Act 2003. Councillor Travis read an extract from this minute *'...there were 4 objectives which needed to be carefully considered (1) prevention of crime disorder and theft (2) public safety (3) prevention of public nuisance and (4) underage drinking and protection of children .....*' The resolution of this minute was that the matter should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee to look at the implications.

#### **RESOLVED**

As per minute number 055/05 (c) the matter should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee to look at the implications.

**Minute number 069/05 Committee Reports Estates & Amenities 13th July 2005**, Minute number 055/05 Matters for Recommendation (g) Bus Service 309/310. Councillor Travis asked when a meeting was to take place with Devon Traffic Co-ordination Service as two months had gone by.

#### **RESOLVED**

A meeting be arranged with Devon Traffic Co-ordination Service as a matter of urgency.

**Minute Number 075/05 Enquiries and Report of County Councillor.** County Councillors report number (ii) Beggars Roost Road Closure -

Councillor Sim felt the wording on this new sign to be contradictory in that the gate should be left open at all times and only shut when livestock in the yard.

**RESOLVED**

The matter be placed on the Agenda for the next Estates & Amenities Committee to discuss.

**098/05 COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none

**099/05 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

There was no outstanding business

**100/05 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**RESOLVED:**

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

**August Recess Sub Committee 17th August 2005**

Approved

**Estates & Amenities Committee 14th September 2005**

**Minute number 087/05 (b) Valley of Rocks** – Position Statement (2) Fencing. Councillor Hibbert reported that a site meeting had taken place before the meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee but no decision had then be taken as to the type of fencing to be used.

**RESOLVED**

This item to be discussed under the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Minute Number 092/05 (b) Valley of Rocks – Position Statement.

**Minute number 087/05 (j) Young Offenders** – Projects Required. Councillor Travis reported that at a meeting of the Hollerday Hill Group, several projects were discussed and people would be needed to clear scrub, rebuild walls etc and this could be a project for the young offenders.

**RESOLVED**

The Town Clerk to liaise with Phil Holsgrove, Works Foreman to prepare a list of suitable projects.

**Minute number 087/05 (a) Town Hall.** Councillor Hobbs expressed his gratitude to the Mayor for all the hard work that he was doing. Councillor Hobbs explained to members that although nothing seemed to be happening this was because problems had been encountered with the architects etc., and the Mayor was working tirelessly 'behind the scene' to get matters moving.

**RESOLVED**

An expression of thanks to the Mayor for all his hard work be noted.

**Minute number 087/05 (n) Town Clerks report,** (ii) Valley of Rocks Cemetery – Steps etc. Councillor Travis stated that it would be a false

economy to hire a contractor to remove all the rhododendrons along North Walk and then leave them in the cemetery as the seeds would disperse and grow again. It was originally recommended the rhododendrons should remain in place but be cut back as tightly as possible.

**RESOLVED.**

The Mayor, Works Foreman and Town Clerk to look at the further implications of replacing the rhododendrons with another suitable shrub and the matter be referred back to the next meeting of the Estates & Amenities Committee.

**Minute number 087/05 (n) Town Clerks report** (3) Tourism Sub Committee. The Mayor reported that the first meeting of this sub-committee had been set for the 13<sup>th</sup> October.

**Minute Number 087/05 (h) Lynmouth Hill** – Councillor Howells had received an email from a Lynmouth resident expressing concern at the length of time it was taking to repair the crash barriers. County Councillor Davis stated that she would be reporting on this matter in her report.

**Policy & Finance Committee 21st September 2005**

**Minute number 092/05 (b) Valley of Rocks** (ii) Fencing. Councillor Hibbert reported that following a site visit before the Policy & Finance Committee meeting, no decision as to what type of fencing should be used along this part of North Walk, was taken. Members discussed the choice between post and wire fencing and chestnut paling fencing.

**RESOLVED**

Post and wire fencing be used to fence this area of North Walk as the natural vegetation would eventually cover the fence.

**Minute number 092/05 (d) Lyn Association of Commerce & Tourism,** Application for Grant for The Scene.

*Councillor J Travis declared a prejudicial interest in the Lyn Association of Commerce & Tourism as he advertises in The Scene. He left the room and did not take part in the debate or vote.*

*Councillor C Sim declared a prejudicial interest in the Lyn Association of Commerce & Tourism as she advertises in The Scene. She left the room and did not take part in the debate or vote.*

*Councillor B Howells declared a prejudicial interest in the Lyn Association of Commerce & Tourism as he advertises in The Scene. He left the room and did not take part in the debate or vote.*

*Councillor T Prosser declared a prejudicial interest in the Lyn Association of Commerce & Tourism as he contributes to The Scene. He left the room and did not take part in the debate or vote.*

Councillors had received a copy of an email prior to this meeting which was discussed by members present. It was noted that monies generated from car parking was not Town Council income but income due to North Devon District Council. It was also noted that comments made about Lyn in Bloom were not correct. It was felt that the grant money recommended by Policy & Finance Committee would be appreciated by LACT very soon to enable them to carry

on with publication. However it was also pointed out that it was not known how much income would be generated from advertising etc., and therefore no further assistance, if any, could be granted at this stage. The Scene is a very important medium to advertise Lynton & Lynmouth and therefore it was

**RECOMMENDED**

- i. Tourism Sub-Committee to report back to the next meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee with their recommendations.
- ii. A copy of the audited accounts should be available for Council members to see.
- iii. An advertisement to be placed in the Lyn Valley News, requesting that any local organisation looking for grant money, submit their application early enough for it to be included in next year's budget

**Minute number 092/05 (j) Town Clerks Report (4) JCC** – The Town Clerk had requested members to supply him with agenda items for this meeting.

Councillor Travis

**RECOMMENDED**

Rhenish Tower and pier

The Depot

Esplanade Car Park

The Pavilion

Possibility of a Hydro Electric Power Station on the East Lyn

Holman Park

**Minute number 092/05 (j) Town Clerks Report (5) Exmoor National Park Meeting.** Councillor Hibbert had been asked by Chris France of Exmoor National Park, how much money the Town Council would be putting to greening the Valley of Rocks car park.

**RECOMMENDED**

This item be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee.

**Minute number 092/05 (j) Town Clerks Report (6) Ilfracombe & Northern Rural Area Committee.** It was pointed out that our Council instigated the involvement of other Councils within this Committee and it was very important that members should attend this meeting to discuss the three major points which affected Lynton & Lynmouth.

**RECOMMENDED**

Councillors T Parker, C Lethaby, Mrs C Sim, Mrs C Bowden and Mrs S Hibbert attend on behalf of the Town Council along with Councillor Travis who would be attending in his role as North Devon District Councillor.

**101/05 REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

Councillor Peacock reported that he and Councillors Mrs E Rodway and B Hobbs had considered the request for comments by Lee Abbey on their 5 year management plan and could find nothing to add to their proposals.

**RECOMMENDED**

The Town Clerk to write to Lee Abbey thanking them for the opportunity to comment on their plan but stating there were no comments to make and requesting a sight of the final management plan.

Councillor Hibbert reported that she had attended a meeting of the Traffic Management Group but had nothing new to report. Councillor Hobbs was once again very dismayed that although he was on this committee, he had received no notification of the meeting taking place and County Councillor Andrea Davis reported that she had not been informed of the meeting as well. It was pointed out that the speed sign at Barbrook was not working properly.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i. The Town Clerk to write to Chris France as Chairman of this committee, in the strongest possible terms, regarding the omission of Councillor Hobbs from the distribution list
- ii. County Councillor Davis to look into the question of the speed sign not working at Barbrook.

**102/05 POLICE REPORT**

No representative of the Police was present and therefore no report was received.

**103/05 MOTIONS**

There were no notices of motions

**104/05 QUESTIONS**

There were no questions pursuant to standing Order Number No. 24

**105/05 ENQUIRIES AND REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Peacock enquired if District Councillor J Travis had any dealings with the North Devon Marketing Bureau.

**RECOMMENDED**

Councillor Peacock was requested to send Councillor Travis details of any matter he would like discussed with North Devon Marketing Bureau.

Councillor Bowden asked the present position with regard to the Burvil Street Development. District councillor Travis explained that plans had been submitted to Exmoor National Park but there were still a number of problems.

Councillor Travis then reported on the projected North Devon Showcase which was to be built at Aller Cross following representations from this Council and others. He reported that Lady Arron and her agent Mr P Smalley had attended at meeting with the District Council and were hoping to build a 'one stop shop'. It was envisaged that Planning Permission and Commercial Planning Permissions would be obtained by September 2006, dependent on funding and urged the Council to continue their support of this scheme.

**106/05 ENQUIRIES AND REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Hobbs expressed concern over the wall on Riverside Road and feared if nothing was done about this, the wall could be breached.

## **RESOLVED**

County Councillor Davis would follow up this matter and get the work done. The issue of ownership to be decided once the work had been done.

Councillor Hobbs thanked County Councillor Davis for getting the road resurfaced between Blackmore Gate and Parracombe and Councillor Sim asked for a few more ramp warning signs to be placed.

County Councillor Davis then reported on:

1. **North Devon Showcase – Aller Cross** – She did not dwell on this item as it had already been covered in Councillor Travis' report but reiterated the facts as presented.
2. **Home Fire Safety Checks** – Councillor Davis reported that it was the policy of Devon Fire & Rescue Service to offer all householders who requested a Home Fire Safety Visit, to receive this free of charge. If a smoke alarm is required the homeowner would be able to purchase and install it themselves but with advice from the fire officer. Occupiers unable to purchase or install the alarm may qualify for assistance if they are lone parents, households on low income, older persons, people with limited mobility and/or disabilities, persons who are deaf or hearing impaired (sensory alarms available) or persons residing in sub-standard accommodation.
3. **She briefly discussed the bus service 309/310** but had had difficulty getting a definitive answer.
4. **Lydiat Lodge Footpath.** She confirmed that a meeting had been arranged between a members of Social Services, the Town Clerk and herself for the 19<sup>th</sup> October.
5. **Barrier bottom of Lynmouth Hill.** Work on replacing this barrier to commence on the 19<sup>th</sup> October. The barrier at the top of Lynmouth Hill was also discussed as was the condition of the road and concern at Hillsford Bridge.

## **RECOMMENDED**

The Lyn Valley News publish an item concerning the Home Fire Safety Checks.

A representative of the Bus Company be invited to attend a meeting of the Council.

A member of the Social Services be invited to attend a meeting of the Council County Councillor Davis to look into the question of the crash barrier at the top of Lynmouth Hill and also the possibility of diverting coaches but not the local bus service, to Hillsford Bridge and around once the road surface and corner had been considered.

## **107/05 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST REPRESENTATIVE**

Councillor Hobbs reported that had attended a meeting of the Community Development Trust along with Councillor Travis in his capacity as District Councillor. The Pavilion had been discussed as had the lease for the library which was almost completed.

**108/05 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

In the absence of the Town Clerk, no report was put forward.

**109/05 REPORTS OF ANY OTHER COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Sim reported that there as to be a meeting of the Community Alliance which was would be attending and would report back.

**110/05 EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS**

There were none

**111/05 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business

The meeting closed at 4.50 pm

Chairman