

Lynton & Lynmouth Town Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, LYNTON ON THURSDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2004 @ 2.45pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Mrs C G Bowden (Town Mayor)
B Hobbs (Deputy Mayor)
R Gold
Mrs S Hibbert
C Lethaby
T Parker
T Prosser
Mrs E Rodway
Mrs C F Sim
J Travis

Also in Attendance: Devon County Council Councillor Knight

Officer: Town Clerk

Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillor B Windsor. The Chairman recorded the fact that Council business should take priority over other meetings.

The meeting opened with Prayers led by Councillor Mr T Prosser

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Prior to the commencement of the formal Council meeting there was an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions. There were no questions.

Councillor Mrs C Bowden proposed that in future, public question time should be an item on the agenda, with a maximum time limit of 15 minutes for questions, the meeting to start officially at 2.30pm

173/04 MINUTES

That the amended minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 28th October 2004, copies of which have been previously circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the special Council Meeting held on the 18th November, 2004 were tabled for inclusion in the December booklet.

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174/04 MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MINUTES

There were no matters arising

175/04 COMMUNICATIONS

A letter had been received from Lynton & Lynmouth Tourist Information Centre providing statistical information regarding accommodation bookings made by local Tourist Information Centres. This showed Lynton TIC as receiving the highest number of bookings with 874 bookings made, total value of bookings £113,355.

176/04 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

There was no outstanding business

With members agreement item 9 on the Agenda, *Police: to receive any observations of the Police representative*, was considered at this point

177/04 POLICE REPORT

PC Bourne reported that this month there had been 6 assaults, 3 non-specific thefts and 3 reports of criminal damage. Overall the recorded crime figures of 120 incidents was down on last year and he felt that this was probably due to more community involvement. He went on to state that the Police were aware of the problem of drugs in every community and this problem was being tackled. PC Bourne reported that PC Clatworthy would be leaving Lynton to take up a new post in Barnstaple and his replacement would be PC Martin Beck.

Councillor Mrs Sim reported concern at the rowdyism and bad behaviour at the bottom of the village which had been reported to her. PC Bourne assured her that he was aware of this problem.

Councillor Travis felt that it was a pity the press were not present at this meeting as they had misinterpreted representations from the last meeting, he thanked PC Bourne for his continued good work.

178/04 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.

Estates & Amenities Committee 10th November 2004

Minute number 162/04 (h) Frying Pan Allotments

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Councillor Gold was of the opinion that the allotment holders at the top end of the allotments should also receive a key.

RESOLVED:

The Town Clerk to check the resolution book.

Minute Number 162/04 (j) Car Parking, Lynton & Lynmouth. Councillor Hobbs reported that the sub committee had already held two meetings but this was a very complex matters. He hoped to report further at the December meeting and thanked members.

Minute Number 164/04 Any Urgent Business (4) The Pavilion. Councillor Parker expressed his disappointment that the Exmoor National Park had not replied to a letter sent to them from the LCDT regarding moving. Councillor Mrs Bowden informed Councillor Parker and others that a meeting had been arranged between Dr Nigel Stone and Tim Braund of the Exmoor National Park and Councillors C Bowden and B Hobbs together with the Town Clerk for the coming week when this matter was to be discussed.

Policy & Finance Committee 17th November 2004

Minute Number 167/04 (b) Valley of Rocks ESA

Councillor Mrs E Rodway declared a prejudicial interest, as she is the Commoner/grazier of this ground. She left the room and did not take any part in the debate or vote on same.

Councillor Gold felt very strongly that the commoners should be involved in all future discussions regarding the Valley of Rocks fencing etc., but due to her prejudicial interest Mrs Rodway was unable to do this and it was felt that this position would also apply to Mr Rodway.

RESOLVE D

The Town Clerk to contact the Monitoring Officer to confirm the position and to arrange a meeting with the ESA working party.

Minute Number 168/04 (c) tree survey. Councillor Hibbert reported that she had been quoted a price of £17 for a 6' tree but could now get 12' trees for £20 each.

RESOLVED

Councillor Hibbert be authorised to spend up to £20 for each tree.

Minutes Number 170/04 Any Other urgent business of which prior notice has been

given and which the Chairman considers to be urgent. Councillor C Bowden recorded the fact that Councillor Lethaby left the room as this agenda item was being called.

179/04 REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were none

180/04 MOTIONS

There were no notices of motions

181/04 QUESTIONS

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

182/04 ENQUIRIES AND REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

There were no enquiries of the District Councillor, however he reported as follows:

North Devon District Council had given approval for the re-roofing of the Methodist Chapel which would then be included in the Agency Agreement.

Visitor Centre, Lynmouth. *Councillor Travis, declared a personal interest in this report as he sells some books in the Pavilion.* He thanked Councillor Mike Knight for his support at the Exmoor National Park Meeting and read a minute from that meeting stating that the temporary relocation would take place by the 19 March 2005 and this would last for two years i.e. 2005/06 and 2006/07 with every intention to return thereafter. However, he felt it was important to keep pressure on the National Park to return to Lynmouth and several possible sites were discussed.

Bus Service. Councillor Travis reported on the unsatisfactory bus service to Barnstaple in that one bus arrived at the railway station 7 minutes after the train had departed and this necessitated a wait of 2 hours for the next train. He had written to First Bus Company who were contacting Devon County Council to discuss this matter.

Public Conveniences. He had attended a meeting with the Town Clerk and G. Barclay, NDDC and this item was on the agenda for the December Estates & Amenities Committee.

He had attended a meeting with Trudy Robinson, the Housing Enabler and now 3 representatives from Magna were coming to look at possible identified sites.

On the 30 November Greensweep were to hold a roadshow in our area to explain the system. This roadshow to be held on Bottom Meadow Car Park from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

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He had attended a meeting on mental health Care and felt this could be a very serious problem of which we should all be aware, should Primary Care Trust decide to close Hyde House as seemed possible.

183/04 ENQUIRIES AND REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Hobbs requested that road signs should include both villages and not just Lynton. Councillor Knight assured him that this matter was being dealt with and new signs were already being prepared.

County Councillor Knight then reported that £½ million investment by Devon County Council in Lydia Lodge included cover for respite care, day care etc., Councillor Bowden reported that Mrs Jaci Kelly had been invited to attend the December Council Meeting to discuss the proposals for Lynton Hospital etc.

Councillor Knight left the meeting

184/04 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST REPRESENTATIVE

Councillor Bowden reported the Annual General Meeting was to be held on the 13 December and invited members to attend. There was still no sign of the missing paperwork etc.

185/04 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk reported that the 'rolling road' or decision register was taking place and hopefully would be sent to members in advance of the next Estates & Amenities meeting.

186/04 REPORTS OF ANY OTHER COUNCILLORS

As covered previously

187/04 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business

188/04 EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

There were none

189/04 IN PRIVATE

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Chairman moved: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

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190/04 MINUTES

Copies of the minutes of the special meeting of the 18th November, 2004 had been previously tabled.

The meeting closed at 4.04pm

Chairman