



**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Holsworthy Town Council held on  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers, Holsworthy.**

**Present:** Cllr. Heaven, Cllr. Parker, Cllr. Johns, Cllr. Briggs, Cllr. Hutchings, Cllr. Tallon, Cllr. Stanton, Cllr. Brown, Cllr. Kenneally & Cllr. Shepherd

**In attendance:** Town Clerk (TC)  
ATTC  
Cllr. David Jones Torridge District Council  
Cllr. Barry Parsons Devon County Council  
PCSO Mark James Devon & Cornwall Police & Sgt. David Monkton

**4254. Apologises for absence.**  
Cllr. Allen & Cllr. Musker

**4255. Declarations of Interest**  
Cllr. Heaven asked Councillors to declare any relevant interests as they arose.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

**4256. Public Open Question Time** – To receive questions from the Public  
No members of the public were present.

**4257. Presentation by Bude Connect.**

A presentation was given regarding the campaign to reconnect Bude and Holsworthy to the National Rail Network, initially via Okehampton and to promote an improved rail service between Okehampton and Exeter and beyond.

Bude Connect would like to gain the support of individuals, elected representatives and businesses in their aim to achieve this. Cllr. Parsons stated that he is fully behind this campaign.

Cllr. Heaven stated that the Council would like to be part of this, however further information is required on the proposed train links, how this may affect the cycle paths and clarification on what the Council can do to assist with this project.

The Representatives from Bude Connect left the meeting 7.15pm

**4258. Presentation by Paul Crum regarding work on the Bude Rubbish Action Group (BRAG).**

Paul from the Bude Rubbish Action Group explained the groups work in Bude and the surrounding areas. The group is a community-based organisation focused on helping make the world a better, cleaner place and raising awareness about the increasing problem of litter.

The TC explained that the Council has a Street Clean Board to be possibly to be placed in Stanhope Park. However, if BRAG can forward further information to the Council it can be forwarded to the Youth Club, Scouts and Schools which could help BRAG and raise awareness.

The TC will forward correspondence from BRAG to the relevant parties.

Representatives from BRAG left the meeting 7.25pm

**4259. Police Report (Appendix A)** The Police report was forwarded to all Cllrs on 04.09.19  
Cllr. Parsons was pleased that Holsworthy has such a good relationship with the local constabulary, and that this helps with the passing on of information and crime prevention to assist in lowering the crime rate locally.

PCSO James, reiterated how important it is for the community to report any concerns they may have to the Police. Going onto Social Media and or 3<sup>rd</sup> hand information is not the best way to express concerns.

Speed Watch is a scheme that empowers and involves entire communities in the quest to drive down the speeds of vehicles. PCSO James confirmed that Holsworthy area has 18 volunteers. Cllr. Brown stated that 2 roads are of concern for residents in Holsworthy. PCSO James asked for those residents to contact the Police so any concerns can be investigated.

Cllr. Kenneally asked for an update on the damage and graffiti that was reported in the Skate Park. Sgt Monkton said that enquires are ongoing and they have received information which will be looked into.

No further questions were raised.

The Police left at 7.30pm

- 4260. County Councillor's Report (Appendix B)** Cllr. Parsons report was forwarded to all Cllrs on 04.09.19.  
Cllr. Parsons went through his report, also including the importance of the Bude Connect project to Holsworthy and how that will provide advantages to businesses and people alike.

Cllr. Parsons left the meeting at 7.40pm

- 4261. District Councillors' Report (Appendix C)** Cllr. Jones report had been forwarded to all Cllrs on the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019.  
Cllr. Jones asked for Cllrs views and comments on the proposed priorities for Torridge District Council's Strategic Plan. This will be discussed later in the Agenda.  
Cllr. Jones own view was that the area needs to focus on creating a prosperous and modern economy which allows for people to stay and work in productive jobs within their local communities. In addition to this, measures to increase the transparency and accountability of the council regarding the taking and implementation of decisions is imperative.

Cllr. Hutchings stated that he had no report to be circulated, the only point to add to Cllr. Jones report would be that, discussions have taken place again with Simpson Barton in relation to a Holiday Complex, which could be an ideal opportunity for Holsworthy.

### **The Chairman returned to Standing Orders**

**4262. Council Meeting Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting.  
**Cllr. Parker proposed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Shepherd and agreed. (Vote 9 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstentions).**

- 4263. Matters Arising** - To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Item 4243

Cllr. Shepherd asked for an update on Item 4226. The TC confirmed that the Council are just waiting on the Bank to get back to us.

Item 4246

Cllr. Kenneally asked Cllr. Shepherd if Item 823 of the Market Minutes had now been actioned. Cllr. Shepherd confirmed not yet but on Friday (14<sup>th</sup> Sept) or the week after (21<sup>st</sup>) this will be done.

- 4264. Mayor's Announcements – To receive a report from the Mayor.**

Cllr. Heaven informed the Council of all the events that she has attended:

July

23<sup>rd</sup> Bude Canal & Harbour Society

Cllr. Stanton thanked Cllr. Heaven for attending this presentation and showed the committee the glass plaque which was given to Holsworthy Town Council.

Cllr. Stanton handed to the Press some photos of the event.

27<sup>th</sup> Deputy Mayor Helen Parker Bideford Regatta

August

7<sup>th</sup> Neighbourhood Planning Meeting @ 6pm Chambers

13<sup>th</sup> Meeting with TDC Jenny Wallace, Andrew Waite, Jon Hutchings and Vanessa to discuss Redrow.

15<sup>th</sup> DCC Head of Development Planning with DCC

17<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning went very well raised over £400 for the Mayors 2 Charites

18<sup>th</sup> Macular Society 6 A Side Tournament.

21<sup>st</sup> Meeting with Mother Elizabeth to discuss options for Carols Civic Event in December.

22<sup>nd</sup> Holsworthy Stratton Show. Mayor Heaven, Cllr. Kenneally, ATTC and Maintenance Operative.

Opened the show with the 2019 President, Guess the Bull Weighing, looked at the new Poultry area and the presentations of long serving awards

24<sup>th</sup> Attended Bradworthy Carnival

Sept Things Planned

The Mayor will be attending the Great Torrington Arts and Heritage Festival, Okehampton Mayors Civic Service & Barnstaple Fair Proclamation Ceremony

Deputy Mayor to attend Northam Civic Service

It was agreed a meeting will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept at 5.30pm to discuss the Christmas Switch On Event.

#### **4265. Accounts Due for Payment and Budget Review**

The TC went through the Accounts due for Payment, confirmed that the Station Close Play Area works have been completed. Still to be completed is the planting on the sloping bank, painting of the back wall, and an official opening.

Four benches have been purchased for the Park, three of them donated by HATS and the RBL; with the fourth being purchased by the Council in Memory of the late Deputy Mayor Colin Punter. Members from HATS/RBL and the Mayor will be present on the 16<sup>th</sup> September for photos and a press release.

**Cllr. Parker proposed that the accounts for payment be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Stanton and agreed. (Vote: 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions).**

The TC went through the Budget Review.

#### **4266. To Receive, and to Note, the Minutes of the following Committee Meetings:**

**a) Finance & General Purposes** 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019

No comments raised

**b) Parks** 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019

No comments raised

**c) Planning & Highways** 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019

No comments raised

#### **4267. To hold a discussion on the proposed four-year TDC Strategic Plan (see District Cllr. Jones report previously circulated).**

Cllr. Jones stated that the priorities for TDC's Strategic Plan. The previous plan had as its four priorities:

- Developing a Prosperous and Sustainable Economy
- Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities
- Protecting and Enhancing our Quality Environment
- An Effective and Customer Focused Council

Out of 430 local government regions TDC has one of the lowest incomes per head being 6<sup>th</sup> from the bottom. Of the 326 areas examined for areas of deprivation Holsworthy is the 67<sup>th</sup> most deprived. It was agreed that there was a need for more easily accessible transport links which must be affordable for everyone.

Cllr. Johns expressed that employment land is imperative within Holsworthy and this should take precedence over housing land.

**4268. To consider holding 'meet the Councillor' drop in sessions.**

Cllr. Kenneally wished to suggest that 'Meet the Councillor "drop in" sessions be held to enable residents that are not on social media to approach the Council with any concerns that they have.

After discussion it was agreed that "Meet the Councillor" sessions would take place the first Wednesday of the month. With 2 time slots; one during the day and one in the evening. The first session to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October from Midday – 1pm and from 5pm -6pm.

An email will be sent nearer the time requesting volunteers from Councillors.

The ATTC will publicise the sessions on Social Media, as well placing a poster in the Notice Board to try and reach as many people as possible.

**4269. To approve the final sign off and payment of the Sports Pavilion Project.**

The TC confirmed that the Council had received the final completion statement and sign off for the Sports Pavilion at Stanhope Park; hence the payment is due of the final retention sum. The Council will claim back the VAT paid.

**Cllr. Hutchings proposed that the Final Sign Off and Payment of the Sports Pitch be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Brown and agreed. (Vote: 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions).**

**4270. To give an update on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and to discuss the next steps to be taken.**

An update was given on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group that was held with TDC. After discussion, it was agreed that the Council would not progress with a Neighbourhood Plan as the boundaries of the Town means that Holsworthy have very little land that is not already allocated in the Local Plan to build upon or extend.

The TC explained that as previously informed Holsworthy Football Club are looking for another pitch in the Holsworthy Hamlets Parish area. As this affect both Holsworthy Town and the Hamlets it was suggested that the Football Club arrange a meeting with representatives of both Councils to discuss their proposals.

**4271. To receive External Committee Updates (relevant reports have already been circulated to Cllrs.)**

Cllr. Johns stated that as a governor of the local school he wanted to relay to members that that the GCSE exam results have improved greatly for Holsworthy.

**4272. To Receive Correspondence**

The Council have received numerous complaints about overgrown grass verges, paving slabs etc. DCC have been informed of this and residents have been asked to make contact with DCC directly, however it states on the DCC website that they should contact the local council regarding the Road Warden scheme. The scheme was discussed before by the Council but as it came with very little money it was decided not to go ahead with it.

It was agreed some time ago that BT be contacted to see if the telephone kiosk can be purchased by the Council. BT have replied stated that the Kiosk can be brought but that they would remove the telephone. The TC confirmed that this is only remaining public payphone telephone kiosk in Holsworthy, but the use is very limited hence BT willing to sell it. After discussion it was agreed that this matter be further discussed at the next to Planning & Highways Committee.

**4273. Town Clerk's report**

The first VE Day Meeting would be on the 25<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm, any Councillor willing to volunteer should attend.

DCC have contacted the Council with the details of the type of signage that would be agreeable at the entrances to the Town. Cllr Heaven asked whether DCC would be paying for all of the costs for these signs. The cost has yet to be confirmed as yet but DCC Cllr. Parsons has indicated that he would be willing to contribute towards the costs.

It was agreed that the matter be looked into by the Planning and Highways Committee.

**4274. Exchange of information**

No information provided.

8.45pm Cllr. Stanton, Cllr. David Jones and Zoe Uglow left the meeting.

**Cllr. Shepherd proposed that in view of the special or confidential nature of the following business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press temporarily be excluded and they will be instructed to withdraw. This was seconded by Cllr. Parker and agreed (Vote 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Absentations).**

**4275. To give an update on the current situation regarding the new Sports Pitch and accompanying land.**

An update was given on the current situation regarding the transfer of the new pitch and accompanying land.

**4276. To give an update on the planning application for the development of the allocated housing sites at North Road.**

Updates were provided on the current planning application for the development of the allocated housing sites at North Road.

**4277. To give an update on the Viaduct project and discuss the next steps to be taken.**

Following a discussion on the current position of the Viaduct project a working group is to be formed with the following Cllrs:

Cllr. Heaven, Cllr. Hutchings & Cllr. Briggs.

The TC will update the working group as soon as further information has been received.

**4278. Cllr. Heaven formally closed the meeting at 9.10pm**

Signature.....

Date.....