



**Minutes of the Annual Town's Meeting held on Wednesday.
28th April 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom**

Present: Cllr. Parker, Cllr. Briggs, Cllr. Stanton, Cllr. Hutchings, Cllr. Musker & Cllr. Allen
In attendance: Town Clerk (TC)
Assistant to the Town Clerk (ATTC)
Members of public: Ms. Natasha Hewitt, Ms. Jaqi Edwards & Mr. Nigel Kenneally.

3203. Welcome by the Mayor

Cllr. Parker welcomed and thanked the Public and Cllrs for attending. All members introduced themselves to the public.

3204. Minutes of the 2019 Town's Meeting, having been read out, are recommended for approval.

Cllr. Hutchings proposed that the Minutes of the Town's meeting held on 17th April 2019 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Musker and agreed (Vote 5 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstentions)

3205. Annual Report presented by the Mayor, Cllr. Parker . (Appendix A)

Cllr. Parker welcomed everyone. The council was unable to hold a meeting last spring due to the first lockdown.

The pandemic has forced many changes and sacrifices upon us as individuals, as a town community and as a nation. The business of council has continued thanks to the dedication of the officers and employees of the council. The ability for councillors to continue with serving the town has been achieved thanks to Zoom where we have been able to continue to conduct meetings and discussions. Members of the public have been able to join the meetings through requesting the link through the Town Clerk.

7.03pm Ms Jaqi Edwards attended.

3206. To receive any questions and consider any matters raised by Registered Electors within the Town of Holsworthy.

Natasha Hewitt asked whether a bus shelter could be erected in the "Well Car Park", this is for the children of the Primary School and is needed because, at present they have 12 children who use the school buses. Two of the current children require SEND support and attract a pupil premium and other and further three children are very young and a safe dry place for them to wait is important for the children.
The TC will contact TDC to get their views.

Also, Natasha Hewitt asked, who owns the area of land in Stanhope Park alongside the back of the Primary School as it is covered in brambles and chopped wood? It is thought that the school owns some of the land. The TC confirmed that the land is not owned by the Town Council and thought that the Primary School or DCC owns the land.

Jaqi Edwards expressed her concern at cars parking alongside the edge of the Old Market Place estate and next to the bus stop. She explained the difficult of driving and viewing around the bend on this part of the road when cars are parked in the area.

Cllr. Hutchings explained that yellow parking restriction lines have been in place further up the road for some time and it was raised at the time with DCC that the lines would only push parked cars further down the hill. Although this is a DCC matter the TC will inform DCC

of the concerns and Ms Edwards was advised to do so as well.

Nigel Kenneally requested an update on the Skateboard Park project. The TC confirmed that this has been on hold due to the current pandemic. However, this may be something which the Council wish to take forward once restrictions are lifted.

3207. Ideas brought forward from the public for Town Projects.

No ideas or projects were brought forward.

3208. Close.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.20pm

Signed.....Dated.....

APPENDIX A

Welcome to Holsworthy Town Council Annual Towns meeting.

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During this long twelve months of lockdown restrictions, the people of Holsworthy has proved what a wonderful supportive community we live in. The Covid Mutual Aid group was created by volunteers when members of the community joined together to support vulnerable people who were shielded for such a long time in collecting prescriptions, doing shopping and assisting people access important medical appointments. The group have also supported families whose financial security has been threatened by furlough and job loss by providing hampers at Christmas and Easter. They have also provided some light-hearted relief and joy for the children in the form of arranging Santa and the easter bunny visits around town.

Volunteers many who belong to the town's organisations have assisted the vaccination effort at the medical centre by providing marshals to keep things running smoothly thus allowing our health professionals to be able to quickly and safely deliver the vaccine into our arms.

Holsworthy Town Council wishes to acknowledge and thank all who have come together to support the vulnerable in our community during this time.

Prior to the first lockdown in the Spring of 2020 civic duties were undertaken as normal by the then mayor Jo heaven she represented the town on many occasions within Torridge and North Devon.

A Major project that was completed under her leadership was the carving of the tree in Stanhope Park that provides a memorial to the town of Holsworthy depicting figures from life during the second world war. It had been hoped to have it blessed and dedicated by a church minister to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE and VJ day. Unfortunately, the pandemic prevented the dedication which we hope can occur in the near future.

In December 2020 Jo resigned as a councillor and I was elected by my fellow councillors as chair/mayor. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jo on behalf of the council for her service over five years as a Councillor and also for the eighteen months as our Mayor.

There are a number of major projects that the council are involved with and hope to progress this year.

1 The Regeneration of the town centre through the replacement and /or refurbishment of the street furniture, by this I mean the streetlights which we hope in the future will accommodate Christmas lighting and flower baskets. The bollards around the pump and at the bottom of fore street, rubbish bins, and the provision of a new seat around the great tree. We hope to see this work completed by the end of the autumn.

2 The improvement for disability access in Baddock Gardens, by improving and widening the path around the garden, and enabling access to the sunroom for all by installing a ramp so wheelchair users and those that use wheeled walkers will be able to access safely and enjoy the gardens.

3 We remain in communication with our neighbours in Cornwall to push forward a safe cycle link between Holsworthy and Bude. The council has contributed toward a feasibility study to examine ways this major project can be achieved.

As I bring this report to a close, I would like on behalf of the councillors and myself to thank our officers, Vanessa our Town Clerk and Kerry the Assistant to the Town clerk for the hard work and sound advice they give. Also, thanks go to George our handyman who is always able to turn his hand to any job. Thank you also goes to our 2-market assistants that support George in preparing and clearing away the market stalls. I would also like to thank you all for attending this Towns meeting.