

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL  
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting  
Monday 18th March 2024 at 7.00 pm  
The Guildhall, Butchers Row, Barnstaple

Present: Councillors:

Cllrs J Phillips, M Lovering, L York, A Shah, J Coates, J Orange, I Williams, L Dawson, D Clayton, J Challis, C Brown, C Horrell and M Pullen

Also in attendance:

R Ward, Town Clerk

M Etheridge, Group Scout Leader, 1<sup>st</sup> North Devon Scouts (Barnstaple) and two members of the troop.

Members of the Public: 0

Apologies for absence:

Cllrs V Monk, V Elkins, J Hunt, P Leaver, G Marchewka, M Fowler, G Kennedy, K Stevenson and K York

**139 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

Apologies and reasons for absence were received and approved. (NC)

**140 To receive any dispensations and disclosable pecuniary or other interests.**

Cllrs J Phillips, M Lovering, L York, J Orange & D Clayton as members of North Devon District Council, have a dispensation under SO66 to discuss and vote on any item on the agenda unless the item refers to a financial or legal agreement or dispute between the two authorities.

**141 Minutes of the last meeting**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024, are approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairperson.

**142 Presentation by 1st North Devon Scouts**

Three members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstaple Scouts attended to thank the Town Council for the support received to help them, attend the 25th World Scout Jamboree in August 2023, in SaeManGeum, Jeollabuk-do, Republic of Korea.

The event itself had a few challenges due to some extreme weather but the group from barnstaple still had a most enjoyable time and well looked after by their hosts.

**143 Mayor's Announcements.**

Cllr L York reported attendance at:

- The Showmen's Guild Luncheon in Swindon - 7<sup>th</sup> February.

- Peter Christie Funeral in Bideford.
- International Women's Day event 8 & 9<sup>th</sup> March.
- Repair Café – 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- Bideford Manor Court event - 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- The Woodyard Project Launch – 17<sup>th</sup> February.

Forthcoming events:

- Newport Litter Pick – 24<sup>th</sup> March
- The Mayor's Charity Ball – 20<sup>th</sup> April
- Annual Town Meeting - 29<sup>th</sup> April

Also, please can all committee chairs get their reports in for the Annual Report, by 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**144 To receive a report (if any) from Devon & Cornwall Constabulary**

Inspector A Wills gave his apologies for this meeting and have provided his report that was circulated to councillors.

**145 To receive reports (if any) from Devon County and North Devon District Councillors.**

**Devon County Council**

Councillor C Leaver

Flood risk management action plan

Bishops Tawton roundabout, underpass no longer going ahead, street level crossing proposed.

Link Centres, Cabinet has made the decision to close. This has been called in due to the lack of detail of alternative provision.

DCC have approved the Council budget for 2024-25.

**North Devon Council**

Councillor J Orange

NDC have approved the budget for 2024-25 with no cuts to services.

**146 To receive and adopt the minutes of committees and the resolutions contained therein as shown below, and to consider any questions on reports contained in the minutes of committees, asked by members of the Council in accordance Standing Order 28:**

The minutes and resolutions of the following committee meetings were received and considered and it was resolved to adopt them en-bloc (NC)

Committee	Date
Planning & Transportation	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024

**147 To appoint Councillor representatives to statutory or standing committees of the Town Council.**

RESOLVED: to approve Cllr A Shah request to stand down from the Planning & Transportation Committee for a period of time due to health reasons (NC).

**148 To consider reports (if any) from Town Council representatives to outside bodies and determine any actions arising.**

None received

**149 Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal**

RESOLVED: To note that the consultation is currently open and closes on 24 March 2024 (NC).

**150 To Approve the Town Council Community Grants**

RESOLVED: To approve the following grants (NC).

The **Annual Grants** totalling £23,150 out of the budget of £30,000 as detailed in the table of Recommended Grants.

The **Strategic Grants** totalling £42,000 as detailed in the table of Recommended Grants.

The remaining fund of £6,850 be allocated for small grants.

<b>Annual Grants</b>	<b>requested</b>	<b>approved</b>
Barnstaple Bridge Trust Charity	£5,000	£3,000
North Devon LAS (Life after Stroke)	£5,000	£1,000
1st North Devon (Barnstaple) Scout Group	£2,100	£1,500
North Devon Voluntary Services (NDVS)	£5,000	£2,000
Barnstaple in Bloom	£5,000	£5,000
Citizen Advice Torridge Mid North a West Devon	£4,950	£4,950
Waymakers CIC	£5,000	£1,700
Action For Children	£5,000	£4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£37,050</b>	<b>£23,150</b>
<b>Strategic Community Fund</b>	<b>requested</b>	<b>approved</b>
Clarity Counselling (Three years funding total: £24,000) 24-25 to 26-27 £8,000 each year	£24,000	£24,000
The Voice (Three years funding total: £18,000) 24-25 £8,000, 25-26 £6,000 & 26-27 £4,000	£18,000	£18,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£42,000</b>	<b>£42,000</b>

**151 To receive and consider a motion from Cllr M Pullen - Neighbourhood Plan First Steps**

RESOLVED: To approve the proposal that the neighbourhood plan commences forthwith under the guidance of a small working party of Planning & Transportation Committee councillors, Town Council officers, supported by Planning Partnership Ltd (and anyone else pertinent to the plan).

The working party would have limited delegated authority to develop the plan but report into the Planning & Transportation Committee and seek approval from them for significant decision making (NC).

**152 Town Council Calendar 2024-25**

RESOLVED: To approve the Town Council calendar of meetings and significant events for the municipal year 2024-25 (NC).

**153 Annual Town Meeting**

To note the date of the Annual Town Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 (NC).

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Chairperson.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....