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|  | **GREAT TORRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL** | M A Tighe DMS MBA Town ClerkCastle HillGreat TorringtonDevon EX38 8AATel: 01805 626135 admin@great-torringtontowncouncil.gov.uk |

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

## COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICES, GREAT TORRINGTON

**On**

**WEDNESDAY 09 January 2019 at 7PM**

##### MINUTES

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllrs Miss K Allin (Chair), C Bright, Mrs D Davey, J Insull,

 D Maisey, Miss S Mills, D Smith and N Stark

## MINUTES

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| 31. | **Apologies None** |
| 32. | **10-minute period for public contributions None** |
|  | **The Chairman asked to move direct to item 7:** Members unanimously agreed |
| 33. | **Jubilee Wood and Stoneman’s Lane:** The Town Clerk read out an e-mail from the Chairman of the Conservators which confirmed that the conservators were happy in principle for steps linking jubilee wood to Stoneman’s Lane to be erected. |
| 34. | **Correspondence and matters brought forward by the Chairman as a matter of urgency** 1. **Red Cross**: The Town Clerk read an e-mail received on 09.01.19 from the Manager of the Red Cross Shop in relation to a wedding fayre to be held on the 22nd and 23rd March 2019. The manager has applied to Devon County Council for parking suspension either side of the Town Hall and as part of this process has been requested to contact the Town Council as a consultee and to confirm the Council’s support. Cllrs discussed this matter; Cllr Miss Mills proposed to support this event, Cllr Bright seconded and Members agreed unanimously that they were supportive of the event and request for a parking suspension. This is on the proviso that all required permissions are agreed by the relevant statutory body, notices and information is made available informing the general public prior to the event and if possible, disabled parking bays are avoided from the suspension.
2. **Mobile Scooters:** The Town Clerk had also received information on 09.01.19 about the difficulties in charging mobile scooters in the town centre. It was agreed to put this item onto the agenda of the next Environment Meeting.
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| 35. | **Declaration of interest** None |
| 36. | **To agree the agenda between Part ‘A’ and Part ‘B’ (Confidential and Restricted Information).** Agreed |
|  | **PART “A”** |
| 37. | **Dog Fouling**The Town Council had received a complaint about the amount of dog excrement there is along Mill Street. This matter was discussed in general terms and the following actions were put forward:* Cllr Miss K Allin will continue with the Facebook Campaign.
* The Town Clerk will establish the location of all Dog Bins across Great Torrington (From Torridge District Council, Commons Conservators and any other body known).
* The Town Clerk would ask that this issue be added to the next Advisory Committee agenda.
* Continual publication of these matters via Facebook/website and Crier
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| 38. | **Weed Killing/Rubbish**There had also been a complaint in respect of weeds along Mill Street. Devon County Council has confirmed that it no longer undertakes weed control activity, but had no objection to volunteers carrying out work to remove weeds through the Road Warden Scheme. Members discussed this matter and concluded this was an ongoing issue re the cleanliness of the town and would be picked up as part of the “Town Clean Up” initiative. |
| 39. | **Car Parks****Barley Grove** – The Town Clerk updated Members re the current position. District Councillors are working with Torridge District Council with a view to securing the same non-payment conditions from 12 Noon Saturday to 8.00am Monday as Sydney House Car Park. This is still a work in progress but furthers updates will be reported to committee. |
| 40. | **Deepmoor Tip**Cllr Stark reported on issues relating to Deepmoor recycling and landfill. Cllr Stark will initiate a site visit after the next Deepmoor meeting in March, to which Cllrs will be invited to attend. It was agreed to put “Plastic Pollution” on the agenda for the next Environment Committee meeting. |
| 41. | **Borehole Donnacroft**The Environment Agency have requested to drill an observation borehole on the land of the entrance to Donnacroft Playing Fields to continuously measure ground water levels. Above ground will be a standpipe secured in a cabinet. Cllr Miss Mills proposed “no objection”, Cllr Mrs Davey seconded and Members voted unanimously in favour. Members also considered the offer of finance and Cllr Miss Mills proposed to take a “lump sum” payment of £1k opposed to 20-year arrangement of £50 per annum. Cllr Mrs Davey seconded and Members voted unanimously in favour. The finance element will be passed to the Policy Committee to also consider.  |
| 42. | **Bus Shelter – School Lane**This shelter was damaged beyond repair in the latter part of 2018 due to a car crashing into it. Members considered the value of replacing this shelter, when it was not an official “stop”, but a drop off point with a post already attached to the wall. Cllr D Maisey prosed NOT to replace the bus shelter, Cllr Insull seconded the proposal, Members voted unanimously in favour of this proposal.Councillors asked the Town Clerk to establish if any costs can be recovered from the insurance company as result of a loss of an asset. |
| 43. | **Donnacroft Update: Support for Lawn Mower Bid** Torridgeside Football Club has approached the Town Council and asked them to give their support to a bid made by the club to the Football Association for a new lawn mower. Cllr Miss Allin proposed to support the club, Cllr Insull seconded the proposal and Members voted unanimously in favour.The Town Clerk advised that the issue re gas costs remains ongoing. Cllr Smith asked if the Town Council could look into installing a smart meter. |
| 44. | **Devon Highway’s Funding:** The Town Clerk advised Members of an opportunity to submit a bid to the Highways Enhancement Fund for a new lawn mower. The bid will be submitted by the end of February 2019. |
| 45. | **PART ‘B’ -** (Confidential and Restricted Information) – Nil Business  |
| 46. | **Date of next meeting** 13th March 2019The meeting finished at 8.00pm |
| Signed: ………………………………  | Date: …………………………… |