

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD MONDAY 23 APRIL 2018 AT THE
GUILDHALL, BARNSTAPLE AT 7.00PM**

Present: Cllr Mrs J Hunt (Town Mayor) in the Chair
61 members of the public and Will Austin, Barnstaple Town Clerk

TM01 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 APRIL 2017

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 24 April 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

TM02 ANNUAL REPORT OF BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL AND MATTERS ARISING

The Mayor presented the Annual Report, which included reports of the Environment, Finance & General Purposes, Heritage Culture & Community, Planning & Transportation, Buildings Review, Rock Park Trust Management, and Staff Committees. There followed a short video summarising the Mayoral year 2017-2018.

No matters were raised by members of the public.

TM03 REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from Town Council representatives to outside bodies.

TM04 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

No reports from representatives of local groups and organisations were received.

TM05 RAF COMMUNITY PLATE

The awarding of the RAF Community Plate was deferred. The Mayor advised that this would be presented at the Annual Town Council meeting on 21st May 2018.

TM06 PRESENTATION OF GRANT AWARDS

The Mayor presented cheques to local groups and organisations who had been given grant awards from Barnstaple Town Council. Recipient organisations offered a brief summary of their work and the benefits that would accrue from the grant award.

TM07 QUESTIONS RAISED BY LOCAL ELECTORS

An elector expressed concern at the speed of traffic in the Bear Street/Alexandra Road area. She considered that there should be traffic calming in place to overcome the problem.

Another elector said she was worried about drivers 'jumping' traffic lights at the Barnhenge roundabout. She asked whether the various sets of lights were appropriately synchronised.

Mr I Roome, a Barnstaple Town Councillor and registered elector in Barnstaple parish, suggested that these matters be considered by the Town Council's Planning & Transportation Committee, with a view to making representations to the highway authority. The Town Clerk advised that he would arrange this.

Mr I Roome reported that the issue of rough sleepers in Barnstaple had been considered at a recent meeting, where it had been confirmed that all rough sleepers had been made an offer of accommodation in some form. He advised that there could be many reasons for the refusal of such an offer, but that it remained an issue for the town. He considered it important that the residents of Barnstaple should be aware of this. The Mayor advised that any financial support offered by the public should be made to homelessness charities rather than given direct to rough sleepers. The Town Clerk reported that this was also the advice given by the Community Safety Partnership for North Devon.


Mrs C Leaver, a North Devon District Councillor and registered elector in Barnstaple parish, reported that parking issues in Barnstaple were currently being considered by the District Council as part of the development of a parking strategy. She advised that this covered public car parks only, as on-street parking was controlled by Devon County Council. She said she had been assured, however, that the two Councils did communicate on parking issues. She reported that the strategy was open for public consultation via the District Council's website.

There being no further representations, the Mayor said that this concluded the business of the meeting and thanked all present for their attendance.

Meeting closed at 7.56pm

Chairman.

Signed:


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Dated:

29/04/19
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