



# Brixham Town Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Brixham Town Council

held in the Function Room, Brixham Town Hall; 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs P Addison, R Clarke, B Harland, R Gardner, L Harrison, M Hodge, M Morey, M James, J Stock and J Stockman.

**Attending:** Tracy Hallett, Town Clerk; 9 members of the public.

A member of the public spoke on their views of the Town Council and then left the meeting.

**1600. Apologies for absence through the Clerk.**

None.

**1601. Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr James advised on a non pecuniary interest on agenda item 9.  
The Declarations of interest register was available to sign.

**1602. Request for Dispensation.**

None.

**1603. To confirm and sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

The minutes of 27.11.14 and were **resolved** and signed as correct, following a typing correction in 1563.

**1604. To consider the recommendation from the Evaluation Committee.**

It was **resolved** to take this item at the end of meeting and into Part B and exclude members of the public and press.

*Members of the public and press left the meeting.*

Cllr Clarke produced information for members to discuss which contained information she had requested from South West Councils and details of the Benchmarking results.

A proposal was made to recommend the Town Clerk payscale as SCP42. A vote took place; For 3; Against 6. The motion was lost.

A proposal was made to recommend the Town Clerk payscale as SCP40 backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> January. A vote took place; For 6; Against 3. The motion was carried.

A discussion took place regarding the payscale for Assistant to the Town Clerk and a proposal for SCP20 backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> January was made. A vote took place. For 8; Against 1. The motion was carried.

The Town Clerk was advised that Officers were entitled to appeal the decision and that appeal will be carried out by South West Councils. Once the Town Clerk payscale was in place a job evaluation could be carried out on all three positions.

A proposal was made that in the event that a job evaluation was requested and that the payscales were lower the Town Council would not clawback any backdated differences from the Town Clerk and Assistant to the Town Clerk. A vote took place. For 5; Against 2; Abstained 2. The motion was carried.

Members of the public and press invited to return to the meeting.

**1605. To consider the recommendation from the F&GP Committee.**

It was **resolved** to:

A. Adopt the 2015/16 precept of £223,028.00 as follows:

	<b>Category</b>	<b>Recommended budget 2015/16</b>	
	Allotments	£1,000.00	<i>No change</i>
	Audit	£2,000.00	<i>Increase of £600</i>
	Bank Charges	£0.00	<i>No change</i>
	Civic Award	£50.00	<i>Decrease of £10</i>
	Civic Service	£400.00	<i>No change</i>
	Courses	£500.00	<i>No change</i>
	Election Expenses	£20,000.00	<i>Increase of £8,000</i>
	Grants	£20,000.00	<i>No change</i>
	Insurance	£4,500.00	<i>Increase of £1,500</i>
	Maintenance	£20,000.00	<i>No change</i>
	Meetings	£1,800.00	<i>Increase of £300</i>
	Member's Allow'ce	£800.00	<i>No change</i>
	Newsletter	£6,800.00	<i>Increase of £3,800</i>
	Notice Boards	£100.00	<i>No change</i>
	Post & Carriage	£30.00	<i>Increase of £10</i>
	Projects	£2,500.00	<i>No change</i>
	Public Notices	£250.00	<i>No change</i>
	Rates	£6,000.00	<i>Decrease of £6,000</i>
	Seasonal displays	£32,000.00	<i>Increase of £10,000</i>
	Salaries	£95,000.00	<i>No change</i>
	Stationery	£2,500.00	<i>Increase of £500</i>
	Subscriptions	£2,000.00	<i>Increase of £500</i>
	Travel	£400.00	<i>No change</i>
	Town Hall (general)	£39,550.00	<i>Decrease of £28,250</i>
	Utilities	£31,000.00	<i>Increase of £11,000</i>
	Youth Council	£2,000.00	<i>No change</i>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>£291,180.00</b>	
Less	Town Hall income	£68,152.00	
	<b>Suggested precept</b>	<b>£223,028.00</b>	

B. It was further **resolved** to a £10,000 contingency fund subject to the following motion:

The Town Council recommends that Shoalstone Pool Limited seriously consider charging to use the pool, unless other revenue streams can be found.

For 8; Against 1; Abstained 1. The motion was carried.

C. It was **resolved** to adopt the Risk Management Policy.

D. It was **resolved** to adopt the Internal Financial Procedures Policy.

E. It was **resolved** to set up a Policy Working Group reportable to the Evaluation Committee. Members were **agreed** as the Town Clerk and Cllrs R Clarke, J Stock and L Harrison.

**1606. To hear and discuss any report from BrixhamFuture, the Town Council Regeneration Group.**

Cllr Harland reported that there had been two meetings since the last Full Council meeting with attendance from Torbay Council Officers and the Mayor. There are possibilities of marine engineering at Oxen Cove, negotiations are continuing with possible development in the central car park. BFG views are different to BTC and should the community asset transfer for 2 & 2A Fore Street not proceed, they would like to see a public realm. The group have viewed the proposed theatre refurbishment, discussed solar bins and are preparing proposals for the Town Council on the expenditure of £300 allocated for a town centre spring clean.

*Cllr J Stockman left the meeting.*

Reporting of BrixhamFuture meetings: A proposal was made to invite the Chairperson of BrixhamFuture to report to the Town Council at future meetings. A vote took place. For 7; Abstained 2. The motion was carried.

Accountability to the Council: It was **resolved** that Brixham Town Council would circulate minutes and agendas to all members, which will need to be done in advance of the meeting to ensure that members were aware of any major issues being discussed at BrixhamFuture meetings.

Possibility of Company Formation: It was agreed that BrixhamFuture should discuss this further and report back to Brixham Town Council.

**1607. To hear and discuss any report from Shoalstone Pool Limited.**

Cllr Gardner gave a report on the opening of Shoalstone Pool and the good financial performance. The planning application for the new cafe has been submitted and Brixham Swimming Club Committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the agreement put forward. Deadlines are tight for making this development achievable for 2015 and it will depend on the level of interest for potential lessees. Shoalstone Pool Limited is inviting interested parties to send their expression of interest for entering into a leasehold agreement to develop and run the site to the Town Clerk. There are few potential revenue streams in place and the biggest one will be from the cafe. However, a large cost implication is the running of the toilets.

**1608. To consider the recommendation from the Planning Committee.**

Brixham Town Council considers that the environmental reasons for Torbay Council purchasing and demolishing Threshers has still not been implemented and it was **resolved** to recommend to Torbay Council that they proceed with the road widening at 2 & 2A Fore Street as soon as possible.

**1609. To discuss DALC document entitled "New consultation: Parish Polls".**

It was **resolved** to agree to all questions within the consultation with an additional comment:

Brixham Town Council notes that, as a Parish Poll is not technically a Town Council undertaking, insurance of Town Council activities does not cover the cost of any actions that might arise from such a Poll, eg. costs of a judicial review, and indeed, that the Chair of a Parish Poll Meeting is potentially personally liable. We believe strongly that this question should be addressed and the government should issue guidelines concerning the legal position of the Chairman in such circumstances

(and, indeed, any other councillors) and should give guidance as to how and where to obtain the appropriate insurance and who would be the named insured(s).

**1610. To hear the Chairperson's report.**

Cllr Addison advised:

29.11.14 – Assisted with the Lanterns, Lights & 'luminations parade and road closure.

09.12.14 – Attended the Community Partnership meeting with guest speaker Tony Hogg, The Police and Crime Commissioner.

12.12.14 – Attended the RNLI Carol Service at All Saints Church.

**1611. To hear reports from the Committee Chairpersons.**

Community Services – Cllr Hodge thanked everyone that helped put Scala decorations up. There were issues with someone turning the 3D boats off this year and the general census from the public is that they would like Father Christmas back in the harbour. The market will be a one day event for 2015 and the road closure will be larger due to the volume of visitors.

Planning – Cllr Harland advised that planning applications had been considered and recommendations made to Torbay Council. Parking restrictions were also being discussed in the Town to help residents.

F&GP – Cllr Stock advised that they were looking at various policies and updating them. The budget had also been agreed.

Evaluation – Cllr Clarke advised that they had been unsuccessful in the recruitment process for an Administration Assistant and were now proceeding with the recruitment of an apprentice.

**1612. To hear any Torbay Ward Councillors report.**

Cllr James advised that he had attended budget meetings and that the antibullying strategy was due to be discussed on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

Cllr Morey advised that the S106 had not been signed for Wall Park yet. He had attended the Priority and Resources meeting. Discussions were still ongoing with the future of Connections with Torbay members keen for the service to remain open in Torquay and Brixham.

**1613. To hear reports of meetings of any outside bodies including those of which the member is the Council nominated representative.**

Cllr Clarke reported that the Fairtrade working group were opening their own bank account and were in the process of applying for Fairtrade status again, which is a three year term.

Cllr Clarke reported that Torbay Council had implemented some points that had been raised at the Community Flood drop in event and that she had been advised that the Community Flood Plan should be brought in house.

Cllr Harrison reported that the extension at the Admiral Swimming Centre had been finished and that an official opening will be on 7<sup>th</sup> February. A fully digitalised system of records was being implemented and due to go live at Easter. Approval was being sought for additional car parking spaces.

Cllr Harrison reported that the foodbank was in good health and they were now receiving a large donation of eggs. Cllr Harrison gave her thanks to the Rotary who came in just before Christmas to box up hampers. The Foodbank is open every day 2pm-4pm, but this may be reduced to Monday, Wednesday and Friday from February.

Cllr James reported that YES had got through to the second stage of the Community Asset Transfer for 2&2A Fore Street. The accommodation in Bolton Street was close to completion. He had also had a recent successful meeting for the Youth Council at Brixham Hospital.

Cllr Stock reported that the next Community Partnership meeting is on 7<sup>th</sup> February and the subject is about Brixham Town Council. The steering group are working towards hosting a Hustings Event.

Cllr Morey reported on behalf of Cllr Stockman that the next Neighbourhood Forum meeting is on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January.

**1614. To present items for the next agenda.**

None

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

**Chairperson .....**

**Date.....**