



Minutes of the Annual Town's Meeting held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.00pm  
Council Chambers, Market Hall, Holsworthy

**Present:** Cllrs. Hutchings, Cllr. Punter, Cllr. Briggs, Cllr. Allen, Cllr. Heaven, Cllr. Musker, Cllr. Sanders, Cllr. Stanton, Cllr. Parkinson, Cllr. Shepherd & Cllr. Watson

**In attendance:** Town Clerk (TC)  
Assistant to the Town Clerk (ATTC)  
Members of the Public: Ms Ann Luxton

**3191 Welcome by the Mayor**

Cllr. Hutchings welcomed and thanked the Public and Cllrs for attending.

**3192 Minutes of the 2017 Town's Meeting, having been read out, are recommended for approval**  
Cllr. Sanders proposed that the Minutes of the Town's meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Punter and agreed (Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 5 Abstentions)

**3193 Annual Report presented by the Mayor, Cllr. Jon Hutchings.**  
Mayors Report Annual Town's Meeting Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Welcome to the Annual Towns meeting here in Holsworthy.

I could start by talking about cuts to services, but I would rather be positive!

Yes, Torridge District Council would like to hand everything they have in Holsworthy down to us but as, yet this isn't the case

As Mayor I attend regular meetings along with Vanessa the town clerk, other Mayors and town clerks within the district. It's amazing how positive we are about Holsworthy compared to other towns. Most other towns in Torridge rely on TDC, however here in Holsworthy we pretty much stand on our own two feet.

I am not being detrimental to other towns it's just a fact that Torridge do not provide as much for us in Holsworthy as they do in other towns.

We did have an increase in our precept for 2018/2019 but this due to the fact that we do run our own ship, and even if I do say so myself I think we do very well.

Personally, I think that this is a better position to be in where we do not rely on TDC.

I want to thank our staff Vanessa, Kerry and George who do a sterling job not only in the office but around the town, I also would like to thank one new addition Steve Pitts who helps with our Market on Wednesday mornings and afternoons. I also would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support over the last 12 months.

The Council have been involved with many projects in the town over the last year, from supporting of the twinning last May to the Towns Switch on event in December.

The calendar for me as Mayor just seems to keep growing and growing. I will probably be best remembered for 2017/2018 as the Mayor who opened the most shops in a year! But I think that is something to be very proud of and just shows how people are willing to invest in our town, not just around the square but also at the industrial estate as well.

As you are all aware, we have completed the Councils largest ever building project. The pavilion now in the hands of HASP was officially opened on 15<sup>th</sup> April. I wish HASP all the best in the running of this new facility.

Just when I thought things couldn't get any better for Holsworthy a shocking announcement came last week from the Devon CCG regarding our Hospital inpatient beds. The beds will "Reopen"! This is largely due to meetings and pressure being put on the CCG from several of us locally. I would like to thank Cllr. Barry Parsons for his continued support. Also, Geoff Cusick who represented the Town Council on the Stakeholder group.

Our next step is to make sure that the NDHT actually fulfil the wishes of the CCG and get those beds operational!

I would like to thank you all for attending tonight and hope you will support the Council again next year as you have in the last 12mionths. With all your support we can make sure Holsworthy doesn't just stay on the map, but also be one of the best places to live and work in the South West. Holsworthy equals positive!

**3194 To receive any questions and consider any matters raised by Registered Electors within the Town of Holsworthy.**

Ms Ann Luxton raised a question to Holsworthy Town Council, on the length of time that the contractor work is taken to be completed from the Council for the Magpie RBL club. The TC and Mayor responded with the confirmation that the Council are waiting for a response from them, the Council have fulfilled their part and are waiting on Solicitors and the Magpie RBL club to respond.

**3195 Ideas brought forward from the public for Town Projects.**

The TC read a letter from a member a public in relation to possible town projects:

- Better street signs which include the viaduct bridge where lorries are getting stuck on the approach.
- Coles Mill Viaduct

Cllr Parsons confirmed that this is something that DCC are currently looking into and will be reported back to the Council very soon.

**3196 Close.**

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting closed 7.08pm

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