

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 AT  
ORCHARD CORNER**

Present: Judy Westacott, Sue & Paul Bennett, John Keleher, Jeremy Logie, Dave Mitchell, Anne Ward.

1. APOLOGIES: Jim Carfrae, Kate Wilson

2. THE MINUTES of the meeting of 25th January 2016 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair (JW).

3. MATTERS ARISING: JK said that the joint project with the Image Bank involving primary schools was now in place with work continuing. 4.4 Membership subscriptions remains outstanding. ACTION JL/PB. 4.7. Ideas for Totsoc Forum AW not able to pursue at present time.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR (JW): The zebra crossing outside the Grove School has still not been implemented but JW understands it is imminent.

Atmos project: The Town Council will support the making of the Community Right to Build Order.

Mayor: Eleanor Cohen had been chosen but controversy ensued as she will not attend religious ceremonies of any kind.

Tourist Information Centre: The future remains uncertain – further meeting this evening to discuss.

4.2. SECRETARY (PB): ASHTAV is to merge with Historic Towns and Villages Forum. Totsoc membership will be transferred to the this and membership rates will remain the same.

4.3. TREASURER: (JL): JL distributed a forecast for the year end to June and commented that funds have been enhanced by the receipt of £352.50 received from the Totnes Development Trust which had held this sum on behalf of the Housing & Built Environment (now part of Totsoc).

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (JL): JL suggested that members should be encouraged to pay their subscriptions by standing order and that as an incentive to do so perhaps those paying by cash should pay an increased sum. Presently it is a small minority who make cash payments. It was agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.

4.5. PLANNING (KW (by email)/ PB): PB reported on three applications Involving additional dwellings.

18 Bridgetown: The bringing back into use of the listed building is to be welcomed. To support the viability of this a new dwelling was proposed within the

footprint of an unlisted extension at the back of the listed building. This may cause overlooking and blocking of sunlight to an existing solar panel installation. KW believes that this problem may arise in many buildings within the town centre and suggests that criteria should be agreed so as to avoid a piecemeal approach to this type of application. Agreed that this should be remitted to the planning group to formulate this criteria. ACTION KW/PB/JC/DM.

Quisty Beeches Bourton Lane: Outline application for four dwellings. Agreed no objection.

Endsleigh Jubilee Road: Outline application for new dwelling within the curtilage. Agreed no objection.

Brimhay Development Dartington: KW reported that this is now subject to an application for judicial review brought by 'Don't Bury Dartington under Concrete' on various grounds.

SHDC 'Our Plan': KW reported that this is in a state of flux. The latest SHLAA is not yet published. Housing needs are being looked at on a sub-regional basis (which includes Plymouth City, Dartmoor and West Devon) and this has given rise to further delay.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP: AW reported on the Baltic Wharf Arts project. The commissioning of the unstructured natural play area has been completed but had been subject to delays as SHDC uncertain whether a further planning consent was needed; this has now been resolved.

. The Juno Project incorporating timber sculpture and music was launched on the evening of February 12<sup>th</sup> at Drift Records in The Narrows and the event proved very successful with many young people attending.

4.7. Totsoc Forum. Atmos: The proposal to hold a public meeting to consider the draft Order (the equivalent of a draft planning consent) now with SHDC during the consultation period was not supported by the Totnes Community Development Society as they felt this might conflict with the statutory procedure and has not therefore taken place. Instead a further opportunity was given to Totsoc members to meet with the Atmos team on 21 March.

## 5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

Local Authorities: Town Council. (see 4.1 above).

T&TF: assisting with transport plans for the Neighbourhood Plan.

No further reports.

6. Atmos consultation: Totsoc response. It was agreed that this should be drafted by the Planning Group and circulated to members for approval. ACTION KW/PB/DM/JC.

## 7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS :

Dartington NP (KW). Dartington NP Steering Group has started to look at open space in the parish and consider whether to have a policy to protect it. A Parish Housing Needs Assessment is going out to all households and there will be a consultation event to advertise it and to look at the NP so far. It has been decided to focus on criteria for housing design, sustainability and identifying possible land for development. The first draft of the Plan should be ready by June.

An energy 'drop in' event organized by both Dartington and Totnes NPs was held on 19<sup>th</sup> March. The information obtained will be analysed and form the basis for an energy policy common to both Plans.

Totnes NP. PB reported that the work on housing needs has been completed and it is clear that the demand for affordable housing will exceed by some margin the possible sites that might be allocated and that it will be necessary to look outside the town boundary if this need is to be met.

The Town Council has allocated funding for the work of the NP until the end of this calendar year but made it clear that there will be no extension of this time. Intensive work is taking place on possible sites for housing and employment but there are no easy sites remaining within the town boundary.

The intention is to produce the first draft of the Plan during June.

8. CONTACT. DM circulated draft copy. He has arranged for 100 to be printed and these will be delivered to SB/PB for onward distribution.

9. A.O.B: DM : SHDC may offer up to £30,00 towards the Leechwell Gardens natural play area/structure (or 80% of what they can raise). The final decision to be agreed with the council officers. He has also applied for £4,335 from Santander in Totsoc's name for funding.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 2.15.PM  
ORCHARD CORNER.

Sue Bennett  
Mins 24.03.16