

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 22nd JULY 2013 AT
ORCHARD CORNER**

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

1. APOLOGIES: Jim Carfrae, Lionel Harper, Kate Wilson.

2. THE MINUTES of the meeting of 20th May 2013 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair (JW).

3. MATTERS ARISING: (those not dealt with under later agenda items):

Grove School project (item 7). JK reported that the leaflet (designed and written by pupils of the school) has now been published and is being well received in Tourist Information and generally. The cost of printing was £389 with the Mitchell Trust generously sponsoring by contributing £300. Totsoc contributed £50 and the balance came from the school funds.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR: JW reported that the re-organisation of committees by SHDC and the consequent removal of her from the planning committee meant that it was difficult for her to obtain proper information and with Totnes now having only one representative on this committee the interests of the town were inadequately protected.

SHDC now has a fund available to towns and villages that have had major infrastructure developments since 2007: £500 is the minimum that can be applied for. This could be relevant to schemes such as Follaton Farm, Baltic Wharf etc. The deadline for applications is March 2014.

4.2. SECRETARY: PB stated that there had been criticism, which he felt was justified, that neither the prospective agenda nor the subsequent minutes of committee meetings were circulated to members nor appeared on the TotSoc website. He recommended that the proposed agenda should be circulated to members (but only those with email addresses) to give them an opportunity to propose agenda items and to attend the relevant meeting should she/he wish to do so. This was agreed by the committee as also was the circulation of minutes and the placing of them on the website.

An All Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies has been set up and PB had written to Dr Sarah Wollaston requesting that she should join this because of the considerable importance of planning matters to the Totnes Constituency. She has promised to give this careful consideration.

4.3 TREASURER: JL presented final accounts for the year to 30th June which showed a net surplus of £174.07 with total income of £763.10 and total

expenditure of £589.03. JL would approach a non-committee member to act as an independent examiner of the accounts which would be placed before the AGM on 3 October. JL was thanked for his work.

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Not present. No report.

4.5. PLANNING. In the absence of KW PB referred to his update to members by email on Baltic Wharf. KW would be dealing with any meetings/representations required in connection with DCC proposals for the development of the Rushbrook site. The planning sub-group had considered the Mansion House landscape proposals and agreed that they would enhance this area. JW said that on Riverside she was now receiving monthly bulletins from Linden Homes. There is no date yet for the commencement of the new access road for which detailed consent has been given.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP (AW): Baltic Wharf: Proposals here are progressing and it seems likely that the poet Alice Oswald will become involved.

4.7 HOUSING AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT FORUM. A meeting had been held on 16 October to further the integration of the Forum with Totsoc. It was agreed that the Forum meetings should continue on a bi-monthly basis and that those attending the Forum on a regular basis should be encouraged to become Totsoc members. PB had asked for volunteers to become the Forum's co-ordinator plus a minute secretary. The next Forum meeting will be on 18 September when Simon Cronk of Dartington Hall Estates will talk about future estate plans particularly in the context of the preparation of the Local Development Plan.

5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

Local Authorities:

Town Council: JW said that she was worried that working groups had been set up to speed decision making but in practice this does not seem to be happening and resources were stretched. The South Hams Traffic Orders Committee had refused on the casting vote of its chair to reverse the temporary traffic order in respect of Fore Street/High Street and the Narrows. The Town Council will now press for further action by DCC on the "Shared Space" proposal.

T&TF: JW reported that the main topic had been the temporary traffic order referred to above and further discussion on the suggested pedestrian crossing in station road.

PSF: No further meetings to report. However JW reported that work on the Shady Garden had started today.

South Hams Forum: A meeting has been set up for Forum members with Cllr Hicks (SHDC lead on the Local Development Plan preparation) on 24 September to discuss community involvement in the early stages of its preparation.

Development Trust/Preservation Trust. JL/JW said that discussions were continuing regarding the possible amalgamation of the two Trusts.

6. CONTACT:

DM reported that he has 5 pages of copy so far and needs another 3. JK offered an article on the Grove School leaflet, AW on public art, PB on the impending Local Development Plan, SB on information from back copies of Contact and a half-page reminder about the AGM and she will also contact the Totnes Directory to ask for a page on the forthcoming AGM. **ACTION JK, AW, PB, SB.** Deadline is early September as the next issue is due out mid-September in good time for the AGM.

7. AOB: None.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2.15 p.m. ORCHARD CORNER.

SUE BENNETT 29.7.2013