

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 23rd November 2015 AT
ORCHARD CORNER**

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

1. APOLOGIES: Kate Wilson

2. THE MINUTES of the meeting of 14 September 2015 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair (JW).

3. MATTERS ARISING: 4.2. Civic Voice, Devon Forum. JL reported that for various reasons (including no one being prepared to take on any administrative roles) it had been decided not to pursue its formation any further. 9. Collecting Lawrence Green's articles in "Contact" and preparing a booklet of these. JK reported that Walter King of Longmarsh Press was prepared to undertake this and meet the cost. JK to request them to go ahead. 10. Re plaques: PB has had no response as yet from Cllr. Whitty.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR (JW): The Mansion: The viability of the Community taking this on through the Totnes Community Development Society is still under consideration. Regarding the proposed McCarthy & Stone retirement home on the Dairy crest/Atmos site: local concern has been expressed about its bulk and height.

4.2. SECRETARY (PB): PB circulated a proposed letter to the Housing Minister regarding the Housing and Planning Bill which he had drafted at the request of Dr Sarah Wollaston MP regarding the adverse impact of this Bill which if enacted in its present form would result in virtually no affordable housing being built in Totnes and the South Hams. The form of letter was approved and agreed to be sent on behalf of TOTSOC. Copy attached to these minutes.

Atmos and the Dairy Crest site. Outline proposals for this are now on line and an invitation had been received to meet at the Atmos hub to be further briefed. The invitation would also be open to members generally the date and time being 12 noon 9 December. AGM. This had proved to be the most successful for several years with nearly 60 people attending who had clearly enjoyed the Image Bank presentation by Barry Weekes.

4.3. TREASURER: (JL). JL presented up-to-date accounts a copy of which are attached to these minutes. He reported that the profits from the AGM and Barrington Weekes' presentation amounted to £177 which was shared with the Image Bank, leaving Totsoc with £88.50.

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (JL): JL reported on some new members and he would discuss with PB the collection of outstanding subscriptions. ACTION JL/PB.

4.5. PLANNING: (PB). Riverside Linden Homes: The reserved matters application referred to in the previous minutes had been given conditional approval. PB understands that Linden has submitted an application to extend the footpath/cycle way so that it connects into Steamer Quay Road. The application for outline approval of 8 houses on the Coco's Nursery site (adjacent to the Police Station and Magistrates Court) has been opposed by TOTSOC on the grounds that it should be part of a masterplan for the whole area. JW reported that the TC planning committee took a different view and supported the application.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP: AW reported on the Baltic Wharf Arts. Discussion on the commissioning for street furniture are ongoing.

4.7. Totsoc Forum: Nothing to report.

5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

Local Authorities: Town Council. JW reported that the relationship between the TC and the T&TF had again been raised. SHDC. The Local Plan timetable was still uncertain but the horizon of the plan may be extended to 2033.

T&TF: A request had been made to DCC to commission a report on traffic congestion but this had been turned down.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS : Dartington NP. KW reported (via PB) that a Parish Housing Needs survey is to be carried out and likewise an economics/business survey but that is less certain. The overall Vision of the plan is broadly agreed as too are those of the Task Groups with objectives being worked up.

Totnes NP. PB reported that the evidence gathering was nearing completion. A public workshop is scheduled for the morning of Saturday 28 November. Drafting of the Plan should start in the NewYear.

8. CONTACT: DM was thanked for the excellent Autumn edition.

9. A.O.B: JK had been looking at past activities of the Society and noted how it had visited surrounding villages both to keep in touch with existing members and to recruit new ones. JK agreed to consider ideas for reviving this and the possibility of joining forces with the Image Bank on this.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 25 JANUARY 2016 2.15 p.m, ORCHARD CORNER. ***Please note later start time***