

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014 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 4th February 2014 were accepted as a true record and signed by JW.

3. MATTERS ARISING: 4.2. JW had attended the Land Use Strategy meeting at Follaton where the competing demands on the scarce resource of land within South Hams had been addressed by Professor Winter. 4.5 Bloor Homes taking over Millwood Homes deferred in KW's absence.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR (JW): nothing to report other than matters to be dealt with under planning report.

4.2. SECRETARY (PB): South Hams Society Bulletin and Chichester Society Newsletter were circulated.

PB referred to the exchange of emails relating to the Public Space Forum. The view was taken that some areas of the Forum's activities would properly fall within the remit of Totsoc and if those involved in these wished to join with the Totsoc they would be welcome. PB stressed the limited administrative resources available to organize Forum meetings. The matter otherwise should be referred to the AGM for discussion by members.

4.3 TREASURER (JL): No activity but JL would write/email a personal note to those whose subs remained outstanding. [Subsequent to the meeting JL reported bank figures: current a/c = £894; Santander savings a/c = £1951. Total = £2485]

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (JL): nothing to report. PB raised the question of seeking new members particularly younger more active members. Agreed that JL and JW would draft a note for insertion in the Totnes Times regarding Totsoc and the need for more people to join. **ACTION JL/JW.**

4.5. PLANNING: JW reported on further private meetings which she (with Cllr. Hannaford) as ward members had attended with Linden Homes. She believed that Linden were now taking note of concerns expressed and had produced a further proposed layout which brought the houses further down the contour levels and more closely followed the indicative layouts which accompanied the outline planning application. There was a further "visioning" event to be held the following day (25 March).

Great Court Farm: PB reported that KW and he had met with the planning consultant and architect at the first community consultation event (19<sup>th</sup> March) who had indicated a willingness to engage with Totsoc and make a presentation to the Totsoc Forum. A Totsoc member had indicated that apart from these discussions the Society should at the same time be making a case for refusing any planning application particularly as it now appears that SHDC has a five year supply of housing land to comply with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. JW understood that SHDC Forward Planning took the view that this would make little difference in this case.

Redlands old nursing home site Bridgetown: The proposal for four up-market houses was unexciting but there would be no proper grounds to oppose it other than failure to make adequate s106 payments which would be a matter for SHDC and DCC.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP: JL/PB reported on their meeting with Suzanne Heath the Arts Co-ordinator for the public space art at Baltic Wharf and had been impressed with the imaginative ideas being put forward and were supportive of the application for grant funding being made to the Arts Council. AW gave further details of the various proposals under consideration.

4.7, TOTSOC FORUM: Two meetings are to be arranged: Great Court Farm (see above) and Professor Chris Balch on the Totnes Neighbourhood Plan and proposals for the Civic Square. Dates yet to be confirmed; all members will be notified.

#### 5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

No reports.

6. CONTACT (DM): DM brought the print version of the Spring Edition to the meeting. JK and JL offered help in sorting/labeling etc and AW will help with deliveries. PB to email those members whose email addresses we have and ask if those members would be content to receive that version and thus save costs to the Society in postage and labour in delivery. DM was thanked for his work in producing it. **ACTION PB, SB, JK, JL, AW.**

7. REPAIRING THE LEECHWELL (DM). Repairs are needed to The Pool (inside the Garden) which is infested with Japanese Knotweed but as this is not possible at the present time the Leechwell Garden Association had decided to undertake work on the Leechwell itself where there are leaks. The LGA will make an application for Scheduled Monument Consent for this work to be carried out. DM asked if Totsoc would be willing to fund a plaque similar to the existing ones in the town provided by Totsoc. The meeting was sympathetic to the proposal and JK agreed to approach Steven Allwood re cost. **ACTION JK.**

8. IMAGE BANK AND TOTSOC (JK/AW). Following a meeting with Barry Weekes (Image Bank) to discuss future links and co-operation between the

Image Bank and Totsoc , various avenues were explored. JL to hold a meeting with Barry Weekes to discuss exchanging information between the two organisations. **ACTION JL.**

Future support could be offered by Totsoc in researching for future presentations. AW to investigate student participation. **ACTION AW.** JK suggested linking with the Image Bank to focus on the second half of 1914 (the beginning of WW1), researching articles in the Totnes Times for that period and producing an article for the next edition of Contact. **ACTION JK.**

9. AOB: PB: A date and a speaker are needed for the next AGM. Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October was provisionally agreed subject to the availability of the United Free Church and PB's suggestion of Chris Balch (Planning Professor Plymouth University) to speak on planning issues including possibly Market Square proposals. **ACTION SB, PB.**

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

WEDNESDAY 21st May 2014 2pm ORCHARD CORNER. ***Please note earlier start time.***

SUE BENNETT  
31.03.2014