TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday 29 August 2018 at 2:15pm

Place: Orchard Corner, Kingsbridge Hill, Totnes

Judy Westacott (President)	P

Members:

Paul Bennett (Chair)	P	Jeremy Logie	Р
Sue Bennett	P	Dave Mitchell	P
Jim Carfrae	A	Anne Ward	A
Tom King	P	Kate Wilson	Р
John Keleher	P		

P = Present. A=Apologies

1.	Apologies – see above	Action		
2.	2. Minutes - the minutes of the meeting on 20.06.18 were approved.			
3.	3. Matters Arising			
	The following were carried forward from previous minutes:			
	 i. 2(b)(i) Upgrade to WordPress software. Carry forward. 	KW/DM		
	ii. 2(b)(ii) Totnes Forum - joint meeting with adjoining area groups. Carry forward.	PB		
4.	Contact			
	a. Publication on 28 September.			
	b. Contributions required no later than 21 September.			
	c. Contributors to date:			
	i. PB	PB DM		
	ii. DM (Leechwell Garden new gate)	DM		
	iii. Laurence Green (Marldon Church)			

iv. KW (Dartington Neighbourhood Plan)	KW
v. PB,DM and JK to resolve how a contribution from Roger Hawkins may be included	PB/DM/JK TK
vi. TK note on updated Data Policy	
vii. JL to provide standing order form	JL
5. Reports:	
a. Chair (PB)	
i. Totnes Station – PB reported on progress with the new bridge and successful meeting with representatives of Network Rail.	
ii. Baltic Wharf (Phase 3) – PB reported that he understood TQ9 (Steve Mittler) has agreed to sell the remainder of the site. This might jeopardise the wider consultation which had been promised with Jeff Bishop acting as facilitator.	
iii. Baltic Wharf (Diversion of footpath) – It was agreed that Totsoc would object to the proposed permanent diversion of the public footpath traversing the development so that the present temporary diversion involving steep steps would become permanent.	PB
b. Secretary – None	
c. Treasurer (JL)	
i. The final annual accounts for 2017-18 were tabled and noted. They will be presented to the membership at the AGM for formal approval	JL
ii. It was agreed that Totsoc should make a donation of £200 to the Leechwell Garden Association towards the cost of the third gate.	
d. Membership Secretary (JL)	
i. It was agreed that the annual subscription rate should remain unchanged for the coming year.	
ii. During the current year there had been 3 new joint memberships and the loss of 3 single memberships.	
e. Planning Officer	
i. PB - True Street - confirmed that Totsoc had	

- objected to the latest planning application for residential development.
- ii. KW The inspectors have reported to SHDC and the next steps in the JLP process are dependent on SHDC and how they respond to the inspectors' requirements. SHDC has indicated in its response to the inspectors that there will be a supplementary document on settlement boundaries. All major modifications are subject to 6 weeks' public consultation.
- iii. Dartington Hall Trust had submitted a revised boundary covering the Core Estate to the JLP inspection and this would be a major modification if accepted. Negotiations between DHT, SHDC and Historic England have taken place.
- f. PA&DF None
- g. Totsoc Forum None
- 6. Other Reports
 - a. External Bodies None
 - b. Local Authorities (JW)
 - i. Reported that the new committee structure of the Town Council seemed to be working well.
 - ii. Noted that the post of Information Officer was seasonal and would cease at the end of September.
 - iii. No further news on the possible sell off by SHDC of town centre assets (car parks).
 - iv. There is a delay with the proposals for the improvement works to Market Square.
 - c. Traffic and Transport Forum (T&TF) None
- 7. Neighbourhood Plans
 - a. Totnes JW reported that reports were due from the Town Council sub groups by 1 September.
 - b. Dartington KW reported the latest version of the plan (Emerging Draft 4) was now on their website and includes a Dark Skies policy. The Design Guide is to be finalised.

PB

8. St. Mary's Project

PB has discussed this with Charles Fox and agreed that a broadly

based community group would be required to support such a large project for the long term. It was agreed that Totsoc should be involved but its involvement would reflect its limited people and financial resources.

9. Matters raised by members

- a. One member has asked the committee to consider what makes Totnes attractive to visitors and what puts them off. In particular suggesting that the former Coop store be used as an indoor market and that High Street be traffic free on perhaps two days per week.
- b. The Committee strongly supports the continued retail use of the former Coop store. However it would not wish to see a loss of focus for the well-established market in the Square so any such scheme would have to be clearly differentiated for the current market.
- c. The Town Council has appointed a Town Ranger to coordinate efforts to present the town at its best. It is suggested that the Town Council would be best placed to conduct a survey of visitors.
- d. Traffic both on the High Street and A385 are well-recognised problems for the town. Given the failure of the last High Street traffic scheme there is no realistic prospect of Devon County as Highway Authority bringing forward any new scheme in the near future.
- e. TK will write a response to the member.

10.2018 AGM

- a. The meeting will be on Thursday 18 October at 7:00pm
- b. PB has invited Barry Weekes of the Image Bank to give a presentation.
- c. JW has booked the Seven Stars (£60 + AV hire) but at the suggestion of Barry Weekes, we will now look at the option of using Totnes Cinema as it has better AV equipment.
- d. JW will do an article for the Totnes Times.

11. Data Protection

a. Following comments on a draft made at the last meeting, TK has received a much shorter template version from KW

TK

PB

PB/Barry Weekes

JW

and will circulate a revised draft with these minutes.

ext TK

- b. TK will ask for approval to the draft ahead of the next meeting so that the policy will be in place before the AGM and membership renewals.
- c. It was noted that the wording of the membership form/renewal notice would need to be amended to comply with the requirements of GDPR.
- 12. AOB None
- 13. Date of next meeting Wednesday 24 October 2018 at 14:15.