

Minutes of a meeting of the **PROPERTIES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **20<sup>th</sup>** day of **APRIL 2010** at **6.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr B Trew Chair  
Cllr D Best  
Cllr Mrs S Bailey  
Cllr R Pike  
Cllr E Sherrell  
Cllr E Sanders  
Cllr Mrs D Sellis  
Cllr J Sellis  
Cllr H Smith Chair F&GP  
Cllr D Whitcomb D Mayor

In Attendance: Assistant to the Town Clerk  
Works Superintendent  
Works Administrator  
Two members of the Press  
Two members of the public

**609. APOLOGIES**

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Mrs M Govier.

**610. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

**611. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010, previously circulated and adopted by Council on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**612. MATTERS ARISING**

a. Members noted the Action Log for the Properties Committee. Referring to minute 524c they asked for a legal opinion on the question of the large 'I' that the TIO wished to erect on Court Gate wall. Regarding minute 529 they were informed that the developers would erect a security fence on their side of the allotments boundary hedge.

b. **National Cycle Network** - Tavistock. Copies of the DCC proposal for the cycle network route through Tavistock had been e-mailed to Members on the 17<sup>th</sup> March with hard copies to non-e mail Members. Comments received so far indicated this was the 'best we can get', and 'it seems like a lot of additional

signage but in particular we should ask for great consideration of sign "D" as this could be an interesting place for cyclists and motorists to come together'. Members **RECOMMENDED** that we inform DCC that we were content with the route and signage planned

c. **Cemetery Charges.** Minute 538 referred. Members wished to see comparison charges to validate our 5% increase in charges year by year, and a chart was tabled. Cllr Sherrell commented on how cheap our charges were in comparison, and endorsed the increase policy.

**613. NOTES OF A GOOSE FAIR MEETING**

Members noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Noted that all were content with the charges this year, and that they recognised that a rise in 2011 was inevitable.

**614. MINUTES OF THE WHITCHURCH DOWN SUB-COMMITTEE**

Members noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010 presented by Cllr Sellis.

**615. WORKS SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Members noted the report.

**616. MARKET REEVE'S REPORT**

Members noted the report. Cllr Whitcomb commented that he had received complaints from traders about the floor cleanliness in the Market, dirty windows and cobwebs in the roof. The Works Superintendent would liaise with the Reeve about cleaning.

**617. TOWN HALL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members noted the report. Cllr Mrs Sellis questioned the need for an awning by the Town Hall door and the expense. She was informed that several Town Hall and Market Sub-Committee meetings had agreed such a thing would make the Hall more attractive and enhance the doorway. She was assured the picture in the Report was merely a guide, and the awning would be smaller and certainly not permanent. Cllr Trew felt the addition would help to maximise the Hall income.

**618. AUCTION ROOMS BRIEF**

Members noted a report from our lawyers concerning the Auction Rooms.

**619. BANNERS**

We had been warned by WDBC planning officers that they object to the flying of advertising banners between the Town Hall and Court Gate, including the recently renovated rope-work system. They had not yet taken enforcement action to stop it as they realised that this practice had been going on for many years, and they would not object to banners being displayed on, for example, the Market barrows on Bedford Square. They had suggested that a small working party of Town Councillors meet with them to find an acceptable alternative. Cllr Pike felt that a certificate of Lawfulness might be appropriate as the banners had been used for such a long time. Cllr Mrs Sellis thought that the banners sometimes looked untidy, while others felt that they enhanced the Town. Any Working Party needed guidance as to the Council's policy on the matter, and it

was **RECOMMENDED** that West Devon Borough Council officers involved should be invited to a Plans Committee meeting to discuss the subject with Members. It was agreed we should defend our position if we felt we were right.

**620. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN.**

There was no such business

**621. DRAFT WHITCHURCH DOWN MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Mr Southall and Mr Clapp gave all Committee Members, including some F&GP Committee Members in the Chamber, a brief on the draft plan, a copy of which is enclosed with these minutes.

Signed.....

Rising 7.20 p.m.

Dated.....