

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the virtual Special Meeting of the **Development Management & Licensing Committee** held at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82927582271> (for Councillors who wished to attend) and

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=tavistock+town+council](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=tavistock+town+council) (for the public who wished to attend) on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2020 at 6.23pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillor P Ward – Chairman

Councillor J Ellis – Vice Chairman

Councillor Mrs A Johnson (Mayor – ex officio)

Councillor A Hutton\* (Deputy Mayor – ex officio)

Councillors Ms L Crawford\*, A Fey, G Parker, B Smith, P Squire and A Venning

\*In attendance for part of the Meeting.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk and Assistant to the Town Clerk

Councillor Mrs M Ewings (Observer)

Immediately preceding the Meeting, Members received a briefing from Councillor G Parker in respect of the Government's White Paper on proposed changes to Planning Law, entitled 'Planning for the Future'.

**113. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**114. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED THAT The Minutes of the Meeting of the Development Management & Licensing Committee held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Appendix 1).

**115. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

## **ITEMS FOR DETERMINATION BY THE COMMITTEE**

### **116. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE – CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

Members considered the implications of the proposed changes to Planning Law, and how they might impact and relate to Tavistock.

In the discussion arising reference was made to a range of issues including:

- The prior training exercise administered in connection with the consultation paper;
- The specific nature of Tavistock, associated landscape designations and topographical constraints;
- The extent of recently approved large scale development for the town;
- Permission in Principle - the extent to which the Local Planning Authority (LPA) did/did not have the resources to undertake the range of works (e.g. environmental impact and sustainability assessments) associated with this proposal and the view that such should appropriately be the responsibility of the developer. Additionally, the need for improved arrangements to secure public involvement in the making of the local plan, most especially site allocation.
- Faster and more certain decision making – whilst agreeing the principle, this goal should not disadvantage those who might lack the capacity, or connectivity to be able to make use of digital resources and proven traditional methods should not be disregarded.
- Neighbourhood Plans (NDP's) - continuation of NDP's was welcomed. However, concern arose from the extent to which the application of recent secondary legislation could undermine local ownership of planning. It was essential that exemptions (e.g. permitted development rights) from certain categories of secondary legislation continued for areas of highest landscape designation.
  - Consolidated Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – the importance attached to genuinely affordable housing provision and the benefits which could flow from CIL being capable of being applied to all developments in the town (not just those of 10 homes or more). Also the involvement of local councils to help inform the levy rate and its application.

RESOLVED THAT authority be delegated to the Assistant to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mayor, to submit a consultation response on behalf of the Council to the

consultation paper Planning for the Future with particular reference to the foregoing.

Councillors Ms L Crawford and A Hutton (Deputy Mayor) left the Meeting during consideration of the above.

**ITEM FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**117. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of the Development Management & Licensing Committee to be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020 at 5.00pm (Please note change of day).

The Meeting closed at 7.28pm

Signed:

Dated:  
CHAIRMAN