

**AGENDA ITEM No 3(a)**

**MINUTES**

of the Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2015** at **6:50pm**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs S Bailey (Mayor)  
Councillor Mrs M Ewings (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors T Gibbins, Mrs A Johnson, A Lewis, J Moody, P. Palfrey, Mrs L Roberts, C Rogers, E Sanders, P Sanders, J Sheldon, H Smith, A Venning, P Ward, Mrs J Whitcomb, P Williamson.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk, Solicitor to the Council.

Note - Prior to the Meeting;-

- Councillors received a presentation/training activity on the role and responsibilities of the Audit function both as delivered by the internal auditor, external audit and Councillors themselves from the Internal Auditor to the Council;
- there was an opportunity for quiet reflection led by Father John Greatbatch of Our Lady of the Assumption and St. Mary Magdalene Church together with a report from West Devon Borough Councillor N Jory.

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**104 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for late arrival had been received from Councillor J Moody.

Noted That arising from a question regarding the presentation of reports from external bodies to Council the Clerk undertook to request an update from the Police following which it was noted that the next meeting of Tavistock Matters would take place on Monday next, and there would be opportunity for those Members attending on behalf of the Council to raise the matter and report back.

**105 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor P Sanders, H Smith and P Williamson declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in Minute No 108 by virtue of association with a party to the matter.

**106 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tavistock Town Council held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Noted That arising from consideration of the above (more particularly Minute No.56 (b) Council considered the following appointments to outside bodies arising from which it was;-

RESOLVED THAT

- (a) Devon Association of Local Councils (Reserve) - Councillor C Rogers be appointed.
- (b) West Devon/ Tavistock Consultative Liaison Consultative Committee – no appointment be made at this time (it being noted that discussions were on-going regarding the future of the Tri-Authority 'Working Together in the Interests of Tavistock') Group;
- (c) Tavistock Forward – no appointment be made
- (d) Cornish Mining Consultative Forum - Councillor H Smith

**107 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was:-

RESOLVED THAT the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business.

**108 PROPERTY MATTER**

**(CONFIDENTIAL** – by virtue of relating to legal/commercially sensitive matters and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council)

The Council considered the report of the Town Clerk and received a presentation from the Solicitor to the Council outlining the current position, associated issues and options and related matters.

SB

RESOLVED THAT - The Council progress the course of action as outlined in the accompanying Confidential Minute No. 108(a)

Noted That:

- i. It was requested that the unanimous nature of the decision in respect of the above matter be recorded;
- ii. With regard to an unrelated property matter Members received copy correspondence from a Tenant with outstanding debts due to the Council. Arising from consideration of which the consensus was that the position of the Council in bringing proceedings for the recovery of the outstanding monies due was unaffected.

The Press and Public were readmitted to the Meeting.

**109 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Council considered the following reports of Standing Committees.

(a) **Plans Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> August 2015.**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Plans Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (Minute No's 63-73 inclusive)

(b) **Plans Committee – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015.**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Plans Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 (Minute No's 95-103 inclusive).

Noted That in connection with Minute No 101 a Member made reference to the report submitted to the Meeting of the Plans Committee previously setting out various matters regarding highway capacity/configuration in and around the town.

In the ensuing discussion particular reference was made to the level of engagement undertaken with Devon County Council (as Highway Authority), the extent to which the report was/was not still current, the role of the Highway Authority as Consultee in recent applications for major development and various aspects of the scheme for development off Plymouth Road together with the potential impact of different forms of development upon the World Heritage Site.

RESOLVED THAT Devon County Council be invited to make a presentation in connection with its strategic highway plans for the future regarding Tavistock.

(c) **Properties Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Properties Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 (Minutes No's 74-78 and 80-81 inclusive).

Noted That in connection with Minute No. 79 it was:-

RESOLVED THAT the following appointments be made:-

- i. Town Hall and Pannier Market Consultative Group – Councillors Mrs L Roberts and Mrs J Whitcomb
- ii. Whitchurch Down Consultative Group – Councillors Mrs A Johnson, P Sanders, A Venning, P Ward
- iii. Goose Fair Consultative Group – Councillors Mrs M Ewings, E Sanders, H Smith.

In response to a question it was further reported that the General Manager would, in particular, be working to mitigate the impact of works to the Pannier Market upon existing traders including assessing the possibility of measures to avoid temporary relocation of market activity.

(d) **Finance and General Purposes Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015.**

Subject to the deferral of Minute No 94 to a later point in the Meeting in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 (Minute No's 82-86 and 88-93 inclusive).

Noted That arising from consideration of Minute No. 87 it was:-

RESOLVED THAT the following appointments be made:-

- (a) Standing Orders Working Group – Councillors P Palfrey, P Sanders, H Smith, P Williamson
- (b) Member Development Lead – Councillor H Smith
- (c) Representation on the TAP funded "Councillor Essentials" Course – Councillors P Ward and P Williamson
- (d) Connecting Dartmoor and Devon – attendance at event – Councillor J Sheldon.

A Member expressed interest, should the opportunity arise, to serve on the Group constituted to support the Okehampton/Tavistock Railway link.

RESOLVED THAT subject to any amendments listed above, the recommendations included in the foregoing reports of the Committee Meetings be approved and the reports be received.

**110 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was:-

RESOLVED THAT the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business.

**111 COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)**

(**CONFIDENTIAL** – by virtue of relating to legal matters and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council).

The Council considered the outstanding Report of the following Standing Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, consideration of which had been previously been deferred (Minute No 109 refers).

(a) **Finance & General Purposes Committee**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015 (Minute No 94).

RESOLVED THAT – subject to any amendments listed above the recommendations included in the foregoing report of the Committee Meeting be approved and the report be received.

The Press and Public were readmitted to the meeting.

**112 COUNCIL SEAL**

RESOLVED THAT – The Seal be affixed to various deeds and documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect of those decisions or matters approved by the Council this day.

The Meeting closed at 8:48pm.

SB

Chairman. S. Bailey

Date 27-10-15