

## **AGENDA ITEM No 3(a)**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **21<sup>st</sup>** **JANUARY, 2014** at **6.49 pm**

**PRESENT** Councillor H Smith (Mayor)

Councillor J Sheldon (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors Mrs S Bailey, R Eberlie, Mrs M Ewings, A Fleet, Mrs A Johnson, J Moody, C Rogers, E Sanders, J Sellis, B Trew, D Whitcomb, Mrs J Whitcomb

**IN ATTENDANCE** Town Clerk, Works Superintendent, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Note – prior to the Meeting there was an opportunity for quiet reflection and to receive reports from County Councillor Mrs D Sellis and West Devon Borough Councillor J Moody

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### **335. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs J Metcalf, E Sherrell and P Sanders.

### **336. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **337. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tavistock Town Council held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **338. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The Council welcomed Councillor A Fleet to his first meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED THAT Councillor A Fleet be appointed to serve on the Finance & General Purposes and Plans Committees of the Town Council.

### **339. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Council considered the following reports of Standing Committees:-

#### **a) Plans Committee –7<sup>th</sup> January , 2014**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Plans Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 (Minute Nos. 303-311 inclusive)

Noted That: in particular, reference was made to matters arising in connection with Minute No 307(c) and associated Council support for the business community.

#### **b) Properties Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014**

Subject to

- i. The deferral of Minute No.316 to be considered at a later point in the meeting in conjunction with Finance & General Purposes Committee Minutes 325(c) and 328; and
- ii. the deferral of Minute No 319 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 Properties Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 (Minute Nos.312-318 inclusive).

#### **c) Finance and General Purposes Committee –14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014**

Subject to

- i. the deferral of Minute Nos. 331-334 to a later point in the Meeting in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted; and
- ii. The addition of the following word in recommendation (a) Minute No. 326 to follow "(i)" namely "(ii)";
- iii. Minute No.327 the addition of the following words in the recommendation to follow "convened" – "at 7pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2014";
- iv. With regard to Minute No's.325(c) and 328(a) the appointment of a Working Group of Members to review the areas identified within the foregoing Minutes and Minute 316, same to be comprised of Councillors A Fleet, J Sellis, H Smith, B Trew, Mrs J Whitcomb;

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 (Minute Nos.320-330 inclusive)

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

Noted That:

- a) Minute No.325 (FPPP Minute No.297(x) refers)
  - i. Councillors R Eberlie, Mrs A Johnson and Mrs J Whitcomb declared an interest in the above item and left the Meeting during consideration thereof;
  - ii. Following a request for a recorded vote a proposition was put that no grant be made with the voting being as follows:-
    - In Favour - Councillors C Rogers, B Trew
    - Against – Councillors Mrs S Bailey, Mrs M Ewings, A Fleet, J Moody, E Sanders, J Sellis, J Sheldon, H Smith, D Whitcomb

### **340. COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2014-15**

The Council considered the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee in respect of the Council Budget and Precept 2014-15.

RESOLVED THAT

- i. The proposed Budget for 2014/15 be adopted.
- ii. The Precept Charge for a Band D property be held unchanged at £112.08 in 2014 -15 equating to a total precept figure for the Council of £522,885.

### **341. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS OF THE TOWN MAYOR**

The Mayor reminded Council of arrangements for the Tavistock Town Council Civic Ball 2014 on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

### **342. 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 it was:-

RESOLVED THAT the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business.

**343. COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)**

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

The Council considered the outstanding reports of the following Standing Committees held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014, consideration of which had previously been deferred (Minute No.339 refers).

a) **Properties Committee** – (Minute No. 319)

b) **Finance and General Purposes Committee** – (Minute Nos.331-334)

Subject to

- i. Minute No 332(b) - the inclusion of an additional recommendation namely:  
  
‘That the Council commission architects in the sum of £3,700 to prepare a Stage 1 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for submission in February to support the future sustainable use of the premises
- ii. Minute No 334(i) – the amendment of the recommendation to delete the words “Superintendent for the three posts... Market Reeve” and the insertion, in their place, of “Manager for the three posts including Works Manager, Town Hall Manager and Market Reeve”.

the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 (Minute Nos. 331-334 inclusive).

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

Noted That in connection with Minute No.332(a) and associated Minute No.332(aa)

- a) Without prejudice offers made in the sum(s) included in the report of the Council's Surveyor had been accepted.
- b) Councillor B Trew requested it to be recorded that:
  - i. he proposed a motion that Council defer proceeding with the course of action proposed pending the conduct of a feasibility study and related due diligence (the motion did not receive a seconder and could not therefore be put to the vote)
  - ii. he voted against the endorsement of the recommendation included in the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, no other Member of Council present voting against same
- c) the Section 151 Officer drew the attention of the Council to:-
  - i. The affect of the proposed course of action upon the level of Council reserves/available monies and consequential impact upon the affordability of the Capital Programme/ future borrowing requirements;
  - ii. The adopted policy of the Council in respect of the acquisition and disposal of property and management of major projects (Minute No.214 – 2011 refers). In particular for Council to be satisfied it had discharged the provisions set out in para (a) of same.

The press and public were readmitted to the meeting.

**344. COUNCIL SEAL**

RESOLVED THAT The Council Seal be affixed to the various deeds and documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect of the decision and matters approved.

The Meeting closed at 7.56pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

Dated \_\_\_\_\_