

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY 19th JANUARY, 2016** at **6:53pm**

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

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

IN ATTENDANCE Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Note - Prior to the commencement of the Meeting there was an opportunity for quiet reflection led by Reverend J Greatbatch of St Mary Magdalen Church, and to receive reports from County Councillor Mrs D Sellis and Inspector M Sloman. Councillor J Moody was unavailable to submit a report on behalf of the Borough Council.

241 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors A Lewis, P Sanders and P Williamson.

242 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made:-

- a) Councillor Mrs M Ewings, in connection with Minute Nos. 236 (l) and 238 as outlined in the report.
- b) Councillor Mrs A Johnson in connection with Minute No. 236 (h) as outlined in the report.

243 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tavistock Town Council held on Tuesday 8th December, 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

244 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Council considered the following reports of Standing Committees.

(a) **Plans Committee – 15th December 2015.**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Plans Committee held on 15th December 2015 (Minute No's 204 – 211 inclusive)

(b) **Plans Committee – 5th January 2016.**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Plans Committee held on 5th January 2016 (Minute No's 212 - 219 inclusive).

(c) **Properties Committee – 12th January 2016**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Properties Committee held on 12th January 2016 (Minutes No's 220 – 223 inclusive).

(d) **Finance & General Purposes Committee – 12th January 2016**

Subject to the deferral of Minute No 232 in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 12th January, 2016 (Minute No's 224 – 231 inclusive).

Noted That:-

- (i) Arising from consideration of the above, particular reference was made to potential arrangements in respect of ICT provision for Councillors;
- (ii) Further to the provisions of Minute No. 229 (b) an up-date was received from the applicant organisation, arising from which it was:-

RESOLVED THAT the Council not support the application from the Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon Citizens Advice Bureau for funding from the Devon County Council/West Devon Borough Council, Town and Parish fund.

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.

245 COUNCIL PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2016-17 AND RELATED MATTERS

The Committee considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Forward Planning, Policy & Programme Sub-Committee held on 13th January, 2016 (Minute Nos. 233 – 239 refer).

RESOLVED THAT the proposed Council Budget 2016-17 be approved and the Precept for Tavistock Town Council (exclusive of Precept Support Grant) be set in the sum of £513,258.

It was further

RESOLVED THAT subject to the deferral of grant application No. 236 (I) (the new Tavistock Youth Café) for clarification, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Forward Planning, Policy & Programme Sub-Committee held on Wednesday, 13th January, 2016 be received and the recommendations therein be endorsed.

Noted That in the discussion arising from consideration of Minute No. 236, reference was made to past and prospective future practice for the award of grants together with the merits and drawbacks associated with various options available to the Council.

246 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.

247 COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)

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

The Council considered the outstanding reports of the following Standing Committees held on 12th and 13th January, 2016 respectively, consideration of which had previously been deferred (Minute Nos. 244 and 245 refer).

a) **Finance & General Purposes Committee – 12th January 2016**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 12th January, 2016 (Minute No 232 refers).

b) **Forward Planning, Policy & Programme Sub-Committee – 13th January 2016.**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Forward Planning, Policy & Programme Sub-Committee, held on 13th January 2016 (Minute No. 240 refers).

RESOLVED THAT:-

- (i) Following a vote by ballot a Leases Sub-Committee comprising Councillor H Smith, together with Councillors P Palfrey and C Rogers be appointed and authorised to conduct negotiations on a without prejudice basis with the Tenant for a reduction in lease terms in relation to the identified premises (long leases) and to address the tenants request in connection with the other lease
- (ii) Any final decision which might have the effect of altering the current Leasehold arrangement be reserved to Council.

Noted That the prejudicial interest of Borough Council Members serving on the Town Council in connection with the above item (at the point at which negotiations commenced) was noted.

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.

248 COUNCIL SEAL

RESOLVED THAT – the Seal to affixed to the 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 7.55pm.

Chairman _____

Date _____

