

Notes from the Town Team Meeting – Tuesday 12th January 2016

Present: Helen Nathanson (Town Clerk), Frances Northrop, Bob Tildesley, Councillors Robert Vint and Ben Piper, David Martin, Peter Rees, Lindsay Garner, Wendy Reid

Apologies: Cathy Aubertin, Ian Franklin, John Elford, Richard O'Connell, Councillors Rosie Adams and Jacqi Hodgson, Mike Craddock, Paul Chapman

1. Feedback from the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation event in November 2015

The Team discussed the feedback given at that meeting and it was agreed that there were not enough respondents to make this meaningful and provide any clear patterns. (See attached) It was therefore decided that we need to try some further engagement on the Culture and Heritage theme and the following ideas were agreed:

- Relaunch the conversation about Culture and Heritage on the Totnesians website in a format which will encourage debate. The 7 cultural characteristics of Totnes will be listed and we will ask: "When someone says Totnes to you, which 3 of these best sums it up for you?"
- Lindsay Garner will post the same question to Chamber of Commerce members
- Councillor Ben Piper, Bob Tildesley and Wendy Reid volunteered to speak to people out and about for more feedback

The Team then had a look at other Culture and Heritage elements of approved NPs and agreed that we would use the feedback we do have already to draft a vision and policies. The Town Clerk will draw up an initial draft for discussion at the next meeting. In particular we liked the examples from Alnwick and St Ives and will use these for inspiration.

2. The Market Square feasibility study is still underway. The results of the business surveys have now been collated and a meeting is being arranged with John Baulch to discuss the next stage of the design work. A Market Strategy for Totnes, also funded from the SIB grant, will then be created which will provide a framework for maximising the use of all markets within the town.

3. A brief discussion was held about the future purpose of the Town Team and it was agreed by all that we should continue. The new Town Council priorities have identified Town Centre development and improvement as a key theme and this is therefore a very relevant area. All agreed that we should start to look into the possibility of a Town Centre Manager and that this would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 9th February at 5.30pm in the Guildhall** and meetings thereafter will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the same time.

HN