

**MINUTES OF THE PEOPLE COMMITTEE
MONDAY 9 JUNE 2015 AT THE GUILDHALL, TOTNES**

Present: Councillors Whitty (Chair), Adams, Hendriksen, Piper and Vint

Apologies: Councillor Young

Not present: Cllr Simms

In attendance: Tatiana Cant (Deputy Town Clerk) and Steve Peacock (Totnes Times)

No	Subject	Comments
1	To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.	Apologies were accepted from Cllr Young.
2	To elect a Deputy Chair	Councillor Rosie Adams was elected to this role.
3	Public Engagement and role of Committee	No members of the public were present. The Chair provided a copy of the Terms of Reference for the Committee. He summarised this and the remit of the Committee as set out in Standing Orders for new members.
4	To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting	The minutes of the meeting of 30 March were agreed as accurate. Concern was expressed that progress needed to be made with the concept of a Youth Café. It was agreed to ask the Youth Link Councillors to carry this forward in liaison with the Living Project. It is important to ensure that it is accessible for all of the young people living throughout the town.
5	To consider an approach for addressing behavior resulting from high strength alcohol and related concerns	Difficulties relating to the consumption of high strength alcohol were ongoing. Deputy Clerk to proceed with arranging a meeting with councillors, the SHDC Licensing Officer, representatives from the two main supermarkets, police and street pastors to discuss the issue and explore possible solutions. The Committee agreed to take part in discussions held in the town relating to homelessness and to liaise with Caring Town Totnes who were meeting other bodies to identify a way forward.
6	To receive an update on events planned by the Totnes Events Collective	The group is building on its successful events so far, deciding its way ahead and clarifying its internal aims and objectives, it had also recently received support from the Reconomy Centre. The group had also been working with KEVICC, the Living Project and the Carnival on a number of events, and currently maintains a healthy funding position.
7	To decide a strategy for using town notice boards.	Research on the possible locations and design of notice boards had already been previously carried out by the Project Officer on behalf of the Town Council. The management of notices on these boards needs to be considered. As part of the Shady Garden project a proposal is being put forward relating to the street furniture, including notice boards. These recommendations will be subject to SHDC scrutiny to see if they need to be considered by the Planning Officers and they will either be brought to the Town Council through the Planning system or by the People Committee.
8	To note the transfer of ownership of Buckfastleigh swimming pool	Members noted and welcomed the approach of Teignbridge District Council towards the local swimming pool and would hope that SHDC may be able to demonstrate similar generosity in Totnes to the proposals being brought forward by TADPOOL.

9	To review the implementation of the Community Engagement policy	The Chair summarised the main points of the policy and Action Plan. He agreed to circulate both documents to the Committee for their information and consideration at the next meeting.
10	To consider the future provision of new First Great Western trains as raised at Town Meeting	Consultations are currently ongoing. The implications of new rolling stock need to be considered to ensure that trains continue to stop at Totnes. This Item to be referred to the newly established advisory group, who will be encouraged to work with the Totnes Rail Group. The issue had also been discussed at a DALC meeting the previous day.
11	To discuss opening times of Civic Square toilets	Access required to toilets at night to ensure that the public have access to facilities when needed in the evenings. This Issue to be referred to the District Councillors to request their engagement with SHDC on the issue. In the first instance they need to consult with the Street Pastors to develop a joint proposal. It was noted that access to a disabled toilet should also be included in the discussions.
12	To receive any update on Open Space	The final part of the Shady Garden project has been started and the area fenced off. It should be completed within 4 to 6 weeks.
13	To receive any update on Borough Park	Negotiations are progressing and support is being provided from a variety of sources. It is hoped that a transfer to the community could take place within a year.
14	To receive any update on the Mansion, Rushbrook and Caring Town Totnes	Discussions are ongoing relating to the Mansion and it is hoped that this can be completed soon. Groups requesting the use of the Rushbrook space have experienced difficulties as larger groups have been given priority. Caring Town Totnes to be consulted to ascertain any involvement they may be able to offer.
15	To receive report from Civic Hall Working Group.	No report available.
16	To review the First World War Working Group	Following the full Council discussion and its indication that the group should be a Working Group of the People Committee, a discussion over the remit of the group took place. As the intentions of this group were not clear, it was suggested that it may be more appropriate for the group to be established as an advisory group to Council. A report to be requested from the group defining its current remit, plans and resource requirements in the capacity of a working group of Council.
17	To discuss policies list and agree which policies should be reviewed by the committee.	Clarity to be sought on aspects of TIC and Civic Hall to be considered by Committee.
18	Dates and location of future meetings	It was agreed that the committee would normally meet on Wednesday. However the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 21 July.

END

MAYOR