**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TOTNES TOWN COUNCIL**

**MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2017 AT THE GUILDHALL TOTNES**

Present: Councillors R Adams (Chair), Paine, Barker, Piper, Hendriksen, Vint, Hodgson, Westacott MBE, M Adams, Sweett, Whitty, Simms and Hart-Williams

Apologies: Councillors Elliott-Smith and Cohen

In Attendance: Catherine Marlton (Deputy Town Clerk), Christina Bewley (Senior Administrator),Peter Bethel (Town Sergeant), District Councillor Green, Soundart Radio, 1 member of the press and 8 members of the public

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| No | Subject | Comments |
| 1 | To receive apologies. | It was **RESOLVED** to receive the apologies. |
| 2 | The Mayor will request confirmation that all Members have made any amendments necessary to their Declaration of Interests, if appropriate. | There were no amendments. |
| 3 | *The Council will adjourn for the following items:*  Public Questions: A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Council or other items that affect Totnes.  Reports from County and District Councillors  Police Report  *The Council will convene.* | Members of the public spoke about the following matters:  A member of the public asked the Council to consider the extra pressure there will be on the carparks with the closure of hospitals in other areas and increase in services at Totnes Hospital.  A member of the public asked that the Council produce a calendar of events for the year. This used to be produced annually by the TIC but following the closure of the TIC this has not been available this year.  The Deputy Town Clerk advised that there is an events listing on the website but the Destination Manager can be asked to look at this as an option.  A Bob the Bus representative advised that the annual report has been published. A key point form the report is that around 27,000 passengers used the service. They are now seeking support for the Bus and they have an appeal target of £8000. They need to raise £4000 to qualify for match funding and asked if the Council could consider making a grant.  The Deputy Mayor confirmed that it would be considered.  A member of the public introduced herself to the meeting and advised she will be standing as a District Councillor.  The Deputy Mayor wished her luck.  District Councillor Green  District Cllr Green advised that the next draft of the Local Plan will be on the Council website on 22nd February. Cllr Hodgson enquired about the outcome of the meeting with the market traders and Cllr Green confirmed discussions were ongoing. Cllr Green advised that the Invest to Earn proposal will go to the next Full Council meeting but nothing has been decided yet. Cllr Hodgson enquired about the Homeless Shelter. Cllr Green advised that a decision needs to be made on the opening times.  County Councillor Vint  Cllr Vint provided a report on the footpath by the Plymouth Road. He confirmed that a meeting of the working group needs to be arranged.  A report on crime within the town was provided by a Police Officer. Crime rates are up compared to the same period last year. This is thought to be as a result of proactive police action against drug related crimes.  Operation Venus surrounding drugs misuse is on-going.  The Police are working with Y-smart to support young people, [www.y-smart.org.uk](http://www.y-smart.org.uk) .  The suggestion to have a radio system for traders to combat shoplifting was discussed. The Deputy Town Clerk agreed this should be considered by the People Committee.  A request was made to have a drugs dog patrol the town and the Officer agreed this could be considered.  The Officer advised that there will be no change to the number of PCSOs in the town for 12 months and then the levels will reduce over 4 years. The savings will allow for more police officers covering the town. |
| 4 | To approve and sign the Minutes of the following Meetings:   1. Full Council 9th January 2017 | The Deputy Town Clerk reported that due to IT failure no minutes are available yet.  Cllr Hodgson raised her concerns over the lack of minutes for the last Operations Committee meeting and asked that they be available for the next Full Council meeting. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the Officer who took the minutes is leaving so advice would need to be sought on how to proceed in those circumstances. |
| 5 | To consider any matters arising from the Minutes. | No minutes available. |
| 6 | To note the agreed 2017/18 Budget and to discuss the following budgetary requests and proposals:  a. To receive a request from Cllr Hodgson for an allocation of £30,000 in the 2017/18 Budget for Visitor Information Services.  b. To receive a request from Totnes Museum Trust for grant funding of £11,300 in the 2017/18 Budget.  c. To receive a request from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for an allocation of £15,000 in the 2017/18 Budget.  d. To receive a request from the Arts Officer for an allocation of £13,800 in the 2017/18 Budget for ongoing Arts projects.  e. To receive a request from Cllr Hendriksen for an allocation of £2,000 in the 2017/18 Budget to contribute to Air Ambulance landing areas.  f. To receive a request from Bob the Bus for a contribution in the 2017/18 Budget for capital costs. | The Deputy Town Clerk referred to paper 6 and advised that there is £46000 available to be allocated to community projects.  There was a discussion about items a) to f) and it was noted that there is some overlap in the bids where joint working could save on costs. It was also identified that funding for some of the projects could come from the Paige Adams charity.  It was proposed that the Neighbourhood Plan bid should be discussed first and Cllr R Adams asked members to vote on this. There was a majority vote for this proposal which was carried.  The funding requirements for the Neighbourhood Plan were discussed.  It was agreed that all the bids are worthy of funding and that the Paige Adams Charity should be asked to provide funding for some of the projects that the budget cannot cover.  It was **RESOLVED** that the budget for community projects of £46k is used to fund bids a), b) and d), and that how the funds would be allocated between the projects would be subject to further discussion at a Tourism Working Group and workshops for all Councillors.  The Paige Adams Trustees were asked to consider funding bids c), e) and f). |
| 7 | To set a date for the next Paige Adams Trust Meeting. | Monday 6th March 2017 was agreed. |
| 8 | To consider confidential staffing matters discussed at Personnel Committee on Monday 6th February at 5.00pm | *At this point the Council* ***RESOLVED*** *to exclude the press and public “by reason of the confidential nature of the business” to be discussed and in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.*  Confidential minutes were recorded separately. |
| 9 | To note the date of the next meeting on **Monday 6th March 2017 at 7pm** in the Guildhall. | This was noted and the meeting ended at 10pm. |

END

MAYOR