

AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE MONDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2019 AT THE GUILDHALL TOTNES

You are hereby summoned to attend the Council Matters Committee, which is to be held in the Guildhall, Totnes on **Monday 14th October at 7pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

	Totnes on Monday 14 th October at 7pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:						
No	Subject	Comments	Time				
1	To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.		2 minutes				
	The Committee will adjourn for the following item:		1				
	Question Time: A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask ques	tions or make	15 minutes				
comn	nent regarding the work of the Committee or other items that affect Totnes.						
	The Committee will convene to consider the following items:	•	1				
2	To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of:	Enclosure	5 minutes				
	Council Matters 9 th September 2019 - (already agreed through Full Council)						
3	To consider the current year's budget allocations, budget monitor, balances and forecast	Enclosure to follow	10 minutes				
4	To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan (standing item).		5 minutes				
5	To consider any expenditure or resource implications from the Cemetery Working Group Meeting on 3 rd October 2019	Enclosure	5 minutes				
6	To consider any expenditure or resource implications from the Public Realm Working Group Meeting on 26 th September 2019	Enclosure	5 minutes				
7	To agree a Community Budgeting survey for open comment from 4 th November – 5 th	To be tabled	5 minutes				
	December 2019	at the meeting					
8	To receive an update on the Civic/Birdwood refurbishment project	Verbal update Town Clerk	5 minutes				
9	To receive an update on the Market Square project	Verbal update Town Clerk	5 minutes				
10	To consider IT equipment and Town Council email addresses for all Councillors	Enclosure	5 minutes				
11	To note the deadline for the second round of the Community Grants process is 4 th	Liiciosare	2 minutes				
11	November 2019 for consideration by Council Matters on 11 th November under delegated		2 minutes				
	authority.						
12	To note the meeting scheduled with the company undertaking the public ream audit –	Verbal update	2 minutes				
12	midday on Thursday 21 st November 2019	Town Clerk	2 minutes				
13	To note the latest Christmas Events budget and to receive any necessary updates	Enclosure	5 minutes				
14	To receive an update on the Museum works and receive any requests from Trustees	Verbal update	5 minutes				
		Town Clerk					
15	To consider how best to investigate public toilet provision from 2020 onwards	Verbal update Town Clerk	5 minutes				
16	To consider a Budget Setting Training session for Councillors.	Verbal update	5 minutes				
	Training Session – date TBC	Town Clerk					
	 Community Budgeting open for feedback – 4th November – 5th December Council Matters considered draft 2020/21 budget and Community Budgeting 						
	feedback— 9 th December 2019						
	Full Council sets the 2020/21 budget and requests the precept – 6 th January						
	2020						
17	To consider a request from the Climate Change Working Group for traffic pollution sensors	Enclosure	5 minutes				
18	To note an update on the Museum – terms of lease, fire risk assessment and maintenance	Verbal update	5 minutes				
10	requirements	Town Clerk	Jiiiiiates				
The	Trequirements Committee will be asked to RESOLVE to exclude the press and public "by reason of the confiden		husiness" to				
1110	be discussed and in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings)	=	243111033 10				
19	To consider and agree the bank and petty cash reconciliations (confidential as contains	Enclosure	5 minutes				
1)	personal information of payees).	Liiciosule	Jiiiiiutes				
20	To consider and sign (Clerk and Chair) the 2019/20 staffing budget	Enclosure	10 minutes				
20			10 minutes				
21	To consider a recruitment timeline and job descriptions for Events Officer and Groundsman roles		10 minutes				
22	Date of the next meeting – Monday 11 th November 2019 at 7pm	•	•				
	Date of the next meeting – wionday 11 November 2013 at 7pm						

Future meetings agenda items:

- Annual salary review for following financial year – November 2019
- To consider grant applications for the Community Fund – November 2019
- To consider allocation of funds for planters located around Fore Street and High Street – October 2019
- To consider uses and layout of Civic/Birdwood refurb and Guildhall Offices – November 2019
- To review the Financial Risk Assessment
- To consider projection and screen options for the Council Chamber November 2019
- Update Statement of Internal Control
- To review the Pensions Discretions Policy
- Consider a Business Continuity Plan
- To review the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
- Investment options for general reserve
- To review various staffing policies

- To review the Staff handbook
- To note sick leave and overtime balances
- To consider asset remedial works
- To receive an update on the Market Square project – November 2019
- To consider terms of reference for the IT contractor
- To review the Grievance and Complaints policies
- To review the Communications and Social Media Policy
- Equalities policies for staff and Councillors – November 2019

Members – quorum is 3 members (1/3 of elected)

- Cllr E Price(Chair)
- Cllr M Adams
- Cllr C Allford
- Cllr J Hodgson
- Cllr P Paine
- Cllr A Simms
- Cllr B Piper
- VACANCY

MINUTES FOR THE COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT THE GUILDHALL TOTNES

Present: Cllr E Price (Chair), Cllr C Allford, Cllr J Hodgson, Cllr P Paine, Cllr Piper

Apologies: Cllr M Adams Not present: Cllr Simms

In Attendance: Catherine Marlton (Town Clerk)

	Attendance: Catherine Mariton (Town Clerk)	C		
No	Subject	Comments		
1	To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.	Apologies were received from Cllr M Adams and these were AGREED.		
	The Committee will	adjourn for the following item:		
Public	Question Time: A period of 15 minutes will be allowe	d for members of the public to ask questions or make None.		
comn	nent regarding the work of the Committee or other ite	ms that affect Totnes.		
	The Committee will conv	ene to consider the following items:		
2	To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of: Council Matters 8 th July 2019 - (already agreed through Full Council)	None.		
3	To consider the current year's budget allocations, budget monitor, balances and forecast	The current year budget monitor was considered and AGREED unanimously.		
4	To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan (standing item).	Noted. No actions to approve		
5	To consider the Town Council policy on Cemetery fees for ex-residents	After much discussion it was RECOMMENDED to Full Council that a policy is introduced from 1 st April 2020 where a former parishioner's death has occurred whilst residing in a nursing home outside of Totnes, but they had been resident in Totnes within 3 years of death, single fees will be charged. It was stressed that proof of address and dates would be required to		
6	To consider the AHF Grant process and deadline	be provided for this discretionary reduction to apply. The possibility of a meeting being called was discussed. It was AGREED to hold a meeting of interested parties outside of committee if time allowed before the deadline.		
7	To consider the content of the 30 th September Priority Setting AND Training session for Councillors	It was AGREED the Town Council would draft a loose agenda around general updates, budgets and ongoing strategic priorities to allow free discussion. Cllr Allford and the Town Clerk are going to investigate Chapter 8		
8	To consider how best to start and progress the community consultation element of the 2020/21 precept setting process	training for Councillors. The Town Clerk was asked to draft a timeline for the next Full Council meeting. Detail of the scope of the community budgeting exercise should be considered at October Council Matters.		
9	To consider content for the October Totnes Directory submission – deadline for finalised copy is Wednesday 12 th September 2019.	Councillors were encouraged to contribute to the newsletter.		
10	To note the deadline for the second round of the Community Grants process is 7 th October 2019 for consideration by Council Matters on 14 th October under delegated authority.	It was AGREED to delay the deadline for the Community Grants applications to early November for consideration by November Council Matters.		
11	To review a summary of the required actions resulting from the Risk Assessment programme	The content was reviewed. Councillors thanked the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for undertaking this.		
12	To receive an update on the Arts Council Mosaic project	Noted. No actions to approve.		
13	To note an update regarding Follaton Arboretum	Noted. No actions to approve.		
14	To review the revised Financial Regulations	The Financial Regulations were reviewed and RECOMMENDED to Full Council for adoption.		

15	To consider the expenditure of £306 on Christmas cards from the Civic Budget as it falls outside of current policy	It was AGREED to fund the Mayor's Christmas cards from the Community Outreach budget.	
16	To note the successful completion of the external audit	Noted. Councillors thanked the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for undertaking this.	
17	To consider and agree the bank and petty cash reconciliations (confidential as contains personal information of payees).	These were reviewed and unanimously AGREED	
18	To consider the location of the CTIE service given the Town Council grant funding of the service and it's interest of the ongoing viability.	It was AGREED to fund the provision of Totnes Caring operating from the Mansion CTIE until the end of the 19/20 financial year, up to the total of £3750. It was noted that this would take the allocated budget overspent.	
19	To review the Public Realm budget and consider costings for a professional audit to start the project off.	The proposed Public Realm expenditure was reviewed and the following were AGREED : a) £12500 allocation to a weeding and composting project (as previously budgeted for at the start of the year). b) £8000 for the first stage of a professional wayfinding and public realm audit undertaken by 20/20	
20	To consider a request from the Climate Change Working Group for traffic pollution sensors	The matter was discussed. It was felt more information and research is required before making a decision on the equipment needed.	
21	To review the Civic/Birdwood budget allocation and consider costings for professional surveys to be completed to enable the planning process to start	The proposed project expenditure was reviewed and the following were AGREED : a) £1750 for professional survey work.	
22	To note the latest Christmas Events budget	Noted. No actions to approve.	
23	To consider a draft staffing proposal	The proposed changes were reviewed and unanimously AGREED . Further information would be sent to November Council Matters and discussed with the wider Councillors as part of the budget setting process for 2020/21	
24	To note staff sick and overtime balances	Noted. No actions to approve	
25	To consider a staffing matter in relation to training requirements	The temporary working adjustments requested to allow for Town Clerk to complete CiLCA was AGREED .	
26	Date of the next meeting – Monday 14th October 20	19 at 7pm	

CEMETERY WORKING GROUP, 3RD OCTOBER 2019 HELD AT THE GUILDHALL

Present: Cllrs Adams, Hodgson and Paine, Town Ranger and Administrator.

- 1. **To elect a Chair for the Working Group.** Cllr Adams was unopposed as Chair of the Working Group.
- 2. To update on any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Item 1 - a letter has been sent to the owner of the bench in section B requesting maintenance on the wood, or offering for TTC to do the work required for a fee of £50; both dead trees have been felled; and Cllr Paine has produced a prioritised list of tasks which will be discussed under Item 6 today.

Item 2 – Roughly 14 memorial stones were repaired/made safe by TTC officers in August.

- 3. To consider the co-option or invited attendance of members of the public. An expression of interest has been expressed from Steve Allwood (undertaker and stone mason). It was AGREED that there are benefits from having a professional view from both a memorial mason and undertaker, and that Steve Allwood would be invited to attend specific meetings, and will be notified of the date of the next Cemetery Working Group that is held on site (January 2020).
- 4. To consider erecting signs to tackle the problems of dog walkers allowing dogs off the lead and fouling. Cllr Adams spoke about the incidents she has witnessed and complaints that she has received (and have been received in the Council Offices) about dog fouling. The Working Group RECOMMENDS to the Council Matters Committee that 5 signs (~£4.99 each) are purchased to remind visitors to the cemetery that dogs should be kept on leads and to pick up after their dogs. The signs would be fixed to the side of rubbish bins as you enter the cemetery, the wooden gate, and the bin in the new section. Cllr Hodgson spoke about a trial that SHDC are conducting with starch poo bags it was AGREED that Officers would see if these bags can be obtained from SHDC free of charge to trial in the cemetery and to draft an article for the Totnes Times to highlight availability. It was noted that the problem wasn't with bags being un-binned, but with owners not picking up after their dogs.
- 5. To consider the introduction of wild planting areas in the cemetery. Cllr Hodgson explained the work of the Climate Emergency Group in seeing what TTC could do with its assets to aid biodiversity. The suggestion is for a wildflower area in the cemetery which could help reduce maintenance costs in the long term. The trial area proposed is the circle in the new section and possibly along the back of sections L and M beside the railway line. There were concerns that the prices quoted seemed too low for the preparatory work that would be required and planting of seeds and bulbs. It was also felt that there remains a requirement to maintain the grass around the graves in all but the old part as this enables those who are less mobile to still visit the graveside allowing grass to grow longer may prevent access for some and pose a health and safety risk (and has attracted complaints to the Council Offices in the past). The proposal is on the agenda for Full Council on Monday and will also go to the Council Matters Committee. There was also suggestions of what to do with the Chapel, which will be an agenda item for the next Working Group, and the installation of a toilet the Town Ranger advised that previous work had looked into this idea but that it was a high cost due to the requirement of hand digging in the cemetery (due to the graves).
- 6. To review the list of urgent works produced by Cllr Paine see attached. The Town Ranger gave an update on progress the dead trees have been felled in sections 9 and 12, and he is tackling the ivy on some of the stones around the Chapel. It was AGREED that once the composting area is up and running, and with the winter approaching, it will make it easier to cut back and dispose of branches/saplings as identified. Cllr Paine has AGREED, with the Town Ranger's assistance, to cut back the ivy and reshape the holly in section 11. Three dead willows have been identified for removal between Section Q and Smithfields. It was AGREED that officers will take this forward. It

was **AGREED** that the Town Ranger would contact the SHDC Tree Officer to look at the oaks in the Garden of Rest which are displaying bracket fungus low down on the trunk, and to advise on the safety of these trees.

- 7. **To update on the arrangements for the composting compound (Town Ranger to update).** The Town Ranger explained that Environment Agency permission is needed to set up a composting area. It may be easier to do so if only waste created in the cemetery is handled, rather than accepting garden waste from Totnes Gardens, as this may require a T23 exemption and a transfer of waste licence.
- 8. **To consider the use of the cemetery by the Air Ambulance.** Cllr Adams reported that the air ambulance has landed in the cemetery on a number of occasions over the summer and have said that lighting for night landings would be useful. It was **AGREED** that this should go to the Council Matters Committee for consideration, but that the cost of installing power for a lighting pole (if it has to be hand dug) could make this idea prohibitively costly when there is a night landing site for the town already up and running in Borough Park.
- 9. To consider the offer by Allwood Memorial Masons to replace the broken memorial stone of a Royal Navy Lieutenant free of charge. Following an item in the Totnes Times, no family members have come forward to claim the grave. To RECOMMEND to the Council Matters Committee that Allwoods are thanked for this kind offer and that in the absence of any surviving family coming forward, their assistance is accepted.
- 10. Date of next meeting January 2020 (exact date TBC).

Sara Halliday Cemetery and Committees Administrator 3rd October 2019

ITEM 6 PUBLIC REALM WORKING GROUP

Public Realm Working Group - 26th September 2019 at 1pm

Attendees - Town Clerk, Marketing Manager, Cllr Luker, Cllr Matthews (Chair), Trixie (member of the public)

1. To review the Public Realm budget

Public Realm 19/20		
Totnes Gardens AND Corrie Road Cutting		AGREED
Town Groundsman transfer		AGREED
Composting project start up costs		AGREED
Tidy Totnes	770	AGREED
Market Square seating, ramp improvements and new		
steps	35000	Exact costings to be obtained
2 large welcome to Totnes and map boards	0	NOT REQUIRED - AUDIT NEEDED
Additional planters around Fore and High Street	1500	Cost for 2 initial planters
Signage Audit		£8,000 AGREED Phase 1
Vire Island picnic benches		£2,000 AGREED - waiting on SHDC SLA
Chicken Run Steps/Ramp improvements		COMPLETE 350 staffing 200 materials
Collapark investment		AGREED - waiting on SHDC specification
Steamer Quay picnic benches		£2,000 AGREED - waiting on SHDC SLA
BALANCE	70630	

2. To receive an update on the signage audit and public realm project

20/20 appointed to carry out the first stage of the audit. Councillors will be invited to attend a first stage meeting in November to discuss the brief.

3. Update on the Tidy Totnes campaign

Article to go in the Totnes Times thanking traders for their involvement. The hope is that it will encourage further action from other businesses.

4. Update on picnic benches - waiting an SLA

SLA being chased from SHDC before orders placed.

5. Planters on the high street – waiting a reply from DCC highways in order to proceed. Is there an off highway location we can proceed with as a test?

It was AGREED to prioritise the installation of a planter at Bank Lane to hide the commercial bins from the street and to place another outside the Guildhall. Council Matters will consider expenditure for 2 planters to be made by a local firm and filled with compost and tree on site. Town Clerk to contact SHDC and DCC highways once funding has been agreed.

6. Who to invite to future meetings

It was AGREED to invite five named members of the community to future meetings. Non Councillor attendees are non-voting members who agree to conform to the Town Council Code of Conduct. Further requests for involvement will be considered by the Working Group on a case by case basis. Names of those involved will be published when consent is given.

7. Need to chase play park designs for Collapark

Chasing email sent, further updates to Council Matters

8. Update on the Market Square/Civic project

Verbal update given. Catherine is arranging to meet with SHDC on who is undertaking what part of the project and the budgets involved. Building surveys have been completed and further actions and progress will be reported back to Council Matters

9. Date of next meeting – Thursday 28th November at 1pm

Catherine Marlton

Town Clerk

ITEM 10 ICT EQUIPMENT AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

Budget is £4800

16 tablets at £245 each = £3920

Annual subscription to Google for additional email addresses (<u>Cllr.surname@totnestowncouncil.gov.uk</u>) = £1170

TOTAL proposed expenditure of £5090 (£290 over budget)

Details of tablet provided below:

I am able to supply refurbished 9.7" 2017 32GB WiFi Apple iPads with 12 month warranty, basic case (includes corner protection and stand) and charger/cable.

1-9 units £265.00 10+ units £245.00

Please can you give me plenty of notice if you wish to place an order as it could take 2-3 weeks to get them all ready for you.

ITEM 13 WORKING CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL BUDGET

Updated 9 October 2019 by C Marlton - Working document only, estimated included

ESTIMATED BUDGET CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL TOTNES 2019					
EXPENDITURE					
Security/Steward Costs and Radio Hire	4000	Ben to arrange			
Additional lighting and signage	2000	To direct and get people up to Rotherfold and spread out			
2 x 6metre gazebos - hired	1500	Ben to get a cost			
Hire of Rotherfold	55	Confirmed cost			
Hire of Shady Garden	N/A	Confirmed cost			
Hire of Market Place	N/A	Confirmed cost			
Hire of Civic Hall Car Park	434	Confirmed cost			
Birdwood House Hire for HQ	150	Confirmed cost			
Road Closed Application	300	Ben to arrange			
Costs associated with road closure such as signage hire	1500	Ben to arrange			
Waste Collection	2000	Ben to arrange			
Insurance	336	Confirmed cost			
Facebook, website and other marketing on rebranding of events to community based	500	Facebook page live.			
High Vis Jackets	250	Colourful/personalised options being considered			
Printing of Flyers and leaflets	500	Sponsorship monies will cover			
Medical - private	555	Confirmed cost			
Totnes Town Council Coordinator for 19 weeks from 12th August	4750	Confirmed cost			
Additional staffing/stewarding costs for the 3 nights	600	Ben to arrange			
Electricity	850	Confirmed cost			
Contingency for power and lighting at the Rotherfold	800	Ben to arrange			
Entertainment	6000	Ben to arrange			
First Tuesday Late Night Switch on costs	1140	See separate breakdown			
Christmas Community Arts Workshop Day	1875	See separate breakdown			
Staffing for the Arts Day and Lights Switch On	0	Included in budgets above			
Purchase and installation of Christmas Tree	300	£200 christmas tree, £100 electrician			
New Christmas Tree festoon lights	975	Confirmed cost			
Christmas Lights on the Civic Hall Foyer	300	Confirmed cost			
Bob the Bus donation for Park and Ride on late nights	600	Confirmed cost			
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	32270	Comminieu cost			
	322/0				
INCOME POTENTIAL					
Bar/Catering Stalls x 25 @ £200 - £240 a night	-15000	Estimated			
Aprox 55 Stalls for fore street, high street @ £25 (£30 inc vat), £62.50 (£75 inc VAT) - £83.33 (100 inc vat) a night	-10000	Estimated			
Sponsorship from Visit Totnes for High Vis Jackets	-100	Confirmed income			
SUBTOTAL COST TO TOWN COUNCIL MAXIMUM ESTIMATED LIABILITY	7170				
Allocated Arts Budget	-10000				
TOTAL POTENTIAL FINANCIAL COST TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OVER BUDGETED	-2830	£6600 agreed by Full Council over budgeted £10,000 Arts budget so currently expect underspending on the allocated budget			

No budget originally allocated for Climate Change works **TOTAL proposed expenditure of £159 initially to trial**

Email from Cllr Luker below:

As requested I met with Sarah Harcombe of SHDC yesterday who is the person who carries out air pollution monitoring and works for James Kershaw.

Myths - the monitoring stations that everyone refers to on the main roads through Town (Bridgetown Hill, Station Road, etc) have not been there for about 4 years due to SHDC not having funds to run them.

Actual - SHDC do monitor air pollution by using simple 'test tube' type devices which are strapped to lampposts, etc. These are supplied by a company called GRADCO: https://www.gradko.com/environmental/

Sarah thought these were about £5 per tube. They are in place for a month and then sent off to the laboratory for analysis.

These provide a NO2 Nitrogen Dioxide levels. They give an **average monthly figure** which is really to fit in with Government regulations rather than what data we are after obtaining.

SHDC have been monitoring, using these devices, in the top end of Town (near Reeconomy Centre) & Sarah is going to let me have the data. They have not been looking at questions such as 'is the situation getting worse', which I suspect it has as more and more people use this as a rat run.

Sarah did say that they would be interested to hear ideas & maybe be involved with us to discuss solutions to improve air quality (Jaqci - can you send James the minutes of T&T working Group if you don't already do so).

Due to financial problems in local government most solutions are not going to be implemented. I have a couple of reports Sarah gave me a) Air Quality Assessment 01/2015 by AQConsultants & b) Further Assessment of AQ in Totnes dated 12/2009. A quick look through seems to cover many of the things we have discussed e.g. speeding up traffic, roundabouts / crossings instead of traffic lights, etc.

What do we need to do?

a) if SHDC carry on monitoring the main roads then at least we will have some data and can compare what is happening over time. We probably need to discuss with James Kershaw the location of these monitoring tubes. Reminder this is only NO2 data:

NO2 forms from emissions from cars, trucks and buses, power plants, and off-road equipment. **Nitrogen Dioxide** (NO2) is one of a group of gases called nitrogen oxides (NOx). While all of these gases are harmful to human health and the environment, NO2 is of greater concern.

b) SHDC are not monitoring the Town centre or looking at particulate emissions and these are the really nasty ones!

Health Effects

The size of particles is directly linked to their potential for causing health problems. Small particles less than 10 micrometers in diameter pose the greatest problems, because they can get deep into your lungs, and some may even get into your bloodstream.

Exposure to such particles can affect both your lungs and your heart. Numerous scientific studies have linked particle pollution exposure to a variety of problems, including:

- premature death in people with heart or lung disease
- nonfatal heart attacks
- irregular heartbeat
- aggravated <u>asthma</u>
- decreased lung function
- increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing or difficulty breathing.

People with heart or lung diseases, children, and older adults are the most likely to be affected by particle pollution exposure.

In order to produce some meaningful data over say the next 12 months we need to set up our own monitoring to collect NO2 & Particulate emissions in the Town. This will give us a basis for any proposed changes to speed limit changes; shared space options and vehicle restrictions. I would also like to see local schools involved as pressure to change will come from parents and children if they see the health risks associated with carrying on as we are at present. Totnes is getting more & more bunged up with traffic and I can only see this situation getting worse.

OPTIONS

- a) see quote from Advanced Ozone Products already received but that only gives us one monitor.
- b) Go for a cheaper monitoring option. See two options as follows:
- 1) https://plumelabs.com/en/ These cost £159.00 each and we could purchase a number of these. They have the benefit of being easy to use and constantly monitor as one walks around.
- 2) Clean Space Tag Similar to above but we would have to buy via USA (Amazon) and are listed at \$49.99. See 'Fully Charged' You Tube about this.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4C1zjblLlyl

Perhaps we buy one of these and test out before committing ourselves.

Anyhow, have fun reading this information and hopefully we can discuss and make a decision.

Regards

Colin Luker Totnes Town Councillor