

**AGENDA FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE  
MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019 AT THE GUILDHALL, TOTNES**

You are hereby SUMMONED to attend the Town Matters Committee, which is to be held in the Guildhall, Totnes on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

No	Subject	Comments	Timing
1	To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.		2 mins
	<i>The Committee will adjourn for the following items:</i>		
	Public Question Time: A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Committee or other items that affect Totnes.		15 mins
	<i>The Committee will convene to consider the following items:</i>		
2	To update on any matters arising from the minutes of 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2019. (Note: already agreed through Full Council.)	Document enclosed.	5 mins
3	To consider any actions from the Arts Working Group on 10 <sup>th</sup> September.	Verbal update.	10 mins
4	To consider any actions from the Climate Change Working Group on 9 <sup>th</sup> September.	Verbal update – Cllr Allen.	10 mins
5	To consider any actions from the Community Engagement Working Group on 16 <sup>th</sup> September.	Verbal update – Cllr Webberley.	10 mins
6	To note updates from the Cultural and Arts Link Councillors.		15 mins
7	To consider the outcomes of a meeting held on 4 <sup>th</sup> September with the Totnes Community Development Society about The Mansion.	Verbal update from Cllr Luker.	10 mins
8	To consider the potential uses for the adopted public telephone boxes at Swallowfields and Plymouth Road (opposite the Cemetery).		10 mins
9	To consider possible locations for three South Hams District Council litter bins.	Document enclosed.	10 mins
10	To consider the Earth Protector Town initiative.	Document enclosed.	10 mins
11	To note the minutes of the Totnes Supporting Fairtrade meeting held on 11th July 2019.	Document enclosed.	5 mins
12	To note concerns raised by members of the public to ambulance response times.		5 mins
13	To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – <b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.00pm in the Guildhall.</b>		2 mins

Sara Halliday  
Committee and Cemetery Administrator

Future meetings agenda items:

- Link Councillor Updates:
  - Sep – Cultural, and Arts
  - Nov – Elderly and Vulnerable People, and Young People/Youth
  - Jan – Heritage, and Open Space, Sports Provision, Leisure

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

- Cllr Piper (Chair)
- Cllr Allen
- Cllr Hendriksen
- Cllr Matthews
- Cllr Paine
- Cllr Perkins

- Mar – Traffic & Transport, and Environment & Sustainability
  - May – Disability, and Business and Employment
- Cllr Skinner
  - Cllr Trow
  - Cllr Webberley



**MINUTES OF THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE  
MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019 AT THE GUILDHALL TOTNES**

Present: Councillors B Piper (Chair), G Allen, R Hendriksen, D Matthews, P Paine, V Trow and L Webberley.

Apologies: None.

Not Present: Cllrs K Perkins and S Skinner.

In Attendance: 3 members of the public (Andrew Chadwick and Celia Minoughan from Totnes Ramblers, and Philip Nash from Plastic Free Totnes) and Sara Halliday (Committee and Cemetery Administrator).

No	Subject	Comments
1	To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.	No apologies had been received.
<i>The Committee will adjourn for the following items:</i>		
	A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Committee or other items that affect Totnes.	<p>Totnes Ramblers were speaking in support of item 3 and were asking Totnes Town Council (TTC) to adopt the Ramblers Charter for Walking Neighbourhoods and improve walking in Totnes. Totnes Ramblers and Visit Totnes are already working closely together to promote walks and the Franklin Trail to visitors to the town, and the Visit Totnes website advertises Ramblers events.</p> <p>Plastic Free Totnes updated on the group's activities, with Totnes Alive providing a good opportunity to engage with various community groups. Following progress against the five areas of compliance required for a town to be considered as plastic free, Plastic Free Totnes have submitted an application for Totnes to be recognised as a plastic free community, which it is hoped will be confirmed soon. All Totnes schools are signed up to end single use plastic. Plastic Free Totnes would like to encourage TTC to use its influence to stop the use of single use plastic where possible, for example in its buildings and at the market. Cllr Allen will notify Plastic Free Totnes of the date of the next Climate Emergency Working Group.</p>
<i>The Committee will convene to consider the following items:</i>		
2	To update on any matters arising from the minutes of 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2019. (Note: already agreed through June 2019 Full Council.)	<p>Item 4 – Resolved by Full Council, and item 5 on this agenda.</p> <p>Item 5 – Resolved by Full Council. Cllrs Hendriksen and Piper will meet to draft the specification for recording equipment to present to the next Venues Working Group.</p> <p>Item 7 – Resolved by Full Council and a letter was sent to South Hams District Council on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The seating in the bus shelter has now been adjusted to include lower level seating.</p>

		<p>Item 8 – Resolved by Full Council. Proud2Be have been informed of the dates that their flag will fly.</p>
3	To consider the request to support the Ramblers “Charter for Walking Neighbourhoods”.	<p>Cllr Allen (as TTC representative on the Parish Paths Partnership) and Cllr Trow as Link Councillor for Open Spaces, will engage with the Ramblers. The Committee was unanimous in its decision:</p> <p>To <b>RECOMMEND</b> to Full Council that Totnes Town Council adopts the Ramblers Charter for Walking Neighbourhoods.</p>
4	To consider how Totnes Town Council can, where possible, reduce its consumption of single-use plastic in its offices.	<p>Standing orders were suspended to enable Mr Nash to be involved in discussion. A number of examples were given of where plastic is used which is not immediately clear (e.g. in mulch and in tea bags). Cllr Allen said that the Climate Emergency Working Group is looking to work with other local councils to help people identify and stop plastic use at source.</p> <p>It was <b>AGREED</b> that the Climate Change Working Group will look at the Single Use Plastic issue, and that Plastic Free Totnes will be invited to help advise on where TTC may be able to make adjustments or changes.</p>
5	To receive an update from the Community Engagement Plan Working Group.	<p>Cllr Webberley gave an update from the Community Engagement Plan Working Group held in June. Councillors are keen to engage the community, and have identified the following opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet and Greet sessions – starting in September, three per month staffed by two Councillors in the following locations: Saturday in the Butterwalk and outside Follaton Stores, and Wednesday at St John’s Community Café.</li> <li>• Information - in the Totnes Directory (there will be information in the August edition) and another notice board to host information at the bottom of the town.</li> <li>• Council Meetings - taking one in four meetings to Bridgetown, Follaton and the Civic Hall, as the Guildhall is not accessible to all. Further work is required to find suitable venues that are available and costings for hire.</li> <li>• TTC website - needs to be updated to allow improved smart phone use.</li> </ul> <p>The next meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7pm.</p> <p>To <b>RECOMMEND</b> to Full Council that all Councillors sign up to a rota for Meet and Greet sessions which will occur three times a month to encourage community engagement.</p>

6	To consider the Devon and Somerset Fire Service consultation on the "Service Delivery Operation Model Proposal".	It was <b>AGREED</b> that Councillors would arrange to meet with Totnes Fire Station fire fighters to discuss the consultation option to reduce from two to one fire tenders in Totnes. Out of Committee Councillors would circulate and agree a recommendation to go to Full Council in September in order to meet the consultation deadline of 22 <sup>nd</sup> September.
7	To consider how Totnes Town Council might support "VE Day 75" on 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 which commemorates the 75 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 2 in Europe.	To <b>RECOMMEND</b> to Full Council that Totnes Town Council welcomes the international celebration of peace and in commemoration of VE Day 75 make it a time to remember, reflect and pay tribute to the millions who played a part, lost their lives, were persecuted, or have been affected by war. The national programme of events will be forwarded to the relevant groups (e.g. churches, pubs, Totnes Caring) to raise their awareness and potential participation, and to invite applications for funding from the Community Grants Scheme and/or Paige Adams Trust to support any community event planned.
8	To consider a request for a name plate for Windeatt Lane off Plymouth Road.	It was <b>AGREED</b> that this request would be referred to the Planning Committee.
9	To consider the format (written or verbal) for Link Councillor updates, and a schedule.	It was <b>AGREED</b> to adopt the schedule for Link Councillor updates at future Town Matters Committees. Councillors are encouraged to email a few bullet points that can be circulated with the Committee papers, but short verbal updates will also be accepted.
10	To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – <b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.00pm in the Guildhall.</b>	Noted.

## ITEM 9 – New Litter Bins

South Hams District Council have contacted Totnes Town Council about litter bins. They have conducted some bin rationalisation (see below) and as a result three bins have been freed up that could be placed in new locations around the town (subject to SHDC having reasonable access to empty the bins).

Works by SHDC on the rubbish bins includes:

- Market Square - a second floor standing bin has been fitted at the front end of Civic Square as requested by the Town Council. A litter bin has been removed from Vire Island (1 of 9 bins) to allow the new bin to be fitted without altering the FCC contract. The extra bin is in response to the single bin being overwhelmed, especially on Market days.
- Vire Island - new floor standing bins are on order to replace the damaged and eroded bins on Vire. These bins are of larger capacity than the current ones and after consulting with [REDACTED], it is our intention to reduce the remaining 8 bins down to 5. These will be strategically placed along the footpath and will be placed where the current bins are being filled most. We see no point in replacing bins that are not used. This will give us 3 bins to look at placing elsewhere in the town.
- The post mounted bin under the bypass in Collapark is now reinstated.

A member of the public visited the Council Offices in early August to request that a litter bin is installed at Lower Collapark/Lower Collins Road near the underpass – bullet three above would suggest that this request has been overtaken by events.

**STOP ECOCIDE: CHANGE THE LAW**  
 ECOCIDE is *serious loss, damage or destruction of ecosystems*, and includes climate and cultural damage. We believe ECOCIDE should be recognised as an atrocity crime at the International Criminal Court - alongside Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity.

ECOCIDE has severe impacts on all of Earth's inhabitants, not just humans. We need to expand our collective duty of care to protect the natural living world and all life. International ECOCIDE crime is a law to protect the Earth.

This is about realigning law with a higher moral code: *first do no harm*.

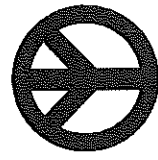
**A POWERFUL WAY TO CHANGE INDUSTRY DIRECTION**  
 Climate negotiations have failed to prevent escalating harm to the natural world. Existing civil law cannot prevent serious ecological and climatic harm resulting from current industrial practices and new untested technologies.

Only a criminal law can stop investors from backing ecocidal practices, and insurers from underwriting them. Persons of superior responsibility - CEOs and government ministers - become individually criminally responsible for ECOCIDE which they recklessly cause or contribute to e.g. by issuing permits or licences.

**SIGN UP TO BECOME AN EARTH PROTECTOR**

By becoming an Earth Protector, you help fund the legal support required while creating visibility and momentum for this crucial amendment to international law.

If you happen to be a frontline environmental activist, signing up will also provide you with proof that you are taking peaceful action as a **conscientious protector** not a criminal. i.e. to prevent harm not to cause it.



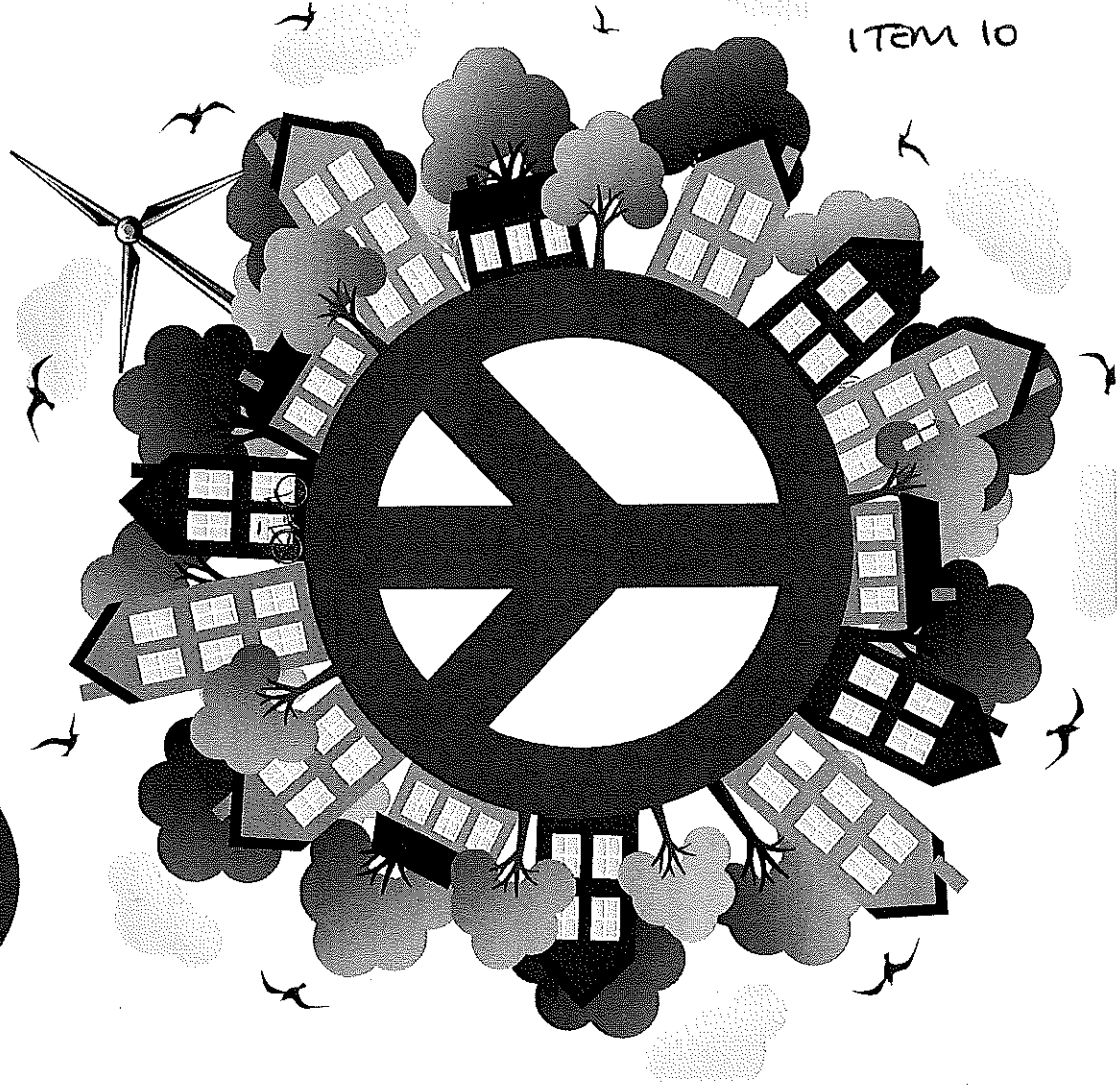
**EARTH**  
 PROTECTORS

We all know in our hearts that serious harm to our Earth is wrong - it is already a matter of conscience.

Now it is time to make it a matter of law. Join us.

**[www.stopECOCIDE.earth](http://www.stopECOCIDE.earth)**

HOW TO BECOME AN  
**EARTH**  
 PROTECTOR TOWN



ITEM 10

## What is an Earth Protector Town?

Earth Protector Towns (EPT) are a global collaborative movement of Towns to protect the Earth, using an interactive process including specific goals and guidelines.

In declaring itself an Earth Protector Town, a Council undertakes to collaborate and cooperate with communities, local government bodies, businesses and other organisations to protect land, wildlife, air, soil and water. The Town is also endorsing the campaign to amend the Rome statute and declare Ecocide\* a crime at the International Criminal Court (ICC)

## How is the Earth Protector Town different?

What we offer the Town Council is essentially the opportunity to be part of the movement to change the international law and to change the world; top down and down up. The framework will be by nature wholistic, as well as participatory allowing for dialogue between Councils globally, and collaboration with participating business and NGOs. This is the time we need to act together and bring change. A movement of towns around the globe has exponentially more impact than one town acting on its own.



Ecocide is "loss or damage to, or destruction of ecosystem(s) of a given territory(ies), such that peaceful enjoyment by the inhabitants has been or will be severely diminished."



## What does my town have to do to become an Earth Protector Town?

There are five goals for Earth Protector Towns:

- 🌱 Produce a strategy and a date to achieve a carbon zero future
  - 🌱 Practice the movement from sustainable to regenerative living wherever possible
  - 🌱 Protect and enhance eco-systems, habitats and species in and around the town
  - 🌱 Pioneer the reduction and elimination of single use plastic
  - 🌱 Promote awareness of climate and ecological emergencies
- The Council pledges that any future investment decisions consider the environmental practices of the institutions involved, as well as existing legal requirements on public investments.
- These goals form a framework for a steering group to audit, plan and monitor the activities and projects which will help to protect and enhance the environment in and around the town.

## How do I get involved?

The pilot project is already underway, and the framework is evolving. Get in touch with us to register your interest. The framework will launch on 22nd April 2020 and will be shared for towns across the world to use.

In the meantime, you could create a steering group for your town to look at what's currently being done and audit the activities of the Council to see where any improvements can be made.

Has your Council declared a climate emergency and committed to become carbon neutral by 2025?

Are there other things your Council is doing that you'd like to tell us about?

**Contact us at [hello@EarthProtectorTowns.earth](mailto:hello@EarthProtectorTowns.earth)  
to join the conversation visit  
[www.EarthProtectorTowns.earth](http://www.EarthProtectorTowns.earth)**

Ecocide is "loss or damage to, or destruction of ecosystem(s) of a given territory(ies), such that peaceful enjoyment by the inhabitants has been or will be severely diminished."





Minutes of Meeting Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 The Seven Stars

**Present:** Chairman : David Horsburgh , Wendy Hartley, Carolyn Stilwell, Ann Arscott ,Colin Luker

**1.Apologies :** Pruw Boswell Harper, Lionel Harper, Frances (Fran) Deimel

**2.Matters arising**

**Signs**

Celebration on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June by the Kingsbridge Hill sign went well. Kathy lent glasses and we toasted the sign with prosecco !

Guests attending were our Mayor, Jacqi Hodgson and husband Roger, Councillors Jo Sweett and Colin Luker , Honoured Citizen , Eileen Crang and Kathy Alexander. Thanks to Pruw , who wrote a good article which was in the Totnes Times on June 28<sup>th</sup> with a photograph.

**3.Treasurers Report**

We have £579.68 in the bank.

**4.Brixham fairtrade Event**

We were invited to the Guardhouse Café at Berry Head on July 12<sup>th</sup>, but nobody was free to attend.

**5.South West Regional Conference**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019 Exeter County Hall

Wendy is unable to go. David may attend. Any others who can come are welcome.

**6.Shops visits**

**Stickers** – Pruw and Lionel to be asked to help Mark with production of 40 stickers. Cost quoted as £38 plus VAT  
Some premises visited need to be given stickers, as we ran out of them.

**Results- nb. Please could everyone inform Wendy of the results of their visits so she can compile an up to date list.**

Wendy – None she visited qualified

Carolyn – Curator, Nature's Way Green Café all qualified. NOT Pie Shop or Mansion Café

Ann – Morrisons, Ben's Tapas, Rumour, Young Devon, Bay Horse, Tulsa , bay Horse all qualified NOT Maisies, Spar, Cranches or The Old Bakery

David – Greenlife and Happy Apple qualified

Carolyn suggested we used a slightly condensed version of the information Mark produced to give to businesses.  
(Reduced so it fits on just one side of A5. )

Will be sent with the Minutes as an attachment.

Wendy showed us an excellent colourful leaflet Great Torrington fairtrade group have produced. **Pruw** to be shown this with a view to asking her if she can please produce something similar for Totnes.

**7. Co-op Good Causes.** Information circulated. Not appropriate for us as we do not have a Co-op !

**8.Goals for the coming year**

We have until July 2020 to complete the goals.

**The local council** to be encouraged to use fairtrade tea and coffee. Obtainable from Oxfam or Greenlife. **Colin** Luker will undertake to speak to the Council, and to staff who buy the tea and coffee.

Colin has a link with Chamber of Commerce.

**Jacqi** Hodgson to be asked to remind and encourage South Hams Council to support fairtrade and use fairtrade products

**David** to visit Laura House.

**Goal 3** involves encouraging local workplaces and community organisations to support fairtrade and use fairtrade products as much as possible.

**Fairtrade Primary Schools Conference** booked for Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 at KEVICC. Theme will probably be chocolate . We need to raise c£150 towards admin expenses plus cost of refreshments and prizes .

**Fundraising**

Could apply to Paige Adams Trust , Totnes Town Council, for funding.

Could approach councillors for money from their allocation.

**Quiz Night** At the Bay Horse. Second Monday in February 2020.

**Goal 4 Media coverage.** **Pruw** is very good at contacting Totnes Times and submitting articles.

**Colin** was asked to ask that information about Totnes being a fairtrade town is included on the town's website.

**Goal 5** to be discussed at the next meeting.

**Date of next meeting: AGM 5.45p.m. Wednesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> The Seven Stars.**

