

# **DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE**

# **MONDAY 22ND MARCH 2021 – HELD REMOTELY USING ZOOM**

Present: Councillors V Trow (Chair), C Allford, P Allford, S Collinson, L Webberley, G Allen (intermittent connection), P Paine (joined at 18.40) and A Galvin (joined at 19.05).

## Apologies: Councillor D Matthews.

Not Present: Councillor S Skinner.

## In Attendance: Cllr Piper (from 19.00), one member of the public and S Halliday (Governance and Projects Manager).

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.**

Cllr Allen read out a statement about how the meeting would be conducted, recorded and live streamed on social media.

Apologies were received from Cllr Matthews and were accepted.

*The Committee will adjourn for the following items:*

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present at this point in the meeting.

*The Committee reconvened.*

### **2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **To approve the minutes of 22nd February 2021 and update on any matters arising.**

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of proceedings. Matters arising:

Item 4 – This will be discussed under agenda Item 3.

Item 5 – Resolved by Full Council and the response has been sent.

Item 7 – Complete. A number of posts were made on the Totnes Town Council Facebook page in the week beginning 15th March 2021.

Item 8 – Actioned through the Totnes Partnership meetings. It is hoped that Citizen’s Advice will speak at the next Committee.

### **3. COMMUNITY HEROES FOR COVID AWARD**

### **To consider the details, criteria and timeline for the Community Heroes Award announced in January 2021.**

The Committee expressed concerns that the third wave of the COVID pandemic experienced in continental Europe might affect the planned easing of lockdown restrictions in the UK and that setting dates now for events in June may be affected. It was **AGREED** that this is potentially a large project and that further discussion is needed to break the various elements down to take forward.

### **4. DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL DRAFT RESOURCE AND WASTE STRATEGY**

**To consider how to respond to the Devon County Council Draft Resource and Waste Strategy for Devon and Torbay, with recommendations to Full Council to meet the deadline of 14th April 2021.**

The Officer set out the background to the consultation and the themes covered in the questionnaire. It was **AGREED** that the questionnaire would be circulated to Committee members for their comments by 31st March, these comments will be collated and circulated on 1st April for agreement out of committee to make a recommendation to go to Full Council on 12th April 2021 (in order to meet the consultation deadline).

POST-MEETING NOTE: the survey was circulated to Councillors on 22nd March. No comments have been received so there is no recommendation for Full Council to consider.

### **5. TOWN FLAG**

**To consider commissioning a town flag to be made and for it to be regularly flown from the Civic Hall flagpole.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that a town flag (see image below) is purchased on printed fabric (costing between £50-70 for a 150cm x 90cm flag) and is regularly flown from the Civic Hall (except during forecasted high winds).



### **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **To consider Town Council/Councillor community engagement opportunities in 2021.**

It was **AGREED** that until there is more certainty about the date when lockdown restrictions will be lifted, offering in person events and surgeries will be difficult. This item will return to the next meeting.

### **7. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER**

**To consider a Traffic Regulation Order to simplify the Care and Health Workers’ Parking Exemption Scheme to allow 3 hours parking in No Waiting Limited Waiting, Pay and Display, and Resident Parking spaces.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that this Traffic Regulation Order is supported.

### **8. RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN**

**To consider support for the ‘Right to Food’ campaign.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that Totnes Town Council supports the ‘Right to Food’ campaign that makes access to food a legal right for all, and that it pledges its support by:

* Adding its signature to the #RightToFood campaign pledge;
* Signing the Parliamentary petition;
* Asking the local MP to sign Early Day Motion 1251 on the #RightToFood;
* Writing to the National Food Strategy Team; and
* Telling everyone via the Totnes Town Council website and Facebook page that it is backing the #RightToFood.

### **9. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**

### **To note any update from the Climate Change Working Group on 23rd February 2021.**

No minutes of this meeting had been received. Councillors reiterated that minutes from this working group need to be reviewed by the Committee. No Councillor connected to the meeting felt able to comment on the Working Group meeting.

### **10. TOTNES PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

**To note a summary of minutes from recent Totnes Partnership meetings.**

Noted. The Committee acknowledged how useful these partnership meetings have been during the first year of the pandemic and the enormous efforts of all Totnes’ community organisations in assisting those in need.

### **11. HOMELESSNESS AND VULNERABLE UPDATE**

### **To note the minutes of the Caring Town Homelessness and Vulnerable People meeting held on 17th January 2021.**

Noted.

### **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

### **To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Tuesday 1st June 2021 at 6.30pm.**

### Noted. It was explained that the number of Monday Bank Holidays in April and May has necessitated this change in meeting day as a one off.

Sara Halliday

Governance and Projects Manager