

# **MINUTES FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE**

# **MONDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2021 IN THE GUILDHALL**

Present: Councillors V Trow (Chair), G Allen, S Collinson and P Paine.

## Apologies: Councillor D Matthews and L Webberley.

Not Present: Councillor S Skinner.

## In Attendance: One member of the public, S Branch (Marketing and Communications Manager) 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 Trow read out a statement about how the meeting would be conducted and recorded.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Matthews and Webberley and were accepted.

*The Committee will adjourn for the following items:*

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A member of the public spoke about the background to forming links with the town of Salfit, the virtual meetings that have taken place and the request for the Town Council to formalise the virtual twinning of the two towns.

It was **AGREED** to bring forward agenda item 6.

*The Committee reconvened.*

**6. VIRTUAL TWINNING**

**To consider a request to have a virtual twinning between Totnes with Salfit in the West Bank.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that Totnes Town Council supports a virtual twinning between Totnes and Salfit and that Councillors participate in a Zoom meeting each year.

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

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

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

Item 3 – This idea will be put on the November agenda.

Item 5 – Resolved by Full Council and a replacement flag will be purchased.

Item 7 – Resolved by Full Council and an email of support has been sent to Devon Highways.

Item 8 – Resolved by Full Council and all actions completed.

### **3. CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV)**

### **To consider whether the Council would support the principle of installing CCTV at known trouble spots for anti-social behaviour in the town (for example The Plains, The Lamb Garden).**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it supports the installation of CCTV at anti-social behaviour trouble spots in the town through grant funding when the opportunity arises.

### **4. MINOR INJURIES UNIT**

**To consider writing to the NHS Commissioning Group (copying the local MP) about the continued closure of the Totnes Minor Injuries Unit**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it writes to the NHS commissioning group and the local MP requesting that the Minor Injuries Unit is re-opened as a matter of priority. Cllrs are to provide the draft letter.

### **5. GAMBLING POLICY CONSULTATION**

**To consider the Council’s response to the South Hams District Council consultation on the Gambling Statement of Principles (reviewed every three years).**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it responds to the consultation that it is supportive of the revised policy.

### **7. SEAGULL PROBLEMS**

**To consider the seagull problem of noise, aggressive behaviour and public health impact in the town.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that:

a. the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is invited to speak at an open meeting on the subject; and

b. South Hams District Council are requested to provide wheelie bins on markets days for the secure placement of rubbish arising from food vendors.

### **8. GRAFFITI**

**To note an update to the Council’s response to graffiti in the town.**

It was **AGREED** to investigate whether the Town Council could apply for grant funding to purchase anti-graffiti paint which could held by the Council and drawn on by householders whose properties are targets for graffiti.

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

### **To note any update from the Climate Change Working Group on 20th April 2021.**

Noted. To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it writes to South West Water requesting where and when sewage has been discharged into the River Dart.

### **10. COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATOR UPDATE**

**To note a report from the Community Co-ordinator.**

Noted.

### **11. AIRBAND PROJECT**

### **To note the Airband partnership with Connecting Devon and Somerset introducing a rural broadband project.**

### Noted.

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

### **To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 22nd November 2021 at 6.30pm.**

### Noted.

Sara Halliday

Governance and Projects Manager