



AGENDA FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE

MONDAY 30TH MAY 2022 IN THE GUILDHALL

You are hereby **SUMMONED** to attend the **Town Matters Committee** on **Monday 30th May 2022** at **6.30pm** for a maximum of 90 minutes in the Guildhall for the purpose of transacting the following business:

Committee Members: Councillors V Trow (Chair), G Allen, T Bennett, S Collinson, J Cummings, J Hannam, A Oliver, P Paine, B Piper and L Webberley.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair will read out the following statement:

Welcome to everyone attending and observing the meeting.

A reminder that open proceedings of this meeting will be video recorded. If members of the public make presentations, they will be deemed to have consented to being recorded. By entering the Council Chamber attendees are also consenting to being recorded.

This meeting is limited to 90 minutes and therefore members are asked to raise their points succinctly and not repeat the same view expressed by colleagues if it does not add to the debate.

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

The Committee will adjourn for the following items:

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.

The Committee will convene to consider the following items:

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY

To elect a Chair and deputy for the committee. No document.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

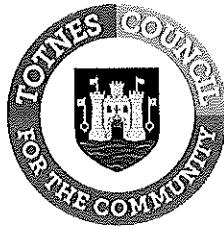
To approve the minutes of 28th March 2022 and update on any matters arising. Document attached.

4. **BUSKERS CODE OF PRACTICE**
To review the buskers code of practice to no longer permit amplification in the town, that the playing of loud music is included in future Public Space Protection Orders for the town, and to consider a request to South Hams District Council to erect 'no amplification' signs in the Shady Garden. Document attached.
5. **OPEN SPACES, SPORTS AND RECREATION AND S106 MONIES**
To review the list of Open Spaces, Sports and Recreation facilities in Totnes and consider how unallocated S106 monies could be used to enhance these areas. Documents attached.
6. **A-BOARDS ON FORE STREET AND HIGH STREET**
To consider the recommendation of the Council Assets and Public Realm Working Group that the Council requests a meeting with Devon County Council for them to visit and walk round with Cllrs Adams and Price to address problem areas. Document attached.
7. **BROWN BIN COLLECTION**
To consider writing to South Hams District Council about the brown bin collection service in the town. No document.
8. **RURAL SERVICES NETWORK MEMBERSHIP**
To consider the renewal of the Council's membership of the Rural Services Network (annual fee of £135). No document.
9. **CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**
To note the minutes of the Climate Change Working Groups held on 19th April and 17th May 2022 (standing item). Documents attached.
10. **SKATE PARK**
To note an update on the Skate Park project. Verbal update.
11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 25th July 2022 at 6.30pm.

Sara Halliday
Committee and Cemetery Administrator
25th May 2022

USE OF SOUND RECORDINGS AT COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The open proceedings of this Meeting will be audio and video recorded. If members of the public make a representation, they will be deemed to have consented to being recorded. By entering the Council Chamber or Zoom meeting, attendees are also consenting to being recorded. Televised, vision and sound recordings or live broadcastings by members of the press or public at Councillor Committee debates are permitted and anyone wishing to do so is asked to inform the Chairman of the respective Committee of their intention to record proceedings.



DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE

MONDAY 28TH MARCH 2022 IN THE GUILDHALL

Present: Councillors V Trow (Chair), G Allen (joined 18.40), S Collinson (joined 18.40), J Cummings, P Paine (joined 19.00), N Stopp (left 19.20) and L Webberley.

Apologies: Cllr J Hannam (received during the meeting).

Not Present: Cllrs A Oliver and S Skinner.

In Attendance: Representative from South Hams Citizens Advice, a member of the public, L Ferrier (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 later from Cllr Hannam.

The Committee will adjourn for the following items:

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public requested that the planters and granite bollards off Fore and High Street are washed down to freshen them up – they have got grubby over the past six months from passing traffic and dogs. The Committee requests that the Town Maintenance Officer actions this before the Easter visitor season begins.

2. CITIZENS ADVICE SOUTH HAMS

To receive an update on the work of Citizens Advice South Hams from its Chief Executive Officer.

Apologies were sent by the Chief Executive Officer who was unwell and was represented by a member of the management team who is an energy advisor. Totnes has helped around 500 clients in 2021, roughly a 10 per cent increase on previous years, and one client often brings multiple issues requiring advice. In the current environment those seeking energy help is high, particularly the issues associated with pre-paid meters, and in Totnes there has been an increase in health and community care questions. During the pandemic the method of giving advice has changed – only 5 per cent of advice has been face-to-face, with most consultations conducted by phone, and Citizens Advice are trying an outreach approach via the St John's Café, the community hall in Bridgetown and in The Mansion. Citizens Advice are looking at a holistic way of helping people and are also trying to offer help through food banks.

Councillors asked about working with the Totnes Renewable Energy Society, a local event to promote the work of Citizens Advice, rogue landlords, relations with the local MP, and the idea of individuals being able to donate a fuel voucher (as you would donate to a food bank).

The Committee reconvened.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that Town Councillors meet with Citizens Advice and District Councillors to discuss the energy and housing issues faced in the town.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To approve the minutes of 28th February 2022 and update on any matters arising.

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

Item 2 – it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to allocate £1400 to the Earthjump project. The Link Orchestra application had been withdrawn.

Item 4 – Community Award Scheme. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that:

- a. The following process is adopted for 2022:
 - Each Councillor has the opportunity to nominate the name of an individual for the award by 21st March 2022.
 - Town Matters Committee 28th March 2022 - consider the nominations in Part 2, confirms if any individual has more than one nomination (i.e. they have been put forward by more than one councillor), and shortlists the nominees to go forward to Full Council.
 - Full Council 4th April 2022 – Councillors decide on who should win the award.
 - Mayoral Choosing 19th May 2022 – winner presented with the award.
- b. The scheme is called the 'Totnes Community Award'.
- c. The award will be in the form of a medal (mould cost approximately £50, each medal approximately £25-50).
- d. The Mayoral budget will pay for the cost of the medal each year.

Item 5 – Homelessness Strategy: It was **RESOLVED** to give the Council Matters Committee delegated authority to respond and the Council's comments have been submitted

Item 6 – Great British Spring Clean. It was **RESOLVED** that in conjunction with Totnes Against Trash that Councillors take part in two litter picks during the Great British Spring Clean (Cllr Trow will organise):

- Saturday 26th March, 10am-12pm in Totnes town.
- Sunday 10th April, 10am-12pm in the recreational areas of Bridgetown.

4. PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

To consider a request to Government for a proportional representation electoral system to be used in local government elections.

Cllr Cummings explained the background to the matter which aims to: improve diversity in local government; make votes fairer; and increase the number of people registered to vote.

Cllr Stopp left the meeting at 19.20.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council:

- a. to seek the support of neighbouring town councils (Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, Ivybridge, Salcombe) by end of May 2022 to send a joint letter (Cllr Cummings to draft);
- b. to write to Her Majesty's Government to request changes to legislation that would permit local councils in England to take steps to increase their diversity and representativeness by allowing councils to trial a more proportional voting system in County, District and Town Council elections; and also requesting an increase of funds to support greater levels of electoral registration;
- c. to inform South Hams District Council and Devon County Council of this decision, and invite them to pass similar resolutions;
- d. to ask our MP, Anthony Mangnall, to support such a change in the law; and
- c. to issue a press release to the Totnes Times, informing the public of this resolution.

5. OPEN SPACES, SPORTS AND RECREATION AND S106 MONIES

To review the list of Open Spaces, Sports and Recreation facilities in Totnes and consider how unallocated S106 monies could be used to enhance these areas.

The Committee discussed the lack of play provision at the Camomile Lawn development (for which money was allocated) and the lack of older children/young teen play facilities in the town. It was **AGREED** that this item would return to the next meeting and that an item with an update on the Skate Park would be included.

6. UKRAINE

To consider an update on Totnes support initiatives in response to the war in Ukraine.

Cllr Webberley updated on the work of the local group TSUNAMI – Totnesians Support Ukraine Not Any Military Incursion – who are fundraising through holding a coffee morning on 23rd April in St John's Church and selling sunflower seedlings in the town. The idea of twinning with a town is still being considered, with the possibility of a town in Poland near the border with Ukraine being a more suitable option at the moment.

7. COMMEMORATIVE BENCH

To consider the recommendation of the Council Assets and Public Realm Working Group for Totnes Gardens to place a commemorative bench for the Platinum Jubilee on Coronation Road.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it agrees to the use of Totnes Town Council land on Coronation Road for Totnes Gardens to install a commemorative bench at their own cost.

8. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

To note the minutes of the Climate Change Working Group on 15th March 2022 (standing item).

Noted. An additional meeting to discuss the 'Planning for the Climate Emergency' consultation will be held on Tuesday 5th April 2022. The officer pointed out that Full Council will also consider the matter on 4th April in order to have an agreed Council view to be able to respond before the deadline.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 30th May 2022 at 6.30pm.

Noted.

*The Committee will be asked to **RESOLVE** 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 by virtue of relating to legal and/or commercial matters, staffing and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council)*

10. COMMUNITY AWARD SCHEME

To consider the nominations for the Community Award scheme (personal information).
See separate confidential minutes.

Sara Halliday
Governance and Projects Manager

ITEM 4 – BUSKERS CODE OF PRACTICE

The Council Offices have received a number of telephone calls and in-person visits from people complaining about the volume of amplified music coming from buskers. Since starting to keep a log of complaints on 22nd April, 8 complaints have been recorded sometimes with multiple calls on a Friday. Two residents near the Shady Garden spoke in the public session of Full Council about the problems they are facing trying to work from home whilst amplified music is played in the Shady Garden from which they have no respite – some buskers come for an hour and move on but are quickly replaced by a new one.

Officers provide advice to callers, such as contacting Environmental Health or as a last resort the Police to report the problem as a noise nuisance, but it is felt that a change to the Buskers Code of Practice (last revised in Oct 2018) is required to update on the change in technology (and low cost) which has seen a rise in battery operated amplifiers being used in the town. The Code does state no amplification – mains or generator powered – but it is unclear on that status of battery powered – leaving the wording (as suggested below) to ‘no amplification’ would simplify matters.

The Code is not enforceable, and at Full Council it was suggested to request to South Hams District Council that ‘no amplification’ signs are put up in the Shady Garden. The Committee may wish to consider that busking is included in future Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) in the town which gives the authorities more power to deal with problems, For example, Fore Street and Hight Street are under an alcohol PSPO which doesn’t mean that people cannot consume alcohol in the street, but if they are behaving in an anti-social way then they will be dealt with; including busking would not stop busking but would give powers to deal with those behaving in an anti-social way when they have been asked to cease playing or if using amplification.

BUSKERS’ CODE OF PRACTICE

1. Music or voice shall not be at a level or be so loud, that it can be heard at a distance of 50 metres. No amplification - ~~mains or generator powered~~ - is permitted. Busking must not be intrusive or a nuisance in nearby premises (commercial or residential), or affect the use of the public telephones. If asked by a shop trader to stop busking in front of their premises, entertainers should do so.
2. Entertainment is restricted to a maximum of one hour in any one place (pitch) and shall not be repeated in that place or within 50 metres of it within 2 hours. Note: particularly noisy entertainment (e.g. bagpipes, drums) will be restricted to a maximum of 30 minutes in any one place.
3. Entertainers shall not obstruct the highway, pavement or entrances to shops. Entertainers are also responsible for ensuring that the highway, pavement or entrances to shops is not obstructed by people gathering to listen or watch the performance. Note: ‘obstruct’ includes causing people to walk on a road rather than the pavement. Entertainers should not behave in any way that obstructs the highway or is anti-social.
4. Entertainers shall not make use of public seats.

5. Pitches chosen shall satisfy the above criteria and must not be within 50 metres of another authorised busker.
6. No sign shall be displayed inviting payment (except where a collection for charity has been authorised by the Council or the Charity Commissioners).
7. Totnes Town Council does not condone anyone busking in the town to be using or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. Entertainers must stop performing immediately when requested to do so by a Police Officer or Council Officer. Totnes Town Council supports the police in their policing of the town, and in dealing with any buskers who are behaving in an antisocial manner and ignoring the principles of the Buskers Code of Practice.

Note: The Police and the Council will not normally institute legal action where the code is observed. However, breaches may make a person liable to prosecution. In addition, other persons may institute action under the same laws where breaches have occurred notwithstanding the code.

ITEM 5 - OPEN SPACES, SPORTS AND RECREATION AND S106 MONIES

The Committee is asked to review the Open spaces, sports and recreation purposes below and propose any ideas for future funding from the limited unallocated S106 monies available (£8K in Bridgetown, £1.6K general, and £19.5K for sports and recreation facilities at Borough Park – in previous meetings Councillors have suggested something like a trim trail incorporating items of static exercise equipment).

The Town Council has a comprehensive Open Spaces, Sports and Recreation plan (see <https://www.totnestowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Totnes-Open-Space-Sport-Recreation-and-Wellbeing.pdf>) and the key elements are also incorporated in the current draft of the Totnes Neighbourhood Plan – see below:

| Public Space & Open Space: Green Infrastructure - Sport and Recreation (from the OSSR dated 2017) | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| | Type | Purpose |
| 1 | Allotments | <p>These provide opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce. The provision of allotments has increased in Totnes over the last 8 years. At a time of increased interest in sustainability, healthy eating and locally produced food, increasing the number of allotments is an important issue.</p> <p>Allotments fall into three separate categories: Statutory / Temporary / Private. The categories reflect varying degrees of protection from development for other purposes.</p> <p>Statutory allotments fall under Section 8 of the Allotments Act 1925, being best protected in that a local authority must seek permission from the Secretary of State before selling or changing the use of such sites.</p> |
| 2 | Amenity Greenspace | <p>Open grassland providing opportunities for informal activities close to home or work and enhancement of residential or other areas.</p> <p>Amenity Greenspace rarely has formal equipment, facilities or even seating. It is within the newer housing estates such as Bridgetown. These areas often provide open space within residential areas but frequently lack a clear use and are often used for informal recreation activities.</p> |
| 3 | Cemeteries and Churchyards | <p>Quiet contemplation, burial and remembrance.</p> <p>Churchyards are primarily the responsibility of the individual churches or the diocese, and the cemetery is managed by the Town Council.</p> <p>Saint Mary's Churchyard is maintained by Totnes Town Council.</p> |
| 4 | Civic Spaces | <p>Providing a setting for civic buildings, public activities and community events.</p> <p>Civic spaces are important and the character and quality of them say a great deal about the town itself.</p> |
| 5 | Greenways | <p>Walking, cycling or horse-riding routes, whether for leisure purposes or commuting. Taken to include Public Rights of Way and permissive paths.</p> <p>Can also provide corridors for wildlife migration</p> <p>Adopted pathways within towns and settlements and Public Rights of Way are the responsibility of the Highways Authority (Devon County Council) although landowners are required to keep them free of obstructions.</p> |
| 6 | Natural Spaces | <p>Areas for wildlife, quiet enjoyment and environmental awareness, including woodland, meadows, heath, moorland and coastal areas</p> |

| | | |
|----|----------------------------------|--|
| 7 | Parks and Gardens | Accessible, formal, high quality sites designed for recreation and community events |
| 8 | Play/Activity Space | Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters. The opportunity for free exploratory play is fundamental to a child's ability to develop their physical and social skills. The opportunity for children over the last thirty to forty years to enjoy free unhindered open play has been |
| 9 | Outdoor Sports Facilities | Formal facilities for participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis and bowls |
| 10 | Indoor Sport Facilities | Formal and semi formal facilities for the provision of sport and recreation facilities indoors eg Leisure Centre, School facilities in dual use provision and hall/rooms etc. adapted for use. |
| 11 | River/amenity usage | River Dart, flowing through Totnes providing an amenity, community and sporting facility for the town. It encourages wildlife into the town and it aids the tourism/employment and casual social/amenity usage on its banks with |

And from section 6.2 'Open Spaces' of the Neighbourhood Plan:

Open spaces make important contributions to local character and environmental quality. In Totnes these include:

- a. Formal and informal spaces for sport, recreation and play;
- b. Amenity green spaces, spaces for nature conservation and green ways;
- c. Growing spaces; and
- d. Civic spaces (including town squares), cemeteries and graveyards.

6.2.2 The NP will maintain and enhance the provision, quality and diversity of public open spaces and recreational provision in and around the town.

Section 106 Funds - Section 106 (s106) agreements are legal agreements between Local Authorities and developers; they are linked to planning permissions and can also be known as planning obligations.

The funds, once received by South Hams District Council, are held in ring fenced accounts by SHDC and projects are then developed by the Place Making Team to deliver the required outcomes. Some projects take place on SHDC land - but a significant number take place on third party land. Where they take place on third party land the funds are offered by way of a conditional grant which secures the Council's interests and the requirements of the s.106 agreement.

The table below contains the current OSSR s106 contributions within the South Hams for Totnes. The table includes s106 agreements which are signed, including those where funds are pending receipt once triggers are reached, or where funds have been received by SHDC and are available for spend. The table indicates the amount of funding available, the date by which the funds must be spent (where funds have been received), and indicates the projects on which funds may or must be spent. More recent s106 agreements define specific projects and effectively these funds are already committed.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation (OSSR) - Section 106 contributions by Parish

Explanatory notes to assist interpretation of the main table

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Status | Funds received - these funds are available for commitment and spend s106 signed - the s106 is signed, but the development has either not commenced, or the trigger for payment has not been reached. Please note, there is no guarantee funds from a signed s106 will be received, the development must commence and triggers be met - not every development will be built out and some permissions (and s106s) will lapse. |
| Amount | This is either the amount included within the signed s106, or if funds are received - the amount received (this can be more than the signed s106 as interest may apply to payments). Where part of a s106 contribution has already been spent or committed, the amount remaining and available for commitment is shown. References to SPD relate to the residents per dwelling calculation within the SHDC OSSR SPD 2006. |
| MF - monitoring fee applies | Most s106s include a clause enabling SHDC to take a percentage (commonly 5%) of the s106 contribution to cover monitoring costs associated with administration of that s106. |
| GI - Green Infrastructure officer | This indicates where a percentage (normally 5% or 10%) will be deducted as a contribution towards a Green Infrastructure Officer to be employed by SHDC. Where this contribution is taken, the GI Officer will assist with delivery of either the named projects, or assist with local consultation, commitment and spend of the OSSR funds in accordance with the applicable s106 agreement. Where TBC this indicates that any deduction will depend on likely level of officer input to realise OSSR projects in relation to the particular s106 agreement. |
| Trigger | Each OSSR contribution has a trigger within the s106 agreement. Once this trigger is reached the payment is due, and SHDC will invoice the developer/landowner. If you are aware (or suspect) that a trigger has been reached, please contact SHDC who can then confirm and if reached will invoice the developer/landowner. If trigger shows as N/A then the contribution has already been paid. |
| Spend by | The majority of s106 agreements include a term within which a s106 contribution should be spent (this includes being 'committed' to a project within a formal offer agreement). This could be 5, 10 or 25 years from receipt of funds by SHDC, however if the funds are not spent (or committed by contract/formal offer) within this timescale then the developer/landowner is entitled to clawback the contribution. |
| Projects | Pencilled projects - this refers to SHDC officers pencilling an OSSR contribution (of less than £30,000) against a project. This is not binding. Projects require agreement by Lead Specialist, Portfolio Holder and Local Ward Member(s). Named projects - where reference is made to 'named projects' these projects/sites are specifically named within the s106. There is limited flexibility to change such projects (it would likely require a deed of variation to the s106 agreement). Executive Committee report projects - these projects have been named within SHDC officer reports to Executive Committee on 10 th Sept 2015 (see https://old.southhams.gov.uk/ContentHandler.aspx?id=16100&p=0). This gave officers the ability to allocate or spend funds on named projects of over £30,000 within the Executive report. These projects are not binding, but deviation would require officers to obtain agreement from the Lead Specialist (Place Making), Portfolio Holder and local Ward Member(s). Deferred to Parish/Town OSSR Plan - recognises that the local community may identify and prioritise projects through a Parish/Town OSSR Plan - priority projects could be supported (with officers required to obtain agreement from the Lead Specialist, Portfolio Holder and local Ward Members). Where a Town/Parish OSSR Plan (or similar) is not planned or written, then project identification/prioritisation could be based on local consultation, or the Town/Parish Council/SHDC Member/officers or a local group identifying a need. Requires local consultation - where no project has yet been identified or a Parish/Town OSSR Plan is not underway - it may require local consultation with local Ward Member(s), Town/Parish Council, local community (or the writing of a Parish/Town OSSR Plan). Indicates a Parish/Town with no current OSSR s106 funds (received or pending whereby a s106 has been signed). |
| Shaded boxes | |

Please note:

- Whilst every effort has been made to ensure this table is accurate there is of course room for human error - if you consider there are s106 agreements missing, or triggers have been met, officers would welcome Parish and Town Councils and SHDC Members making them aware.
- This table includes only off-site OSSR contributions.
- OSSR contributions which have recently been fully spent or formally committed to a project are not shown in the table.
- s106s which are being negotiated but are yet to be signed are not shown in this table - the table will be kept updated by officers as new s106s are signed which contain OSSR contributions.

| Parish | Planning application | Status (S106 signed/funds received) | Amount | Mf monitoring fee applies | GI - Green Infrastructure office | Clause | Original funds not yet received | Spend/commby | Project |
|------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|---------------------|--|
| Stokenham | Old Grist Mill House, Chillington 53/2587/07/F | Funds received | £1,303.08 remaining | None | None | Generic OSSR | N/A | None specified | Local consultation required |
| | Green Park Way, Chillington 0771/16/OPA | S106 signed | £975 per occupier | 3% | TBC | Improved facilities (including for extension of those facilities including the purchase of additional land) for off-site equipped play space and other outdoor space at Chillington Playing Field and/or Chillington church graveyard | On occupation of 50% of open market dwellings. | 5 years of receipt | Named projects: Off-site equipped play space and other outdoor space at Chillington Playing Field and/or Chillington church graveyard |
| Strete | | | | | | | | | |
| Thurleston | | | | | | | | | |
| Totnes | Eiwell House 56/1214/14/F | Funds received | £1,669.99 | Already deducted | TBC | Generic OSSR | N/A | 12/04/2043 | Local consultation required |
| | Riverside (Camomile Lawn) 56/0447/12/O | Funds received | £43,271.44 remaining | Already deducted | Already deducted | Provision of playing fields benefiting residents of Totnes and/or community facilities in the Bridgetown area of Totnes and/or community facilities on the site | N/a | None specified | £35,000 earmarked for projects (Camomile Lawn and Parkfield Close play) |
| Ugborough | Cocco's Nursery, Ashburton Rd (56/2221/15/O) | S106 signed | £19,500 | 5% | TBC | Sports and recreation facilities at Borough Park | 50% on commencement and 50% prior to first occupation | 10 years of receipt | Named project: Sports and recreation facilities at Borough Park |
| | Earlscombe Farm Bittarford, 0746/16/FUL | S106 signed | £11,700 | 5% | TBC | OSSR facilities at: - Donkey Lane play area, Ugborough - Playing fields at Moorhaven, Bittarford - Facilities at Tweenways playing fields, Hillhead Cross - Facilities at Ugborough Primary School | 1/3 prior to occupation of each of the 3 dwellings | None specified | Named projects: Donkey Lane play area, Ugborough Playing fields at Moorhaven, Bittarford Facilities at Tweenways playing fields, Hillhead Cross Facilities at Ugborough Primary School |
| | Sidings Cross 1317/16/OPA | S106 signed | £595 per occupier | 5% | TBC | towards improvements to OSSR facilities at the Old Cricket Ground, Moorhaven and/or | 50% prior to occupation of 50% of dwellings and remaining 50% on | 7 years of receipt | Named projects: OSSR facilities at the Old Cricket Ground, Moorhaven and/or |

ITEM 6 – A-BOARDS ON FORE STREET AND HIGH STREET

The Council Assets and Public Realm Working Group considered the issue of A-boards on Fore Street and High Street and the practicalities of managing unauthorised signage on Fore Street and the High Street.

The Council's Town Maintenance Officer contacted Devon County Council (DCC) asking for assistance and advice on managing the amount of unauthorised signage on Fore Street and the High Street. Businesses' A-boards can cause a significant health and safety issue and problems for pedestrians who end up walking into the road and minimising space on already narrow pavements, particularly during busy periods in the town.

DCC's response was that they no longer classed this issue as a defect and therefore it was not in their remit to enforce under health and safety. They pointed out the difficulties of being involved with this matter as a county council rather than the local town council and said the matter was identified on the TTC website as a Town Management priority. Whilst DCC are willing to assist they are not in a position to enforce, monitor or intervene on any adherence or breach of signage criteria, however they would consider joining a walk round with a Councillor to explain to business owners the problem that their signage can create.

The Working Group agreed that there is an issue with obstructions on the pavements. Cllr Adams and Price have agreed to conduct walk round the town in the first instance to identify the problem areas.

To **RECOMMEND** to Town Matters that the Council requests a meeting with DCC and that DCC officer visit and meet with Cllrs Adams and Price to address problem areas.

CEWG meeting notes – 19.04.22, 18:30 – 20:00

Via Zoom
18:30-20:00

Present:

Cllr Jacqi Hodgson
Maiken Hutchings (Green Travel
Coordinator, notes)
M■■■■ B■■■■ (Staverton Climate
Emergency - Biodiversity group)

M■■■■ C■■■■ (Totnes Chamber of
Commerce)
R■■■■ O■■■■ (Resident)
Cllr John Cummings
J■■ C■■■■ (Resident, Plymouth University)
D■■ C■■■■

Notes

1. **Introductions – who is here**
2. **Update from previous meeting**
 - a. Meeting on the Joint Local Plan climate planning document
 - b. Submissions need to be in by Thursday, assume 9am
3. **General discussion while waiting for Jacqi's internet to work**
 - a. Biomass - sustainable?
 - b. SPAB - Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (www.spab.org.uk/)
4. **Discussion of the development plan for Broom Park in Dartington that has been approved**
 - a. Dartington - 120 new homes (Broom Park – 80; Sawmills Field – 40)
 - b. Questions re building materials
 - c. Questions around compliance
 - i. Who ensures compliance with planning permission?
 - ii. Lack of policing
 - d. Need for more concerted, targeted / organised community responses to consultations
 - i. Locals need to establish a consensus – what do they want? Otherwise the developers say “there's no consensus of what people want”
 - e. Need for an independent forum that is looking at what is going on around Planning as things often get political
 - i. Uncertainty around the options here.

- Need for us to be building communities, not just housing.
 - How can Planning Committee influence this?
 - How to affect change?
 - Need for consultation to be bottom up rather than top down. Rather than developers coming up with a plan and asking if people want it or not, the development should be based on a consultation on what people want and need.
- 5. Brief discussion re holding South West Water accountable for discharges into the Dart**
- 6. Transition Streets update**
- a. This will be discussed at the meeting instead
- 7. Creating a Totnes Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan and policies**
- a. Chamber of Commerce have points to discuss on this, they will circulate these comments prior to the meeting, preferably at least one week in advance
- 8. Next meeting: 17th May 2022, 18:30**

Meeting end 20:00

CEWG meeting notes - 17.05.22

Via Zoom

18:30 – 20:00

Present:

Cllr Jacqi Hodgson

R■■ O■■ - Trustee Totnes Trust,
local resident

M■■ C■■ - Chamber of Commerce

R■■ L■■ - W■■ - Transition Streets

T■■ T■■ - Dartington Parish Council

I■■ B■■ - TRESOC

J■■ F■■ – Totnes Climate Hub

Cllr John Cummings

T■■ S■■

Cllr Sarah Collinson

Maiken Hutchings – Green Travel

Coordinator (notes)

Notes

1. Introductions – who is here

2. Transition Streets update

- More information can be found:
 - Facebook @transitionstreets
 - Email hello@transitionstreets.org.uk
 - New website launching next week
- Project returns by popular request
- Slightly different emphasis in 2022
 - More emphasis on collective action
 - Revised workbook
 - More emphasis on accessibility and inclusion
 - More formal evaluation of impacts on loneliness and social isolation
- About 18 streets in the pipeline with a target of 25

General discussion and questions on the project

- Point raised regarding thermal imaging and the potential to purchase thermal imaging device cheaply. Cost tends to lie in getting expert advice on what to do.

3. Energy Local, TRESOC

More information can be found on TRESOC website: tresoc.co.uk/project/energy-local-totnes/

- TRESOC has been awarded a grant to develop up to five new community-owned roof top solar PV installations in Totnes (approximately 250kW) and to establish a Totnes Energy Local Club to buy the electricity generated
 - DCC - £25,000 grant
- Those who already have PVs can join and become suppliers.
- If anyone is interested, please get in touch with TRESOC – admin@tresoc.co.uk

General discussion around Energy Local.

TRESOC proposal for TTC – start the Energy Local Club with the Civic Hall

- IB to send presentation to Jacqi (due to limited time in meeting) who will take it forward to Totnes Town Council

4. DCC pension fund update

- Update from Jacqi on DCC pension fund divestment.
- In Feb - AGM - big protest at beginning on meeting calling for divestment
- Question as to whether there could be a poll or vote amongst pension fund holders. This was initially rejected by DCC.
- However, door has been opened on the back of events in Ukraine and money being withdrawn from Russian connections.
- A poll for members on divestment is going forward
 - Will go to next committee meeting for them to approve and subsequently go out to members over the summer

General discussion re the DCC pension fund

5. Climate Action Plan

- Agreement to discuss this in person at the next meeting
- A longer session to sort out the action plan
- Agreed to be held 23 June, 5 – 8pm
 - Jacqi to request some funds for food/snacks

6. AOB

Totnes Climate Hub update

- Climate Hub finally have the keys to the room at the Mansion
- Plan to have it open by middle of June, launch event 25 June
- Event 30th May – St John’s Church in Bridgetown 1830-20
 - “Reducing Our Energy Costs Together”
 - We the Power film
 - TRESOC will talk about Energy Local Club
 - Energy advisor from SDCE
 - Transition Streets presentation

Other events

Transition Streets event

- June 21st – South Dartmoor Community Energy will run a short training session
 - “How to support your community during the energy crisis?”
 - Help people become referrers

Fair Funds - Not Fishy Business - protest in Brixham

- May 22nd 10:30 to 1:30

Rewilding Ackells Field launch

- 28th May
- Social enterprise, encouraging rewilding

End of meeting 20:00

Actions

- Jacqi to request funds for food/snacks for Climate Action Plan meeting
- Jacqi / GTC to book location for next meeting
- Jacqi to take TRESOC Energy Local proposal to TTC

