

AGENDA FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 2023 IN THE GUILDHALL

There are stairs to the Council Chamber but if any member of the public has mobility issues the Council can relocate to the lower Guildhall.

You are hereby **SUMMONED** to attend the **Town Matters Committee** on **Monday 30th January 2023** at **6.30pm** for a maximum of 90 minutes in the Guildhall for the purpose of transacting the following business:

Committee Members: Councillors J Cummings (Deputy Chair), G Allen, S Collinson, 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. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

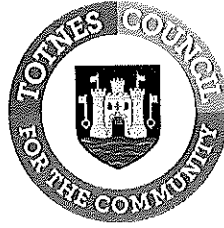
To approve the minutes of 28th November 2023 and update on any matters arising.
Document attached.

3. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**
To elect a Chair for the Town Matters Committee. No document.
4. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON 2023**
To consider the arrangements for the Christmas Lights Switch On for 2023. Document attached.
5. **WATER QUALITY UPDATE**
To note an update on the water quality meetings with South West Water and the Environment Agency. Document attached and verbal update from Cllr Cummings.
6. **BRIDGETOWN ROUNDABOUT UPDATE**
To receive an update on ideas for improving the visual appearance of the roundabout on the A380 and A385 in Bridgetown and the latest Devon Highways policy on adopting a roundabout. Document attached.
7. **COST OF LIVING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**
To note the minutes of the Cost of Living Partnership meeting. Document attached.
8. **CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**
To note the minutes of the Climate Change Working Group held on 17th January. Document attached.
9. **FAIRTRADE GROUP**
To note the minutes of the Totnes Supporting Fairtrade meeting held on 4th January 2023. Document attached.
10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 27th March 2023 at 6.30pm.

Sara Halliday
Governance and Projects Manager
25th January 2023

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 NOVEMBER 2022 IN THE GUILDHALL

Present: Councillors V Trow (Chair), G Allen, A Oliver, P Paine, B Piper and L Webberley

Apologies: Cllr Cummings

Not Present: Cllr Collinson

In Attendance: Cllr T Bennett, 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.

The apologies were received and accepted.

The Committee will adjourn for the following items:

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

The Committee reconvened.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To approve the minutes of 26th September 2022 and update on any matters arising.

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

Item 3 – Air and Water Quality Concerns. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that a meeting is held for local stakeholders including representatives from river user groups, community groups and monitoring authorities. Invitees to include: Rowing Club, Canoe Club, SHDC planning, SHDC environmental health, South West Water, Westcountry Rivers, Dynamic Adventures, Dart Harbour Authority, Surfers Against Sewage, DCC Highways, DCC Public Health, Buckfastleigh TC, Staverton PC, Berry Pomeroy PC, Anthony Mangnall, and the local media.

The meeting will comprise of those groups invited but will be recorded and shared publicly via the website and on social media.

Item 4 – Cost of Living Meeting. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that in lieu of the currently vacant TTC community coordinator role, alternative co-ordination support provision is

investigated to empower and facilitate a joined-up community response. This could be funding a part-time post within one of the community organisations. Also, that the Paige Adams Trust will be asked if the Civic Hall can be made available, if needed, to provide one venue that can be used by multiple community support projects one day a week to reduce individual costs.

3. DAISY AND RAINBOW NURSERIES

To consider a report from the Daisy and Rainbow councillor representative.

Cllr Bennett gave a summary from the recent Daisy Preschool and Rainbow Nursery Annual General Meeting: COVID has presented difficulties which have been worked through; recruitment and retention of staff has been a challenge; and an OFSTED inspection of the Rainbow Nursery which rated it 'outstanding'.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it writes to the local MP, South Hams District Council and Devon County Council with its concerns about the waiting list for children securing nursery places; the impact on the child's development and mental health; the ability of parents to work and the economic development of the town. If resolved, the letter will be drafted by Cllr Bennett for the Clerk's signature.

4. TOWN DECORATION

To consider any town decorations for Coronation Day (6th May 2023) and summer events.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that bunting is put up in Fore and High Street at the end of April/early May for the Coronation and stays up until mid-September for summer events.

It was **AGREED** that the existing bunting must be checked and to purchase any new bunting required.

5. WATER QUALITY UPDATE

To note an update on the water quality meetings with South West Water and the Environment Agency.

Noted. The Committee are pleased to hear about the links that have been made and upcoming meetings, and a look forward to a further update and discussion in January 2023.

6. COST OF LIVING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

To note the minutes of the Cost of Living Partnership meeting.

Noted.

7. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

To note the minutes of the Climate Change Working Group held on 25th October 2022 (standing item).

Noted.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

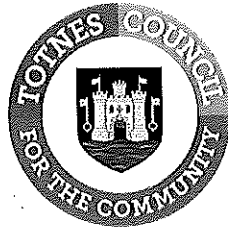
To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 30th January 2023 at 6.30pm.

Noted.

Sara Halliday
Governance and Projects Manager

Town Matters Committee, 28th November 2022

Item 4



Christmas Lights Switch On Event Report for Councillors

The 2022 event cost £2,700.

What Went Well:

The weather was dry and mild so the outdoor space was used well.

People were very happy to have so much choice of free entertainment and crafts.

The entertainers and caterers were all happy with the arrangements we had in place for them.

The event was very well attended.

It was good to support pizza pirates and food in the community and they were happy with the arrangement for subsidising the cost of their food.

The lights turned on without a hitch!

Even Better If:

More substantial arrangements for rubbish collection.

Thorough litter pick of market square after the event.

Review staffing plan to ensure one person oversees the event: floating and problem solving, topping up Santa's gifts etc.

SAMS were disappointed that people didn't all stop to listen to their performance.

Ensure the inflatable snow globe has enough space around the edges so children can't bump into anything too close by.

Comments on Facebook and Instagram

Looks like it was a great success

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Great to see local people! Why pay external companies to stage anything when it's so much better on all levels to involve the town's communities?

Thank you, my family had a lovely evening

Looks Magical

Great picture sadly I can't be there

I knew nothing about it until I passed on route to yoga. Bad advertising

Looks lovely.

Officer's recommendations for Christmas Lights Switch On 2023

Date of next event: Tuesday 28th November 2023.

Timings: 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Budget £3,000

Entertainment:

Schools perform near the beginning of the event.

Elfie or similar entertainment to perform in the middle.

Brass Band Play at the end of the event.

Inflatable Snow Globe.

Walk about Santa.

Lights Switch on by the Mayor near the end of the event.

Crafts:

Provide more environmentally friendly crafts. No plastic or glitter.

Make more seating space around the Christmas Card Crafts.

Catering:

Continue to support Pizza Pirates and Food in the Community. Pizza, Juice boxes and cake.

Coffee Vendor – could supply mulled wine if we insist on him getting a license.

Donations:

Last year the event was completely free. Do we want to suggest that people can offer a donation if they wish? This could go to the Mayor's charity or cost of living groups.

ITEM 5 – WATER QUALITY UPDATE

At the end of last year, I undertook to set up a meeting with South West Water (SWW), South Hams District Council (SHDC), Devon County Council (DCC), the Environment Agency (EA), and various community groups, to challenge statutory bodies over the various issues to do with water pollution, floods, droughts, and damage to the ecology of our rivers, particularly damage arising from poor planning decisions. Cllr Sarah Collinson also offered to help.

I discovered that, quite independently, a small group of local campaigners were setting up a group to connect and co-ordinate all the many community groups concerned in some way with the health of the River Dart. Sarah and I joined them, and we agreed to set up a "consortium" to link all the various groups. We termed ourselves the "River Dart Action Collective" (RDAC). Initially, the group had a plan to organise a large event at the end of March, to bring together all the community groups, with the statutory agencies. There seemed little point in Totnes Town Council (TTC) setting about organising a similar, duplicate event.

Since then, RDAC has compiled a list of nearly 70 different community groups (quite apart from statutory bodies), and set about establishing contact details for each one. They cover a mixture of campaigning groups, artists, citizen scientists, wild swimmers and other recreational river users, local businesses, voluntary bodies and charities, educational and research scientists, landowners, as well as individuals with expertise in law, website design, communications, and media prominence.

One of the most prominent of these is "Friends of the River Dart", who are a mixture of citizen scientists doing their own testing, and wild swimmers. They have a large number of followers on their Facebook group, and are in active discussions with SWW about establishing "bathing water" status for parts of the R Dart. I have taken part in a couple of their Zoom meetings, and established initial contacts with staff within SWW and the EA. We have discovered the existence of the South Devon Catchments Partnerships, which already brings together representatives from SHDC, the S Devon AONB, the West Country Rivers Trust (which carries out a lot of high quality research), as well as some community groups. Jacqi Hodgson already attends their meetings, and has invited me to join their next meeting on 1st February.

I have also spoken with organisers of "Sustainable South Hams" (SusSH), who link together parish and town councils across S Hams (including TTC), to support each other with responses to the Climate and Ecological Emergency. They have an excellent website <https://www.sussh.org/> They have offered the skeleton of their website for possible use by RDAC, with their data stripped out, and replaced with data from RDAC. At the moment, we are not considering taking up this offer, but we may "piggy-back" on the existing website at some point in the future.

SusSH already have plans to hold a "Rivers Assembly", probably in Kingsbridge Community College, on Saturday 18th March, which will bring together as many invited community groups as possible, working with 5 different river catchments. We have passed them the list

compiled by RDAC, and aim to collaborate with them, as there seems no point in duplicating with two similar events around the same fortnight.

RDAC is keen not to duplicate work already being carried out by numerous other groups. Our role seems to be initially to put these groups into better communication with each other, and to raise public awareness of what is going on. The intention is to organise, host or co-host an annual workshop style event to share information among stakeholders with the intention of setting common / complementary goals.

We are also aware that SWW are on the point of signing off their next 5-yearly development plan, within the next couple of months (although this process is probably now too far advanced to be much influenced). So we have now arrived at the point where SusSH are organising an event in March to bring together community groups, and we have reverted to the view that TTC should combine with supporting neighbouring parish councils, to call urgently for a meeting with SWW, SHDC, DCC, the EA, OFWAT, our MP, and probably some experts from the Catchments Partnership and West Country Rivers Trust, to discuss pollution, floods, droughts, health and related issues arising particularly from cumulative development proposals. We are hoping that our Mayor will be willing to chair this meeting. With this in mind, I shall draft a letter of invitation which TTC staff can send to these parish councils, and to statutory and regulatory bodies.

Cllr Cummings
22nd January, 2023

ITEM 6 – BRIDGETOWN ROUNDABOUT UPDATE

Below is a shortlist of ideas for the roundabout which have been sent to Devon Highways for comments on suitability (a response is awaited):

Commission an artist or art students to create a sculpture on the roundabout such as:

- A Bridgetown safari sculpture
- A sculpture of Brutus of Troy
- A sculpture of the Gogmagog who is said to have killed Brutus of Troy
- A large plastic art installation
- A sculpture with an eco-theme

Planting:

- A large tree surrounded by wildflowers
- Wildflowers
- Raise the level and plant with a range of grasses

Other ideas

- Advertising space

Devon Highways Policy on Roundabout Sponsorship

The current advice on the Devon Highways website for adopting a roundabout is as follows:

The process for sponsoring a roundabout is currently under review and will publish details of when this service will be relaunched when known.

Please note: the online form is to register your interest only. When the process is relaunched we will engage all those that have submitted an interest.

Town and parish councils

We are particularly interested to know how we can work with town and parish councils to allow them to take a lead role in managing sponsorship and maintenance of roundabouts within their communities.

We have successfully trialled this approach with Barnstaple Town Council, who have taken on responsibility for all the roundabouts within their community.

ITEM 7 - Cost of Living Partnership (CoLP) - Update for Town Matters 30 January 2023

The Cost of Living Partnership is made up of a steering group (Totnes Caring, Caring Town, Citizens Advice South Hams, Totnes Town Council (TTC)) and 27 other local organisations. There is a mixture of steering group meetings and larger partnership meetings approximately every month.

Meeting overviews

10.11.22 - The steering group agreed website content, branding and the calendar of warm spaces content which is managed by TTC so there is one central source for all information. This is live, updated. Partners informed of Paige Adams funding and to send requests through by 18th November.

30.11.22 – A partnership meeting held via zoom.

PR - Caring Town put out a newsletter and have contacted Totnes Directory but Totnes Directory can't publish anything until Dec/ January. Totnes Times have said they'll do a regular feature.

Partner updates:

Citizens Advice - 6 new volunteers. Takes 12 weeks to train them up. Majority of advice is about safeguarding and suicidal thoughts. Men aged 40- 50 are their highest risk group.

Totnes Caring - Currently very busy and are lucky to have transport volunteers inducted and ready for January. At maximum capacity for Coordinators. Need money for more staff. Harder to reach older people and encourage them out to activities.

Transition Town Totnes - Have relaunched their programme called Transition Streets to help reduce isolation. Held a successful (200 attendees) Energy Wise Show in October 2022 at the Civic Hall.

Totnes Town Council - Website and calendar running well - actively asking for partners to fill any gaps in the calendar. More information to be populated over time on the website. Paige Adams Trust has £20k ringfenced for Cost of Living Partnership. Have applied to SHDC Winter Wellbeing Fund to offset the cost of the Coordinator position. (Update: this was successful. £1200. Informed 19.1.23)

16.12.22 - A partnership meeting held via zoom.

Partner updates:

Totnes Library - Running lots of events for people of all ages. Free tea and coffee very popular in the cold weather. Library generally being well used. Free clothes rail of hats and scarves available. Teen group going well. Always willing to look at what the community wants if they can do any more to help.

5 volunteers across the week. Volunteers go out and give books to people via a 'home library'. Good relationship with schools. Biggest challenge is getting the word to people without internet access.

St John's - Totnes Caring monthly café going okay but the cold is keeping people away. Need to get smarter at getting information out. Rely on volunteers for everything. Hot potato oven has been delivered. It'll be at the church but is portable; hoping to extend the weekly St Johns Community Café to tag on a lunch slot. Applying for extra funding to see if they can pay people to come on as staff. There is a willingness for the church to be open more but need volunteers available to do that.

CAB - Good news – a volunteer donated 100 hoodies / snugs. Well received. These went directly to clients, staff and volunteers working from home. Volunteer recruitment going well. Less clients coming in before Christmas. Giving advice doesn't always feel tangible but giving a physical gift that can help has uplifted spirits. Thinking about doing that next year. Calendar shared and going down well. No negative feedback apart from the screen on a phone. (NB the calendar screen is now visible from a mobile phone)

Bridgetown Alive! - Community Café at the hall every Tuesday. Numbers increasing. The hall is empty most of the week so available if people want to use it. Limited for space – meetings / workshops/ small classes are ideal.

SHDC - Bought slow cookers, electric throws, and cookery books. Trying to connect with Learn Devon and these items will be distributed through South Dartmoor Community Energy to food banks, hand out to home visits and give energy advice at the same time. Publicised on South Dartmoor Community Energy website but they will be contacting all the food banks in the area.

Linking TQ9 Warm Welcomes calendar to SHDC is not possible. An IT glitch is preventing sharing the calendar between different websites. SHDC still looking into this.

Caring Town - Have TTC grant of £3,100. Spent approx. £800 to date. £250 available for marketing. Some of this grant has gone to heating the food bank hall and Bounce Fun sessions at Leisure centre over Xmas.

General: All partners frustrated by a lack of strategic planning across the town, county and district councils.

19.01.23 – A partnership meeting held via zoom and in person.

Totnes Caring – Hot Potato Café starting in February at Totnes United Free Church.

TTC - A social media plan is being scheduled to share and promote the calendar and partner info and services. Researching quotes for flyer/ poster design and printing to access people without internet. Shared funding info: Paige Adams have had 1 request and partners were informed of next meeting date of the 6th February; TTC Community Grants start again in April 23. Considering supplementing holiday activities in the Civic Hall – to be researched. The role of the TTC is to facilitate the community groups, a further discussion to be had about what exactly this looks like going forward in order to engage with different people and manage information.

Food in the Community – Hold a café first Saturday of the month. Finding market traders are not supportive of the café. Currently supplying 170 food parcels a week to Totnes and surrounding villages. People are still struggling and old people don't want to go out. Initiated discussion on what more can be done to help people, particularly targeting disabled households and pensioners. Concerned about an upcoming food crisis as many seasonal crops are failing.

FiC suggested that current support at the level of TQ9: Together We Care was good but not enough. Something on a higher political level needs to be done. TTC agreed to collate testimonials and statistics from partners in order to pull together a group statement to be shared publicly and handed to Anthony Mangnall MP. FiC have been approached by 3 other cafes asking for advice on how to run a community café. They're wanting advice, training and financial support.

Pizza Pirates – Holidays Activities and Food (HAF) used Pizza Pirates to run pizza making sessions which were very successful. Easier to gauge if people needed the food or just wanted to have fun.

Approached by a consortium of young people to do pizza making workshops. To discuss further with Caring Town. Possible Feb activities at Jamming Station.

Lots of referrals for Dough Bros (a Dads group). Applying for more funding to increase sessions as it's oversubscribed. Lots of men struggling with financial pressure and responsibility to provide for their families.

Stepping Stones, Relaxation sessions - very popular more people attending these two weekly sessions.

Totnes Caring – Referrals and need has gone up. Food, housing and debt advice has escalated. Capacity overwhelmed. This quarter food is the biggest issue. TC expenses have gone up £1.50 per meal. Delivering food to isolated and housebound people. Have achieved funding from Totnes Rotary for costs to stay the same until end of March. Not funded to coordinate so all funds go to the food and delivery. Catherine suggested to apply for Paige Adams and TTC Community Grants.

Bridgetown Alive – Community Café will be serving soup on Tuesday mornings. Looking for an action plan to get more people attending community café. Increased attendance at mental health classes at St Johns.

General - Discussions on how to move forward, increase opportunities and not to stigmatise those in need. Zoom catch up meetings are planned monthly for the next 6 months. The steering group can meet more frequently as necessary.

Overviews of specific projects

Stepping Stones Food Bank

Town Clerk has been helping the food bank with their finances and looking towards expanding their sessions and changing venue so it is more accessible. Stepping Stones had

already been looking at these issues but were struggling with time to focus on this as the need for their service has increased.

From December they were able to pay a manager and were hoping to open on a Wednesday. CAB and anybody can be sent to the food hub. No formal referral required at this time.

Morrisons donations are reducing as all costs tighten. Some bigger companies are contributing more – donating from a set list which is more useful than personal donations (as its all tins of beans!). Pet food also available. Word is getting round. The Manager is now doing 6 days a week.

Caring Town grant (from Paige Adams funding) for heating at the food bank hall, October to May. Made it possible for the food bank to stay open over winter. A great success.

Jan update:

Food bank is getting busier. Aim to wean people off Food bank onto TQ9 Food Club - membership based, £2.50 per week to choose 10 items. Anyone that needs it can use it, no referrals.

50-60 active food bank members per week

20 people in Food Club with 1-2 adding per week.

Vegan Soup lunches reaches 30-40 people over 2 session per week.

Expansion of opening hours to extend into Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Friday mornings to reach more people.

Fusion Bouncy Fun

Caring Town began talking to Fusion in November 2022 regarding running some warm family friendly spaces over the Christmas holidays at the Pavilions. This was a new provision, free to anyone with children. Fruit and tea and coffee supplied free.

This was a great success: approx. 275 children attended; very positive feedback from 52 families. £142 made through donations which will go towards funding refreshments in Feb half-term. Fusion has a logistical issue with staffing for more sessions. The CoLP Steering Group will discuss further what support can be given to continue this service.

Amy Lumsden
CoLP Coordinator
26/01/23

Climate Emergency Working Group

17 January 2023

18:30 – 20:00 via Zoom

Present:

Cllr Jacqi Hodgson

Maiken Hutchings – TTC Sustainability Officer (SO)

F [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]

R [REDACTED] P [REDACTED]

Cllr Jill Hannam

T [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]

Actions

- 1) SO to check whether the Local Nature Partnership info has been shared on TTC social media
- 2) SO to find out who owns the industrial estate land identified as suitable for a community composting site
- 3) Cllr Hodgson to speak with SHDC re Follaton as a potential site
- 4) R [REDACTED] to make contact with the Climate Hub re being part of a core team
- 5) F [REDACTED] to find some shareable information on wormeries
- 6) F [REDACTED] to create an initial draft for a leaflet/postcard with key carbon reducing actions

1) Brief introductions

2) Brief run through of minutes from the last meeting 22 November 2022.

- a. Everyone who was present is happy with them
- b. Cllr Hodgson updated that she is still trying to sort out quotes for the action plan leaflet

3) It was agreed that the **focus of the next meeting** (14 Feb 2023) will be a discussion of the recently released Devon Carbon Plan

4) **Brief update on the Totnes Town Council budget** by Cllr Hodgson

- a. Still £10,000 allocated budget for 2023
- b. DCC have a big hole in their budget – they still have a climate budget but not as much as previous

5) **Climate action leaflet / postcard**

- a. Discussion around potential for creating a leaflet or postcard with key actions people can take re climate emergency – suggestion made by F [REDACTED]
- b. F [REDACTED] to create an initial draft
- c. Needs to be linked to a website so that info stays up to date
- d. R [REDACTED] mentioned the Take the Jump website

6) Composting discussion

- a. Discussion re potential site at bottom of Barracks Hill, next to allotments

Agreed that the site is not a good option due to:

- i. The site tends to flood and issues re access for vehicles
 - ii. Legalities of the land are complicated
 - iii. Concern re effluent and runoff getting into watercourses
 - iv. Concern re potential for vermin, not a hard surface
- b. Discussion re potential site on Wills Rd on industrial estate
- i. Would be better as hard surface, vehicle access, proximity to recycling point, etc.
 - ii. Unknown who owns the land. SO to investigate.
- c. Cllr Hodgson mentioned the possibility of Follaton as a location
- d. Bridgetown location would also be supported but uncertainty re potential locations
- e. Discussion around funding requirements and site monitoring needs
- i. SHDC up to £7,500 specifically for community composting projects
 - ii. TTC climate budget of £10,000
- f. Discussion re composting and rats
- i. If done right, not an issue
- g. Suggestion that it would be good to have a meeting on site, plus to get someone out from either Ashprington or South Brent to give advice
- h. Discussion around who might be part of a core organising group
- i. Main issue will be finding enough people
 - ii. RP to ask Climate Hub if interested
 - iii. F [REDACTED] happy to be part of core group

7) AOB

- a. Reminder of event at St John's Church on Saturday 21st 2023
<https://ttm.churchsuite.com/events/3ovptzg3>
- b. Wild camping protest walk, Saturday 21st 2023
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/raise-old-crockern-to-defend-dartmoor-tickets-514716339427>

Next meeting: 14 Feb 2023 – main topic will be the Devon Carbon Plan

Totnes Supporting FairtradeMinutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2023 5.30 pm Totnes Methodist Church

Present: D [redacted] H [redacted], W [redacted] H [redacted], A [redacted] A [redacted], Jacqi Hodgson, C [redacted] S [redacted]

1. Apologies: E [redacted] V [redacted]

2. **Matters Arising:** Contact details for Malton and Garstang Fairtrade groups need to be passed to C [redacted].

P [redacted] hopes to produce the bookmark soon. It was agreed that we should order 1,000 at a cost of £87.

The Traidcraft stall at the late night shopping evening on December 20th was successful. Possibly use St Mary's Church next time, as a more central venue, and ask M [redacted] E [redacted] to come again.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** The balance is £961.52.

4. **SW Fairtrade Group:** Changes to the format were proposed for this year's Fairtrade Fortnight. It is suggested that School Councils attend meetings at area hubs, rather than Year 5 classes. We await more details. W [redacted] will be attending a meeting on Jan 6th and will find out if any schools are going to attend. Civic Hall is booked for Thursday morning March 2nd. Cost c £200.

D [redacted] asked us to provide coffee and banana cakes. We need money towards the conference costs and the costs of the visitors coming to Devon. Jacqi has offered £500 from her budget.

W [redacted], L [redacted], P [redacted] A [redacted], D [redacted] and C [redacted] are available to help on the day.

The focus will be on coffee production. Two growers are coming from Rwanda.

In the afternoon we thought we could take the growers to the King Bill for lunch and then to visit local businesses eg. Oxfam, Greenlife, The Hairy Barista, then tea in the Guildhall with the Town Council and invited guests. P [redacted] offered to do the invites. Jacqi will check availability of The Guildhall.

5. Fairtrade Fortnight 27th February – 12th March

Two banners to be put up. (W [redacted] and D [redacted] and C [redacted] and T [redacted].)

C [redacted] to ask KEVICC permission for one of the banners to go on the fence opposite the school entrance, as in past years. ([redacted] and

siteteam@kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk.)

C [redacted] suggested we could ask shops and cafes that we know sell fairtrade products to put a fairtrade item in their window in fairtrade fortnight, and we could ask people to spot the f.trade items. (Like the odd object competition.) We decided it would be for all ages and free. Prizes will be fairtrade products. The Climate Hub are prepared to have the entry forms. C [redacted] to allocate a number of businesses for each of us to approach to ask if they will take part. Need at least 10 to make it viable. All of us need to report back at the next meeting, so we can then decide if there are enough participants to make it worth doing.

If we go ahead need to publicise it on social media. P [redacted] offered to create an entry form, which needs to list all the businesses taking part and people then record the item they spotted.

The contact person for the Climate Hub is [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

7. Other fundraising activities.

Quiz at The Bay Horse on Monday 13th February. L [redacted] and P [redacted] will attend.

Draw prizes are needed and 4 bottles of wine. Please give draw prizes to A [redacted] or take to The Bay Horse on the day.

8. **Climate and Social Justice day.** Totnes Churches Together are organising a Climate Justice Day in conjunction with Christian Aid on Saturday January 21st at St John's Church from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. It is during the week of prayer for Christian Unity. Local individuals and groups that are interested in this topic are invited to come and to have a stall. We will have a fairtrade stall. There will be a concert in the evening at 7 pm. in the Methodist Church. A variety of music will be performed by different musicians and choirs.

AOB

We need to visit the industrial estate next year. Good if we could have some fairtrade products to give them. C [redacted] to approach Clipper for tea and coffee samples. [redacted]

If businesses say their tea and coffee are supplied by a Head Office we need to ask for the address so that we can write to their Head office.

Next meeting is on Tuesday 7th February 5.30 p.m. Methodist Church.

