

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TOTNES TOWN COUNCIL**

**MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2023 IN THE GUILDHALL**

## Present: Councillors E Price (Chair), G Allen, L Auletta, C Beavis, T Bennett, J Chinnock, S Collinson, T Cooper, J Cummings, J Hannam, J Hodgson, D Peters, A Presswell, N Roberts and L Smallridge.

Apologies: Cllr Piper.

## In Attendance: Members of the public, DCllr Birch, C Marlton (Town Clerk) and P Bethel (Town Sergeant).

### **1. WELCOME TO ALL ATTENDING AND OBSERVING**

### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

**To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council. The Mayor will request confirmation that all Members have completed or made any necessary amendments to their Declaration of Interests.**

The apologies were received and agreed unanimously.

***The Committee will adjourn for the following items:***

**Reports from County and District Councillors.**

1. **County Cllr Hodgson**
2. **District Cllr Allen**
3. **District Cllr Birch**
4. **District Cllr Presswell**

*It was* ***RESOLVED*** *to suspend standing orders.*

a. County Cllr (C Cllr) Hodgson updated on the Devon County Council Full Council, including a petition on ‘20’s Plenty’ campaign, active travel funding from central government, recycling, South Devon Freeport, and mobile library service. CCllr Hodgson also relayed a request from TRAYE (Totnes Rural Youth Engagement) asking for an annual £3.5K funding from Council’s precept for youth services.

b. District Cllr Allen had submitted a report.

c. District Cllr Birch apologised for not submitting a report. He updated that the Kingsbridge Inn had been made an asset of community value and that the SHDC Executive Committee in September has approved the Totnes Neighbourhood Plan to move to referendum.

d. District Cllr Presswell had submitted a report.

*The Council reconvened.*

**3. CLERK’S REPORT (Standing Item)**

**To note the Clerk's Report for September 2023 (general updates and correspondence).**

Noted.

### **4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**To approve and sign the minutes of the following Meeting:**

***(Please note confidential minutes can be agreed but any discussion must be held in Part 2)***

**a. Full Council 4th September 2023.**

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve and sign the minutes.

**To note the following minutes:**

**b.** **Council Matters Committee 11th September 2023.**

Noted.

**c. Planning Committee 18th September 2023.**

Noted.

**d. Town Matters Committee 25th September 2023.**

Noted.

### **5. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTERS ARISING**

**To consider any matters arising from the Minutes and to approve any recommendations from Committees:**

***(Please note confidential minutes can be agreed but any discussion must be held in Part 2)***

**a. Full Council 4th September 2023.**

No matters arising.

**b. Council Matters Committee 11th September 2023.**

Item 7. Identity Verification – It was **RESOLVED** that the Council allows the continuation of the service of proof of life/pension form certification subject to the insurer's consent and confirmation of coverage, and the following two Office procedures: a copy of the signed form is taken and kept; and photo ID is seen and also a copy kept for future reference.

Item 15. Asset Transfer – It was **RESOLVED** that Totnes Town Council formally approach South Hams District Council to request further information about possible asset transfers.

**c. Planning Committee 18th September 2023.**

Item 6. Traffic, Transport and Pedestrian Policy – It was **RESOLVED** that the Traffic, Transport and Pedestrian Policy is adopted as written.

Item 7. NALC Response to Local Plans Consultation – It was **RESOLVED** that the Council responds to the consultation using the NALC wording, therefore reinforcing the NALC position which the Committee supports.

Item 11. Planning Appeal Representation – It was **RESOLVED** that the Council withdraws its application for Rule 6 status.

**d. Town Matters Committee 25th September 2023.**

Item 4. Community Award Policy – It was **RESOLVED** that the policy is adopted, subject to an amendment clarifying who will be invited to attend.

### Item 5. Skate Park Consultation – It was **RESOLVED** that:

* The Council supports the requirement and need for a skate park;
* The safety of skaters should be borne in mind in deciding on the location; and
* The Council will support the outcome of the consultation process.

### Item 6. Climate and Ecological Emergency Forum – It was **RESOLVED** that the Council:

* Supports the Friends of the Dart Bathing Water Designation application by signing the letter of support [see end of minutes]; and
* Helps to share information about the Friends of the Dart’s community designated river health project.

### Item 7. KEVICC Engagement – It was **RESOLVED** that:

* The Council engages with KEVICC on this student scheme and that TOPS and the two primary schools in Totnes are offered similar levels of engagement; and
* Cllr Bennett would be the Council’s representatives to outside bodies.

### Item 8. D-DAY 80TH Anniversary Commemorations – It was **AGREED** that ideas to mark this anniversary would return to the Town Matters Committee in November for further discussion, with Cllrs Hodgson and Presswell invited to attend.

### Item 9. RNLI Request – It was **RESOLVED** that:

* The Council supports this request to speak with a member of the RNLI with the caveat that any funding will need to be part of any wider grant process; and
* Cllr Price will meet with the RNLI representative.

**6. SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL CORPORATE STRATEGY**

**To consider the South Hams District Council’s Corporate Strategy 2024-2028, its aims and objectives in order to respond to the consultation [deadline 20th October].**

It was observed that there is no section addressing health and wellbeing the proposed South Hams District Council. It was **AGREED** that Cllrs will respond individually, rather than provide a Full Council response.

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**To consider the committee, working group and link council membership and any changes requested.**

The following memberships were **RESOLVED**:

* DALC Larger Councils Committee – addition of Cllr Hodgson.
* Police and Crime Commissioner Councillor Advocate – Cllr Peters.
* School Engagement – Cllr Bennett
* Open Space, Sports Provision and Leisure – addition of Cllr Roberts.
* Inclusive Totnes – addition of Cllr Hodgson.
* DALC County Committee – no longer meeting.

**8. LIST OF MEETING DATES**

**To note a list of upcoming meeting dates.**

Noted.

### **9. NEXT MEETING**

**To note the next meeting date of Monday 6th November 2023, 6.30pm public session, 7.00pm formal meeting in the Guildhall.**

Noted.

*The Council 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.*

### **10. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE (Standing Item)**

**To consider any recommendations or matters arising that are considered confidential in nature.**

No recommendations.

### **11. PAYMENTS CONTRARY TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**To consider the suspension of Financial Regulations section 5.3 to make payments in advance of goods received for (commercially sensitive). Document attached:**

**a. Civic Hall pillars art project.**

It was **RESOLVED** to make the payment for the art project to commence.

Cllr Emily Price

Chair