Item 2b – District Councillor Allen Report, July 2024

Cllr report looking at the issues I've been dealing at in SHDC which are relevant to Totnes...

Firstly planning - the two big planning decisions from last month were firstly the proposed changes to the nursing home on the Camomile Lawn site and secondly, the new large barns on land near Ashprington Cross...

The nursing home changes - mainly an increase in size and bulk to accommodate bigger rooms and an increased communal area.  The changes proposed means that some of the people who live in the Camomile Lawn development find that the nursing home will come closer to their houses and block more of their view and their light.  The increase in size also means a deeper excavation and a change to drainage.  Cllrs Hodgson, Birch, Presswell and myself argued that the changes proposed were unacceptable due to the impact on neighbours, drainage issues and design but we were overruled and the increase in size was permitted

Large new barns on Ashprington Cross - this was an application for a local farmer looking to consolidate his livestock into one area to winter his cows and conduct lambing there.  An objection was raised by Highways as the turn from Ashprington Cross is dangerous and a number of residents were worried about slurry dumping, run off and an increase in farm traffic, but the application was successful.  Cllrs Hodgson and myself voting in support

Licensing - new applications coming through for the Lounges venue on the Plains and the Piano Bar on the Civic Sq.  The Lounges has been granted and the Piano Bar ongoing.  Residents have expressed concerns about the possibility of a terrace at the back which would overlook their gardens and concerns also raised at TTC planning about impact on stairways and Civic Sq, issues are being addressed.