



MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TOTNES TOWN COUNCIL RECESS COMMITTEE
MONDAY 11TH AUGUST 2025 IN THE GUILDHALL

Present: Councillors T Bennett (Chair), L Auletta, C Beavis, J Chinnock, S Collinson, T Cooper, J Hannam, J Hodgson, D Peters, N Roberts and L Smallridge.

Apologies: Cllrs J Cummings, T Robshaw and M Trant.

Not Present: Cllrs A Presswell and E Price.

In Attendance: Member of the public, C Marlton (Town Clerk).

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.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies. There were no amendments to Declarations of Interest.

3. PLANNING APPLICATION 1926/25/FUL

To consider the following planning application 1926/25/FUL - READVERTISEMENT (Revised proposal & revised plans) Proposed extension to petrol filling station sales building, installation of jet wash facilities, retention of existing shipping container, erection of bin store & associated works. Morrisons Service Station, Station Road, Totnes, TQ9 5JR.

Discussion was held on the planning application for Morrisons Service Station. Members raised concerns regarding traffic impact and environmental considerations. It was

RESOLVED to submit the council's objection with detail as below, and to request the application is considered by the SHDC Development Management Committee, rather than at officer level. Cllr Hodgson abstained from the vote.

- Disabled parking space adjacent to exit is no longer visible on entry to the site. Prior to the installation of the container and fencing it was possible for disabled drivers to see whether the space was occupied or not as they pulled in, giving better equity of access.
- The pedestrian safety of the site is inadequate, particularly for children using the store to and from school.
- The cycle rack locations require cyclists to cross the vehicular entrance to the forecourt. This is unnecessarily dangerous.
- Although the visibility splay may technically comply, the context has been lost when making this assessment when considering pedestrians crossing the entrance and exit, the curve of the road and the nearby pedestrian crossing.

- The storage container should be located elsewhere on the site due to visibility and environmental/visual impact concerns.
- There is insufficient parking onsite with the proposed additional jetwashes, particularly with the proposed café area. This could cause traffic queuing onto the road.
- The jet washes would block the clearly well used footpath across the green space on the corner of the site.
- The previous objections for visual impact, including the front fence, still stand.

Councillors asked whether the café extension would mean the store comes under government guidance for the restriction on placement of high fat, salt and sugar (HFSS) products, and thereby may need to comply accordingly.

4. STRATEGY DELIVERY WORKING GROUPS

To consider an urgent recommendation from the Environment and Public Realm Working Group, 30th July 2025 about the Civic Square.

It was **RESOLVED** to move this item to the confidential session given the commercial and legally sensitive discussion required.

5. NEXT MEETING

To note the next meeting date of Monday 1st September 2025 for Full Council, 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.

Item 4. The urgent considerations from the Environment and Public Realm Working Group regarding the Civic Square was discussed. It was **RESOLVED** to write to SHDC outlining the proposal of the Working Group.

6. STAFF APPOINTMENT

To ratify the appointment of (personal details):

a. Assistant Town Maintenance Officer.

b. Marketing and Communications Officer.

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the appointments of the Assistant Town Maintenance Officer and the Marketing and Communications Officer.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the salary request from the Marketing and Communications Officer.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Cllr Tim Bennett
Chair