

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held on **TUESDAY 18th OCTOBER, 2022 at 5.30pm** at **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, DRAKE ROAD, TAVISTOCK**

PRESENT Councillor P Ward (Mayor)

Councillor J Ellis (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors Ms L Crawford, Ms T Eperon, Ms M Ewings, A Fey, A Hutton, Mrs A Johnson, A Lewis, Mrs U Mann, B Smith, H Smith, A Venning, P Williamson.

IN ATTENDANCE Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk.

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting there were a few moments of Quiet Reflection led by the Reverend Sean Brassil of St Andrew's Church, Whitchurch, Tavistock.

COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

230. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J Moody and P Squire.

231. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this point in the Meeting, it being agreed that declarations in connection with Minute no 237 would be made at that time.

232. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Tavistock Town Council held on Wednesday 21st September, 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Appendix 1).

233. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

No public representations or questions had been received prior to the Meeting.

ITEMS REQUIRING A DECISION

234. GENERAL FINANCE

The Council considered the following: -

a) Schedule of Payments

The Council received and considered copies of the monthly accounts as at 31st August, 2022 (Appendix 2) as listed on the Council's website.

b) Budget Monitoring Report

The Council received and considered a copy of the Budget Monitoring Report (Appendix 3) as at 31st August, 2022.

235. BUDGET & POLICY COMMITTEE

The Council considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Budget & Policy Committee (Appendix 4) held on Tuesday 4th October, 2022, the recommendations being reported by rote.

RESOLVED THAT subject to consideration of Minute Nos. 218-219 being deferred to a later point in the Meeting, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the recommendations included in the foregoing report of the Committee (Minute Nos. 209 - 217) be approved and adopted.

236. DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT & LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Council considered the following: -

- i) Development Management & Licensing Committee – Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 27th September, 2022 (Appendix 5).
- ii) Development Management & Licensing Committee – Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th October, 2022 (Appendix 6).

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations included in the foregoing reports of the Committee be approved and adopted.

237. CO-OPTION – TAVISTOCK SOUTH WEST WARD

The Council was reminded of the test, as set out in the Tavistock Town Council Code of Conduct, which should be applied to determine whether or not an interest subsisted, and that where it did, affected Councillors should leave the Meeting during consideration of the item.

The following Declarations of Interest were made by virtue of either the Member's association/connection with the candidate(s), or previously expressed views on associated matters:-

- i) Councillor Mrs A Johnson in respect of Mr G Whalley;
- ii) Councillor Ms M Ewings in respect of J Irvine;
- iii) Councillor B Smith in respect of Mr G Whalley;
- iv) Councillor Mrs U Mann in respect of J Irvine;
- v) Councillor Ms T Eperon in respect of J Irvine;
- vi) Councillor P Williamson;
- vii) Councillor A Venning.

Noted That accordingly the following Members left the room during consideration of the above item - Councillors Ms T Eperon, Ms M Ewings, Mrs A Johnson, Mrs U Mann, H Smith, P Williamson, A Venning.

The Council received a short presentation from the following two (of the three) potential co-optees, in the unavoidable absence of Ms J Irvine (whose application was read out by the Town Clerk):-

- i) Mr P Peers;
- ii) Mr G Whalley

Following voting by ballot it was:

RESOLVED THAT Mr P Peers be co-opted to Tavistock Town Council to represent the South West Ward.

Noted That;

- arrangements would be made for the new Councillor to receive induction training, and sign the necessary paperwork;
- the unsuccessful candidates were thanked for their interest and would be formally notified by the Assistant to the Town Clerk in due course. It was noted that a further opportunity to stand for office would arise in the upcoming elections in the Spring of 2023.

ITEMS CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

238. SERVICE REPORTS

The Council received, for information, the reports of the General Manager, Pannier Market, Works Department and Town Hall & Butchers' Hall (Appendices 7-10 refer).

Noted That: reference was made to:

- the revised lighting timings of the Christmas Lights to save energy; and
- a successful outcome with regard to bus shelter arrangements with a contracted supplier.

239. FINANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

The Council received, for information, the following: -

a) Report of the Assistant to the Town Clerk (Appendix 11)

Noted That the Council was reminded that the Grant Application period was now open, with a deadline for applications of 1st November (in order that Councillors might advise organisations with whom they had a connection and other eligible parties).

b) Goose Fair Consultative Group – Notes of the Meeting held on 29th September, 2022 (Appendix 12).

c) Updates

i) From representatives serving on outside bodies – no feedback brought forward;

ii) From Members who had attended training sessions –

- Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC) - the Council's reserve representative advised of attendance at a recent DALC Conference (their summary of same having been previously distributed) which had been well received and suggested it was an event that others might consider attending in future;
- A dual-hatted Councillor reported that she had attended South West Local Enterprise Partnership (SW LEP) and Community Safety Partnership events. The focus of the LEP event had been devolution.

Noted That – both of the above Members undertook to provide copies of slides for the events, when available.

- Southern Links – one of the Council's representatives reported that the recent meeting had considered;
 - what the future use of the Group might be;
 - the cost of living crisis;
 - available funding for 'Warm Spaces' and also the grants available for transport/travel, and the 'Growing Communities Fund' to build community resilience.

Noted That no Report had been received from Devon County Councillor Mrs D Sellis or West Devon Borough Councillor A Coulson.

240. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR

The Mayor advised Members that he had met with the judges of Britain in Bloom in July, to review the planting in the town.

He also advised that Tavistock had done extremely well when the awards had been announced, and made particular reference to the success of the Tavistock BID Company and the 'Make a Difference' Charity. A full list of the awards made would be available in due course.

URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN MAYOR

241. PLANNING APPLICATION No 0723/21/FUL: BAKER ESTATES: NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL

In view of the timelines associated for response to the deadline set by the Planning Inspectorate (15th November) the Mayor agreed to take the above item as a matter of urgency.

In order to facilitate a response on behalf of the Council, and with the consent of the Chairman of the DM&L Committee, it was:

AGREED THAT the item be considered at the next Development Management & Licensing Committee Meeting (scheduled to be held on 1st November 2022), to which all Members were invited to attend and speak (but not vote unless a Member of the Committee), on the above.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

242. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was: -

RESOLVED THAT the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS REQUIRING A DECISION

243. BUDGET & POLICY COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

(**CONFIDENTIAL** by virtue of relating to legal and/or commercial matters, staffing and/or the financial or business affairs of person or persons other than the Council).

The Council received and considered Minute Nos. 218 and 219 of the Meeting of the Budget & Policy Committee (Appendix 4 refers) held on Tuesday 4th October, 2022, the recommendations being reported by rote.

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations included in the foregoing reports of the Committee be approved and adopted.

244. PROPERTY LEGAL & FINANCE MATTERS

(**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).

i)Debtors

The Council considered and noted the list (Appendix 13) of all those with debts to the Council dating from earlier than the last Quarter Day.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

245. PROPERTY LEGAL & FINANCE MATTERS

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No items were brought forward.

The Press and Public were re-admitted to the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Signed:

Dated:
CHAIRMAN