

**AGENDA ITEM No 3(a)**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2015** at **6:53 pm**

**PRESENT** Councillor Mrs S Bailey (Mayor)

Councillors T Gibbins, Mrs A Johnson, A Lewis, P Palfrey, Mrs L Roberts, C Rogers, P Sanders, J Sheldon, A Venning, P Ward, P Williamson.

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

Note - Prior to the Meeting there was an opportunity to receive a report from the County Councillor for the area and Borough Councillor G Parker.

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**52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs M Ewings, J Moody, E Sanders, H Smith and Mrs J Whitcomb.

**53 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**54 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Tavistock Town Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**55 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

Having met the criteria for eligibility for the General Power of Competence relating to the electoral mandate (66%) and a suitably qualified Clerk, it was:

RESOLVED THAT Tavistock Town Council re-adopt the General Power of Competence.

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**56 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND RELATED MATTERS**

The Council considered the report (Appendix 1) of the Town Clerk in connection with the above.

In the discussion arising particular reference was made to the potential ambiguity arising from the framing of Standing Order 4(d)(v) together with the perceived merits and drawbacks of different models for the appointment of office holders of Committees.

RESOLVED THAT:-

- a) The following appointments be made to Standing Committees of the Council in accordance with the expressions of interest as submitted by Members:-
  - i) Finance & General Purposes Committee – Councillors Mrs A Johnson, A Lewis, P Williamson, H Smith, P Palfrey, J Sheldon, J Moody, P Sanders.
  - ii) Plans Committee – Councillors A Lewis, P Ward, Mrs J Whitcomb, T Gibbins, A Venning, C Rogers.
  - iii) Properties Committee – Councillors P Ward, E Sanders, Mrs J Whitcomb, T Gibbins, A Venning, C Rogers, Mrs L Roberts.
- b) Appointments to Outside Bodies - Devon Association of Local Councils (Reserve)/West Devon/Tavistock Consultative Liaison Committee, Tavistock Forward, Cornish Mining Consultative Forum – no appointments be made at this time and Council reconsider the matter in due course.

Noted That

- a) Arising from consideration of the above, the Clerk undertook to bring a review of the relevant provision of procedural standing orders before the Standing Orders Working Group.
- b) A motion that Council (as opposed to Committees) appoint, Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen was unsuccessful.
- c) In connection with resolution (b) above it was agreed that a communication be circulated regarding the operation of the four bodies listed.

**57 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

The Council considered a schedule (Appendix 2) of applications for planning permission arising from which it was:-

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RESOLVED THAT:

- a) Application no. 00644/2015 – this application be referred to the Conservation Officer for consideration.
- b) The remaining applications listed in the schedule be referred to the meeting of the Plans Committee scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> August 2015 for consideration and response.

**58 GENERAL FINANCE**

**(a) Schedule of Payments**

The Council received and considered the monthly accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 (Appendix 3).

**(b) Budget Monitoring Report**

The Council received and considered a copy of the Budget Monitoring Report as at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 (Appendix 4).

**59 ITEMS CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**a) Service Reports**

The Council received and noted the reports of the General Manager and Works Department (Appendices 5 – 6 refer).

**b) Plans**

A Schedule (Appendix 7) outlining decisions recently made by the Local Planning Authority was noted.

**c) Townscape Heritage Initiative Scheme Progress Report.**

The Progress Report of the Project Manager was received and noted (Appendix 8).

**d) Updates from or questions to Council Representatives serving on other outside bodies in connection with the work of those bodies:-**

- i) Appreciation was expressed to a member of Council staff who was shortly to retire and good wishes extended for the future (a letter of appreciation would be sent on behalf of the Council).
- ii) The attention of Council was drawn to the ongoing and significant impact of funding cuts upon the Dartmoor National Park Authority and the potential this might have for significant impact upon future service delivery.

**60 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.

**61 FINANCE AND LEGAL MATTERS**

(**CONFIDENTIAL** by virtue of relating to commercially sensitive information and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council)

**i) Legal Matters – Council Property**

There was no up-date in connection with this item.

**ii) Debtors**

(**CONFIDENTIAL** by virtue of relating to commercially sensitive information and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council)

The Council considered and noted the lists of all those with debts to the Council dated earlier than the last quarter day and received updates, where appropriate in respect of same.

Noted That

- Councillor P Sanders declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in respect of being a former general customer of a listed former tenant.
- An update was given in connection with a particular aspect of debt relating to the Pannier Market and related actions undertaken by the Council's Officers.
- Arising from correspondence received it was further agreed that the Market Reeve would undertake a review of the operation and activities of the Market, with particular regard to arrangements for stall allocation, the mix of business/trade offers and footfall for future consideration by Council and other points raised.

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

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62 **COUNCIL SEAL**

RESOLVED THAT – The Council Seal be affixed to the various deeds and documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect of those decisions or matters approved by the Council this day.

The Meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Chairman S. Bailey

Date 8.9.15

