

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 21st September 2016  
AT ORCHARD CORNER**

Present: Judy Westacott, Sue & Paul Bennett, John Keleher, Jeremy Logie, Dave Mitchell, Kate Wilson.

Tom King (observer)

1. APOLOGIES: Jim Carfrae, Anne Ward. JW welcomed Tom King to the meeting as a possible recruit to the Committee.

2. THE MINUTES of the meeting of 25th July 2016 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair (JW).

3. MATTERS ARISING: 4.1. Unsightly paneling: this did not contravene planning regulations. 4.4. Membership: carried forward.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR (JW): None.

4.2. SECRETARY (PB): He referred to the Duke of Somerset's proposals for substantial development within Berry Pomeroy parish abutting Bridgetown with up to 400 dwellings being proposed with sites for a 'Park and Ride Scheme' and other purposes. The Duke's agent had wrongly suggested that the proposals arose out of talks with the Totnes Neighbourhood Plan Team. Committee members expressed their opposition to this further outward expansion of the town.

Social Media: PB raised the question of Social Media in relation to the inaccurate information being disseminated via a Facebook page regarding proposals for the Market Square. KW said that TOTSOC should have its own Facebook page to give the Society wider coverage. This was agreed and KW offered to set this up. ACTION KW. (note: this has now been done).

4.3. TREASURER: (JL): He presented the verified accounts for the year end 30 June 2016. Subscriptions had broadly remained the same but additional income had come from money held by the Totnes Trust which properly belonged to TOTSOC as successor to the Housing & Built Environment Forum. The exceptional amount held at the Bank related mostly to money held on behalf of the Baltic Wharf Arts Fund. JL proposed that the single subscription for those paying by cash should be raised from £5 to £8. This was agreed and would be put to the AGM.

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Nothing to report other than one new member.

4.5. PLANNING (KW): Disappointingly the hope that a better planning application for Brimhay Dartington (where the previous application was quashed by the Court following an application for judicial review) had not been realized. The applicants had simply lodged their application in the same form as previously but with minor amendments to make the application compliant with the Court's ruling. It had been hoped that a community led scheme prepared by an architect working for the objectors might have been adopted but the developers refused. The application has not been decided yet and supporters of the community led plan are pressing for SHDC to reconsider.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP: No report.

4.7. Totsoc Forum: nothing to report.

#### 5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

Local Authorities: Town Council. The arrangements for providing tourist information following the closure of the TIC had not gone as planned in that the outlets planned in the Town had not been ready in time. It was hoped that this situation would be remedied shortly.

The TC was commissioning a study of culture and heritage within the Town with a view to providing a strategy for this provision.

T&TF: Nothing to report other than members were assisting in formulating policy for the Neighbourhood Plan.

No further reports.

#### 6. PLYMOUTH & SOUTH WEST DEVON JOINT LOCAL PLAN (KW)

KW reported on the further informal consultation being undertaken by the JLP with villages. KW remains concerned that Dartington Parish is identified as part of Totnes. The proposed housing numbers being allocated within the Parish suggest it should more properly be classified as a Local Centre as is the case with other villages with substantial housing allocations in the JLP. There will also be the likelihood of uneven treatment between those villages allocating houses under a neighbourhood plan as opposed to those having no neighbourhood plan with the allocation being made within the JLP.

#### 7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS :

Dartington: KW said there was general consensus supporting the Dartington Hall Trust that new housing should be located within the core of the estate rather than fringe areas such as Broom Park where there is substantial opposition to housing development. DHT are pressing SHDC (with Dartington NP support) for the Postern/Schumacher site to take some housing and for an increase in the numbers allocated at Barton Farm/Higher Close. She highlighted the inconsistent

approach by SHDC in its site assessment where heritage was concerned. David Stuart of Historic England has been invited to Dartington to discuss how heritage can be incorporated in to the NP.

Totnes: The Consultants appointed in connection with KEVICC and Steamer Quay have produced suggestions for consideration by the relative bodies. The Visions and Objectives of the draft plan have now been produced and public events are planned to take place in various parts of the town to enable residents there to express their views.

## 8. CONTACT.

DM produced the draft and asked committee members to let him know of any corrections before he arranged for printing. DM was thanked for the time consuming work in its production.

9. A.O.B: AGM. Seven Stars booked for Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October and all members have received an email notifying them of this. JL will be on the door to collect the entrance fee and give out membership application forms. All committee members are willing to continue. PB to give notice to members of the AGM including notifying them that any nominations for the Committee should be made before the meeting itself ACTION PB.

The Rotherfold. JL said that the re-start of the work was imminent.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 23rd November 2016 2.15.PM  
ORCHARD CORNER.

Sue Bennett

26.9.16