

TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 2:15pm

Place: Orchard Corner, Kingsbridge Hill, and Totnes

Present:

Paul Bennett (Chair)	P	Jeremy Logie	A
Sue Bennett	P	Dave Mitchell	P
Jim Carfrae	P	Anne Ward	P
Tom King	P	Judy Westacott (President)	P
John Keleher	P	Kate Wilson	P

P = Present. A=Apologies

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apologies – see above2. Minutes<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Previous minutes - the minutes of the meeting on 29 March 2017 were approved.b. Matters arising<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. 2(b)(ii) Upgrade to WordPress software - Carry forward.ii. 6(c) Historic Towns Forum - now agreed not to renew subscription.iii. 4(a) The Totsoc Planning Group has not met but been in touch by telephone.iv. (6) TK reported on meeting on 10 April with Michael Heather. His proposals had been passed to Louis Victory of Totnes Trust as it is involved with plans for St. Mary's and its surroundings.v. (8) Castle St. Conservation request - Nothing further had been heard from the owner of the property in Castle Street who was seeking advice on conservation issues.	<p>Action</p> <p>KW/DM</p>
---	--

3. Reports:

a. Chair

Civic Voice – PB reported that Michael Dower had attended the meeting in Tiverton with another member of Totsoc. The issue of joining Civic Voice was raised but at a cost of £130 it was agreed that Totsoc should not join but would encourage its members to if they wished.

b. Secretary - Nothing to report

c. Treasurer – JL confirmed with his apologies that he had nothing to report on finances or membership.

d. Membership Secretary – As above.

e. Planning Officer

i. Dartington - KW reported on the current position regarding the planning applications for the re-development of Brimhay. The site owner is South Devon Rural Housing whose application is in competition with one prepared by Bob Tomlinson for Dartington Parish Council. There were some issues to be resolved regarding a s.106 agreement before the Tomlinson proposal could go forward. There was some speculation that SDRH might decide to sell to a third party rather than progress this contentious scheme.

ii. Dartington Hall Trust – The self-build scheme previously proposed for land adjacent to Lower Drive appeared to have gone quiet and it was thought that DHT might be looking to achieve a more profitable outcome whilst still retaining some elements of self-build. It was noted that Martyn Evans had recently been appointed Estate Development Director to DHT. He comes from an architectural background and has recently announced the appointment of a number of architectural practices to produce feasibility studies for the estate.

iii. Bridgetown, Parker's Barn – PB reported that the sale of this property (former DCC Social Services offices) was to go ahead without the reservation of road access to the Camomile Lawn development. The prospective purchaser intends to convert the existing building to residential units.

iv. Totnes Station – PB's letter to Network Rail regarding the proposed pedestrian bridge and lifts was noted. He requested NR to consider a redesign of the scheme to enable the existing pond (a feature of the station for over 100 years) to be retained or for it to be replaced as part of the development. The proposal does not require planning permission.

f. PA&DF

Baltic Wharf Public Space – AW reported that the proposed seating would be fabricated locally once production drawings completed. No progress on play area due to lack of funding.

g. Totsoc Forum – Nothing to report

4. Reports

a. External Bodies - Joint Local Plan - Nothing to report

b. Local Authorities

i. Totnes Town Council (JW)

1. Tourism - The Council now proposes to fund a part time tourism officer. Issues of where the office will be permanently located have still to be resolved – Town Museum or Guildhall.

2. Parker's Way Play Area - This is now under construction and is due for an official opening on 30 June.

c. Traffic and Transport Forum (T&TF) – Nothing to report but see (6) below.

5. Neighbourhood Plans

- a. Totnes: PB reported that there remained some issues over the structure of the plan but that they were working towards an informal consultation period prior to the more limited formal period of six weeks.
- b. Dartington: KW reported on meeting with Dartington Hall Trust. Areas being worked on are green infrastructure and allocation of s.106 funds. There were issues with the Design Guide as Dartington Hall Trust did not wish to commit to the proposals of Lord Matthew Taylor of Roche favoured by the [Parish Council].

6. Matters raised by members

Totnes, Redworth Junction and railway bridge - James Bellchambers asked the committee to consider his proposal that he had prepared for T&TF to improve the traffic flow, and to reduce delays and pollution. The principal suggestions are the creation of a third lane to the railway bridge and the construction of a Redworth roundabout.

The Committee noted the proposal and looked forward to the learning how Totnes & District Traffic Forum wished to progress the idea.

**TK to
reply**

7. Contact

- a. SB reported that Tony Bennett (a member) has expressed his appreciation for the excellent work that goes into Contact and its layout.
- b. The next edition is planned for late September ahead of the AGM.

8. AOB

- a. AGM - provisionally booked for 19 October following KW's invitation to Rhodri Samuel of Dartington Hall Trust to be

<p>our speaker, which he has accepted. Preferred venue is Seven Stars Hotel. KW will confirm this date with Rhodri Samuel and JW will try and book the Seven Stars or another venue will need to be found.</p>	<p>KW/JW</p>
<p>b. Social – a separate social event was suggested for March 2018 with Barry Weekes (Totnes Image Bank).</p>	<p>JK/PB</p>
<p>9. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 2 August 2017 at 14:15 at Orchard Corner.</p>	<p>All</p>