

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **23rd** day of **NOVEMBER 2010** at **6.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr D Whitcomb Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr D Best
Cllr Mrs M Govier
Cllr M Harper
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Ms C Leverett
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr E Sanders
Cllr P Sanders
Cllr Mrs D Sellis
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr E Sherrell
Cllr H Smith

In Attendance: Town clerk
Assistant to Town Clerk
Works Superintendent
Office Administrator
One member of the press
Six members of the public

BRIEFING

Prior to the meeting Dr Michael Ireland addressed Members present about the survey he is conducting for Devon and Cornwall Railway Ltd concerning services to and from Okehampton and the Okehampton Parkway concept. The survey is to ascertain demand for the re-establishment of the rail link to Exeter, and he requested feedback from the Council.

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Major Carol Lockhart of the Salvation Army.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Devon County Councillor for Tavistock tabled the report attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

Mrs Seeley asked the opinion of the Town Council of the actions of the WDBC Environment and Community Committee in withdrawing the special parking permits from Dolvin Road residents when they sell their houses. They had the right to park two vehicles in either Abbey or Brook Street car parks as a *quid pro quo* for losing parking facilities outside their houses when the road relief scheme was implemented 25 years ago. This had been changed without any consultation or warning and they feared their houses would reduce in value because of that action.

Cllr Sherrell said he was aware of this and had put down a motion to rescind the decision for the next WDBC Council meeting on the 14th December. The WDBC members agreed they had not been informed of this decision, and it had yet to go

through the WDBC full Council. It was felt that a strong promise had been made 25 years ago, and it was agreed that a letter of support for the Dolvin Road residents should be sent to the Borough Council.

409. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Trew.

410. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors' judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

411. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 11th OCTOBER 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

412. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no such matters.

413. ON-STREET PARKING.

a. Members received a briefing package from the Works Superintendent. The Mayor wished them to debate the way forward concerning the imposition of on-street pay and display parking in Tavistock, as he proposed to hold a public meeting to consult with the local electorate. Members felt there had been a real disregard for local democracy in the DCC decision to advertise the parking orders without any local consultation. They did not agree with the DCC position that the process would have been too slow unless discussions were delayed until after the publishing of the orders. Members felt that such a major change should have involved detailed prior discussions with Town Councils.

b. A draft survey form was tabled and the Mayor suggested that such a form be used to get an idea of public opinion. Cllr Mrs Sellis asked that questions about public transport and bus passes be added to make the survey more balanced. Members were concerned generally about the reasons given by DCC for the imposition of the charges (cost difficulties with parking enforcement officers, bus subsidies and air pollution). Cllr P Sanders felt that this was another example of imposition of changes by DCC and Highways without regard to local feelings, in the same way that the changes to Drake's Statue had been made. He felt it inappropriate to have parking meters in a traditional market town and world heritage site. Members felt that parking enforcement officer costs were anyway shared with district level councils, and they wondered if residents parking schemes would be introduced to control the expected increase in parking in the (free) peripheral roads. Members then unanimously **RESOLVED** to hold an extraordinary council meeting on Wednesday 1st December, this meeting to be structured to allow the public the opportunity to speak before any formal resolutions were made.

Cllr Sherrell left the meeting.

414. PLANS COMMITTEE 11th OCTOBER 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

415. PLANS COMMITTEE 26th OCTOBER 2010.

Cllr Harper presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

416. PLANS COMMITTEE 9th NOVEMBER 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

417. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 16th NOVEMBER 2010.

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning minute 369a, Members were informed that work on the Town Clock carillon would commence in early December to be completed by Christmas. It was also confirmed that the council's insurance would cover use of the Trim Trail for classes held by a volunteer.

b. Concerning Minute 376, members agreed that the Golf Club appeared to want to swap an area of land that was very steep (1:1) for one that was flat and more useable. It was suggested that Members should visit the areas in question to see for themselves what was being suggested. The matter was deferred until a future meeting.

c. Concerning Minute 371, Members clarified that they were content to take on the task of maintaining the WDBC 'finger post' signs around Tavistock.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

418. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 16th NOVEMBER 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 384, it was confirmed that the recommendation of the committee was to advertise the Town Clerks post in the normal way to get a short list of 6 applicants, and also to go to a recruitment agency to get a short list of a further 6. Although the latter course would be expensive it was felt that the importance of the post required such action.

b. Concerning Minute 390, Cllr Mrs Johnson asked that the suggestion that the Town Council take over the hosting of the Tavistock Townscape Heritage Partnership be on the next WDBC/TTC Consultative Liaison meeting.

c. Concerning Minute 391b, the Clerk reminded Members that the Council resolution at Minute 319 gave the Clerk until the February 2011 cycle of meetings to design and produce the new financial reporting system.

d. Concerning Minute 393 Members **RESOLVED** to endorse the Strategic Plan.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

419. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed it was **RESOLVED** that the press/public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business.

420. VEXATIOUS COMPLAINTS

The Mayor circulated several vexatious and libellous letters he had received from a former employee. Members were briefed on the background to the matter, and the views of the Mayor, Clerk and Works Superintendent were given. Members agreed *nem con* that the legal advice to take no further action should be followed.

421. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED that the public and press be re-admitted to the Meeting.

422. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

There were no such matters.

423. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

a. Cllr Harper briefed Members on the BT 'Race to Infinity' for faster broadband and encouraged them all to vote for Tavistock.

b. Members **RESOLVED** to agree to the request from the Tavistock/Whitchurch and District Nursing Association Trust Fund to end the need for a Town Council appointed trustee.

424. SEAL.

RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 9. 05 p.m.

Signed.....

Town Mayor

Date.....

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **MONDAY** the **11th** day of **OCTOBER 2010** at **6.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr D Whitcomb Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr D Best
Cllr Mrs M Govier
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Ms C Leverett
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr E Sanders
Cllr P Sanders
Cllr Mrs D Sellis
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr H Smith
Cllr A Tossell.

In Attendance: Town Clerk
Assistant Town Clerk
One member of the press

BRIEFING

Prior to the meeting representatives of Mercian Developments Ltd were present to speak to Members about their ideas for developing Tavistock in alternative ways to that proposed by the current WDBC Core Strategy. This included ideas for the Market areas. The team was Mr Chris Towers, Mr Ian Harris and Mr Ian Purser of Mercian, Andrew Lopes of Brook Street Properties, Lucy Jenkin of Mitchell architects and Roger Birtles of RPS Planning.

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by the Mayor.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Devon County Councillor for Tavistock tabled the report attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions.

314 APOLOGIES.

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Harper, Cllr Sherrell and Cllr Trew.

315. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts

would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors' judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

316. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed it was **RESOLVED** that the press/public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business.

317. TOWN CLERK

The Mayor confirmed that the Clerk had tendered his resignation to be effective on Friday 29th July 2011. The Staffing Sub-Committee should meet to consider what action to take to ensure a capable successor was recruited, to include the use of an Agency for recruitment if necessary.

318. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED that the public and press be re-admitted to the Meeting.

319. ACCOUNTS 2009/2010

Mr Barrie Morris, the senior statutory Auditor from Grant Thornton, was present to give their report on the last audit and the revised accounts to those charged with governance. Following his report Members **RESOLVED** that the following could be signed:

- a. Letter of Representation,
- b. Final draft of the 'Statement of Accounts'.

They also **RESOLVED** to endorse the transfer of £175,000 (of the 2009/10 budget roll-over) to our earmarked Property Maintenance Reserve rather than it going into the General Reserve.

Members noted the 'Annual Report to those charged with Governance', and the draft comments from officers. Cllr Smith proposed an amendment to the response to Para 3 of Appendix C, to read:

'Members have shown concern about the reported deficiencies in this section of the report. It is the wish of members to be given performance data in the format expected by Auditors. The requested data to be provided to members at the Finance and General Purposes Committee at their February 2011 meeting and a minimum of 4 meetings per year thereafter.'

Members **RESOLVED** to accept this.
Cllr Mrs Govier left the meeting.

320. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 31st AUGUST 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

321. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no such matters.

322. PLANS COMMITTEE 31st AUGUST 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

323. PLANS COMMITTEE 14th SEPTEMBER 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

324. PLANS COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

325. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 5th OCTOBER 2010.

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 247a, Cllr Pike thought the problem was getting out of hand. He advised caution and proposed that we maintain the dialogue with WDBC. The mayor agreed, pointing out that the banners had been used for many years, and were important in advertising Tavistock general events. But the matter had to be settled. Cllr P Sanders sympathised with the emotions about the traditional banners, but warned that public bodies should not end up in Courts of Law. Members then **RESOLVED** *nem con* to accept Cllr Pike's motion and maintain the dialogue with WDBC.

b. Concerning Minute 281, Members were informed that the Athletic Club were trying to move the Tavy 7 race to Plasterdown, and they had asked to be given permission to use Whitchurch Down on the 28th November if those negotiations failed. Such permission was granted, with a concern about damage to the Moor by parking cars if the ground was wet.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

326. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 24th AUGUST 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 292, the Mayor had been invited to attend the next TaVi meeting following a 2 hour meeting with their Chairman to discuss relationships between TaVi and the Town Council. Cllr Mrs Sellis had attended TaVi meetings as a County Councillor, and felt they were 'middle men' using WDBC money. They tried to engage with the public but money was now very short. Cllr Pike felt that the 'forums' were good, but he did not like the 'board meetings' and how they dealt with grant applications. Cllr P Sanders reminded Members that at the AGM they had resolved not to support TaVi and since then the TaVi money had anyway dried up. Cllr Best said he would be attending the next meeting as an individual, and Members agreed that Cllr Pike and the Mayor could attend to represent the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

327. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

a. The Mayor asked how we should deal with a letter he had received from a resident of The Heights inviting the Town Council to visit to see their drainage problems. Cllr Best and Cllr P Sanders said they had been in touch and had visited the areas. Member appreciated what a difficult time the residents were having, and some suggested the Council ought to go to show support. It was **RESOLVED** that a group consisting of the Mayor and six other councillors would visit on the 22nd October. The Mayor would reply to the letter accordingly.

b. The Mayor reminded members they had seen a copy of a letter from Plymouth City Council asking us to write to the MOD concerning the future of the Dockyard in the Defence review. Members **RESOLVED** to send such a letter.

328. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

There was no such business.

329. SEAL.

RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 8. 20 p.m.

Signed.....
Town Mayor

Date.....

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **31st** day of **AUGUST 2010** at **7.05 p.m.**

Present: Cllr D Whitcomb Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr D Best
Cllr Mrs M Govier
Cllr M Harper
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Ms C Leverett
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr E Sanders
Cllr P Sanders
Cllr Mrs D Sellis
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr E H Sherrell
Cllr H Smith
Cllr A Tossell.
Cllr B Trew

In Attendance: Town Clerk
One member of the press

BRIEFING

Prior to the meeting commencing Ms Elaine Sylvester was present to brief Members on her ideas about fitness classes in the Meadows utilising our Trim Trail. Members were in favour of such activities, but questions were asked about insurance cover and charging for the classes. The matter was deferred to the next Properties Committee agenda for full debate.

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Reverend Michael Brierley of St Eustachius Church.

POLICE REPORT

PCSO Kevin Williams made a brief report to Members, confirming that year on year crime rates were down by 20%, criminal damage was down by 33% and detection rates were rising. Sometimes simple remedies worked, as in Monksmead where he requested the Town Council to erect a soccer goal, and immediately much anti-social behaviour ceased. Members asked about incidents at Tiddy Brook, and were told of arrests and drug raids made on information received.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Devon County Councillor for Tavistock tabled the report attached to these minutes. Questions were raised about the removal of double yellow lines in Duke Street, and the possibility of replacing them with Loading Bays.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions.

234. APOLOGIES.

There were no apologies for absence.

235. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors' judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

236. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 20th JULY 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

237. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no such matters.

238. MOTION FROM CLLR SMITH

In accordance with Standing Order 1.8 Cllr Smith put forward the following motion.

‘This council resolves that in future when meetings of Council and Committees are scheduled that no meetings are scheduled to take place in the month of August. This is to be clearly identified when the General Standing Orders are reviewed.’

He thought that we should return to the unwritten rule that August should, apart from Plans meetings, be kept clear for members to schedule their holidays. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt this rule.

239. DALC AGM

Members were informed that the DALC AGM was to be held at County Hall on Saturday 25th September 2010, and we were entitled to send two voting delegates. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were deputed to attend. Members were asked for any motions they might wish to be discussed at the meeting. .

240. PLANS COMMITTEE 20th JULY 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

241. PLANS COMMITTEE 3rd AUGUST 2010.

Cllr Harper presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

242. PLANS COMMITTEE 17th AUGUST 2010.

Cllr Harper presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

243. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 24th AUGUST 2010.

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

244. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 24th AUGUST 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

Concerning Minute 208a, Cllr Sherrell asked if such a grant was a wise or fair use of public money, and that the Town Council had already agreed to take on the cost of the Christmas Lights. The Chamber of Commerce represented the retail interests in the Town, and he felt they were a 'trade union' looking after their members. He did not believe that public money should be spent this way, and proposed that we do not make such a grant. He was seconded by Cllr Trew who was not happy with the Chamber accounts presented, being inaccurate and un-audited. This grant would make up a total of some £28,000 given to the Chamber over a short period. He felt they could not answer as to what the BID money would be spent on. Cllr Harper believed the grant would fund a 1% 'tax' on all businesses, but it would only benefit shopkeepers not office type businesses. Cllr Smith responded by saying that the Chamber had responded to all our questions, and they needed £40,000 to take the project to a point where businesses would be balloted to see if they agreed with the BID. The Chamber had raised some £34,000 of the total already. Cllr Harper wondered why it cost £40,000 just to get to a point where a question was asked, and it was noted that a recent internet poll in the Tavistock Times had 73% of responders against the idea. Others thought it to be a good idea to get all shops open again, and the BID money would come from all including the national chains that currently refused to support things like flower baskets and lights. The recommendation had been supported by all Finance and General Purposes Committee members present, and Members thought if the decision was not clear then the matter should be referred again. A recorded vote was called:

For	Against	Abstain
Cllr Harper	Cllr Mrs Bailey	Cllr Best
Cllr J Sellis	Cllr Mrs Govier	Cllr Ms Leverett
Cllr Sherrell	Cllr Mrs Johnson	
Cllr Trew	Cllr Mrs Metcalf	
	Cllr Pike	
	Cllr E Sanders	
	Cllr P Sanders	
	Cllr Mrs Sellis	
	Cllr Smith	
	Cllr Tossell	
	Cllr Whitcomb	

By 11 votes to 4 the motion was defeated, and the recommendation to pay the £7,000 grant was upheld.

Cllr Sherrell left the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

245. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

There were no such reports.

246. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

a. The Mayor reminded Members of the Tour of Britain, and he hoped that Members would support the event.

b. The Mayor mentioned letters in the Tavistock Times concerning vandalism in the Meadows.

c. Cllr Trew briefed Members on courses being run on Health and Safety (29th September) and Food Hygiene (30th September) and invited any Members to take part as part of their training.

247. SEAL.

RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 8. 10 p.m.

Signed.....

Town Mayor

Date.....

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **20th** day of **JULY 2010** at **7.00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr D Whitcomb Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr D Best
Cllr Mrs M Govier Minute 158d onwards
Cllr M Harper
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr Mrs D Sellis
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr E H Sherrell
Cllr A Tossell.
Cllr B Trew

In Attendance: Town Clerk
One member of the press

BRIEFING

Prior to the meeting commencing Ms Kate Royston and Mrs Chris Simpson of 'Transition Tavistock' were present to brief Members on their plans. Copies of the briefing notes are attached to these minutes.

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Reverend Jeff Moles of the Tavistock Methodist Church.

POLICE REPORT

There was no report.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Devon County Councillor for Tavistock tabled the report attached to these minutes. She added that the matter of poor signage for Tavistock as a gateway to the World Heritage sites was being raised with the Borough Council.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions.

148. **APOLOGIES.**

There were apologies for absence from Cllr H Smith, Cllr E Sanders and Cllr P Sanders

149. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts

would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors' judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

150. **CO-OPTION**

a. Members **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1.6.1 to allow voting by ballot.

b. Members considered the co-option of a councillor for the South West Ward. There were two applicants who both made short presentations:

Ms Caroline Leverett
Mr John Sheldon.

Ms Leverett was then properly elected. Members **RESOLVED** to re-introduce Standing order 1.6.1. Cllr Ms Leverett signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Undertaking to Observe the Code of Conduct and took her place with the Council

151. **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 8th JUNE 2010**

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

152. **MATTERS ARISING.**

There were no such matters.

153. **PLANS COMMITTEE 8th JUNE 2010.**

Cllr Pike presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

154. **PLANS COMMITTEE 22nd JUNE 2010.**

Cllr Best presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

155. **PLANS COMMITTEE 6th JULY 2010.**

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. Cllr Sellis asked if any reply concerning matters at the Heights had been received from the Borough Council. Cllr Best reported that he was due to meet with officers of the Borough the next day and would raise the subject. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

156. **PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 13th JULY 2010.**

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes. Noted that Cllr Best was also present at the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting as amended be adopted.

157. **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 29th JUNE 2010**

Cllr Mrs Johnson presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

158. **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 13th JULY 2010**

Cllr Mrs Johnson presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 126b(1) Cllr Trew spoke of his reservations about the recommendation to make a grant to the Chamber of Commerce for the BID. When members had met with the Chamber they had only been given old accounts, and given that over 2 years the Town Council had granted some £18,000 to the Chamber he felt this to be a concern. He had questioned them on the accuracy of the budget claim for £40,000 for the BID, and was told it was a 'best estimate'. If the BID failed he wondered what would happen to the Council's £7,000? He felt no grant should be given as the Chamber had failed to follow Council requirements about grants, and proposed that we reject the recommendation and reconsider it in the light of further information to be provided by the Chamber of Commerce. Cllr Sherrell seconded this, and was also uneasy about the original recommendation. Cllr Mrs Sellis reported that the Borough Council had agreed two grants of £4,000 each to the Chamber, and these went through with no objections. Members were concerned that no traders appeared to know about the BID, and wondered when the money for consultants would actually be needed. The Chamber had given no firm answer about this, but Members felt that they seemed not to need to pay bills until summer 2011. Cllr Harper offered a compromise – half now and half in 2011. Members were reminded that a BID made it a requirement for national retailers to pay into the fund; they could not avoid local payments as they did with the Christmas lights for example. The Chamber claimed to have succeeded in getting £32,650 in grants so far towards their total. It was suggested that the Chamber be asked for their 2009/10 accounts, and details of what the BID business rates income might be spent on. Members then **RESOLVED** by 9 votes for, 2 against and one abstention that we reject the recommendation and reconsider it in the light of further information to be provided by the Chamber of Commerce.

b. Concerning Minute 127 the amount to be granted to the Meadows Play Day was £150.

c. Concerning Minute 128, members **RESOLVED** to add Cllr Mrs Metcalf to the Staffing Sub-Committee members.

d. Concerning Minute 131c, more information about the request for grant funding of the Olympic facilities had been distributed, but Members **RESOLVED** to refer the matter back to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Cllr Trew left the Chamber.

e. Concerning Minute 134 Cllr Mrs Sellis reported of discussions with the Borough Council and the Tamar AONB to improve the signage of Tavistock as a gateway to the World Heritage sites.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

159. **TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.**

The Mayor reported on his visit to Celle, and showed Members the commemorative Calendar. The new Bürgermeister was very keen on twinning with Tavistock, and the Mayor proposed that a small civic delegation from Celle be invited to the Civic Ball.

160. **URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR**

There was no such business.

161. **SEAL.**

RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 8. 03 p.m.

Signed.....

Town Mayor

Date.....

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **8th** day of **JUNE 2010** at **7.00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr D Whitcomb Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr R Pike
Cllr P Sanders D Mayor
Cllr H Smith
Cllr B Trew

In Attendance: Town Clerk
One member of the press

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Reverend Michael Brierley of St Eustachius Church.

POLICE REPORT

Sgt Dave Anning was present and answered questions about the '25 open hours' consultation that he interpreted as meaning asking people to tell them during which particular 25 hours they wished to be able to contact police directly, rather than by phone or internet. He warned that changes in events management that meant the police would no longer be able to help with road closures. He was also questioned about the help police could give in enforcing the dog fouling by-laws.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Devon County Councillor for Tavistock tabled the report attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions.

062. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies for absence from Cllr D Best, Cllr Mrs M Govier, Cllr M Harper, Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf, Cllr Mrs D Sellis, Cllr J Sellis, Cllr E Sanders, Cllr E H Sherrell and Cllr A Tossell.

063. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors' judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

064. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 27th APRIL 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

065. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no such matters.

066. MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 13th MAY 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

067. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no such matters.

068. MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 25th MAY 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

069. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no such matters.

070. PLANS COMMITTEE 27th APRIL 2010.

Cllr Pike presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

071. PLANS COMMITTEE 11th MAY 2010.

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

072. PLANS COMMITTEE 26th MAY 2010.

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes.

Concerning the report at Minute 018 it was **RESOLVED** to table the matter at the next Properties Committee meeting for debate. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

073. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 1st JUNE 2010.

Cllr Mrs Bailey presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting as amended be adopted.

074. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 1st JUNE 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 038, Members asked that the wording be amended from 'cheap modern digital clock' to 'digital mechanism'.

b. Concerning Minute 046d(1), Cllr Trew found the accounts presented by the Chamber to be confusing. The audited accounts did not tally with the spreadsheet, or with what the Town Council had granted, and he proposed that the application be rejected. Members were concerned that town businesses came to the Town Council year after year for subsidies, and we could not 'bail them out' every year. Cllr Pike suggested that a working group meet with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss matters. Cllr Trew withdrew his proposal until more information was available from such a meeting. The Mayor felt that the Christmas lights were a good ambassador for the town, and supported such a meeting. The meeting **RESOLVED** that the following be deputed to meet with the Chamber of Commerce:

Cllr Pike
Cllr Trew
Cllr Smith
Cllr Mrs Johnson

c. Concerning Minute 046d(2), the above group would also discuss the BID grant application with the Chamber.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

075. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

There were no such reports.

076. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

a. Cllr Pike gave a verbal report on the Tavistock, Whitchurch and District Nursing Association Trust Fund, and that Mrs J Williams was now the Chairperson. The Trust was progressing well.

b. The Mayor wanted to arrange meetings for the Town Hall and Markets Sub Committee and the Staffing Sub Committee. Members would be polled for suitable dates.

077. SEAL.
RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 7. 45 p.m.

Signed.....
Town Mayor

Date.....

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **27th** day of **APRIL 2010** at **7.00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr Mrs M Govier Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr D Best
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr Mrs D Sellis
Cllr E Sanders
Cllr P Sanders
Cllr E H Sherrell
Cllr H Smith
Cllr A Tossell
Cllr B Trew
Cllr D Whitcomb D Mayor

In Attendance: Town Clerk
One member of the press

QUIET REFLECTION.

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Peter Squire of the Tavistock Quaker community.

POLICE REPORT.

WPC Karen Hall from the Neighbourhood Beat Team gave Members a short brief on crime statistics in Tavistock. There was discussion of the anti social behaviour car driving being moved from Bedford to Riverside car park and what action was required to stop the occurrences.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

Cllr Mrs Sellis, the Devon County Councillor for Tavistock, tabled the report attached to these minutes. She drew Members attention to 'Grow Tavi' and the need for more areas of land to be available for cultivation by those wanting to grow their own. Cllr P Sanders voiced concern at the DCC youth provision in the future, particularly the service restructuring and financial provision.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions.

648. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies for absence from Cllr M Harper. The Mayor announced that she had received a letter of resignation from the Council from Cllr I Jennings for personal reasons. Members gave a vote of thanks to Cllr Jennings for his work with the Council, and the Mayor would write to thank him.

649. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under

this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

650. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 16th MARCH 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

651. PLANS COMMITTEE 16th MARCH 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes. Noted that the attendance paragraph was in error, as Cllr Harper was in fact absent and Cllr E Sanders was present.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting as amended be adopted.

652. PLANS COMMITTEE 30th MARCH 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

653. PLANS COMMITTEE 13th APRIL 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted

654. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 20th APRIL 2010.

Cllr Trew presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting as amended be adopted.

655. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 9th MARCH 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

a. Allowances.

(i). Concerning Minute 625c, Cllr P Sanders was concerned about the recommendation to increase allowance payments to Members, and could not understand why the basic allowance should be increased by 50% or why it was suggested that new allowances should be paid to the Mayor and committee chairman. This had not been done in the past and would be an 'own goal' from the point of view of electors suffering under the recession. Cllr Smith explained that we had not reviewed the allowances since 2003, while other councils had. He had asked the Parish Remuneration Panel to make a report, and this, with their recommendations, had been circulated to all Members. His committee had felt their recommendation showed that the Panel did not fully understand the operation of the Town Council, and they had made some minor changes.

(ii). Most Members felt that while the existing allowances helped offset expenses incurred as a Councillor, any increase would be tactless, and that the Town Council should set an example and not accept increases this year. Cllr Sanders then proposed that there should be no change to the allowances, and that no additional allowances should be introduced this year. This was seconded by Cllr Trew, and a recorded vote called for. Members voted as shown:

For	Against	Abstain
Cllr Best	Cllr Mrs Bailey	Cllr Mrs Govier
Cllr Mrs Metcalf	Cllr Whitcomb	Cllr Mrs Johnson
Cllr Pike		
Cllr E Sanders		
Cllr P Sanders		
Cllr Mrs Sellis		
Cllr Sellis		
Cllr Sherrell		
Cllr Smith		
Cllr Tossell		
Cllr Trew		

It was **RESOLVED** by 11 votes for, 2 against and 2 abstentions that that there should be no change to the allowances, and that no additional allowances should be introduced this year.

b. Concerning the Minute after 627, it was noted that it should be Minute 627A.

c. Concerning Minute 636, Cllr Trew noted the move towards single spinal points for employees pay, but explained to Members that there was no system in place to undertake the annual review of pay that this entailed. It was felt this should be simple (e.g., the Chair of Staffing and the Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee with advice from the Clerk) with the Mayor arbitrating in case of disagreement. Cllr P Sanders agreed that any system should be transparent and fair and applied equally. It should measure pay against the job description for the post, and this showed the importance of the job description. It was then **RESOLVED** *nem con* that the Staffing Sub-Committee should recommend the setting up of a system to review pay for those employees on a single spinal point on the anniversary of their employment.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting as amended be adopted.

656. REPRESENTATIONAL REPORTS

Those Members who represent the Council on local charities and organisations have been invited to forward a report on their activities for inclusion in the minutes. Those received so far are attached to these minutes.

657. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

a. The Mayor reminded members of the opening of the Courtlands Play Park and the Civic Ball.

658. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

a. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 it was **RESOLVED** that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be

transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of staffing matters.

b. Cllr Trew briefed Members about a staffing matter that had commenced in August 2009. Cllr Pike thanked Cllr Trew for all his work as Chair of Staffing, and said he had done a marvellous job in dealing with this matter. Cllr P Sanders also thanked the lawyer who had dealt with the matter, Sarah Austin, and said he had written to thank her for her efforts.

c. **Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960**
RESOLVED that the public and press be re-admitted to the Meeting.

659. **SEAL.**
RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 8. 36 p.m.

Signed.....
Town Mayor
Date.....

Present: Cllr Mrs M Govier Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr D Best
Cllr I Jennings
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr E Sanders
Cllr P Sanders
Cllr E H Sherrell
Cllr H Smith
Cllr B Trew
Cllr D Whitcomb D Mayor

In Attendance: Town Clerk
Assistant to the Town Clerk
One member of the press

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Reverend Michael Brierley of St Eustachius Church.

POLICE REPORT

PCSO Kevin Williams tabled the report attached to these minutes. Sgt Dave Anning was present and warned of thefts of agricultural machinery in the past month, particularly quad bikes.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Mrs Sellis, the Devon County Councillor for Tavistock, tabled the report attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions.

564. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies for absence from Cllr M Harper, Cllr Mrs D Sellis and Cllr A Tossell.

565. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

566. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 2nd FEBRUARY 2010

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

567. PLANS COMMITTEE 2nd FEBRUARY 2010.

Cllr Jennings presented the Minutes. The Mayor asked what progress had been made in the bus stop for Tiddy Brook estate. Cllr P Sanders answered on behalf of DCC, in that a test had been made allowing a bus to stop on the A386 at the roundabout exit, but that had been found to be unsafe and not appropriate. Highways and the bus company were trying to find an affordable solution.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

568. PLANS COMMITTEE 16th FEBRUARY 2010.

Cllr Best presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

569. PLANS COMMITTEE 2nd MARCH 2010.

Cllr Jennings presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted

570. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 9th MARCH 2010.

Cllr Trew presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 524c Cllr Trew said his committee had raised questions about the proposed TIO noticeboards, and why WDBC had not come to the Town Council as the building's owners earlier. Cllr P Sanders replied that the idea of sinking noticeboard uprights into the ground had been scrapped, and the conservation officer was now involved. It was **RESOLVED** not to make any decisions about the signs until more information was available.

b. Concerning Minute 530c Cllr Sellis on a point of information said the facts behind the Minute were incorrect, and that the Town Council were not trying to take the lead in the Higher Level Scheme, and would support the commoners in their application. A recent communication to the six landowners had suggested that they be represented by Mr Tom Stratton of the Duchy of Cornwall, and that was underway.

It was noted that Cllr Best had been present but was not on the list of those attending. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting as amended be adopted.

571. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 9th MARCH 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 538, the facts were amended in accordance with the point of information raised for Minute 530c above.

b. Concerning Minute 542, the Mayor informed members that Superintendent Sharp had e-mailed the Police Station to order cessation of the abuse of parking in the Guildhall Square car park.

c. Concerning Minute 549, the Working Party for the revision of Standing Orders would be Cllr Smith, Cllr P Sander, Cllr Pike and the Mayor.

d. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 it was **RESOLVED** that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of staffing matters.

e. Concerning Minute 551 the Mayor reminded Members of the confidentiality of the matter, and that debates in the Chamber should not be reported to others.

f. Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960

RESOLVED that the public and press be re-admitted to the Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

572. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

a. The Mayor reminded members of the opening of the Courtlands Play Park and the Civic Ball.

b. Cllr Trew asked that the Whitchurch Down briefing to be given at the next cycle of meetings should take place between the properties and the Finance and general purposes Committee to allow all Members to attend. It was agreed that representatives of the commoners and their agents should be invited. He would undertake that task.

573. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

a. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 it was **RESOLVED** that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of staffing matters.

b. The Clerk briefed Members about a squatter on Pixon Lane, and Members endorsed the actions taken so far. It was then unanimously **RESOLVED** to take all normal legal steps to ensure that the caravan and owner were removed from the Council's land at the earliest opportunity.

c. Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960

RESOLVED that the public and press be re-admitted to the Meeting.

574. SEAL.

RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 7. 50 p.m.

Signed.....

Town Mayor

Date.....

Minutes of a Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **2nd** day of **FEBRUARY 2010** at **7.00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr Mrs M Govier Mayor
Cllr Mrs S Bailey
Cllr M Harper
Cllr I Jennings
Cllr Mrs A Johnson
Cllr Mrs J C Metcalf
Cllr R Pike
Cllr Mrs D Sellis
Cllr J Sellis
Cllr E Sanders
Cllr P Sanders
Cllr E H Sherrell
Cllr H Smith
Cllr A Tossell
Cllr B Trew
Cllr D Whitcomb D Mayor

In Attendance: Town Clerk
Assistant to the Town Clerk
One member of the press
5 Members of the public

QUIET REFLECTION

Members prepared themselves for the meeting by a few moments of quiet reflection led by Reverend Michael Brierley of St Eustachius Church. He tabled the note about Council Prayers attached to these minutes.

POLICE REPORT

PCSO Kevin Williams introduced WPC Karen Hall who had joined the Neighbourhood Beat Team. They reported a quiet Christmas period with few instances of ASB.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Mrs Sellis, the Devon County Councillor for Tavistock, tabled the report attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

a. Mrs Hunt asked in the Council could include a clause restricting future sale in any deeds for the Abbeyfield Recreational Area. Could the Council reports indicate what work had been done there?

Response. The Mayor said the Council would take advice on any wording. She agreed the area was a 'recreational area' for all ages.

b. Mr Davies asked what was the Council's policy on the Core Strategy, as there was a resolution objecting to it, a specialist report against it had been paid for by the Council and they had supported the Parish Poll that voted against it. He noticed that

some 'double hatted' town councillors had voted for the Strategy at the relevant West Devon Borough Council meeting. Could this be explained?

Response. The Mayor explained that she had abstained at the vote, and that 'double-hatted' councillors acted in a Town Council role when at Town Council meetings, but had additional Borough responsibilities and had to take that into account when at Borough meetings. Some 'double-hatted' Members represented different groups of electors at the two councils. Members also said that some had voted against the Strategy, and some had abstained. Cllr Pike gave the example that at a Borough meeting he had to act in what was best for his rural Borough ward, and not take into account Town Council matters. Cllr Sherrell made the point that councillors were elected representatives, not delegates, and had to make up their own minds on voting. Cllr P Sanders explained that he objected to parts of the Strategy, but had voted against the whole policy as he had not been given a chance to vote on the areas to which he objected. Other 'double-hatted' Members agreed with these comments. The Mayor also reminded Members that the Council had not supported the Parish Poll vote, but had simply agreed to its taking place. (Afternote, the Standards Board have issued guidance for double-hatted members in just these circumstances and it will again be circulated to Members and to Mr Davies).

c. Mr Hunter thanked the Council for the Abbotsfield consultation, and looked forward to a favourable response to Option 3?

485. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies for absence from Cllr D Best.

486. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillors were reminded that this item allowed the Chairman to receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If they became aware, during the course of a meeting of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item they must immediately disclose it. They may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that is likely to prejudice the councillors judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

487. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 15th DECEMBER 2009

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

488. PLANS COMMITTEE 9th DECEMBER 2009.

Cllr Whitcomb presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

489. PLANS COMMITTEE 21st DECEMBER 2009.

Cllr Sellis presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

490. PLANS COMMITTEE 5th JANUARY 2010.

Due to the bad weather Cllr Best had been the sole member of the Committee present at that meeting. In his absence members **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted, to be signed on his return.

491. PLANS COMMITTEE 21st JANUARY 2010.

Cllr Sellis presented the Minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

492. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE 26th JANUARY 2010.

Cllr Trew presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 453, Cllr Smith spoke on his wish to see a memorial garden created for the late Mrs Gill Gorbutt. The Mayor had spoken to members of the family, and their wish was for trees to be planted in memory, with a granite plaque alongside. It was then **RESOLVED** that a tree and plaque should be provided, the location to be decided by the family.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

493. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 26th JANUARY 2010

Cllr Smith presented the Minutes.

a. Concerning Minute 472, Cllr Pike thought the original idea for a Town Crier had come from the Lions. On hearing that a full uniform could cost £1,700 he said that some were too elaborate, and something like the Mace Bearers uniforms should be provided. Members were in favour of having a Crier, and although there were issues about costs of uniforms and the relationship to the Council, as an important market town it was agreed that Tavistock should have a Crier. Members felt the Crier should be an employee of the Council, but unpaid, though allowed to claim expenses. Such a contract would require the Crier to abide by the code laid down in Standing Orders Part 3, Section 15 (Code of Practice for the Town Crier). It was then **RESOLVED** *nem con* with one abstention that the Crier should have an honorary employment contract with the Town Council. It was then unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should meet reasonable expenses of the post according to the relevant Standing Order. Members also unanimously **RESOLVED** to provide up to £200 to the Lions to fund the selection competition. The matter would be returned to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for further financial consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

494. TAVISTOCK CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

a. Members wished to again debate their response to the July 2009 version of the Management Plan produced by the Tavistock Townscape Heritage Partnership. They have endorsed the Character Appraisal document, but resolved at Minute 305 not to find any funding for the project. There was discussion about a meeting West Devon Borough Council were holding to discuss the Heritage Initiative, but confusion as to who should attend and if it was still to be held. The Clerk was directed to resolve the matter the next day. Cllr Smith opened by saying that the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting Members agreed Minute 476 that called for the councillors on the working group tasked with formulating the Town Council's Strategic Objectives to reconvene. Apart from the requirement of the auditors for the Council to have a set of strategic objectives against which the performance could be measured he believed that without a set of published objectives the Council could justifiably be accused of having no corporate vision or overall framework inside which to work.

b. In that context he believed it would not be in the interest of the council to endorse the Management Plan at this point in time. He did however appreciate the work of the authors of the Management Plan and that it had been constructed in a proactive manner based on the endorsed Character Appraisal. His concern was that although the vast majority of the proposed actions were sound when read within the stated objectives of the partnership, in isolation he believed there needed to be greater consideration by the Council before endorsing the document. All Members had read this document many times, so he thought all that was required was a couple of examples of the actions contained within it to demonstrate what would be endorsed:

(1). The Town Council will consider commissioning a conservation and management plan for Town council Estate.

(2). The Town Council will consider carrying out a detailed survey to ascertain the full extent of any repairs needed to the Pannier market and its associated buildings.

c. In the Plan are many actions that the Town Council are being asked to support, some in conjunction with other parties and some on its own. As far as he was aware West Devon have not yet formally accepted the document and he believed it was too early for us so to do. Members thought that many of the actions required were already being undertaken by the Town Council as part of its normal business. There was also concern about the Guildhall and Bank Square proposals.

Members then **RESOLVED** *nem con* that Tavistock Town council should not endorse the Management Plan before the Working Group for Strategic objectives has reported its final recommendations to Council.

495. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS AS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED.

There were no such communications.

496. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR

There was no such business.

497. SEAL.

RESOLVED that the seal be affixed to the various Deeds and Documents to be made or entered into for the carrying into effect the several decisions and matters approved.

Rising 8. 20 p.m.

Signed.....

Town Mayor

Date.....