

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019** at **6.45pm**

**PRESENT** Councillor Mrs A Johnson (Mayor)  
Councillor A Hutton (Deputy Mayor).

Councillors Ms L Crawford, J Ellis, Mrs M Ewings, A Fey, A Lewis, Mrs U Mann, J Moody, Mrs G Parker, G Parker, H Smith, A Venning, P Williamson.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Town Clerk, General Manager.

**159. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors B Smith, P Squire and P Ward.

**160. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Declarations of Interest were made:-  
Councillors G Parker and H Smith in connection with Minute No. 166(b) a personal non-prejudicial interest by virtue of membership of an organisation (Sensory Garden) concerned.

**161. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tavistock Town Council held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 (Appendix 1 refers) be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**162. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS AND QUESTIONS**

No public representations or questions had been received.

**ITEMS REQUIRING A DECISION**

**163. GENERAL FINANCE**

The Council considered the following:-

a. Schedule of Payments

The Council received and considered copies of the monthly accounts (Appendix 2) as at 30<sup>th</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2019.

b. Budget Monitoring Report

The Council received and considered a copy of the Budget Monitoring Report (Appendix 3) as at 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2019.

**164. BUDGET & POLICY COMMITTEE**

The Council considered Minute No's 139-150 inclusive of the Meeting of the Budget & Policy Committee (Appendix 4) held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019, the recommendations being reported by rote.

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations included in the foregoing report of the Committee be approved and adopted - subject to the addition, to Minute No. 146 and following a vote by ballot, of the appointment of Councillors Ms L Crawford, J Ellis, Mrs U Mann and Mrs G Parker to the Sustainability and Environment Working Group (together with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget and Policy Committee (ex-officio)).

Noted That

- a. Minute No. 143 Council Tax Support Grant – Councillors Mrs M Ewings and J Moody declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in Minute No. 143 by virtue of membership of the organisation concerned;
- b. Minute No. 146 Sustainability & the Environment – in the discussion arising Members:
  - welcomed the breadth and depth of work already undertaken by the Town Council in this area, together with
  - noting the opportunity to do more in a managed way and consistent with the broader strategic work being undertaken on both a countywide and national basis;
  - referred to
    - a range of matters, including the views of various national and international bodies;
    - the demonstrable and continuing commitment of the Council to undertaking proportionate and appropriate mitigation work in support of biodiversity and the environment;
    - whether it were more appropriate to 'declare', or to 'recognise', a climate emergency;

- a prospective meeting of the Devon Association of Local Councils.
- Councillors J Ellis and P Williamson requested it be recorded that they abstained from voting in connection with Minute No. 146 (climate emergency recommendation only) in view of the specific wording of same.

**165. DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT & LICENSING COMMITTEE (DM&L)**

The Council considered the following:-

- a. Development Management & Licensing Committee – Minutes (Appendix 5) of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 (Minute No’s 114-122 inclusive);
- b. Development Management & Licensing Committee – Minutes (Appendix 6) of the Meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019 (Minute No’s 130-138 inclusive).

The recommendations being reported by rote

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

**ITEMS CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The following items had been circulated for information only:-

**166. SERVICE REPORTS**

The Council received and noted the reports of the General Manager, Works Department, Town Hall/Butchers’ Hall and Pannier Market (Appendices 7-10 refer).

Noted That:-

- a. General Manager’s Report – in response to questions reference was made to work being undertaken in collaboration with local partners to secure appropriate balance to trading events and activities within the Town Centre, progress in connection with the Guildhall refurbishment scheme and positive feedback received in connection with the appearance of the Town. Additionally, and pursuant to Minute No. 146, Goose Fair Traders would be invited to consider how they

might develop measures to better support the environment through improving/developing operating practices.

- b. Works Department – attention was drawn, in particular, to the Cemetery “walkabout” for Members scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019.

#### **167. FINANCE AND OTHER MATTERS**

The Council received, for information, the following:-

- a. Report of the Assistant to the Town Clerk (Appendix 11)  
Noted That attention was drawn, in particular, to the upcoming Tavistock Civic Service scheduled for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at which all Members were invited to attend;
- b. Tavistock BID – Notes (Appendix 12) of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2019  
Noted That the Council was advised of work undertaken with the BID Company to promote/encourage local business involvement in Town Council led events;
- c. Project update:-
  - i. Townscape Heritage Initiative – positive progress with priority scheme projects was noted;
  - ii. Guildhall Gateway Centre Project – this was covered elsewhere on the Agenda.
- d. Updates from Council representatives serving on outside bodies:-
  - Positive progress to secure funding undertaken by Kingdon House for the reconfiguration of the ground floor was reported;
  - Any Members interested in volunteering to set up and deliver a Town Speed Watch Group were invited to liaise with Councillor Mrs G Parker direct;
  - An initiative being undertaken by the Health and Wellbeing Alliance (The Filo Project) was reported.

#### **168. COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR**

Disappointment was expressed that the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service had not been able to respond in the affirmative to requests to attend and address Members in connection with proposed service reductions within the Town.

Arising therefrom it was agreed that Councillor Mrs M Ewings liaise with colleagues to submit an indicative response to the Consultation on behalf of the Council

### **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

#### **169. 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**

#### **170 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 a person or persons other than the Council).

The Council considered confidential Minute No's 151-158 inclusive of the Meeting of the Budget & Policy Committee (Appendix 4 refers) held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019, the recommendations being reported by rote.

RESOLVED THAT subject to the amendment of the recommendation in connection with Minute No. 152 as outlined below, namely - Councillors Mrs M Ewings, J Ellis and the Mayor be authorised to meet with the organisation concerned with a view to securing a consensus on the way forward; the recommendations included in the foregoing report of the Committee be approved and the Minutes be received.

Noted That Minute No. 152:

- Councillor A Hutton declared a personal non-prejudicial interest by virtue of membership of the organisation concerned;
- a discussion took place, most particularly in connection with the potential for noise nuisance and the lack of detailed photographs/design specification;
- Councillor Ms L Crawford declared an interest in the above item as a Member of the Tavistock Community Gardening Group.

**171 PROPERTY, LEGAL AND FINANCE MATTERS**

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

i. **DEBTORS**

The Council considered and noted a list of all those with debts to the Council dating from earlier than the last quarter day, and received updates accordingly (Appendix 13).

ii. **LEGAL UPDATES**

The Council noted that it was proposed its Solicitors were be in attendance at the next meeting of Council to provide an update on legal matters.

**READMISSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC**

The Press and Public were readmitted to the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 8.08pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

CHAIRMAN