

Minutes of the **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** of **TAVISTOCK** held in the
Town Hall, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the
12th day of **MARCH 2013** at
6.30 p.m.

The following were present:

Councillor Mrs A Johnson - Mayor as Chairman

Councillors Mrs S Bailey, D Eberlie, Mrs M Ewings, Mrs J Metcalf, E Sanders, J Sellis, J Sheldon, E Sherrell, H Smith, A Tossell, D Whitcomb.

4 members of the public

1 member of the press

In Attendance: Town Clerk, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors D Rose, Mrs L Rose, B Trew and Mrs J Whitcomb.

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor welcomed all present and gave a brief address, notes of which are attached at Annex A to these Minutes.

The Mayor also took the opportunity to thank the Town Clerk and his staff, her fellow Councillors, in particular Councillor Harry Smith as the Deputy Mayor, for their considerable support during her Mayoral year.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 13th MARCH 2012

The Minutes of the above Meeting were agreed as a true copy and signed by the Mayor.

3. ACCOUNTS

The Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee gave a report on the financial affairs of the Council, notes of which are attached at Annex B to these Minutes.

4. JESSIE ANN ALFORD CHARITY

The Town Clerk made the following report (Annex C):

Jessie Anne Alford was the wife of William Charles Alford a local market keeper, Councillor and Poor Law guardian in the 1920's. They were members of the Plymouth Brethren community, and when Jessie died in 1947 she left £1,000 in trust to the local Council. A scheme was established by which the Charity was to benefit spinsters and widows aged 60 and over living in the Parish of Tavistock. It has assets of 822 income shares in the Charities Investment Fund (value as at 31/12/2012 £ 8,539.84, up by £726.15 from the previous year) and receives some £300 to £400 of income each year. The distribution of funds is made just before Christmas each year to a maximum of

eight deserving applicants selected by the Trustees. Last year there were four grants made and the Trustees awarded each £ 90. After this distribution a bank balance of £ 117.22 was carried forward to 2013.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chairman then invited general questions from the public. A Member of the public put the following question:

Q; I attended the recent exhibition by Bovis Homes regarding the proposal to build 750 houses on the outskirts of Tavistock, and have two concerns. It would appear Bovis Homes have no intention of giving anything towards the cost of reinstating the railway, which forms part of the proposal. Also, Bovis Homes appear to have no intention of creating a facility for any cars going out on to Callington Road, therefore making the proposal unsustainable.

A; Councillor Sheldon said he had been following the progress on this proposal, and advised that Bovis Homes would be coming to address Councillors on the 16th April 2013.

In the ensuing discussion it was noted that the Council had opposed the Core Strategy and expressed concerns regarding the potential for adverse impact on the Town. Similarly the view was expressed that infrastructure should precede other development so as to ensure a sustainable and properly resourced development.

The Member of the public who had asked the question then went on to express concern that the new estate was not sustainable without a connecting road between Callington Road and Plymouth Road.

In response a Councillor referred to Devon County Council's role as highway authority including the potential funding of the cost of the rail link (and not the developer, as originally anticipated).

There being no more questions, the Mayor thanked everyone for coming to the Meeting.

The meeting ended at 6.51pm.

Signed.....
Town Mayor

Date.....

