

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON TUESDAY 4th February 2014 AT
ORCHARD CORNER**

Present: Judy Westacott, Sue & Paul Bennett, Jim Carfrae, John Keleher,
Jeremy Logie, Dave Mitchell, Anne Ward, Kate Wilson

1. APOLOGIES: none.

2. THE MINUTES of the meeting of 25th November 2014 were accepted as a true record and signed by JW.

3. MATTERS ARISING: 4.1 Linden Homes (Riverside). JW had not met with Linden to request that consultation should take place through the Totsoc Forum. However JW is meeting with Linden on 6 February and will pursue this and express concern regarding the lack of consultation following the poor exhibition held by Linden in December which contributed nothing new to the discussion.

4.4. (membership) SB had not been able to solve the problem of the mystery member known only as "Kathleen Patricia".

4.5. (suggested meeting with Planning Minister re Neighbourhood Planning). KW had decided not to pursue this at the present time because the Town Council has now set up a group to take this forward. When/if it is appropriate to take this further she feels that a member of the group should accompany her.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR: JW had (with other Councillors and SHDC officers) met the Duke of Somerset's representatives regarding the proposed development of Great Court Farm (within Berry Pomeroy parish although part of Bridgetown). The discussions were tentative rather than any specific proposals. The site had been looked at previously but was regarded as not "sustainable". SHDC planning officer however pointed out that with present policy being governed by the NPPF and with SHDC held by the Planning Inspectorate to lack a five year housing supply the site might well be vulnerable and should therefore be considered for development albeit outside the present development boundary.

4.2. SECRETARY: PB had been in touch with David Martin regarding street signage. DM had undertaken work on this but no progress could be made at the present time until funding becomes available; he agreed to keep in touch with Totsoc when any further progress is made.

CPRE meeting 7 March on Land Use Strategy at Follaton House. The speaker will be Prof Michael Winter and chaired by Dr. Sarah Wollaston. KW to attend.

4.3 TREASURER JL: No activity; there were several members' subs outstanding which PB is pursuing. Bank balance is £2,826.

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY JL: nothing to report.

4.5. PLANNING: KW reported on the site meeting (application 56/3004/13/F rear of 46 Fore Street Totnes) which the Totnes planning committee attended with the applicant's architect and members of Totnes Town Council. The principal concern of the committee related to the height of the proposed 3rd storey of the building in relation to neighbouring buildings. The full note of objection is on the SHDC website relating to the application.

Neighbourhood Plan: a project group has been set up by the Town Council but this is in its early stages and KW's intention is to observe and see what emerges from its deliberations.

Atmos Project: A report on progress has been circulated and will be forwarded to members. **ACTION KW.**

KEVICC land. The sports field with the "z shaped" field adjoining it are believed to be subject to option agreements in favour of Persimmon (house builders). Because of the NPPF and lack of a five year land supply these sites and others lying between Totnes and Dartington are clearly under threat and it may be difficult to prevent the built up areas of each of them coalescing.

Bloor Homes: Following a report that Bloor had taken over Millwood Homes interest in Totnes sites KW had emailed Bloor requesting information but no response made. KW to pursue. **ACTION KW.**

Riverside: PB referred to the promise of consultation by Linden Homes but that nothing had been heard. Agreed that PB email Dave Kenyon (SHDC planning officer) to express concern (in addition to JW – see above - matters arising). **ACTION PB.**

Local Plan: PB referred to car parks in Totnes and the need to consider these as possible sites for housing without overall reduction in parking spaces. The planning committee to revisit the earlier plans for the Southern Area and also consider other areas. **ACTION Planning Committee.**

Sheepfield site: The pre-planning consultation application has been withdrawn.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP: AW reported that there had been no meeting of the group but Di Reeves had been talking to former employees of Reeves Timber Yard and it is possible that some of the history of the Yard and its employees might be incorporated in the public art at Baltic Wharf. There is the possibility of financial support from Finland. There has been no further contact from Suzanne Heath (arts project manager).

5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

Local Authorities: none.

Town Council: JW reported that the town council had created several working groups dealing with various aspects of the Council's work.

6. CONTACT (DM):

Deadline for copy for next edition is early March. So far DM only has one article (by JK). JK also has a piece by Laurence Green which he will forward to DM. JL suggested that a Gift Aid form should be included in the March edition and a Membership request form in the Autumn edition. **ACTION JL.**

JW to let DM have a quiz on "How well do you know Totnes". **ACTION JW.**
PB to produce an article on Local Government and Localism and AW will also produce an article. **ACTION PB and AW.** Planning issues: **ACTION KW.**

7. TOTNES STATISTICS (JK):

JK produced some very interesting statistics on population, housing, income and occupations in the Totnes area: a lot of this information dates back to the 2001 census, 2008 and 2011: more recent data would be very welcome. PB questioned the 2008 income figures which JK agreed to look into again. **ACTION JK.**

7. AOB: JK is keen that Totsoc and the Image Bank should have closer working relations and he and AW have agreed to take this issue forward. **ACTION JK, AW.**

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

TUESDAY 25th March 2014 2pm ORCHARD CORNER. ***Please note earlier start time.***

SUE BENNETT
9.02.2014