

**RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOTNES & DISTRICT SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2014  
AT ORCHARD CORNER**

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

1. APOLOGIES: Jeremy Logie, Kate Wilson

2. THE MINUTES of the meeting of 30 July 2014 were accepted as a true record and signed by JW.

3. MATTERS ARISING: None that would not be dealt with under subsequent items.

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIR (JW): Since our last meeting JW met with members of the Caravan Club when the item on the future of the site was not on the agenda. However it will come up at the October meeting and she will report to our next meeting.

4.2. SECRETARY (PB): He referred to the Chichester Society newsletter and South Hams Society Bulletin both of which had been critical of the way in which locals plans were being dealt with by their local authorities. The South Hams Society had also expressed concern that the reduction in staffing proposed by the District Council might also extend to the AONB unit which would be wrong as the AONB Unit is funded by a DEFRA grant not SHDC.

4.3 TREASURER: PB reported that he had discussed with JL the need to raise additional funding. It would be difficult to raise subscriptions because of the number of standing order payments requiring amendment by members and any increase would need the approval of members. At the moment the Society just about breaks even on income and expenditure but without using reserves does not have the means to fund projects. JL/PB suggested that members could be asked to make separate donations to fund projects as and when the occasion arose. This was agreed also that it should be put to the AGM. DM referred to the Leechwells restoration and that the cost of the information board would now be less than £100 and on this basis the meeting agreed to fund this.

4.4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: The note seeking new members which it is hoped can be placed in the Totnes Times needs to be passed to JW. **ACTION PB.**

4.5. PLANNING: (PB) Extra Care Home Bridgetown. Totsoc has been invited to a "preview" meeting to hear the initial thoughts for the site. This is a project widely welcomed as providing affordable care for the elderly. The design aspects

will be important and the Society welcomes the opportunity to be involved in this. JC (and possibly DM and KW) will attend the meeting. **ACTION JC (DM, JW).**

Riverside Bridgetown: The Totosc planning group had examined the revised design proposals submitted by the applicant as a result of criticism from the SHDC Urban Designer. The unanimous view was that these new proposals still fell short of what was acceptable on a major site of this kind and that the Society should call for refusal of the application in its present form. This was supported by the whole committee other than JW who reserved her position as the District Councillor for the area. The Society's other objections relating to the future upkeep of Public Open Space and the linking of the cycle track/footpath to Steamer Quay had so far not been met.

Great Court Farm: The Society's position on this as set out in the letter to the planning officer from KW/PB dated 8 September circulated to all Totsoc members and attached to these minutes. PB said that a key question would be whether or not SHDC could be deemed to have a "five year land supply" at this juncture to comply with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

4.6. PUBLIC ART & DESIGN SUB-GROUP: (AW): She reported on the continued work by Suzanne Heath at Baltic Wharf and the various applications for funding. PB suggested AW might approach David Martin to invite him to join the sub-group. **ACTION AW.**

4.7. TOTSOC FORUM: no further meetings had taken place.

#### 5. EXTERNAL BODIES:

Local Authorities: JW reported on the arrangements being made for the appointment next year of the chief executive role for both SHDC and West Devon. Totnes Town Council was looking at better ways of engaging with the public.

T&TF. No report.

6. CONTACT (DM): He reported that two final articles were awaited but otherwise he could put it together ready for the printers.

7. AOB: AW kindly agreed to distribute flyers for the AGM which DM would produce. JC to liaise with JL on the labels list. **ACTION DM/AW/JC.**

JW will be unable to attend the AGM but will produce a written report. AW volunteered to assist JL on the door and offer copies of Contact to non-members. Committee members to meet at the AGM venue at 6.15 pm to get the hall ready. **ACTION ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 24 November at 2pm at ORCHARD CORNER. ***Please note start time.***