

# **MINUTES FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE**

# **MONDAY 22ND JULY 2024 IN THE GUILDHALL**

Present: Councillors L Auletta, C Beavis, D Peters, A Presswell, E Price and N Roberts.

Apologies: Cllrs Chinnock, Collinson, Cummings and Robshaw.

## In Attendance: Member of the public, S Halliday (Governance and Projects Manager).

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.**

With apologies received from Cllrs Collinson and Cummings, it was **AGREED** to appoint Cllr Auletta as acting chair for this meeting.

Cllr Auletta read out a statement about how the meeting would be conducted and recorded.

The apologies were accepted.

*The Committee will adjourn for the following items:*

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A member of the public raised concern about the lack of a tourist information point at the bottom of the town and the number of people coming across from the river boat trips who struggle to find their way around the town, asking if it was possible to locate something on this side of the river. Cllr Price explained the tough decision to not have a manned tourist information office in the town based on the cost and footfall, highlighted the locations in the town where the Visit Totnes map/guide could be picked up and said that the Council officer would check that stocks of these maps are held in the river boat office.

*The Committee reconvened.*

**2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **To approve the minutes of 24th June 2024 and update on any matters arising.**

The minutes were **AGREED** as an accurate record of proceedings. Matters arising:

Item 4 – Strategy Delivery Group. It was **RESOLVED** by Full Council that the Terms of Reference for the Strategy Delivery Group Working Groups is included as an update to Standing Orders (new section 29).

Item 5 – Vegetation over Pavements. It was **RESOLVED** by Full Council that it writes to Devon County Council with its concerns that its statutory requirements are not being met in regards to equality duties and highways.

### **3. OPEN SPACE, SPORTS, RECREATION AND WELLBEING POLICY REVIEW**

**To review the Council’s draft Open Spaces, Sport Recreation and Wellbeing Plan** **and make a recommendation to Full Council.**

The Committee discussed the latest version of the plan following the Task and Finish Group meetings held on 10th and 11th July. It went through the suggested changes to the text proposed by Cllr Auletta (circulated after the papers had been issued) that look to strengthen the language in various sections and these were **AGREED**. The officer updated that South Hams District Council officers involved in parks and recreation and S106 will provide comments on the draft plan by mid-August and these will be circulated to the Committee.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that the draft Totnes Town Council Open Space, Sprots, Recreation and Wellbeing Plan is adopted.

### **4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

### **To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 23rd September 2024 at 6.30pm.**

### Noted.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Sara Halliday

Governance and Projects Manager