

Minutes of Totnes Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Wednesday, 19th April, Totnes Guildhall, 7pm – 8.30pm

Present – Andy Garner, Tony Whitty, Peter Rees, Chris Balch, John Birch, Mary Popham, Tony Whitty, John Green, Mary Coughlan-Clarke,

Apologies- Carol Whitty, Jill Tomlin, Wendy Ormsby

Chair - Paul Bennett, **Observers**- Richard Szczepura

Task/Issues	Detail
Minutes of last meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved • Matters arising: • Welcome to James Shorten, noted that James had written two other plans, one approved, one under consultation
Draft Neighbourhood Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James introduced himself, he had received the comments of the Steering group and would be addressing those before 24h April. • Mary CC and Chris B would be dealing with areas which required local knowledge. MCC & CB to action post 24th April. • Rather than do a light consultation first, we would be consulting on the initial draft, and formally on the draft. • It must be noted that with JLP, it was important to run closely along side as the NP needed to conform to existing and emergent policies • Two key things, Land use issues can translate into policies, the rest must largely be dealt with under aspirations as other authorities are responsible for implementation. • Structure of the Plan from feedback would be Intro, V&O, 4 Quadrants and River establishing the character • Then Community, economy, environment, transport and movement • The plan is aiming high and pushing the boundaries with regard to policy, notching up community led and owned to a new level, Totnes has track record in this through ATMOS, Transition Homes, Dart Valley Trust for KEVICC, Mansion house etc. • John Birch expressed significant concerns about wording of 2.3.5 and 2.3.6 as this was different to the JLP. • Agreed that this area needed to be clearly set out so there was no confusion about proposed numbers and linkage to Draft JLP while noting the JLP omitted sites and there were mistakes. • Very little opportunity beyond JLP sites for others except Steamer Quay and Police Station. Potential for the Fire station to be an emergency hub was raised • Open Space schedule needed to include Town Squares and St May's project and be part of Community rather than just environment. Updated schedule and map required. MCC and TW to action. • Economy Chapter very strong, Policy on Education to be strengthened, range of economic types expanding, Green and food economy expanding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental push policies and attention to how they relate to Quadrants. Peter Rees comments sent on to James. • Raised Policies re Town Green Travel Manager, 20 mph limit across town. Noted Mid Devon Policy re parking • Richard Szczepura commented that polishing the initial draft too much was counterproductive to consultation. There needed to be key questions that people could be asked. • It was noted that the timing of the Consultation should be cognisant of current activity with Local elections and the General election. This would affect timing and needed to be considered to ensure widespread communication and engagement. • South Hams' ability to respond to Initial Drafts to provide screening and advice on Strategic Environmental Assessment was likely to be affected by the number of NPs in preparation so an early view was preferable. • Action: Initial Draft to be updated from comments and discussion • Action: Outline timetable and consultation plan to be prepared • Action: Approach South Hams for advice re SEAs
Joint Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively neutral on Totnes. • JLP Timetable very ambitious and has missed out one layer of consultation which may impact on Inspection • It is important that this is not the case with the Neighbourhood Plan so the community have the opportunity for significant input. • JLP response to focus on correction of detail and Air Quality Policy • SPT 17 issues • Action: Circulate draft response to SG for comment
Co-ordinator Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary CC provided the co-ordinators report. •
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Szczepura explained his role representing Paul Wesley. He offered support for consultation from the Central Totnes Group. They would continue to have their own views but would help in any way they could. This was warmly welcomed as the Initial Draft of the Plan reached completion. • Action: Mary to discuss with Richard next steps
Task/Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Andy Garner to find out what is happening to the Budgen site • Action: Initial Draft to be updated from comments and discussion by JS for 24th April, CB and MCC to provide further input to this prior to next meeting. • Action: Outline timetable and consultation plan to be prepared by MCC • Action: MCC to Approach South Hams for advice re SEAs • Action: MCC to Circulate draft JLP response to SG for comment and submit to JLP website

Date of next meeting	May 17th 2017, 7pm, Guildhall
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