

Minutes of Totnes Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Wednesday, 25th January, Totnes Guildhall, 7pm – 8.30pm

Present – , Mary Coughlan-Clarke, Robert Vint, Mary Popham , Peter Rees, Carol Whitty, Tony Whitty,

Apologises- Chris Balch, John Birch, Andy Garner, Jacqi Hodgson

Chair - Paul Bennett , **Observing** Paul Wesley

Task/Issues	Detail
Minutes of last meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrections to minutes of December were agreed and would be circulated. • Approved with agreed amendments • Matters arising: Carole Whitty was welcomed in her capacity as Lead Governor for Site development for KEVICC. The Steering group was pleased that it had a KEVICC member again as there had been a vacancy for a significant period. Paul Wesley was working with Andy Garner so was representing him as he could not attend that evening The co-ordinator report was received with discussion on the proposed Town Manifesto being led by councillor Ben Piper. This was also influenced by Caring Town Totnes principles
Housing paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Coughlan-Clarke introduced the paper with thanks to Chris Balch for the major piece of work though contributions had by made by Mary P ,Mary CC and Thea • Mary P made a point that though the primary need supported by South Hams and the NP housing survey was for 1 bed housing, advice to Housing suppliers for shared ownership was to build two beds as these were preferred • Additionally, young single people under 35 can generally only get Housing Benefit for bed-sit accommodation which has implications for meeting the needs of younger people. • The evidence demonstrated a need for smaller housing rather than the larger family houses which were being developed • Peter Rees made the point that the report should make greater reference to alternative housing models, such as house boats, tiny homes etc as this had been given significant support in the public meetings and workshops. • There was also a need to highlight the role of public housing • Carole Raised the issue that the community had a right to good education facilities and whilst The Grove and Dartington would have these, St Johns and KEVICC facilities were not adequate • The college needed a strategy for the whole site. The ability of KEVICC to get a receipt for the land to achieve a new build was a area to discuss with the community • The crucial principle was for the whole of KEVICC to be in the NP to ensure all options could be examined

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Vint raised the issue of Totnes having a distinct character of other ways of living with alternative models of Co-housing, self build etc with a basic requirement of energy efficiency • Action: all members to provide comments by 31st Jan. Mary CC would update the report and circulate before uploading to the website
Joint Loc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Bennett gave feedback on a recent meeting with Tom Jones in South Hams planning. • Highlights were that the JLP would be a strategic high level document and the housing allocations were indicative not specific. Due to this it was unlikely that the NP would conflict with JLP policy. • The key problems would be protecting the Eastern and Western flanks of the town as these were outside the parish boundaries. • Therefore the town was very much dependant on a Landscape assessment. A strategic one was being carried out by LUC for South Hams and West Devon but it was unknown as to what level of detail there would be for Totnes. Hence the importance of developing our own landscape/skyline assessment. • It was noted that Frome had used this outside the town boundary in their area • Paul Wesley asked Paul Bennett about T3 as South Hams had been reluctant to remove the 70 allocation • Paul B said he was optimistic that this would be resolved but the outcome wouldn't been known until the JLP is published • There was some concern about realignment of car park permits • The NPPF covers this with policy on no total reduction in car parking in town centres • Action: The policy of a Community Led Master Plan for the centre of Totnes including car parks was crucial • Tony Whitty raised concerns about the Chicken run as there were 5 separate elements to the green space and the top was in Berry Pomeroy. This would need to have Green Space designation • Latest information was that the JLP would be in the public domain on 27th Feb in Plymouth city council papers • Action: Green Space designations to be agreed and submitted as part of NP
NP – Next Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The budget position had been provided to the Town Council • Tony Whitty had raised it at the budget meeting on the 20th requesting it be covered in the mainstream budget currently in the Community budget • Carol Whitty spoke of the need for KEVICC to be firmly within the NP and the need for good educational facilities meeting 21st century standards with an opportunity to absorb some of housing needs in the town. KEVICC also provides Community and Arts facilities. • She noted that there are no other streams of funding for a rebuild, though it has the oldest Sports Hall in Devon.

	<p>Government funding is restricted to Free schools, DCC have no funds now, one alternative is to look at Self Build school over a extended period of time. Governors are looking at Stage 1 – Sheep field, Stage 2 – new All weather pitch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Popham raised the opportunity for a Community Letting Plan to be part of housing policies, • Action: any information on this to be provided to Mary CC and sent to James Shorten.

Task/Issues	Detail
Date of next meeting	February 15th 2017, 7pm, Guildhall