

Minutes of the Community Governance Review Working Party

21 November 2018

-: Present :-

Councillor Steve Darling, Councillor Chris Lewis, Councillor Di Stubley, Councillor David Thomas, Councillor Alan Tyerman, Councillor John Thomas and Councillor Richard Haddock

(Also in attendance: Councillor Barbara Lewis, Anne-Marie Bond and June Gurry)

1. Election of Chairman/woman

Councillor Thomas (D) was elected Chairman of the Working Party for the remainder of the 2018/29 Municipal Year.

2. Apologies for Absence and Introduction of Association of Electoral Administrators Consultant

An apology for absence was received from Elected Mayor Oliver (represented by Councillor Haddock) and Councillor Morey.

The Chairman introduced John Williams, Association of Electoral Administrators Consultant, who was supporting the Council with its Community Governance Review.

3. Terms of Reference

The Working Party noted its terms of reference as set by Council.

4. Introduction to Community Governance Reviews

At the invitation of the Chairman, John Williams gave a presentation on Community Governance Reviews. It was noted Community Governance Reviews were introduced under the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and gave principle councils responsibility for governance arrangements at a parish level, which included the creation of Town Councils.

During the presentation, Members queried the ability of the Council to direct Town Councils to deliver services which it intended to cease due to financial constraints. Members were advised that the Council could determine to cease services and request Town Councils to take them over, however, it would be for the Town Council to determine whether it wished to deliver them. Members also discussed the arrangements for establishing Town Councils, including shadow arrangements and setting of initial precepts. It was considered information on the establishment of Brixham Town Council and best practice from other authorities would assist the Working Party. Therefore, it was resolved (unanimously):

In order to assist the Working Party in reviewing the Terms of Reference for Torbay's Community Governance Review, the Director of Corporate Services to provide a briefing on the arrangements for establishing Brixham Town Council and details of best practice from other principle councils for transferring of services to new and existing Town Councils.

5. Torbay Community Governance Review Terms of Reference

At the request of the Chairman, consideration of this item was deferred to enable the Working Party to receive the further information as outlined in Minute 4 above.

6. Community Governance Review - Communication/Consultation Plan

At the request of the Chairman, consideration of this item was deferred to enable the Working Party to receive the further information as outlined in Minute 4 above.