



TORPOINT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

MINUTES of a meeting of the Torpoint Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) held on Monday 16th November 2015 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room, 4 York Road, Torpoint.

PRESENT:, Mrs Andrea Johnson (Chair), Eddie Andrews (late arrival), Mike Briggs, Jon Cowd (late arrival), Gary Davis, Chris Goodman (late arrival), Pete Hamlyn, Sheena Morton, John Osborn, Mike Pearn MBE, Tony Walsh, Rob White and the Assistant Town Clerk, Milly Southworth (ATC)

69-15 NDP Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Jon Sands (Vice-Chair), Gloria Courts, Lisa Hocking, Debbie Marks, Clare McCallum, William Pixley and John Tivnan.

70-15 NDP Declaration of Interest relating to items on the Agenda

None.

71-15 NDP Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Torpoint Neighbourhood Development Plan meeting held on Monday 5th October were approved.

72-15 NDP Matters arising from the minutes

a) Torpoint First Bus Depot land:-

It was understood that the land was still up for sale.

b) Carnival questionnaire results to be posted on the website by the ATC:-

To be completed.

c) Carbeile School roadshow:-

The Chair extended thanks to Pete Hamlyn for giving the NDP group the opportunity to consult with parents, guardians and children at Carbeile School on Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October.

d) Quotations from printers for possible questionnaire by the ATC:-

To be completed.

73-15 NDP Report from the Chair

The Chair reminded members of the forthcoming public meeting planned for Saturday 21st November, at the Council Chambers (see Minute No. 74-15 NDP).

The Chair summarised events and meetings undertaken in the last 6 to 8 weeks, which have been to:

- Establish clarity over land and property ownerships

- Understand the Cornwall Council Local plan and the likely impact upon Torpoint
- Understand the housing needs for Torpoint
- Identify public buildings for sale/rent, and the interest levels in them
- Gain an understanding of any issues and opportunities that may stand in the way, or

With this in mind, representatives from the Steering Group along with Neil Emery from our appointed planning agency have met with the following individuals and representatives:

- Cornwall Council – Planning, Estates, Housing
- Cornwall Housing
- Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee
- Antony Estates
- Huggins Bros. Ltd
- Cornwall & Devon Police

A summary of the key points from the meetings.

Cornwall Housing

Currently has 268 properties in Torpoint. (This number does not include Guinness Trust properties). All Cornwall Housing properties must meet minimum Grade C energy efficiencies by 2030. Cornwall Housing currently examining all its stock in respect of meeting this target. The strategy for bringing CC housing to the required standard is being developed over the next year. It is anticipated that some housing/estates will require minor improvements but other may be rebuilt to modern standards to better utilise space, improve the image of areas or to act as a catalyst for further private investment and regeneration. The vision and plan for Torpoint work is perfectly timed to help inform this department's strategy and will enable the community to help inform their plans. Cornwall Housing are willing to work with Torpoint to complement the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Currently 485 households on the council waiting list for Torpoint (data as at 20th October 2015).

Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee

The Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee are willing to work with Torpoint to complement the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Cornwall Council, Devon & Cornwall Police

It was noted that the Torpoint police station will be vacated at some point in the future, and the building/land sold off. There is a willingness from Devon and Cornwall Police to work collaboratively with the residents of Torpoint to help achieve the goals/vision. Lower Fore Street – land owners include NHS, Cornwall Council and Devon and Cornwall Police. A desire to encourage all parties to talk to each other to come up with a plan and time scale for the sale of the assets.

Cornwall Council has issued a brief to developers (copy issued at the meeting) to encourage potential investment in the area and market test the plot of land to identify levels of interest.

Following this meeting, the NHS, Cornwall Council and Devon & Cornwall Police are now talking to each other to agree a way forward. It is understood that they will be looking to work in a phased approach.

Library consultation outcome currently unknown, but residents express a strong desire to retain a library presence in the town.

Defiance Field, owned by Cornwall Council and currently used by the rugby club. Land has potential for use as housing and retail. Cornwall Council are looking to sell the field, but this relies on rehousing the Rugby club into new premises.

Noted that Barclays bank will be vacated at the end of November, and acquiring this building/renting the building may create as yet unknown opportunities for Torpoint.

Cornwall Council Planning

The latest draft of the Cornwall Plan, indicates a minimum 350 new houses required for Torpoint. The plan is back at consultation and development specifically with the requirement to review and significantly increase the housing provision. It is therefore likely this number will increase. The revised plan is expected early in the New Year.

Areas of green space around the town which the community would like to preserve and protect as open spaces should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan as a specific policy. This could include the green linkages, footpaths in and around current housing estates and future development.

Further meetings are suggested to be required with Defence Estates and Antony Estates. With the unknown requirement for future housing requirement it is suggested the entire designated plan area should be included, the land owner intentions and support in this area will be important.

Cornwall Council Planning are very willing to support the team in the development of the specific policies for the Neighbourhood Plan, this will follow the publication of the Vision for Torpoint in January 2016.

74-15 NDP Publicity/Correspondence

a) Carnival and Roadshow events update:-

Carbeile Junior School – Tuesday 20th October – attracted 14 responses with 18 responses received on the Thursday. Questions around keeping open spaces were asked, early results indicate the following four priorities identified:

1. The Lawn/Thanckes Park
2. Cambridge Field
3. Defiance Field
4. The Waterfront

(Eddie Andrews joined the meeting at this point.)

John Osborn commented that it was most enjoyable to visit Carbeile Junior School and felt that the people he spoke to were keen to engage and were interested in the future of the town.

(Chris Goodman and Jon Cowd joined the meeting at this point.)

Public meeting Saturday 21st November 2015

- Presentations will commence at 10.00am, 12.00 noon and an additional presentation has now been added to start at 2.00pm.
- The Chair will give health and safety/evacuation and location of toilets overview and explain the presentation programme.
- The Chair will hand over to the Mayor Cllr. Mike Pearn MBE who will welcome everyone, he will then welcome and introduce Neil Emery from Clifton Emery Design Ltd.
- Neil Emery will give a Powerpoint presentation summarising work undertaken for the Vision for Torpoint to date.
- The public will then be advised/directed (by Neil Emery) to view the information presented on display boards and mapped out in the centre of the Main Hall of the Council Chambers.
- The Chair explained it is hoped that steering group members will then be positioned in the Main Hall, alongside the display boards/exhibits, advising and answering questions posed by the public. There will be a large map display in the centre of the Main Hall.
- A leaflet will be produced, which the public can take away with them.
- A feedback form, which can have questions or comments added to it, will be available for the public to use.
- A briefing will be given by Neil Emery at 9.00am, and volunteer steering group members available for the first presentation are requested to attend this.
- There will be a number of 'quick wins' presented at the presentation.
- Some local organisations and people have been invited to attend the event.

Publicity of this event has been:

- Press releases in the Advertiser and Kernewek Link
- Banners and posters put up in the town
- Social media publicity
- Carbeile Junior School offered to add to their Facebook page – **Action Pete Hamlyn**
- Members considered funding sponsorship on social media, **the Chair** agreed to investigate.
- Members considered the benefits of filming the event, all agreed this would be useful to provide further evidence of consultation, **the ATC** agreed to investigate.

The Chair invited steering group members to give their availability for the public meeting:

10am Presentation

1. Andrea Johnson
2. Rob White
3. Mike Briggs (post meeting note, unfortunately he is now unavailable)
4. Chris Goodman
5. John Osborn
6. Gary Davis

12.00 noon Presentation

1. Andrea Johnson
2. John Osborn
3. Tony Walsh
4. Gary Davis

2.00pm Presentation

1. Andrea Johnson

2. John Osborn
3. Tony Walsh
4. Gary Davis
5. Pete Hamlyn (possibly)

Eddie Andrews explained that he will be assisting with the putting up of the town Christmas tree on the day, with John Tivnan, therefore he may be able to attend once this task has been completed.

75-15 NDP Report from sub groups

a) Project Plan:-

With guidance from members the project plan was duly updated by Rob White. An updated version is appended to the Minutes. In the future there may be a need to break into focus groups, to look at specific areas of the Neighbourhood Plan,

b) Communications:-

Note 74-15 refers. The Chair will draft a post event press release for publication after the public meeting, **action Chair**. The Chair invited steering group members to email feedback to the ATC following the event, for inclusion in the press release.

76-15 NDP Update on appointed Planners

Members commented that the recent meeting with the Planners, held on 20th October 2015, was most informative, interesting and useful.

77-15 NDP Financial Update

Grant application approved for £7,610.00. July, August, September and November committed expenditure give a balance available £4,704.84 nett figure, plus additional expenditure of £206.50 for equipment hire for the forthcoming public meeting.

78-15 NDP Report to Council

It was suggested that this month the Council report should be a verbal update from the Chair as the forthcoming public meeting event is the current highlight of the plan – all Members agreed.

79-15 NDP AOB

a) Town Centre Development Brief (issued at the meeting)

John Osborn, having briefly glanced over the paper, questioned a couple of points and in response it was explained that the paper was a document produced by Cornwall Council which considered the lower end of Torpoint only and the land available within it.

80-15 NDP Date of next meeting

Monday 7th December, 7pm, Committee Room, 4 York Road, Torpoint.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.