

PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

- Blatchcombe
- Clifton with Maidenway
- Goodrington, Roselands & Hookhills
- Paignton Town
- Preston



MINUTES OF AN INTERIM FORUM/STEERING GROUP MEETING

held in The Old Hall, Paignton Community & Sports Academy, Borough Road, Paignton
at 6.30pm Thu 25 October 2012

www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk

www.torbay.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning

In Attendance (having signed in):

Jim Bonfield, John Bowden, Mary Bowden, Roger Bristow, Jane Brooksbank, Cllr Stephen Brooksbank, Tracey Cabache, Bill Callahan, Cllr Bobbie Davies, Cllr Ian Doggett, Peter Fenwick, Lorna Gardner, Louise Gilson, Mike Gotham, Roger Green, Paula Hermes, Alan Hill, Carol Hill, Nigel Jones, Colin Hurst, Karen Jemmett, Helen Kummer, Aaron McClusky, Sam Moss, Richard Parish, Mike Parkes (Minutes), David Pickhaver, Cllr Ken Pritchard, M. Rolfe, Ken Rowe, Martin Smith, Richard Stevens, Brian Townsend, Anne Waite, David Watts (Chairman), David Wotton.

Apologies:

Dean Auton, Cllr Jane Barnby, Michael Bryant, Cllr Dave Butt, Barbara & Ron Collins, Mandy Crask, Anne-Marie Curror, Ian Curror, Eileen Donovan, Paul Forsey, Laurence Frewin, Eddie Harris, Stuart Lewton, Andrew Mackmurdo, Iain Masters, Melvyn Newbury, Linda Norman, Cllr Jeanette Richards, Penny Rickman, John Rowe, Cllr Christine Scouler, Cllr David Thomas, Cllr John Thomas.

AGENDA ITEM – 1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED AND WELCOME

1.a. Apologies received were as listed above.

2.b. David Watts, the Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and displayed the agenda for the evening on screen. The Principal of Paignton Community & Sports Academy was thanked for making the hall available.

2.c. DW asked if those attending would like a comfort break during the meeting but it was decided against.

AGENDA ITEM – 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (20 Sep 12) AND MATTERS ARISING

2.a. Records to be amended to show that Cllr Ian Doggett was in attendance at the last meeting on 20 Sep 12. Roger Bristow proposed that the minutes were a true record and the meeting approved them unanimously.

2.b. **Forum Resources.** The funds remained at £1,500. The Treasurer, Eileen Donovan, had sent her apologies for being unable to attend the meeting.

2.c. **Other Neighbourhood Plans.** The Chairman reported that since the last meeting he had been invited to address a Neighbourhood Forum in Petersfield, Hampshire. They represented a population of 15,000. They had shown a lot of interest in Paignton Forum's "community-led" approach.

2.d. **Forum Reg 5 + 8.** (Applications for Neighbourhood Area & Forum designations).

(i) A letter has been received from the Local Authority confirming that the requirements of the legislation have been met. The applications will be reported for approval to the full Council meeting on 6th December 2012.

(ii) The letter also referred to 3 objections that had been received regarding specific concern that sub-groups lacked influence; no separate Steering Group meetings took place, the Forum was not considered aspirational enough; limited involvement from the business sector and request from Preston CP for a greater input to the plan. The meeting was reminded that sub-groups take work forward on a 'task and finish' basis; the Forum had voted on 23 August 2012 to keep the joint Forum/Steering Group meetings as they more inclusive; aspiration and business sector involvement was evident in the town centre work especially and Preston would feature specifically in Stage 3.

(iii) Colin Hurst said that he still felt that there was a place for a separate Steering Group meeting as distinct from the current model of a combined 'Interim/Steering Group' meeting to enable work to be planned and decided more swiftly. Others felt that there were already too many meetings. It would only become advantageous if numbers attending the Interim Forum/Steering Group Meetings were to become excessive.

(iv) The letter received from the LA had also referred to the position of Vice Chairman. DW explained that the current Vice Chairman's work commitments involved a lot of on-call out of hours work that prevented his regular attendance at meetings. However, his involvement, observation and advice had continued by emails, telephone discussions and meetings with other Executive Committee members. The Vice Chairman has indicated his intention to move to another part of the country in the near future. This would require a replacement to be appointed by the Forum in due course. The Chairman reminded the meeting that under the terms of the Constitution, the replacement would need to come from a Forum Community Partnership area other than his own (Paignton Town). Alan Hill from Collaton St Mary agreed to his nomination going forward on a temporary basis. Roger Bristow said that he knew of a person who would be willing to let his name go forward for nomination in about 3 months time. On this basis, Alan Hill said that he would be willing to become Vice Chairman when the present Vice Chairman has to tender his resignation. No other names were offered.

2.e. Proposed development by Taylor Wimpey (TW) at Collaton St Mary (CStM).

(i) The Chairman referred to the letter sent on behalf of the Forum to the LA Planning Department on 10 Oct 12 and circulated with the on-line Agenda.

(ii) The meeting agreed to accept the offer received of a further meeting with the applicant after a reply has been received to the list of questions raised by the CStM Residents Association.

(iii) It was noted that documents regarding 'Habitats' and 'Landscaping' have now been submitted by the applicant and included on the LA's Planning website (Application number PA/2012/1037). They are being assessed with a view to any further comments that it may be appropriate to submit.

(iii) Reference was made to a Road Traffic Accident that occurred on 22 Oct 12 in CStM – Lorna Gardner has compiled statistics on traffic delays etc that arose from this one incident alone.

2.f. Draft Local Plan.

(i) DW thanked the team of 7 volunteers who had offered to study and comment on the new draft Local Plan. As a result, a response table had been drawn up and circulated with the on-line Agenda. The meeting was reminded of the NPPF tests that would be applied to the Local Plan, and 3 questions previously raised at the meeting on 23 August 12:- why 15k jobs; why 8-10k houses; why only 30% affordable houses. Tracey Cabache offered to email slides used at a recent Torquay Neighbourhood Forum and which she considered would help explain these figures. It was felt the response should be made on the content of the draft as published and discussion focused on the following from the proposed response circulated with the Agenda prior to the meeting:

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| Part 2 – Q1 | no reference to 'unique population situation' existing in Torbay. |
| Part 2 – Q2 | goes beyond need and safeguards. |
| Part 2 – Q3 | no 'balance' as requested by Paignton Forum. |
| Part 3 – Q4 | objective assessment out of date. |
| Part 3 – Q16 | no reference to reducing the need to travel. |
| Part 3 – Q18 | insufficient reference to sewerage constraints. A question was raised |

on the ability of Brockenbury treatment plant being able to deal with any increase in sewerage and water run-off. The combination of part existing Victorian pipework and narrow bore pipes seemed to mitigate against the plant having sufficient capacity. A further complication appeared to be the need for 7 different pumping levels. It was also felt that there would be difficulty in separating existing surface water from foul water. Additionally, it was felt that there was a very real danger that Torbay's prestigious bays and beaches might become contaminated and threaten the tourist industry. David Pickhaver was asked to check these concerns with South West Water.

ACTION: DAVID PICKHAVER

Part 3 - Q22 Environment: The meeting agreed that the Torbay Landscape Character Area Assessment had failed to recognise sufficiently the local identity characteristics of

Area 1L and that this included the opportunity to identify the complete stretch of Yalberton Valley that runs from Blagdon through CStM to Stoke Gabriel.

Part 3 – Q 25 Countryside. Several members expressed concern regarding the loss of valuable greenfield sites that had the future potential to offset food miles. It was also pointed out that the destruction of greenfield sites had a serious effect on future food production opportunity and that such areas were home to pollinating insects that were vital to crop production in the area. A further reason to be considered with regard to further destruction of Greenfield sites was the potential that existed for future heating requirements via biomass production.

Part 4. Serious concerns were expressed, as at earlier meetings, regarding the large amount of use of CIL and New Homes Bonus contribution towards the construction of the South Devon Link Road. It was felt that such a large diversion would detract from the amounts that should be used to support infrastructure development within the Forum area as proposed housing and employment areas proceeded. Particular concern was expressed that the whole plan treated financial considerations as the driving feature of the development level proposed.

(ii) With addition of reference to biomass opportunity and funding concerns, it was agreed the draft response should be submitted.

(iii) A question was asked in regard to Great Parks Phase 2 and whether the Forum could become involved in the planning application. The Chairman explained that the Forum had submitted comments on proposed developments at Edginswell and Collaton St Mary but not on Great Parks 2. However, he felt that the current consideration of the draft Local Plan included aspects of Great Parks 2 regarding infrastructure improvement required that related to the question raised.

AGENDA ITEM – 3. PROJECT PLAN PROGRESS

3.a. Stage 2 Timetable. The Chairman referred to the engagement timetable for Stage 2 and the need for volunteers to help with imminent exhibitions, displays and the on-line Questionnaire. As previously suggested, exhibition sites could also include Community Centres at: Foxhole; Great Parks; Hookhills; Paignton Day Centre; Paignton Probus; Preston Rotary Group; Paignton Rotary Group; Paignton Disabilities Group; South Devon College; Children's Dept; Paignton BID; Community Partnership Public meetings.

3.b. Draft Travelling Document – Western Area. There was general support for the Western Area Inset Plan and the accompanying Key that had been published on the Forum's website as part of the Agenda. Colin Hurst felt that the description of 'Landform' in the Key would not be widely understood. However, Nigel Jones felt that the CStM Residents' Association would not wish to be associated with the document and felt that there was a need to know what meetings had taken place between the LA and developers. David Pickhaver explained that developers had the right to visit and discuss matters with the Planning Department but had no idea of how many meetings had taken place and with whom. Freedom of Information applications could be made but might not be appropriate. Some members were angry at the inclusion of an article by the developer in the recent edition of the Blatchcombe Community Partnership News. Tracey Cabache explained that a reluctance to be involved in the production on the Neighbourhood Plan could well 'backfire' as unless areas were listed in the Plan there existed a presumption to build that would make it even easier for developers to proceed.

It was at this stage that the Chairman concluded proceedings as the meeting had reached its allocated time and staff were waiting to close and secure the building. The Chairman concluded by asking members if they supported the submission of the Western area documents as earlier discussed. The meeting agreed with no dissensions.

4. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 22 Nov 12 at 6.30pm (not now 29 Nov in order to avoid clashing with the Preston CP meeting date) and at a venue to be announced.

The meeting closed at 20:50hrs.