

PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

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



MINUTES OF A FORUM AND STEERING GROUP MEETING

held at the Gerston Chapel Hall, Torquay Road, Paignton
at 6.30pm Thursday 24th October, 2013

www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk

www.torbay.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning

In Attendance:

Cllr Jane Barnby, Jacqueline Bennett, A.J. Bonfield, Catherine Brimicombe, Roger Bristow, Pam Bristow, Anne-Marie Curror (Minutes), Cllr Ian Doggett, Eileen Donovan, Derek Foster, Edna Foster, Lorna Gardner, A. Gee, John Gibson, Mike Gotham, Steve Harswy?, Paula Hermes, Karen Jemmett, Nigel Jones, Aaron McCluskey, Iain Masters, Melvyn Newbery, David Pickhaver, Ken Rowe, Richard Stevens, Cllr David Thomas, Cllr Alan Tyernan, David Watts (Chairman).

Apologies:

Jane Brooksbank, Cllr Stephen Brooksbank, Ian Curror, Cllr Bobbie Davies, Freda Dwane, Helen Kummer, Cllr Chris Lewis, Sam Moss, Linda Norman, Mike Parkes.

AGENDA ITEM – 1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED AND WELCOME

David Watts, the Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked Gerston Chapel for hosting the meeting. Apologies received were as listed above.

AGENDA ITEM – 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST FORUM MEETING (19th September 2013) AND MATTERS ARISING

2.a Draft Minutes

(i) There were corrections requested to the draft Minutes as listed below:

- Paragraph 3a(v) last sentence - delete 'House' as the building is outside the Plan area.
- Paragraph 3a(v) - add missing sentence '*Melvyn Newbery said that over 450 had recently joined Torbay Country Club for the protection, conservation and restoration of Oldway and Fernham.*'
- Paragraph 3a(vi) – delete 'was set up with funding from The Arts Council and Torbay Council and'
- Paragraph 3b. - add the missing words '*Roger Bristow added that there should be no further building in Blatchcombe Ward until such time as existing commitments have been completed and any ensuing infrastructure problems addressed.*'

With the above corrections the Minutes were proposed for approval by Melvyn Newbery, seconded by John Gibson, and agreed unanimously.

(ii) On matters arising, it was noted that the three signatories of the letter of resignation from the Neighbourhood Forum, sent by the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary of the Town Centre CP have reflected and withdrawn their resignation.

2.b Forum Resources The budget is on target

2.c Reference Group and

2.d Local Plan Progress

(i) There was a report on the Reference Group meeting on 20th September 2013. There is still an impasse between the Council as Local Planning Authority and PINS (Planning Inspectorate). The Council would like to put the Local Plan on deposit now, but PINS are not happy until exact sites have been located for the 8-10,000 proposed houses to be built over 20 years.

(ii) David Pickhaver reported on the outcome of a follow up meeting on 7th October 2013, when several Council representatives went to meet PINS but there was no conclusive outcome. DP said that more consultation would delay the Local Plan by another 6 months to a year.

(iii) There will be another Reference Group meeting on 3rd December 2013 (all 3 Forum Chairs and Vice-Chairs attend).

AGENDA ITEM 3 – PROJECT PLAN PROGRESS

3.a Training Session 9th November 2013

(i) 19 volunteers have confirmed they will be attending. It will be at the Redcliffe Hotel from 10:00am until 3:00pm. Details will be circulated nearer the time. 4 trainers will be attending from the Royal Town Planning Institute's Planning Aid providers. The aim of this first training session is to help make sure the Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Conditions Test and to help the volunteers with how the policies need to be drafted. At a later stage the Forum will get help with reviewing its efforts on the draft plan, and a consultation strategy of the best ways to help reach our 43,000 population.

3.b Clennon Valley: Velodrome Proposal

(i) Ian Masters of Torbay Development Agency gave a presentation about a proposed cycling facility to be sited in Clennon Valley. The South West is under provided and the highest priority for investment. Torbay Council has decided to match the funding offered and to site the facility in Clennon Valley. It still has to be fully evaluated by the Environment Agency, Sport England and the local residents of Goodrington and Roselands

(ii) Closed Road Cycling

Around the speed track there would be a 1-1 1/2km circular track which would be good for training young riders. Overall it would cost about 1.6 million pounds in total, with £800,000 from British Cycling and a matched amount from Torbay Council. The area was previously used for landfill and is now open space often used by dog owners. Environmental considerations and flood risk are still being assessed. There will be a meeting on 13th November 2013 for Goodrington, Roselands and Hookhills CP where the proposal will be looked at in more detail. The plan is to build the closed road circuit first and a planning application is imminent. This would be built early in 2014 and then the Velodrome in 2014-15.

(iii) Consultation

There has been an on-line survey about these proposals, advertised in the Herald Express and a good response so far. There have also been displays in libraries and Torbay Leisure Centre, etc. The Council is also trying to reach the public by addressing Neighbourhood Forums and CPs. A postal survey has been sent out to 1000 residents on a controlled sample basis to see if this method gave a more representative answer, which has only had a 20% response, finishing on 1.11.13. So far, a positive response has been high.

(iv) There were several questions and comments from Forum members, which included:

- Q). What will happen about parking? A). This is still being worked on, with thought for local residents.
- Q). How will it be funded from the Council? A). It is planned for the Council to pay it off at £50,000 per year.
- Q). Is there a business plan for it? A). There is a holiday park next door very interested in the plans and the plan is being developed.
- The Chairman asked about how to incorporate it into the NP and there was comment on the popularity of the cycle race this summer on Paignton sea front.
- One member commented on the very high cost of this venture and said that ways should be sought to cut costs.
- Another commented that road cycling in the area is still not right for every day cyclists and this should be addressed first. There is a need for free sports facilities in the area. A). A Cockington to Goodrington cycle way will connect with the cycle track, and it is designed to be used by people of all ages and levels of skills.
- Q). What will happen to displaced users of the area (eg dog owners)? A). There is consultation on this issue and fencing will be needed to make sure that all are safe.

Copies of the consultation questionnaire were left for members to take and complete. A 'straw poll' show of hands was taken, which indicated support for the proposal at 4 to 1. The main concern raised

related to maintenance costs afterwards and how these would be met. The meeting thanked Iain Masters for coming.

3.c. Sports Facilities and Playing Pitch Strategy

(i) Jacqueline Bennett, from Neil Allen Associates, working for Torbay Council, gave a presentation on a study of sport in the area. Torbay Council felt that a new vision was needed on the provision of sport facilities in the area. 50 key stakeholder groups are meeting. The next meeting is to be on the 4th November 2013 to discuss water sports.

(ii) Playing field strategy: At the moment existing facilities are being audited – what is there and who is using them? Supply and demand assessments are being done. There will be a summary of these findings at the end of November. Parkfield has BMX and youth facilities, there is a sports hub at Paignton Community College. Sports England is helping with the funding of this survey. 32.4% of adults take part in sport in Torbay, which is lower than the rest of England. There is difficulty with funding in the current climate but local authorities do not support funding in many areas of England and other ways of funding such as sports clubs may be an answer. However many people prefer individual activities, rather than club sports.

(iii) Draft Vision 2013-2023: Facilities will need to be accessible and affordable. There must be transport to all facilities. It will bring economic and health benefits. Questions being asked by the survey were: Are more facilities needed at existing sites? What facilities are required? What are the priorities?

(iv) There were questions and comments from Forum members, which included:-

- The Chairman commented that South Devon College wants a sports pitch. The Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan need to work together on the plans for sport. At the moment the sports strategy is planning for an increase in population of 9,000 in the next 20 years, which does not tally with other figures.
- Q). Paula Hermes asked if the pitches were not used enough, would they be sold off ? She also commented on the expense in maintenance of all weather artificial pitches, and asked whether consideration had been taken of the difference in active and passive exercise - sport/recreation eg dog-walking. A). The plan is not dealing with all green and open places. Sport England has a method of calculating the number of pitches needed using various criteria. Melvyn Newbery said that the aim at Oldway Mansion, is to get facilities working there. Nigel Jones commented that instead of building new 'stand alone' facilities it would be good to integrate them into Country Park plans.
- Q). John Gibson asked about encouraging dinghy sailing. A). The water is under-used. Slipways, storage etc were needed with the aim to improve free access.

(v) The meeting agreed that Paula Hermes and John Gibson will attend the Stakeholder meeting on 4.11.13 to help link with the NP Forum. Copies of the questionnaire on the sports facilities were left for members to complete. The meeting thanked Jacqueline Bennett for coming.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Forum will be as shown below and on the website. Future meeting dates were also agreed to ensure satisfactory progress, noting that only the meeting on 27 February 2014 might unavoidably clash with a meeting of the Council.

All meetings to start at 6:30 pm, for target completion by 8:30 pm.

Forum	21 November 2013	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place entrance)
Forum	19 December 2013	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place entrance)
Forum	23 January 2014	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place entrance)
Forum	27 February 2014	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place entrance)
Forum	27 March 2014	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place entrance)
Forum	24 April 2014	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place entrance)

The Meeting closed at 8.15pm