

# PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

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



## **DRAFT MINUTES OF FORUM & STEERING GROUP MEETING**

held in the Gerston Chapel Hall, Torquay Road, Paignton  
at 6:30pm Thursday 15 August 2019

[www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk](http://www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk)

[www.torbay.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning](http://www.torbay.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning)

### **In Attendance:**

Jim Bonfield, Carole Box, Pam Bristow, Roger Bristow, Michael Clack, Peter Collis, Lorna Gardener, Chris. Harvey, Helen Kummer, Maggie Loates (Minutes), Leaf Lovejoy, Sam Moss, Mike Parkes, Richard Parrish, Martin Rowbottom, Maureen Sawyer, Richard Stevens, Robert Vincent, Anne Waite, Christine Watts, David Watts (Chairman), David Wotton.

### **Agenda Item 1: - Apologies received and welcome**

Apologies: Angela Ainscough, Louise Thompson, Alan Hill, Cllrs. Karen Kennedy, Judith Mills, Lee Howgate, and John Thomas, David Pickhaver

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Agenda Item 2: - Draft minutes and matters arising**

2(a) The draft minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2019 were approved. Proposed by Lorna Gardner and seconded by Maggie Loates.

Matters arising are as set forth in Item 2(b) below.

2(b) Tower House School proposal. No Forum members attended the 14/8/2019 drop in consultation. The Chairman indicated that the Forum would need to see the planning application to formulate its position regarding parking control, delivery vehicles, and environmental concerns. The Chairman noted that it was currently unclear who actually owned the property.

Torbay Motel proposal. The Chairman informed the Forum that there is a new planning application by the new owners (P/2019/0615). The previous application has been withdrawn. While the Forum encourages redevelopment of the brownfield site, it has concerns regarding the drainage problem, overdevelopment by increasing the number of dwellings from 33 to 70 units, and extension of the boundary lines. Additionally, it appeared that the residents of Beechdown Court would be adversely affected by the application. The Forum unanimously approved submission of a qualified objection by the Chairman.

Land at White Rock. There was no decision by the Council on application P/2019/0735 by Linden Homes that has gone to appeal. The adjacent Inglenook application has not yet been decided. The Forum will await the result of the appeal.

2(c) Land Release Fund. The government allocated £3.976 for 3 sites to be delivered by March 2020: Victoria Square; Collaton St. Mary; and Preston Down Road. Since no response was received from the Cabinet Office to the Forum's concerns and request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Chairman lodged a complaint through Torbay MP Kevin Foster's office with the Parliamentary Ombudsman for maladministration with injustice. The complaint requested the following remedies: (1) withdrawal of the grant as the bid has not been adhered to; (2) recompense of the local spend of £2.4million on non-grant elements; and (3) onward referral to the National Audit

Office for procedural review. The complaint is based on Government departments failing to ensure that the grant terms and conditions are adhered to, and their failure to respond to information requests within the required time scales. Parallel complaints are also in preparation to be submitted to the Council, Information Commissioner and the Local Government Ombudsman. The Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be meeting to review the Land Release Fund allocation on **19 September 2019 at the Meadfoot Room in the Town Hall, Torquay, at 5:30pm**. Forum members are encouraged to attend.

- 2(d) Paignton Parish Council proposal. The Council will conduct a new consultation starting in September 2019. The Chairman noted that all three areas of Torbay already have a Neighbourhood Forum and questioned whether these are able to be replaced by a parish council. He also noted the issue of possible boundary adjustments regarding Churston and Galmpton. The Forum agreed to review this at the next meeting. There is a public consultation on this issue by the Council on **11 September 2019 from 4:30pm to 7:00pm at Parkfield House, Paignton**.
- 2(e) Fire Services change. The Forum will submit an objection to the removal of on-site night coverage proposed to the Paignton fire services. The Chairman urged all members to attend the consultation event being held on **3 September 2019 at 2:00pm at Paignton Library**.

### **Agenda Item 3: – Project Plan progress – Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring & Review**

- 3(a) Council/Forum Chairs Reference Group Meeting. The Chairman attended a meeting on 5 August 2019. The group discussed the Local Plan review. Also discussed was the speaking protocol for Forum Chairs at Council meetings, to be put on the agenda of the next Leadership Team meeting. The group also discussed the 5-year housing supply with reference to affordable housing, a review of stalled development sites, and “blot on landscape” sites. The NHS has requested that it be the beneficiary of section 106 contributions.
- 3(b) 5-year land supply consultation results. The joint forums concluded there was a 4.4 year land supply, although statutorily a neighbourhood plan only requires 3 years. Responses from developers asserted a much lower supply. The Forum had already objected to an application for one of the Collaton St. Mary sites, and would also object to the other three. There is a question as to how the Council will process these applications.
- 3(c) Torbay Local Plan. The Chairman indicated there were 7 key issues to be resolved: (1) the job/housing imbalance; (2) failure of habitat protection; (3) sewerage constraints; (4) lack of affordable housing; (5) long-term vacant houses; (6) failure of South Devon Highway to assist sustainability of Torbay; and (7) issue of ONS population projections being unsafe. It was also suggested that climate change be included as an issue.

### **Agenda Item 4: – Next Meeting**

To ensure progress, the next meeting dates agreed by the Forum will be on:

Forum & SG	Thursday 12 September 2019	Gerston Chapel Hall (Gerston Place)
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The meeting starts at 6:30pm and we aim to complete our meeting by no later than 8:30pm. Further dates in 2019 agreed by the Forum are shown on our website to ensure progress of the Plan monitoring and review.