

**MINUTES OF THE INAUGRAL MEETING OF THE
PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FORUM**

6.30pm Thu 13 Oct 11 @ Paignton Library

In Attendance:

From Blatchcombe CP: Phill Jempson, Mike Parkes, Cllr David Thomas, Cllr John Thomas, Ann Waite.

From Clifton with Maidenway CP: Cllr Ruth Pentney.

From Churston, Broadsands & Galmpton CP: Adam Billings (Brixham NP Forum).

From Goodrington with Roseland & Hookhills CP: Dean Auton, Cllr Christine Carter, Cllr Ken Pritchard, Cllr Alan Tyeman.

From Paignton CP: Cllr Stephen Brooksbank, Cllr Bobbie Davies, Louise Gilson, David Watts (Chairman).

From Preston CP: Gesche Buecker, Cllr Chris Lewis.

From Torbay Council Community Partnerships: Tracey Cabache.

From Torbay Council Spatial Planning Dept: Tracey Brooks, Pat Steward.

Apologies:

Cllr Jane Barnby (Goodrington with Roseland & Hookhills CP), Cllr Darren Cowell (Torquay NP Forum), Cllr Ian Doggett (Clifton with Maidenway CP).

INTRODUCTION

1. David Watts introduced himself and welcomed those attending. He explained that he had agreed to act as Chairman for this meeting and introduced Pat Steward who was invited to present the background to, and the purpose of, the meeting.

BACKGROUND

2. In light of the government's Localism Bill and of Torbay Council's imminent Core Strategy, Pat Steward explained that an important element would be Neighbourhood Planning. Three such plans would be welcomed for Torbay: one each from Brixham, Paignton and Torquay. It was hoped that each of the five Paignton Community Partnerships would become actively involved and that they in turn would involve organisations within their Ward areas.

3. PS emphasised that Neighbourhood Plans were not mandatory but if agreed to, were a useful way for communities and organisations to become involved and have real influence in helping to advise and plan for future development. The concept was new and many authorities still had to 'get on with them!'

4. A few examples of Neighbourhood Plans from other authorities were discussed. The one produced by Dawlish Parish was well regarded and represented good practice. The 'Kingskerswell Community Plan' was also cited as a good example and copies were distributed. Adam Billings talked of the work done so far on the Brixham Neighbourhood Plan.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PAIGNTON FORUM

5. The Chairman reminded the meeting that Paignton did not have to produce a Neighbourhood Plan and asked for a show of hands from those who thought that involvement was appropriate and necessary. The meeting was unanimous in its support of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Paignton.

6. David Watts offered to become the Chairman of the new Paignton Neighbourhood Plan Forum but, in doing so, emphasised that he was very willing to step aside should anyone else wish to take up the appointment. His offer was enthusiastically accepted!

7. The Chairman then asked for a volunteer to become his Vice Chairman and Dean Auton offered his name and was accepted by those present.

FINANCE

8. It was explained that there was government funding available of up to £20k to assist the work of a Forum and Pat Steward and Tracey Brooks agreed to draft such a letter for the Chairman's signature before the deadline of 4 Nov 11.

ACTION: PAT STEWARD

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

9. Tracey Cabache agreed to contact the Chairman with suitable dates for the next meeting.

ACTION: TRACEY CABACHE

10. The meeting concluded at about 8.30pm.

AFTERNOTE:

11. The Chairman called an informal meeting on Wed 19 Oct 11 at 10am in Paignton Library. Those attending were: Dean Auton, Mike Parkes and David Watts. At this meeting, DW presented a Project Plan and Timetable. MP offered to become Forum Secretary. The meeting closed at 11am.