

Torbay Local Access Forum Meeting to be held in public on Thursday, 9 May 2013 6.00 - 8.00 pm in the Meeting Room 10, Paignton Library, Great Western Road, Paignton, TQ4 5AG

If you are unable to attend this meeting please inform the TLAF Secretary. Telephone: (01803) 207701 E-mail: <u>torbaylaf@torbay.gov.uk</u>

The meeting will be open to the public in accordance with the provision of Regulation 7 of the LAF (England) Regulations 2002

(under Sections 94 + 95 of the CROW Act 2000)

Agenda

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1.	Apologies - to receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	Declaration of Interests - to declare any interests on matters on the agenda.	
3.	Minutes - to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2012.	(Pages 1 - 3)
4.	Matters arising not shown on the Agenda	
5.	Updates from Area Co-ordinators	
6.	Proposed Disposal of Three Open Areas of Council Land	(Pages 4 - 8)
7.	Planning Consultation - Land at Churston Golf Course/Churston Golf Club, North East of Bascombe Road Opposite the Northern End of Bridge Road, Churston, Brixham	(Pages 9 - 10)
8.	Planning Consultation - Former Finance Building, Torbay Hospital Annexe, 187 Newton Road, Torquay	(Pages 11 - 12)
9.	TLAF Information Sharing	(Pages 13 - 16)
10.	Change to Natural England Local Contact	(Page 17)
11.	Any Other Business	
12.	Date/Time/Venue of Next Meeting	
	Thursday, 12 September 2013 from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. at Paignton Library, Great Western Road, Paignton.	
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Membership		
Robert Boyd, Brixham Co-Ordinator/Access for the Disabled Lead Phil Collins (Chairman) Councillor Ian Doggett Margaret Forbes-Hamilton, Parks, Green Spaces, heritage/Torquay Co-Ordinator/Environment Lead Bob Harvey, Land Owner	Wanda Hollingworth, Paignton Co- Ordinator/Health and Recreation Lead Mick Lear, Walking/Brixham Co-Ordinator/Coastal Lead Elaine Mason, Walking/Bay Walks Alan Robinson, Walking John Mellor, Walking/Vice-Chairperson	



Minutes of the Local Access Forum

29 November 2012

-: Present :-

Robert Boyd, Phil Collins (Chairman), Councillor Ian Doggett, Margaret Forbes-Hamilton, Bob Harvey, Wanda Hollingworth, Mick Lear, Alan Robinson and John Mellor

(Also in attendance: Carole Box, Chair of Torbay CPRE)

65. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Elaine Mason, James Nicholas and Chris Lingard.

66. Declaration of Interests

None, other than those already notified to the TLAF.

67. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2012 were accepted and agreed as an accurate report of the meeting.

68. Matters arising not shown on the Agenda

• The South West LAF Chairs meeting is taking place on 30 November 2012 – Bob Harvey will be attending and will circulate a note following the meeting.

69. Discussion with CPRE Chair - Carole Box

Carole Box, Chair of the Torbay Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) attended the meeting. Bob Harvey explained the remit of the CPRE which works with as many organisations as it can. It is a voluntary association funded by membership fees, legacies etc. Carole explained that the Torbay CPRE looks at a variety of issues including greenspace, protecting walks, Devon banks, walls, heritage, the natural beauty of the Bay and Ash die back. It is also looking at grant funding for, among others, cycle trails, education for children, keeping walking areas open.

The Churston, Galmpton and Broadsands Community Partnership is also looking at safety in walking, protecting visitors, are keen to protect natural food sources and not to rely on supermarkets and to use supporting land to grow food. The Churston

Golf Club issue was discussed briefly and it was agreed that Carole would brief the Brixham representatives separately.

It was agreed that the LAF members do not necessarily have the expertise to comment on specific issues regarding planning applications. It was suggested that a discussion on how to deal with planning applications and co-ordination of responses should be on the next agenda.

There was a discussion on how the LAF could better work with CPRE. It was agreed that Carole would share her expertise on issues by meeting with individual members for the appropriate area. It was also agreed that Carole would inform the LAF of any issues coming up.

70. Local Plan Consultation

The members agreed that they did not feel they had enough time to consider the Local Plan consultation.

Margaret Forbes-Hamilton has comments from the Torquay Neighbourhood Groups which she will send round to everyone.

A question was raised as to whether the full Local Plan should have been sent to the Chairman.

Action: It was agreed that members would formulate a question and send it to the secretary to collate by Monday, 3 December. These would then be forwarded to Spatial Planning.

71. Training Session

Phil Collins has had a discussion with Hilary Winter who has agreed to deliver a training session. Phil will go back to Hilary to see if an early evening session would be acceptable. This is likely to take place in the early Spring.

72. Updates from Area Co-ordinators

Torquay Co-ordinator

Margaret Forbes-Hamilton

• There is a meeting on Monday to discuss the Torquay Neighbourhood Plan.

Paignton Co-ordinator

Wanda Hollingworth

• A public right of way at Oldway has been closed, there is a concern that it may not open again.

Brixham Co-ordinator

Robert Boyd - currently no issues

73. TLAF Information Sharing

The TLAF considered the information sharing sheet.

- The next National LAF Conference is taking place on 27 February 2013. Phil Collins will go if he is available.
- Independent Panel on Forestry consultation letter to DEFRA Phil proposed agreement and Wanda seconded.

74. Any Other Business

- Bob Harvey briefed the Board on the ash die back situation. The question was asked whether the LAF should be doing anything. By next summer it will become clear which trees have been affected. However there is not an expectation that it will have an effect on public access.
- Bob Harvey proposed a resolution that the Council should provide the Chairman and Secretary with copies of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and Guidance on Local Access Forums in England. Ian Doggett seconded.

75. Date/Time/Venue of Next Meetings

It was agreed that future meetings should be held in Paignton if possible and should continue to start at 6.00 pm. Secretary to book venues.

From:	Millard, Garth
Sent:	23 April 2013 18:02
То:	torbaylaf
Cc:	Bouchard, Chris
Subject:	Proposed Disposal of 3 areas of 'Open' areas of Council Land.
Attachments:	EM2239.jpg; EM1724.jpg; EM1680.jpg

To Chairperson, Torbay Local Access Forum.

3 'open' tracts of land are included in a Schedule of 6 Council Assets within the current Forward Plan, which are to be recommended to Members to be declared not required for service delivery.

If Members agree, and subject to any approved applications under the Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy, the assets will be sold in the Open Market.

Asset Ref tbc.	Plan Ref EM2239
Name	Land adj. 4 Plym Close, Torquay.
Approx area & description.	388 sqm of land to be sold with planning permission.
Asset Ref P0777	Plan Ref EM1724
Name	Land adj. 45 Stanley Gardens, Paignton.
Approx area & description.	389 sqm of land to be sold with planning permission.
Asset Ref T1061.	Plan Ref EM1680
Name	Land off Alpine Road, disused playground, Torquay.
Approx area & description. March 2008, a further 1144 sqr	Members originally agreed to the disposal of 2622 sqm of this asset in n including 6 mostly unused garages have now been identified as surplus, to be sold with planning permission on a small
part.	

Plans of the above assets are attached with the respective parcels edged red.

Local Ward Members and the Local Community Partnerships are also being consulted regarding the above proposals, and the Council will be responsible for advertising any agreed disposal under Section 123 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972, and consider any objections received.

Please contact me if you require any further information, or if you wish me to add any comments from the L.A.F to the Recommendation to Members.

Garth L. Millard FRICS – Registered Valuer

Surveyor - TDA

Torbay Development Agency 3rd Floor Tor Hill House Union Street Torquay TQ2 5QW

Tel: 01803 207805 Fax: 01803 207511

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TORBAY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY - ASSET MANAGEMEN Page 8 © Crown copyright and database rights 2013 Ordnance Survey 100022695.

Area: 390.11m²





Please reply to:

Mrs Helen AddisonPLACE and EVVIRONMENTSpatial Planniry, Torbay Council2nd Floor, Electric House, Castle CircusTorquay TQ1JRMy Ref:P/2013/0438Your Ref:P/2013/0438Telephone:01803 207768E-mail:Planning@Torbay.Gov.UkDate:30 April 2013

Dear Sir

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)

- **Proposal:** Change of use of 7.7 HA of Agricultural land for use as a Golf Course; Change of use of 1.3 HA of land from equine use to use for cattle grazing; and all associated infrastructure, engineering works and landscaping
- Address:Land At Churston Golf Course / Churston Golf Club,north East Of Bascombe Road
Opposite The Northern End Of Bridge Road, Churston, Brixham, , ,

Applicant: Mr Paul Talbot

Reference: P/2013/0438

Type:Planning Application

Consultant Response By: 23 May 2013

Map Of Location:



Eastings: 292776 Northings: 058996

The above application has been received by Torbay Council, Spatial Planning Division and is referred to you for your comments.

You are able to access the information regarding this application via the Internet using the following address: http://www.torbay.gov.uk/planningonline. This will enable you to view plans and the application form etc.

Simply enter the application number P/2013/0438, in the space provided and click the Search button.

Any comments regarding this application should reach me by 23 May 2013, as the decision can be issued from this date onwards. Should you wish to comment after this date, please contact me on 01803 207768 and I will let you know if it is still possible to accept your comments. Please email any comments on this proposal to **planning@torbay.gov.uk** quoting application number P/2013/0438 or write to me at the above address. If I do not hear from you within this period it will be assumed that you have no comments to make.

If you have any queries regarding this proposal, please contact me direct on 01803 207768.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Helen Addison Senior Planning Officer Spatial Planning



Please reply to:Mrs Helen AddisonPLACE and ENVIRONMENTSpatial Planning, Torbay Council2nd Floor, Electric House, Castle CircusTorquay TQ1 3DRMy Ref:P/2013/0369Your Ref:Telephone:01803 207768E-mail:Planning@Torbay.Gov.UkDate:29 April 2013

Dear Sir

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)

Proposal:Partial demolition of existing buildings, refurbishment & extension to remaining to
create 300 pupil 'Devon Studio School' and associated parking & landscaping.
Change of use of existing C2 (Hospital office/stores) to D1 (School) useAddress:Former Finance Building, Torbay Hospital Annexe, 187 Newton Road, TorquayApplicant:Mrs Katherine Davis WillsReference:P/2013/0369Type:Major Planning ApplicationConsultant Response By: 23 May 2013

Map Of Location:



Eastings: 289711 Northings: 066244

The above application has been received by Torbay Council, Spatial Planning Division and is referred to you for your comments.

You are able to access the information regarding this application via the Internet using the following address: http://www.torbay.gov.uk/planningonline. This will enable you to view plans and the application form etc.

Simply enter the application number P/2013/0369, in the space provided and click the Search button.

Any comments regarding this application should reach me by 23 May 2013, as the decision can be issued from this date onwards. Should you wish to comment after this date, please contact me on 01803 207768 and I will let you know if it is still possible to accept your comments. Please email any comments on this proposal to planning@torbay.gov.uk quoting application number P/2013/0369 or write to me at the above address. If I do not hear from you within this period it will be assumed that you have no comments to make.

If you have any queries regarding this proposal, please contact me direct on 01803 207768.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Helen Addison Senior Planning Officer Spatial Planning

Torbay Local Access Forum – Information Sharing as at April 2013

(Most recently received shown first)

For Members who do not have access to a computer, please ask the TLAF Secretary for a copy of information OF PARTICULAR INTEREST ONLY shown below (always bearing in mind cost for printing same).

MENE data for February 2013

Full results on http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/mene-report-february-2013_tcm6-35686.pdf

A few headlines:

- 1. "Since 2010, rural visits in February have exceeded urban visits. In 2011 there were 24 million more rural visits than urban visits. In 2013 rural visits exceeded urban visits by 4.8 million, the smallest margin for any February.
- 2. In February 2013, visits were longer and taken further from home than in January 2013. Overall, 16 percent of visits incurred expenditure, with £18.98 being the average amount spent.
- 3. Between January and February 2013 visits to the natural environment that included picnicking more than doubled to 1.2 million. Perhaps surprisingly, visits to the beach and swimming outdoors also showed large percentage increases to 1.4 and 0.7 million visits respectively. In contrast, horse riding fell by 1.6 million. Off-road cycling and water sports both fell by 0.3 million"

Received 22.4.13

Local Authority Walking and Cycling Statistics Released

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-walking-and-cycling-in-england-2011-12

Received 18.4.13

National Trails in England

Natural England has confirmed arrangements for the future management of the National Trails in England. The full set of reports can be found on the link below and a summary is attached.

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/places/nationaltrails/review2012.aspx



Received 4.4.13

MENE data for January 2013

Full results on http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/mene-report-january-2013 tcm6-

35442.pdf

A few headlines:

- 1. During January 2013, the adult population in England took an estimated 243.3 million visits to the natural environment. This was 1.8 million visits higher than the 241.5 million visits taken during December 2012.
- 2. In January 2013 rural visits exceeded urban visits by 16.6 million visits reversing a trend in favour of visits to urban areas that started in September 2012.
- 3. 17 percent of visits incurred expenditure, with £29.03 being the average amount spent, compared with January 2012 where 20 percent of visits incurred a spend of £12.50.
- 4. Between December 2012 and January 2013, visits involving horse riding increased by 1.9 million. Visits involving off road cycling and mountain biking increased by 0.8 million from 1.2 to two million visits.
- 5. During January 2013, 40 percent of the English adult population reported that they usually visited the natural environment several times a week or more over the previous year. The proportion claiming to normally visit the natural environment several times a week or more stood at its highest level since the MENE survey began in March 2009.

Received 14.3.13.

Natural England Board Meeting Summary 06/03/13

Full agenda papers for the NE Board meeting held on 6th March are on http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/ourpeople/neboard/meetings/march2013/default.aspx

Summary of some matters relevant to LAFs

Chief Executive's Report – Access and Engagement

"We have now approved the first four Paths for Communities Grants worth £286,000. We expect six projects to be submitted to the January Grants Panel and further projects are currently being worked up. We have approved Access to Nature Grants totalling £5.5m in line with our target for the year end.

We have so far received 75 per cent of the annual reports from Local Access Forums (LAFs) under the new reporting system. Locally we continue to work with LAFs to advise on Coastal Access, permissive access and rights of way. We have exceeded our target of 85 per cent of LAFs represented on the Huddle Electronic Forum.

Our "Amber Green" performance and outlook statuses reflect that we are behind profile with the £500,000 Paths for Communities metric. It has taken longer than we originally anticipated to generate the first applications as a result of the time volunteers in local communities need to agree proposed projects with the various stakeholders. However, this is year one of a two year project and with the Grants Panel meeting monthly and we will still be able to deliver the £2m total grant package over the two years."

Draft Corporate Plan

This shows a reduction in grant in aid finance to be spent on Outcome 2 - "People are inspired to value and conserve the natural environment" from a budget of £12.2 m in 2012/13 to Plan figures of £11m in 2013/14 and £9.9m in 2014/15, with a corresponding decrease of staff on that Outcome from 163 in 2012/13 to 139 in 2013/14.

NATIONAL TRAILS – main points from National Trail Paper put to the Board for approval. (There are several Board papers related to National Trails including reports from the Standards and Funding Working Groups and an analysis of responses to the earlier consultation).

"a) **Standards** – We have revised and simplified the proposed framework (in response to feedback) focussing on benefits, accountability and measurability. The majority of old standards are effectively retained but revised as management prescriptions.

b) **Funding** – We have strengthened our long term commitment to funding and introduced a new approach to allocating national support that is more equitable and transparent (subject to the next government spending review). Funding will now be linked to performance and partners will have greater flexibility to manage their budgets locally.

c) **National Trail Officers** – In line with our original recommendations we no longer propose to explicitly fund National Trail Officers. This has been a difficult choice and is fully documented in the supporting Annexes to this paper.

d) **Local Trail Partnerships** – We have responded to concerns raised in the consultation by: first focussing on purpose – which is about greater collective responsibility for the whole of the Trail rather than a single Trail Partnership; and secondly, by accepting a phased approach to implementation.

e) **Users** – Widespread support for greater user involvement will be reflected in local arrangements and will be monitored.

f) **Promotion** – Trails need to be well managed **and** promoted and we have already announced our appointment of a new promotion lead.

g) **National role** – We will be continuing in our present role but with an increased focus on monitoring and performance, including an annual report.

Our review has sparked a wider debate about the longer term shape and national stewardship of National Trails, and whether they could make an even bigger contribution to economic growth. We will be assisting Defra to establish a new working group to take forward this debate. This will give, for example, the Ramblers an opportunity to put their thinking about new structures on the table, alongside other ideas from partners, users and managers of Trails."

FUNDING

Formula

1. All Trails receive a minimum standard payment of £18,000 per trail.

2. Where the number of local highway authorities or managing agent associated with a trail is greater than two and/or the approved length of the trail is greater than 130km7 then additional payments are made as follows:

a) For administrative complexity, an additional payment of:

i. £2,400 for each highway authority or managing agent over 2

ii. £1,200 for each highway authority or managing agent over 16 and up to 32

iii. Additional payments are capped at 32 highway authorities or managing agentb) For geographic extent, an additional payment of £70 per km of approved length.

3. There is no reduction in the standard payment where the number of local highway authorities or managing agent is less than two or the approved length is less than 130km.

4. In some cases trails are jointly managed. In this case, the value of the core payment is calculated separately for each trail but the amounts may be combined in a single grant.

Standard Rate

9. All Trails receive a minimum payment at a standard rate of £250 per km. This rate is applied to the approved and off road length.

Additional payments

Approved route for horse riding/ cycling 10. Where the route is approved for horse riding/ cycling a 25% uplift is applied to the maintenance standard rate9.

Sensitive environments

11. A 50% uplift is applied to the standard rate. This is applied:

a) for biodiversity, where the trail passes through SSSIs

b) for heritage, where the trail passes through a scheduled monument and/or world heritage sites

Environmental risk

13. An additional payment of £5,000 per average annual events affecting the Path over the 5 years 2007 to 2012 is made. This is applied for both incidents of coastal retreat and river bank collapse.

Regards Hilary

Hilary Winter Regional Coordinator SW Region LAFs

Received 07.03.13

Presentation Handouts and Conference Evaluation Report from the LAF Conference



Received 06.03.13.



Natural England 1st Floor, Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6EB

T 0300 060 1505

Dear Local Access Forum Secretary

Natural England and Local Access Forums

From 1st April this year your LAF local contact is Jane Yates.

Your local contact will be in touch with you, and all the LAFs in their patch, between April and June this year to discuss and agree how Natural England will be able to support your LAF for the rest of this year. This will most likely involve a more targeted approach and there will be opportunities for you to discuss how Natural England can work with you and help you to achieve your priorities this year, resource permitting.

We are also currently in the process of contracting LAF Regional Coordinators to help support your work as we recognised their importance to you in your feedback to us.

Within the next two months you will receive the first edition of a quarterly newsletter which will provide opportunities to share good practice between LAFs, information from Natural England and Defra, and will include more details about relevant Natural England contacts along with some details of how we would like to work with and support LAFs over the course of this year.

Natural England remains fully committed to supporting LAFs and looks forward to working with you again in the coming year.

Yours

Rob Leek National LAF Lead Adviser