

## **Notice of call in by the Non-Coalition Group/ Liberal Democrats/Labour of Mayoral decision dated 26 February 2015 – Petition requesting a covenant for Cary Green**

Reasons for the call in:

1. In making his decision the mayor did not demonstrate that he had made it in accordance with the principle of natural justice. In particular, he did not demonstrate that the petitioners any less deserved to be granted a covenant for Cary Green, a much used and loved public space, than the petitioners for a covenant at Churston golf course - where he felt able to arbitrarily grant a similar covenant with regard to two holes– this despite clear guidance to the contrary from expert officers of the council, the recommendations of the Overview & scrutiny, and the overwhelming majority of councillors meeting in full council;
2. That in granting the covenant for two holes at Churston golf course and not for the much loved and used public space at Cary Green he is showing clear preference for a small number of residents of Churston over the residents of Torquay and that this is unacceptable from an elected mayor of Torbay;
3. The signatories of this call in contend that the business case for the development that will include turning the much loved and used public space at Carey Green into an exclusive car-park has never been proven, and that contrary to decision by full council, the mayor continues to seek to keep the business case and the final decision regarding the development away from full council. The signatories therefore require that the mayor abides by the decision of full council and shares with members of the council what precisely has been offered to the developers and why they would ever have thought that Carey Green would be available to them as part of any scheme ;
4. That the mayor must share with councillors the extent to which the use of other car parks already in the vicinity (Beacon Cove and Fleet Walk) have been considered in the negotiations with MDL; and
5. In his decision to ignore the petitioners and refuse to grant a covenant to protect the much loved and used public space at Carey Green the mayor said that failure to turn it into an exclusive car park would deny Torquay 300 jobs. The signatories wish to hear more specifics about the guarantees that there would be 300 jobs, and the nature of those jobs including whether they will be full-time quality jobs paying sufficient to ensure that the holders will not need to claim benefits to top-up their incomes?