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16<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Overview & Scrutiny Board  
C/o Governance Support  
Torbay Council  
Town Hall  
Castle Circus  
Torquay  
TQ1 3DR

Dear Members

**Re: Cary Green**

As you will be aware, The Torbay Town Centres Company was incorporated in 2008 to bring together the resources of the public and private sectors with the aim of enhancing the vitality and commercial viability of the town centres within Torbay. Since that time, the group has established a wide network of participants and has consulted extensively with residents and businesses of Torbay. Consequently, we have a detailed understanding of the town centres in which we operate, their heritage, where we are now and where we wish to be in the future.

On behalf of the board of the Town Centres Company and of the Torquay Business Improvement District Steering Group, I would like to place on record our support for the Mayors decision **“that no action be taken in respect of the petition on a covenant for Cary Green”**.

I do not believe that restrictive covenants should be imposed on an area based on the wishes of a very small percentage of the population, and furthermore believe that restrictive covenants of this nature are destructive to the ambitions of Torquay Town Centre. Ambitions that will be brought forward by Torbay Council and the TDA with the Masterplan. Developers willing to invest in Torquay should be encouraged and set up to succeed from the very beginning to encourage further investment. Whilst the loss of Cary Green would be unfortunate, I do not feel we should throw out a development because of it. There is ample green space not many feet away from Cary Green at Princess Gardens and certainly within walking distance. This space at Princess Gardens should be considered as the nearest alternative and could be much better utilised with attractive and welcoming seating together with effective signposting.

I would urge all members to vote to support the decision taken on 26<sup>th</sup> February and offer my enthusiastic support for development and regeneration of this prime site.

Yours faithfully

*P. Howard*

Paul Howard  
General Manager