

St Marychurch & District Community Partnership

1. St Marychurch is a community that has a larger amount of older residents. One priority for our community is public transport. Recently a number of bus services have been stopped.

- the 67 which serviced residents living in the Quinta Road and Lyme View areas of Babbacombe. The loss of this services is causing huge inconvenience and is having the effect of isolating some older people.
- part of the 32 bus route between the hospital and the Willows shopping area has been stopped and is also causing great inconvenience to residents of St Marychurch, Willows and Barton & Watcombe - the time taken to travel by alternative bus routes has trebled for some residents.

By financially supporting local community bus services to cover those removed would greatly improve residents lives.

2. A further priority is to financially support additional Environmental services staff. Recent cuts have meant that regularly sheduled maintenance has been reduced, St Marychurch & Babbacombe have a high number of tourists visiting each year.

This is impacting on that local area and many residents are unhappy that certain areas are becoming overgrown and untidy.

3 Another priority is the repair and maintenance of the steps down to Maidencombe Beech. The MRA will be organising some fund raising events next year, and we shall be prepared to undertake some work such as clearing vegetation and painting the railings.

A contribution from the Council to support the major repairs would be most welcome.

One money saving suggestion that the Council should consider is to hand over all the land being managed by TCCT and owned by Torbay Council to the National Trust.

This would save the constant drain of financial support from the tax payers of Torbay, it would mean no longer would the TCCT having to be both 'poacher and gamekeeper' when it comes to looking after the land, it would protect the land and as a result it would maximise this fantastic asset well into the distant future for all those that come after us to enjoy as well as all those who enjoy the open spaces in Torbay now. The coastal paths would be far better maintained and the services such as toilets, car parks and beach cafes would not only be kept open but to a higher standard, the farm land would be better utilised and made more productive. Councillors and Council servants would no longer be tempted to take short term decisions that would destroy the most valuable asset Torbay possesses. **A simple matter of protecting the future in one easy step and it would increase the tourist and visitor activity giving a boost to Torbay economy for no extra cost** - all marketing and up keep would be down to the National Trust.

Regards

Pat Bishop, Chair.

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