

Record of Decisions

Amendment to boundaries of Occombe Farm Local Nature Reserve

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 14 July 2020.

Decision

That Cabinet notes that the land comprising 4.06 ha at Preston Down Road, Paignton and shown edged red on the plan at Appendix 1 to the submitted report is no longer managed as a nature reserve and does not contain habitats or species that warrant its designation as part of a Local Nature Reserve and, as a result, approves the making of a formal declaration removing the PDR land from the Occombe Farm Local Nature Reserve designation.

Reason for the Decision

To take the final steps in order to de-register land at Preston Down Road, shown on Plan EM3172, as a Local Nature Reserve.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 27 July 2020 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

On 20 September 2019 the Cabinet approved:

“That the land at Preston Down Road, shown on Plan EM3172 attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be de-registered as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) as the land no longer meets the requirements to be designated as a LNR and to enable housing to be developed on the site.”

Subsequently the Council was required to consult with Natural England ('NE') prior to formalising the de-registration. NE was formally notified on 13 January 2020. A letter of response, dated 9 June 2020, had been received which concluded that “Natural England accept that the land proposed for de-declaration appears to have very limited environmental value”.

The Cabinet was required to consider the Natural England response prior to the final steps in the de-registration process being undertaken.

Councillor Long proposed and Councillor Morey seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

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17 July 2020

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet