

neighbourhood plans

From: Adrian Sanders
Sent: 06 February 2018 12:53
To: Lynn Alford-Burow
Cc: neighbourhood plans; Doggett, Ian; info@paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk
Subject: Re: Clennon Valley needs to be designated a protected green space
Attachments: CCI_000023.jpg

Dear Lynn

Thank you for your email.

I agree wholehearted with you as the parts of the valley enjoyed today are a direct consequence of actions I was involved in over 30 years ago.

I have attached a press cutting from 1984 shortly after I was elected to the Council for the first time. There was an unkempt salt water marsh between the railway line and Dartmouth Road the Council wanted to build a car park on it. I led the campaign to save it. The only other salt water marshes nearby are at Slapton and Dawlish Warren so it was a rare area of floral worth protecting. The long and short of it is we failed and a car park was built over the marsh. As is so often the case in Torbay the rest of the proposed development never occurred. Because the campaign had grabbed the attention of the media and won the support of the public, to placate the protesters the Council promised to create a walk way within the valley around the ponds. This they did and people enjoy the walks to this day. Consequently, you can count on my support to retain its protected status.

Kind regards

Adrian

On 3 February 2018 at 19:17, Lynn Alford-Burow [REDACTED] wrote:
Sirs

Clennon Valley is an important area for leisure/wildlife/education and a greenspace park for the public to use within the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan. It would be foolhardy and shortsighted to remove its protected green space whereby the area might be developed in any commercial way or for building purposes. This area is too precious to endanger commercial presence and lose another important green space for Paignton.

The Paignton Neighbourhood Plan (PNP) (several years work by a group representing the residents and community groups http://www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/?page_id=322) have proposed Clennon Valley as a local Green Space giving much protection from future development - the council through the Torbay Development Agency have objected to this status. This important document and the wishes of residents and community should not be ignored by the council or TDA.

I fully support the inclusion of the designation of Clennon Valley as a local Greenspace as proposed by the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan and do not support the objections previously raised by the council and Torbay Development Agency.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

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Please note my main email address is

the recording team will attend the Young Liberal's fortnightly meeting in a Paignton pub. 11/7/84

HE 11/7/84

Bog nature reserve petition rejected

SITE CAR PARK

DESPITE a petition of 700 local people and an emotional plea from Liberal councillor Mr Adrian Sanders to preserve the so-called Goodrington Bog for all time as a nature reserve, Torbay Council last night decided that its future shall be as a park for over 800 cars.

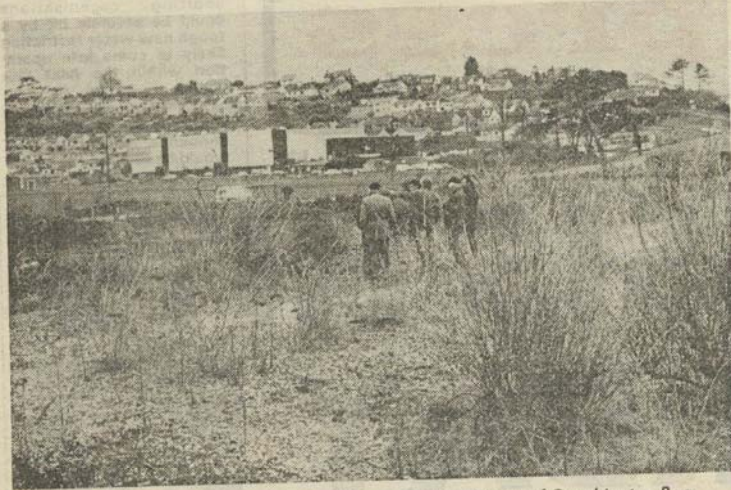
The recommendations of the recreation committee to redevelop the Goodrington complex to provide leisure and holiday facilities met with wholehearted council approval, with the exception of those relating to the strip of land between the railway line and Dartmouth Road, known as the Goodrington salt marshes or Goodrington Bog.

Detailed proposals to landscape this area and provide parking for 375 cars at first and a further 450 later "in the light of demand, but in the meantime the site be tidied up and left in that condition" brought some hard fought opposition from the conservationists.

They were led by Mr Sanders who warned that any development would destroy the ecological life support system of the plants and wildlife which thrived there.

The sensible solution, he suggested, was to turn it into a nature reserve.

The first move came from



BULLDOZERS will soon be sweeping away the wildness of Goodrington Bog

Mr Jim Pedley who asked the council simply to approve a landscaping programme for the area. However, Mr Bill Fryer described the site as a "dump" and an "eyesore" and added that he thought that local people would be pleased to have it cleaned up.

Heritage

Mrs Joan Cooper maintained that despite the petition against the plans, many other local people wanted it cleared. But both Mr John Gillin and Mr Fred Stone said that the council should take note of such a petition.

Mrs Eloise Armes, however, retorted that this was the first time in 40 years that anybody was interested in the site. "It has been like this for over 40 years yet suddenly when we want to do something here it needs preservin'. Suddenly

everybody has decided it is a vital piece of our heritage. Why has nobody come forward before?" she asked.

Mr Tony Key, the council leader said the council was being asked to decide on a package for the redevelopment of the complex and that included the car parking.

Mr Pedley's amendment failed by eight votes to a large majority with five abstentions.

Mocked

Then came Mr Sanders' plea to move the car parking to the other side of Dartmouth Road. He admitted the site had been abused for years, but nevertheless plants and wildlife had flourished and in the area Torbay had an unrivalled amenity which could never be replaced. To destroy it would be to murder hundreds of creatures which lived there.

Some laughter which followed this remark was later condemned by Mrs Eileen Salloway. She said it was a matter of great regret to her that what were obviously deeply held convictions by Mr Sanders had been mocked by some members of the council.

Mr Sanders went on to say that the car park would be used for some six weeks a year after Mr Tony Key had remarked there was not enough room at a site across the road from the Bog and that sports facilities would be lost.

After Mr Sanders' amendment had also failed Mrs Salloway proposed that the area be preserved as a nature conservation area, but this also failed by seven votes to 17.

The council will now seek offers from the private sector for the redevelopment of the complex.

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