**Torbay Climate Partnership**

**Minutes**

**24 April 2025  
2:00 – 4:00 pm  
Paignton Library**

**Attendees:** David Edmondson (Chair), Cllr Chris Lewis, Jacqui Warren, Kevin Dixon, Melanie Boarder, Bethan Huntley, Tara Bowers, Chris Gunson, Gary Calland, David Hodson, Louise Marshall, Emma Magee, Helen Warren, Matthew Green, Jed Stephenson, Andrew Gunther, Will, Liz Muir, Michael Roseveare, William Jackson-Nichols

**Apologies:** Chris Gomm, Cllr Billings, Tom Dauben, Joanne Brimblecombe, Kirsty Parker-Callard, Liam Montgomery, Jake O’Donovan, Alison Bayliss, Cllr Fox, Emily Reed, Alex Carter, Sam Swann, David Stewart. Steve Nash, Davina Luther, Dan Vickridge

**1.Welcome**  
David Edmondson (DE) as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2.Previous Minutes / Actions**  
DE ran through the actions from the Torbay Climate Partnership’s 6th December 2024 meeting:

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| **Actions – Previous Meetings** | **Owner** | **April Update** |
| Rachel Geary (RG)/Torbay Climate Action | RG talk to TCA about climate denier engagement. | Engagement to be picked up in item 5 |
| Jacqui Warren to query the status of the Marine Forum and actions on protecting sea grass with Rob Parsons (RP). | Jacqui Warren (JW) / Marine Forum | Marine Forum is not meeting. Rob Parson’s replacement was not picking this up. David Edmondson to pick up with Matthew Reeks of SWISCo |
| Action: Melanie Boarder and Matt Green to meet with Matt Reeks on the recycling education work that SWISCo is developing. | Melanie Boarder, Matthew Green, Matt Reeks | Actioned. SWISCo attended SDC’s Green Week |
| Action: Emma Magee and Davina Luther to meet with SWISCo to discuss any potential funding and support for future tree planting projects. | Emma Magee/ Davina Luther | Emma Magee to action.  Liz Muir updated all on a successful Department of Education SUD bid by Davina. Davina is looking for match from CIL. |
| Speak with Tara Bowers about possible energy solutions for Torbay Council Estate Buildings. | JW/ Alex Carter (AC) | Completed. Discussions have been held. |
| Emily Reed ad Adam Luscombe to discuss shared EV charging facilities | ER/AL | No update available. Carry over to next meeting. |
| Emily Reed and Davina Luther to meet and connect on regional schools support available | ER/DL | No update available. Carry over to next meeting. |
| December meeting |  |  |
| Medhi/ Dave to set up meeting on new Adaptation Game |  | Meeting was held. New non-site-specific card game has been developed. |

The Minutes of the previous meeting on 6 December 2024 were approved as an accurate record and signed off.

**3. Greener Way for Our Bay Framework –Progress Report**

Jacqui Warren (Torbay Council) presented the highlights on the progress report. Including the completion and 1 year expansion of actions 1,2,3 and 7.

Four actions are rated as concern, two (Action 25 and 26 to picked up in item 5. DE to pick up with Matt Reeks about the Marine Forum.

**4. Green and Blue Infrastructure Nature Towns and Cities Bid**

Andrew Gunther, Torbay Council, presented on a new bid to create a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.

Matt Green suggested that a Plan B is needed to ensure this vital work happens in Torbay.

Emma Magee questioned how the Blue Infrastructure will be mapped. Andrew to include existing mapping undertaken. **Action: Emma Magee to send Andrew Gunther details of existing mapping undertaken.**

Michael Roseveare suggested that Friends of Groups should also be involved in the community elements of this work.

Cllr Lewis also highlighted that new funding has been ear marked to improve Torbay’s 74 Playparks. A public consultation is planned on how this money will be spent.

**Item 5. Moving Forward Priority Actions 20205**

Following on from December’s meeting, the Partnership continued to review the long list of actions they identified as a priority for 2025. Given the number of ideas these were grouped into 7 themes, and the focus of this session was on communication and engagement and collaboration and network building actions only (the 5 other areas will be reviewed at forthcoming meetings).

Through a series of individual and group tasks four key actions were identified as the preferred actions to explore in 2025:

* Promote green assets/geopark/seagrass (and linked-green resort/ need for an accreditation scheme for tourism and business sectors – see below)

Discussions: Terra Ferma are carrying out an audit of the Geopark, which will include comms and engagement work (with climate link). Melanie Boarder suggested we can merge this work into it. Melanie Boarder to provide updates on this work. Partnership to revisit any gaps that this work identifies. **Action: Melanie Boarder to update the TCP on this work as it progresses.**

* **Develop a Housing Retrofit Strategy**

Discussions: TCP partners expressed concern that much more is needed to help residents retrofit their homes in line with net zero targets. Some also felt they did understand all the issues and how to deliver more action. **Action: Jacqui Warren and Tara Bower to lead an item on retrofitting homes at the July meeting.**

**Action: Jacqui Warren to get an update on the in-development Retrofit Strategy for Devon.**

* **Business support - green resort/accreditation scheme for tourism and business sectors (and clear ask)**

Discussion: Partners felt more support can be given to the tourism sector specifically. An accredited scheme is also needed.

**Action: Item to be added to the July meeting for further discussion. Including looking at national or local accreditation programmes.**

* **Collaborate on climate resilience, especially Health**

This was a preferred action, but there was not time to discuss this in detail.

**Action: Item to be added to a forthcoming meeting for further discussion.**

**6. Roundtable updates / AOB**

Bethan Huntley highlighted the UK Climate Emergency Score Cards and training available. Bethan advised it is a blunt tool, but it can help the Partnership to identify actions to improve Torbay’s climate performance. The training was very good and she encouraged others to attend.

Bethan Huntley sent out an email on the LGA’s [Local government and legal responsibilities to act on climate change: An LGA open consultation | Local Government Association](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.local.gov.uk%2Fabout%2Fcampaigns%2Fmake-it-local%2Fback-local-climate-action%2Flocal-government-and-legal-responsibilities&data=05%7C02%7Cjacqui.warren%40torbay.gov.uk%7C3c9c24c553a44d14f12608dd81a87299%7C13577bd8494345d98d3c304f184f6582%7C0%7C0%7C638809282675050497%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=D%2BcFmu%2B5H58shO0nqpBU%2BCIkPia03Nh289U8tpniHyA%3D&reserved=0) .

**Action: Partners to contact Bethan directly if they would like to help create a consultation response. The Council will separately be doing their own response.**

Melanie Boarder updated all on a recent UNESCO and Climate Change SW England session she attended with Jacqui Warren. UNESCO have developed a tool to help UNESCO designated sites start to understand current climate vulnerability and future risks from a changing climate. They also plan to bid for funding to then help all sites take action to increase climate resilience/reduce future climate risks.

William Jackson-Nichols updated all on a recent Devon Climate Emergency Partnership workshop with the Carbon Trust. Over 60 partners came together to map out priorities for the Partnership up to 2030.

Jed Stephenson update all on a new role to be advertised to help deliver the Torbay Sustainable Food Places work.