

TTEF PLANNING & CONSULTATION COMMITTEE (TTEF-P&CC)

MINUTES of meeting held Friday 14th February 2025 2.30pm at Beechfield Centre

PRESENT Jeff Needham, Tony Pratt Ian Crawford, John Puddy, Sue Prosper

APOLOGIES Chris Hassall, Mark Haworth-Booth

1. MINUTES of 3rd Jan. 2025

2. **Adoption of Minutes** - Minutes were adopted as a true record.

3. Urgent Matters Arising

TP raised the reported boat, leaking oil at Crow which should be reported to the EA. IC to respond to Cllr. Graham Bell, who had reported the matter. **Action IC**

4. Planning Matters

The EA submission on the White Cross application has gone in without an objection. TP reported that he had made another objection on behalf of TTEF highlighting that there is no mitigation for disturbance to over wintering birds.

5. Finance

JN reported funds stand at £3561-48 subsequent expenditure of £8.35 for refreshments and £150 for room hire. JN raised his concern over paying for bookings in advance where cancellation of booking could lead to forfeit of the hire fee. IC confirmed that previous cancellations had been early enough to transfer the fee to a future booking and that TTEF had gained financially with advance bookings when the Council in the interim had increased room hire charges.

6. Other Matters Arising

a) Action Reports

1) All

a) **Monitoring Railway** - No developments - monitoring to continue..... **Action All**

2) IC

a) **Contacts from Joe Newberry:** *Leitza Gorman and Elizabeth Garnett* at Petroc Barnstaple emailed re YOG proforma. No response received, no further action.

b) **Environment Agency** - A response has been received from the EA to advise that David Brain will attend future meetings and meeting dates have been forwarded. EA's attendance will allow issues to be raised and responses given

c) **Bideford Town Council** - IC had received confirmation that BTC would be sending representative to the Forum. Her name is Cllr. Susan Smith who is now added to mailings. As we currently have no representation from Barnstaple Town Council they should be invited to send a representative **Action IC**

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d) **Devon Marine Forum** IC reported that the newly appointed Marine, Coastal and Estuaries Officer had responded to our enquiry and the meeting dates for their Forum will be obtained. **Action IC**

3) TP

a) Website Blog - Current Issues TP reiterated his concept of a monitored page for key issues. After some discussion the consensus was to call the page "Current Issues" with TP as chair to oversee. Further discussion with Chris Dee by TP

Action TP

b) 'Rivers Group' formation: TP had circulated a report on two rivers group for Taw & Torridge. JP mentioned the importance of working with the Biosphere. The group had established a target to get the the rivers to good status by 2030. A supported view was consideration of two separate river groups. It was agreed that TP & JP should represent TTEF at next meeting on 28th March **Action TP& JP**

c) Harbour Users Group (HUG) TP reported loss of income to Bideford Harbour due to clay now going by road. However the new owners of the Shipyard are encouraging bigger ships into the estuary. Currently wood pellets and farm feedstuff arrive at Newquay Dock.

The future of the Bideford Harbour depends on extending the harbour limits and therefor increased fees/revenue (*common fees include: terminal handling charges (THC), which cover the cost of loading and unloading containers onto the vessel, wharfage fees for moving and storing cargo within the port, berth rent for the time the vessel is docked, port dues based on the vessel's size*)

A historic report commissioned by TDC has never been seen and maybe should become the subject of a FOI (Freedom of Information) request. An Estuary Strategy is being updated by TDC. Agreed that our next speaker be from TDC on Estuary Strategy. TP to provide IC with details of speaker to be invited. **Action TP & IC**

b) AGM Follow Up It was accepted that the Speaker is the recognised main feature of Forum meetings despite sometimes taking up a large part of meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

a)Succession - TP reminded us that we need to consider replacement of officers after the biennial period and for 2026 in the case of the secretary. It was agreed that job descriptions giving a bullet point outline of the posts was essential before approaches to Forum members. Current officers were asked to draw up job descriptions **Action TP, IC & JN**

Succession could be put into the "Current Issues" page when we have a prepared statement to insert.....**Agenda Item , Next P&CC -Action TP**

8. AOB

JP raised the ND Biosphere Environment Action Survey and encouraged us to participate. **Action All**

Next Meeting: Friday 4th April 2025 at 2.30pm

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