

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, 25 November 2016

TORPOINT WINS PRESTIGIOUS DESIGN AWARD FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN VISION

Torpoint Town Council and the Torpoint Neighbourhood Development Plan group have won a prestigious National Urban Design award from the Landscape Institute for its work on the Torpoint Vision. The award was presented to the Mayor of Torpoint, Clifton Emery Design and representatives at an awards ceremony in London on Thursday 24 November.

The Torpoint Vision project was submitted to the Landscape Institute by partner agency Clifton Emery Design. The urban design agency have been working alongside Torpoint Town Council and the Torpoint Neighbourhood Development Plan group for the past eighteen months, and have taken the responses and feedback from residents and transformed it into a glittering vision of what Torpoint might look like in years to come.

The winning submission in the class of Urban Design sets out a physical vision for the South-East Cornwall town of Torpoint. The Vision will now underpin the Neighbourhood Development Plan, which the town is actively working towards.

The judges at the Landscape Institute Awards said that the Torpoint Vision "was a robust and deliverable project clearly supported by a fully-costed and realistically phased business plan – a piece of delightful work."

Neil Emery from Clifton Emery Design, who has been working with the Torpoint team from the beginning said "As a designer, it's always an honour to be shortlisted for an award, but to win; that is a real achievement. On behalf of my team at Clifton Emery Design, I'd like to congratulate Torpoint on this impressive and prestigious award." He added, "As an agency, we are excited to continue to work with the town, to translate this vision into a reality."

The Town Mayor of Torpoint Councillor John Crago added, "This is a real honour for the townspeople of Torpoint; a symbol of all the hard graft and teamwork. We are very, very proud – today is a great day for Torpoint. Thank you to everyone who has played a part in our success so far."

The Torpoint Town Council would like to thank the following for all their contributions; Torpoint Neighbourhood Development Plan steering group, Neil Emery and the team at Clifton Emery Design, Neal Jillings at Jillings Heynes Planning and the residents of Torpoint for their ongoing commitment and support.

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Photo

Notes for editors

Torpoint, with a population of around 8,000 lies at the mouth of the river Tamar, Cornwall, opposite Devonport dockyard and the city of Plymouth. The river is crossed by three chain ferries, which carry cars, buses, trucks and pedestrians across the 500 yard wide tidal estuary. Torpoint is the Gateway of South East Cornwall and the Rame peninsula.

The town was originally developed to provide housing for workers at the dockyard, and naval facilities were also built around the town. At one time the main route from Plymouth to Cornwall was across the ferry, but the opening of the Tamar Bridge north of the town, the decline of employment at the dockyard, and the reduction in Royal Navy facilities has seen the focus of the town shift towards providing local employment, as well as providing housing for workers in Plymouth.

Nearby Antony House (now in the ownership of the National Trust) is the seat of the Carew-Pole family, whose forebears were responsible for much of the early development of the town in the eighteenth century. The house contains an extensive portrait collection, and the surrounding gardens and park, laid out by Repton offer delightful walks with vistas across the estuary.

A Neighbourhood Plan comprises the use and development of land within an area, in this case Torpoint. The community can contribute their ideas, likes and dislikes in respect of issues that matter to them be they, facilities, housing, land use, environment, heritage, arts and so on. A Neighbourhood Plan, once it has passed through a number of steps, and been scrutinised by Cornwall Council, can then be voted upon by the local people. Once approved and accepted, the Neighbourhood Plan becomes law.

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