

## MAYORS ADVERTISTER FEBRUARY 2019

I was delighted to hear Cornwall Council's Cabinet decision to acquire the police station at the lower end of Fore Street (please see the additional press release on this matter). The redevelopment of this site, which is consistent with the emerging Neighbourhood plan, will benefit the community of Torpoint and smarten up the first impression of the town.

At the January Torpoint Town Council meeting, six Year Two pupils, (aged just 7 years), from Torpoint Nursery and Infant School presented to the Council their concerns and fears regarding the use of plastic in our everyday lives. Emphasis was given to the fact that plastic, if we continue to use it at its current rate, will be with us forever. It is estimated it would take 500 years for a foam cup to degrade, a plastic cup holder 400 years, a disposable nappy 450 years and a fishing line 600 years. By the end of the presentation, it was clear to see that something quickly and urgently needs to be done, and the question asked by the children of the Council, was simple, "What can the Council do to help?" We are now working towards becoming PLASTIC FREE! A Councillor suggested it would a fantastic opportunity to become the first Community Network Area (CNA) to be plastic free too. There are 19 CNAs covering the whole of Cornwall, comprising Cornwall Councillors and representatives from town and parish councils. Some of the roles of the CNA include looking at the current issues affecting the CNA, and how working together can progress many ideas as well as helping to promote the environmental wellbeing of their communities. Torpoint Nursery and Infant School children have canvassed retailers in and around the town and many are eager to help. To help promote the message further, Year Two pupils at the School held a concert of song and drumming, to help raise funds to purchase fabric 'bags for life' for all families. Two Councillors are willing to be the Council's representatives to help drive this initiative and liaise locally with other interested parties. Let's all play our part, and all recycle. Thank you Torpoint Nursery and Infant School for bringing such an emotive subject into the wider domain.

At the time of writing, the transfer of Torpoint Library from Cornwall Council is nearly complete, anticipated handover is 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019, with a launch of the Community Hub scheduled for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Please come along and give your support to a fantastic facility within our town.

Devolution continues at a pace, with Borough Play Park, Thanckes Play Park, Chestnut Play Park, Cambridge Field and the Tennis Courts, shortly being transferred to Torpoint Town Council. These parks are a key asset to our town with funds allocated to improve and maintain them to the standard expected by all. Once again this will give the town the opportunity to improve and preserve important facilities for current and future generations.

I am pleased to announce that Councillor James Senese was recently Co-opted onto the Town Council. West Ward Councillor James brings a wealth of local knowledge and enthusiasm to the role.

Congratulations to Andy Martin, recently awarded the Bar to the Medal of Merit and Jenny Hughes awarded the Medal of Merit for their commitment to Scouting, presented by the District Commissioner. It was also good news for the Sea Cadet unit, TS Ramehead who recently achieved first place in a drill competition held at HMS Raleigh. Their nine minute continuity drill routine was enough to win the Cornwall District and put them into the National Event to be held later in the year.

Until next time.