



## TORPOINT TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish (Town) meeting of Torpoint held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 at 7.00pm in the Council Committee Room, 4, York Road, Torpoint.

**PRESENT:** - Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin - Chairman), plus fourteen Town Councillors, several members of the public plus the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk took the minutes of the proceedings on behalf of the town.

### **1. Minutes of the last Parish meeting.**

It was resolved the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 are received and were signed by the Town Mayor (Chairman).

### **2. Matters arising from the minutes.**

None.

### **3. Report from the Town Mayor covering the activities of the Town Council.**

The Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) was delighted to welcome everyone to the Parish (Town) meeting explained the Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting for all the local government electors of the Parish. It is not a meeting of the Town Council however it is chaired by the Town Mayor. As it is a statutory meeting, it is a requirement for the meeting to have minutes to record the event and thanked Milly Southworth (Town Clerk to Torpoint Town Council) who had agreed to capture the minutes for the meeting.

The Town Mayor invited Councillor G J Davis, as former Town Mayor, to summarise the activities of the council, over the previous civic year.

Neighbourhood Development Plan, long in the making, is finally moving toward completion. Despite significant objections, we worked tirelessly to address concerns, and now, pending independent examination, we look forward to the referendum fingers crossed for this summer. Our plan and process received strong feedback last week with an email from a Cornwall Council planning officer sharing their view that "we would be happy to hold up the Torpoint plan as an example of a well-thought out and well evidenced plan that should deliver real benefits for the community."

Lower Fore Street has seen the completion of a Masterplan, following successful receipt of funding, which included a consultation to ensure potential future development aligns with the town's needs. Just this week, we secured £200K to complete designs for a new Library and Community Hub, homes, parking spaces, and the next phase, to redevelop the Library site into homes, retail space and a new car park and town square.

In total the Town Council's Town Team Project Board, have secured over £1M in funding for planning and clearance, paving the way for potential investment of over £10M, creating much needed homes and services over the coming few years.

The Northern Fringe with Defiance Field, after years of discussion, is finally expected to go to market in July, for those of you present last week you will recall that I communicated 'this month', however the plan is to bring this together with other land alongside which has caused a slight delay. If this comes to fruition this will bring 200 new homes, replacement sports facilities, which is overall a brighter future for our town and schools who really need an influx of more students, as the average age of the town has been increasing. Overall Torpoint is looking at an investment of over £100M, providing over 350 homes, a supermarket and the amenities our community has long called for.

The refurbished tennis courts, have been a huge success. Demand has exceeded expectations and our investment in 'accessible tennis' ensures everyone can be part of this sporting movement, with the park being awarded the Cornwall Tennis's Park of the Year Award.

Working with Torpoint Community College, planning has been submitted for the All-Weather 3G football pitch, which has secured over £250K in grant funding for match funding with the Football Foundation, their response is due any day. If approved, this will be the most significant improvement to our school and town sporting facilities in a generation. This is much needed with another winter of limited pitch availability.

As for our parks, improvements continue, supported by the Torpoint Diverse Panel, accessible play equipment is on track for completion in the next year.

Torpoint Community Hub and Library continues to be a hive of activity, receiving Volunteer Cornwall Partnership £16k of funding, working in partnership to deliver courses such as Dementia Group, Health and Wellbeing and Chair Pilates.

Thinking to the future we have set our sights on upgrading the skate park and will work with the Torpoint Ramps Forum to deliver this.

Strategy for Arts in the town is something which is light in the detail in our Vision and Action Plan, we look forward to working with Torpoint Artist Collective to develop this.

Working with the Town Partnership planning is well advanced for a Torpoint Fest on 14<sup>th</sup> June, an exciting day with local talent and stalls to bring the community together and show Torpoint in its best light and attract people from the area to join us.

We are expecting an official announcement on Cornwall Levelling up Funding bid, which will allow the upgrade of the facilities in Fore Street supporting the markets and street events, Bénodet Park and Thanckes Park. This also includes mobile hearing loops identified again through the Torpoint Diverse Panel. Overall the council continued to be very busy last year continuing the drive of our Community based vision for Torpoint and delivering our strategic goals with the community at the heart of everything we do.

**4. Electors Questions.** None.

**5. Any Motions from Electors.** None.

**6. Date of Next Meeting.**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

Town Meeting closed at 7.14pm.....Town Mayor (Chairman)