



MINUTES of a meeting of the Development and Localism Committee held on Wednesday 1st April 2026 at 7.00pm in the Council Committee Room, York Road, Torpoint.

PRESENT: - Councillor G J Davis (Chairman), Councillor Mrs. J M Martin (Town Mayor), Councillor Mrs. C E Goodman (Deputy Town Mayor), Councillors Miss R A Evans BEM, Mrs. L. Fellows, L E Keise, K J Moon, Mrs. J L Reeves, C R Still, J Tivnan BEM plus the Town Clerk & RFO (Clerk).

	ACTION
<p>139-25D&L Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
<p>140-25D&L Declarations of Interest relating to items on the Agenda a) To receive any declarations from Members of any registerable (5A of the Code of Conduct) and/or non-registerable (5B) interests in matters to be considered at this meeting. None. b) The Town Clerk to receive written requests for dispensations prior to the start of the meeting for consideration. None.</p>	
<p>141-25D&L Minutes of the previous meeting It was resolved that the minutes of the Development and Localism Committee meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2026 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>142-25D&L Matters arising from the minutes a) Torpoint Arts and Culture Strategy to support Torpoint Artists Collective with delivery: - Pursuant to minute number 125-25D&L (a) Councillor C R Still highlighted that a Project Initiation Document (PID) is being completed. b) Community Highways Improvement Programme: - Pursuant to minute number 125-25D&L (b), the proposal has been submitted, the [Cornwall Council] meeting has been postponed. c) To update on the submission of an Expression of Interest to the first ever UK Town of Culture competition 2028: - Pursuant to minute number 125-25D&L (d), the Clerk explained that having arranged the workshops to progress the bid for the Town of Culture competition 2028, the draft Expression of Interest had been reviewed and updated in advance of the deadline for submission. Subsequently, it was submitted on behalf of Torpoint Town Council as the Accountable Body, in collaboration with other key stakeholders including Torpoint Artists Collective, the Parishes of Maker with Rame, Millbrook and Shevioc, also Torpoint Archives and Heritage Centre. Thanks were minuted to Jonny Birkett, for given his time for free, for all his work, visiting the town and 'working up' the submission. Clerk is directed to circulate a copy of the submission to all members. d) To update on The Suicide Communities Project: - Pursuant to minute number 129-25D&L (a), the Clerk explained having arranged a follow up meeting with the Community Hub and Library Development Manager and The Suicide Communities Project lead, taking his advice, due to the current sensitivities, an information event is being planned for early June.</p>	Clerk

The Clerk has received correspondence from the Director of Ingas Tennis School, and will ensure that communication is had with Jane, from The Tennis Network, before responding to the Director.

i) To update on the enquiry from resident K Carpenter: -

The Clerk explained that K Carpenter has recently responded, her personal circumstances have now changed and she is now currently not in a position to look at this opportunity, however will come back to the council should her circumstances change in the future.

b) Torpoint Skate Park to update on progress: -

Pursuant to minute number 130-25D&L (b) the Clerk explained the inception meeting had been held and the final Design Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday 15th April, 5.30pm – 7.30pm at the Library and Community Hub. The Clerk is liaising with Torpoint Ramps Forum (TRF), to publicise the workshop and encourage attendance. TRF had a stall at the recent Market, Clerk had arranged for the delivery of printed materials to be used at this event. The Torpoint Fundraising Feasibility Report has been received today from Canvas and once the Design Workshop has taken place, a next steps meeting will be arranged, with a view to setting up a fundraising group.

i) To update on the submission of the Expression of Interest for the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund Round 5 for the Skate Park: -

Pursuant to minute number 130-25D&L (f), the Expression of Interest (EoI) has not been progressed by Cornwall Council. "An unprecedented number of EOI's, with a total funding request of over £27m, which is more than thirteen times the available Fund budget were received, this meant some incredibly difficult decisions had to be made by Cornwall Council."

c) Accessible Play Equipment opening event: -

Pursuant to minute 130-25D&L (c) the Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) recorded her thanks to everyone who has been involved in this project, as well as everyone those attended the opening event, which had been a great success. The Mayor explained that after the event, the press release and photos were shared to Cornwall Council representatives, who had been unable to attend. In response Simon Mould, Head of Resilient Communities at Cornwall Council said: "*What a wonderful way to start a Monday! This has absolutely made my day and brought a broad smile to my face. The photographs are fantastic. This is such a powerful example of why devolution and place-based partnership working matters. Under your local stewardship, not only has the play area been secured, but, through genuine community engagement and support, you've created a space designed explicitly around local needs. The joy, laughter, and inclusion it will bring, along with the wider social, developmental and community outcomes it supports, is truly remarkable. Amazing work all round.*" Clerk to forward the statement to Councillor Fellows, who will share it at the next Diverse Advisory Panel meeting.

148-25D&L Planning Applications

a) PA26/00034 – Change of use application for proposed alterations to part of existing offices at first floor level to create a one bedroom apartment. Discovery Court, Fore Street, Torpoint. It is **resolved** there are no observations or objections.

149-25D&L Localism

a) Town Team Project Board (TTPB): -

The next meeting of the TTPB is scheduled for April. An update on Lower Fore Street, from the consultant, is being shared by the Clerk.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

b) 3G Pitch 9v9 Project.

Due to the information which had been received from Torpoint Community College, on the morning of this meeting date, this agenda item was taken at the end of the meeting, with the outcomes of the discussion recorded here.

1st April 2026, 3.17pm, Torpoint Community College emailed Torpoint Town Council, this correspondence is included here for transparency.

"Following a very lengthy extraordinary governors' meeting last night, it is with great sadness the board has made the decision not to proceed with the 3G project in Torpoint.

Since the inception of the project, the College is now facing an unprecedented challenge due to a significant falling roll that is being seen across the local area due to a falling birth rate. There is no sign of the falling roll abating over at least the next 5 years, and this will place a significant financial strain on the College as it will have to try and navigate its way through delivering a sustainable and an effective education provision with improved outcomes for our students with a huge reduction in funding.

With the future funding pressures now projected from a significant falling roll and the precarious financial position this will place us in the short to medium term, and the financial risk associated with the 3G facility resting on the shoulders of the College, the board of governors did not feel comfortable proceeding with the 3G project. There are significant strategic decisions the College now has to make to secure its future.

This is not only disappointing for us, but clearly for the community and all stakeholders involved. I am hugely grateful for all your support throughout this process, and I am sorry we are not in a position to add such a valuable and desired provision to the Torpoint and Rame area.

This was an incredibly tough decision for the board and I'm sorry we are not in a position to cross the final hurdle to proceed with the project. This outcome has been communicated with the Football Foundation and a message will go out to the local community shortly. We understand the disappointment and sentiments that will be shared once this has been communicated.

Thank you again for all your support throughout this process.

Kind regards

Dr Jeremy Plumb
Headteacher".

Understandably, all members' present were very shocked to hear this outcome and all agreed to compile a press release [together], which the Clerk was directed to immediately issue. Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) agreed to call an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council, ahead of the April Council meeting, in order that the 3G pitch would not dominate the Council meeting scheduled for Thursday 16th April and detract from the Agenda and Council business. The meeting would be to agree next steps and formulate a response to Torpoint Community College's correspondence.

Clerk/
Cllr Martin

c) Vision and other Projects: - None.						
150-25D&L Climate and Environmental Action Plan						
a) To consider the actions relating to this Committee: - No further update.						
151-25D&L Equality, Diversity and Inclusion						Council Clerk
<p>a) Torpoint Diverse Advisory Panel (DAP) update: - Councillor Mrs. L Fellows reported, the next meeting date is being arranged for Wednesday 8th April, in the Library and Community Hub.</p> <p>i) The Clerk explained the group has suggested a change to the membership of the group and this is reflected in the revised Terms of Reference, showing the changes in red. Members' supported the changes and it is recommended the Terms of Reference for the Diverse Advisory Panel are updated accordingly (in order for them to be correct in advance of approval at the Annual Meeting of the Council for the civic year 26/27).</p> <p>ii) Library and Community Hub, Accessibility video: Councillor Mrs. L Fellows explained all the work which had gone into the completion of the Accessibility video, for the Library and Community Hub, recording thanks to everyone who had supported its production. It is currently uploaded to a Google drive, it is agreed the Clerk will upload to the Council's YouTube channel, it can then be publicised on the Accessibility page of the website and social media pages.</p>						
152-25D&L Accounts for Payment.						
PAYEE	Invoice Number	Total	TAX	NET	Description	
Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Tennis Courts	802923069	54.47	0.00	54.47	Business Rates Tennis Courts April 2026	
Cornwall Council Bus Rates Room 4	802980235	62.85	0.00	62.85	Business Rates Room 4 April 2026	
Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Library	802715760	653.00	0.00	653.00	Business Rates Library April 2026	
Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Chambers	802311466	1,501.00	0.00	1,501.00	Business Rates Chambers April 2026	
Falmouth Town Council	3654	105.76	17.63	88.13	Cormac - Chapter 8 Training Operations Manager	
James Hallam	554407359	16,613.09	n/a	16,613.09	Commercial Combined Insurance Renewal 1 st April 2026 to 31 st March 2027	
TOTAL		18,990.17	17.63	18,972.54		
153-25D&L Correspondence						Clerk
<p>a) To consider: Cornwall Cultural Strategy Consultation closing date 24th April 2026 – Cornwall Council: - Clerk to share on social media. A question was put asking whether the Town Council is formulating a response to the Cultural Strategy Consultation and it is agreed to ask Torpoint Artists Collective (TAC) CIC to respond to the consultation. Also to ask TAC whether and with what responses, should the Town Council decide to respond.</p> <p>b) To consider: Open letter to MPs: Building Personal Climate Resilience – Climate Vision: - Noted.</p>						



154-25D&L Date of next meeting Thursday 7 th May 2026.	
155-25D&L Any Business that has been disclosed to the Chairman and members prior to the meeting None.	
Meeting closed at 8.03pm _____ Chairman	