



MINUTES of a meeting of the Development and Localism Committee held on Thursday 7th May 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, K J Moon, C R Still and J Tivnan BEM plus the Town Clerk & RFO (Clerk) and the Community Hub and Library Development Manager (CH&LDM).

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Mrs. K Brownhill and L Hogan.

	ACTION
<p>01-26D&L Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. L. Fellows, L E Keise and Mrs. J L Reeves.</p>	
<p>02-26D&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. i) An NRI (Non-Registerable Interest) was declared by: - The Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) – (Agenda item 4e. As Chair of Governors of Torpoint Nursery and Infant School. b) The Town Clerk to receive written requests for dispensations prior to the start of the meeting for consideration. "I have received 1 application for dispensation; Councillor Martin. As Town Clerk I have reviewed the application and am content to award dispensations to Councillor Martin, who has submitted an application. A copy of the dispensation will be kept with the Register of Councillors Interest."</p>	
<p>03-26D&L Library and Community Hub update a) Newsletter from the Library and Community Hub and additional report: - The Community Hub and Library Development Manager (CH&LDM) presented the newsletter and additional report, giving a summary of events and activities recently undertaken as well as those planned for the Whitsun half term school holidays. The CH&LDM also explained about the variety of customers and also the varying needs of people visiting the Library and Community Hub. The CH&LDM updated members' on the Suicide Safer Communities Project, as well as the Volunteer Cornwall (government) funding which it is expected the council will be able to bid for again this financial year. New groups are being considered, including a Stroke support group, and a Men's group, in collaboration with CHAT is also being worked up. The free Suicide Awareness event is scheduled for Friday 12th June and two different sessions / times are being offered and following this event, a steering group will be formed of volunteers. Working with Beat4autism CIC, a Sensory session is planned for the following week and a 'Sensory Path' is being set up within the building; the accessibility video has received over 300 views. A new 'Library Managers group' has been set up across the county, the CH&LDM has been asked to give a brief presentation at the first meeting regarding volunteers, the roles undertaken and benefits of volunteering. Next week, the Clerk and CH&LDM, accompanied by a volunteer, have been asked to give a short presentation of the 'value of volunteering' at a whole county community hub event, the CH&LM explained "It is an honour to be invited to present at these events." Chairman (Councillor G J Davis) minuted thanks to the whole team at the Library and Community Hub, thanking them for all that they achieve. b) Café Income & Expenditure: -</p>	

<p>The café income and expenditure was reviewed. (The CH&LDM left the meeting at this point.)</p>	
<p>04-26D&L Minutes of the previous meeting It was resolved that the minutes of the Development and Localism Committee meeting held on Wednesday 1st April 2026 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>05-26D&L Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>a) Torpoint Arts and Culture Strategy to support Torpoint Artists Collective (TAC) with delivery: - Pursuant to minute number 142-25D&L (a), there was much discussion on next steps and it was agreed for those members’ delegated to support the group, will arrange to meet with TAC regarding next steps.</p> <p>b) Community Highways Improvement Programme: - Pursuant to minute number 142-25D&L (b), an update on the town council proposal had indicated that it has not been progressed by Cornwall Council. However, there is good news, as [Cornwall] Councillor R Parsonage’s submission for Highways works in front of St James Church, has progressed to the next stage in the programme.</p> <p>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 142-25D&L (c), the Clerk explained there is no further update on the submission.</p> <p>d) To update on The Suicide Communities Project: - Pursuant to minute number 142-25D&L (d), the CH&LDM had given an update on this earlier in the meeting.</p> <p>e) To consider formulating a response, supported by comments from the Finance and Operations committee meeting held on 5th May, to the Sustainable Education in Torpoint Consultation – Cornwall Council (as circulated), available online https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/torpoint-schools by Monday 18th May. Members’ considered the proposal put by the Local Authority and concurred with the suggested response, as discussed at the Finance and Operations committee meeting, by the deadline of Monday 18th May.</p> <p>1. It strongly supports the Local Authority proposal to merge Torpoint Nursery and Infant School and Carbeile Junior School and therefore act in accordance with route 2 on the proposal. 2. As a consultee on any local planning applications, it has an interest in the planning and traffic management proposals being considered, on behalf of the residents of Torpoint. 3. As already highlighted, at the last pre-consultation stage, the Town Council asks the Local Authority to keep the council informed and updated regarding any plans for the Torpoint Nursery and Infant School building, following the closure of the school Debate ensued about the Torpoint Nursery and Infant School building, with information shared on this subject by Councillor K J Moon.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>06-26D&L Policies referred to this Committee a) None.</p>	
<p>07-26D&L To consider the Council Business Risk Management a) Budget Variance – Development and Localism Committee Responsibilities: - The Committee considered the March 2026 financial information, as previously circulated and the items relevant to this committee, there are no concerns.</p>	

<p>08-26D&L Items Referred to this Committee a) None.</p>	
<p>09-26D&L Other projects a) Tennis courts: - Pursuant to minute number 147-25D&L (a), the Clerk was pleased to report the Big Tennis Weekend, held on Friday 17th April, went well and was hosted by the Tennis Activators. Annual memberships are being renewed and publicity about the courts is continuing. b) Torpoint Skate Park to update on progress: - Pursuant to minute number 147-25D&L (b) the Clerk explained that following the Design Workshop, held on Wednesday 15th April, a fundraising meeting is scheduled for 5.00pm start on Wednesday 13th May. This will be the first opportunity to review the Torpoint Fundraising Feasibility Report received from Canvas. c) June '26 Newsletter – to consider offering local traders free advertising: - The Clerk introduced the agenda item and asked whether committee members' would consider offering an opportunity for traders to receive free advertising in a 'two page spread' in the next edition of the council newsletter. Following in-depth debate, members' agreed to offer Fore Street traders and those in close proximity free advertising in the June newsletter and all those traders on Trevol Business Park and in other areas of the town, the same opportunity in an edition to be published later in the year.</p>	Clerk
<p>10-26D&L Planning Applications a) None.</p>	
<p>11-26D&L Localism a) Town Team Project Board (TTPB): - Pursuant to minute number 149-25D&L (a), Torpoint Artists Collective CIC has offered to complete the 1 Page document on The Jetty / Transport and connectivity, free of charge. A meeting is being arranged to progress this work and their offer of support. b) 3G Pitch 9v9 Project. Pursuant to minute number 149-25D&L (b) a comprehensive update on progress with Torpoint Community College, Cornwall FA and the Football Foundation on the 3G Pitch 9v9 project, as well as meetings held since the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 14th April, was given by the Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin). Members' reaffirmed support and thanked the Mayor for the update. c) Vision and other Projects: - None. d) To receive any feedback on 'The Gateway Project' (Torpoint Artists Collective): - Thanks were minuted to Torpoint Artists Collective for the update on the project, which is clearly progressing well.</p>	
<p>12-26D&L Climate and Environmental Action Plan a) To consider the actions relating to this Committee: - No further update.</p>	
<p>13-26D&L Equality, Diversity and Inclusion a) Torpoint Diverse Advisory Panel (DAP) update: - Councillor Fellows' had submitted an update for members', which was verbally shared by the Clerk and is copied here: "Please could you feedback how nice it was to see the Mayor attend. It was an extremely beneficial meeting. We have a plan moving forward to finalise many of the plans that we have been working on for a while now:</p>	

- Sticker scheme launch event.
- Accessibility video for the Library and Community Hub.
- Utilising some of Bear's previous footage to create a photo book, booklet or flash cards to enhance the Accessibility offer at our Library and community hub.
- Doorbell scheme to be launched at the same time as the sticker scheme.

DAP would like to discuss with the Council about approaching the Torpoint Ramps Forum to discuss potential opportunities to utilise their contractor for the Skatepark to look at creating Accessibility to the Thanckes Park play park. It may be a missed opportunity with the equipment and resources potentially already in the vicinity, at this stage we would just like a conversation exploring any possibilities. Although not discussed in the meeting, I would now like to discuss the next steps for launching a young person's DAP and how they could feed into our meetings. This was discussed as part of a student interview at Oakwood during a visit with the Mayor and MP'S representative." The Chairman (Councillor G J Davis) minuted thanks to Councillor Fellows and suggested DAP should liaise with Torpoint Ramps Forum and also with the Friends of Thanckes Park group, on these suggestions.

14-26D&L Accounts for Payment.

PAYEE	Invoice Number	Total	TAX	NET	Description
Richards Builders Merchants Ltd	973076	9.11	1.52	7.59	Benodet Shed
Richards Builders Merchants Ltd	974968	8.72	1.45	7.27	Repairs and Maintenance Library
Richards Builders Merchants Ltd	974803	9.11	1.52	7.59	Benodet Shed
Mole Valley Farmers	IN211461668	2,365.54	394.26	1,971.28	Enhanced LMP Fencing Supplies
Westcare Supply Zone	SINV00223526	235.20	39.20	196.00	Stationery - Chambers and Library
TOTAL		2,627.68	437.95	2,189.73	

15-26D&L Correspondence

- a) To consider: Proposal to publish Torpoint planning applications – Cllr K J Moon: - Following in-depth debate, it is agreed the Clerk will publish a post on social media, with a link to the council website, advising when Full Council and committee meeting agendas are published.
- b) To note: Notice of intention to commence preparation of the Cornwall Local Plan – Cornwall Council: - Noted.
- c) To consider and note: Letter to Town and Parish Councils from Cornwall Council's Cabinet – Cornwall Council: - Noted.

Clerk

16-26D&L Date of next meeting

Thursday 4th June 2026.

17-26D&L Any Business that has been disclosed to the Chairman and members prior to the meeting

None.

Meeting closed at 9.11pm _____ Chairman