Agenda 6a)

F+OC
03/11/26

Torpoint Youth update

Via email 28th October 2026

Press release attached.

Again, THANK YOU for funding the youth sessions. Over four weeks, **39 young people aged 11-17** have attended, generating **92 total attendances**, with an average of **23 young people each week**.

Attendance grew from **20 in the first week to 26 in the fourth**, and **69% of young people returned for more than one session**. The numbers show the demand and sustained engagement with the provision the support has made possible.

We have a Halloween party this week and will make sure a few photos and get some individual feedback from young people to support the work.

In terms of funding updates, TAC have submitted a Carew Pole Trust application to sustain into 2026 and looking at other options, keen to meet with Lizeta and Keiran to look at funding applications during November.

Many thanks again... more to follow...

Matthew

PRESS RELEASE | October 2026

Torpoint pulls together to keep its youth sessions running

Community support secures 13 weeks of youth sessions, protecting a valued space for young people and creating time to build a future.

Torpoint's young people will continue to have a place to meet, unwind and find support after a determined community effort secured a 13-week funding package for the town's weekly youth sessions.

Following the end of Action for Children's Kernow Connect sessions in Torpoint in September, councillors, our local youth worker, community members and young people came together to find a way forward. Their response means the Thursday sessions can continue from 4.30-7.30pm at Torpoint Family Hub, with TAC CIC providing organisational support and working alongside youth worker Rachael Ellis.

Funding from Torpoint Town Council, Cornwall Councillor Rob Parsonage through his Community Chest, CHAT and the 1730 Club has helped secure the immediate programme. Offers of support from local businesses are now adding to that collective effort and opening up possibilities for future activities.

The sessions bring together young people from a wide range of backgrounds, offering a welcoming place to chill, connect, develop new skills and build confidence. Just as importantly, they protect access to a familiar youth worker and the trusted relationships that make it easier for young people to ask for advice and support.

TAC had already been working alongside the group through its *Love Fore Street* programme, bringing creative activities and additional staff support to Thursday evenings. Continuing that relationship with Rachael provides a foundation for developing opportunities shaped by the young people themselves.

Rachael Ellis (Youth Worker) said:

"This is an example of what can happen when a town pulls together. Through creative conversations and an incredible amount of energy from councillors, TAC, community members and young people, we have been able to keep something really important going.

"We are delighted to continue, for the young people who come along, this is a place to relax, be themselves, connect with others and grow in confidence. Keeping that space and those relationships matters.

Cornwall Councillor for Torpoint, Rob Parsonage said:

"I am extremely proud to be involved in supporting operations of the youth sessions for a further 13 weeks, while more stable funding streams are sought. This demonstrates what can be achieved with teamwork and commitment. Following a recent Cabinet meeting, the responsible Portfolio Holder has agreed to a meeting to discuss possible funding streams going forward."

A Torpoint Town Council spokesperson said:

"Torpoint Town Council is pleased to be able to award some grant funding to Torpoint Artists Collective to enable a short term recovery plan to be implemented, whilst a more sustainable option is worked up for the future provision."

The 13-week package is an important first step, giving the community time to pursue further funding and develop a sustainable future for the provision. Young people's ideas and involvement will be central to that work, including opportunities for creativity, skills, fundraising and a greater role in town life.

This shared ambition connects with momentum behind a new Torpoint skatepark and wider conversations about housing, community facilities and the town's future. As Torpoint considers how it grows, the partners involved want young people to have a meaningful voice in shaping the places and opportunities available to them.

TAC welcomes further conversations with businesses, organisations and residents who would like to help sustain the sessions or contribute activities, resources and opportunities.

To find out more about the youth group contact Rachael.Ellis@torpointartistscollective.co.uk

ENDS

Notes to editors

- Thursday youth sessions run from 4.30-7.30pm at Torpoint Family Hub.
- The 13-week funding package supports interim continuation while longer-term funding and delivery arrangements are explored.
- Torpoint Artists Collective CIC is a community arts organisation based at 61 Fore Street, Torpoint.