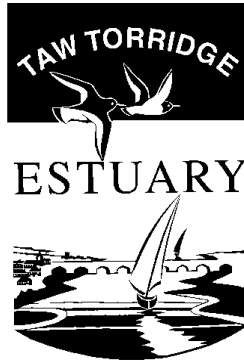


# THE TAW TORRIDGE ESTUARY FORUM



CHAIRMAN:

SECRETARY:

Website:

## MINUTES

**of the General Meeting held on Monday, 21st October at the Town Hall, Bideford**

### **Present were;**

Tony Pratt (NDYC, Chair, Valerie Deering ( Appledore R.A. & Treasurer), Chris Hassall (Rolle Canal Soc.), Norman Briden (Devon Birds), Trevor Johns (Bideford T.C.), Lesley Burgess (Westleigh P.C.), Jan Whittington (WEBS & Coastwise), Laurence Shelley (Northam Town Council), Mike Moss (Ashford P C ), Jim Bell (YAG), Shooey McCall (Instow PC), Graham Bell (Braunton P C), Peter Hames (Northam TC), Ian Crawford (FPC), Tony Bown (Observer & Note Taker)

Tony Pratt took the Chair.

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for absence:** TP welcomed newcomers to the Forum

**Apologies** were received from Sandra Knight (Coastwise), Niki Tait & Nigel Batley (RNLI), Mel Parker (NE), John Breeds (Hon), David Relph (BPC), Chrissie Ingle (Bios), Paul Dymond (TTWC)

Tony Bown has kindly agreed to take notes.

**2. Speaker on Richmond Dock;** Richard Ker gave an interesting insight into Richmond Dock, past, and updated the Forum on the current situation. He was thanked by TP

**2.Minutes of Previous TTEF Meeting: Monday, 15th July, 2019 (circulated)** These were accepted as a true record after amendments; Jim Bell was added to members present,

**3. Matters Arising from the TTEF Minutes:**

**(a) Estuary Report:** Including:

Report from Bideford Harbour Master (PL); Unfortunately Capt. Labistour was not present but the following questions were raised;

- i) Moorings in the river
- ii) Use of harbour for recycling
- iii) Liveaboards in the Harbour
- iv) Mel Parker (NE) asks about Oil Spill Response Plan and test.

TP would ask Capt. Labistour about these points.

Houseboats & Liveaboards; there was nothing new to report.

Appledore Instow Ferry; TP reported that numbers were broadly comparable to last year in spite of 14 days being lost in Sept. There has been the 1<sup>st</sup> case of verbal abuse in 7 years when a crabbing family refusing to move!

**b) North Devon's UNESCO International Biosphere Reserve:** Chrissie Ingle sent a written report. The main points were;

i) That a plan to stabilise sand dunes at Instow was being put together by DCC, Christie Estates and the Biosphere. A. Bell would be talking about the options. Mel Parker (NE) reports that a possible 'coastal change management area' approach is being investigated by NE, EA, LA's et al. More information would be available in January.

ii) Braunton Marsh bank has been overtopped. There is an updated position statement from the EA.

iii) Bird Disturbance Study. NDC are working on a consultation for a PSPO informing how to proceed with any actions.

iv) The "Woods for Water" programme is progressing well with several farmers now signed up.

**b) Update on the Marine Pioneer Programme;**

i) Rose Stainthorpe in place until March 2020.

ii) WWF UK SEAS are no longer funded to attend TTEF. Sarah Young says, "TTEF is an amazing community group and she hopes that someone sees the potential and picks up the mantle."

iii) SWEEP workshop with both councils was a success working on how to incorporate the natural environment into their sustainability appraisals.

iv) MARINE & LANDSCAPE PIONEER FILMS will be launched in November.

**(c) North Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership:** no report received.

**(d) Northam Burrows;** There has been erosion at Greysands with areas under attack after recent high tides and storms. the Golf Club wall is almost breached and the 8<sup>th</sup> green now appears vulnerable. No problems are visible with tip area.

**(e) Richmond Dock;** the application to TDC for listing as a Community Asset has been turned down.

**(h) Foreshore below Leisure Centre:** a representative of Barnstaple Town council is being sought.

**(i) Grants From Funds;** these might contribute to developing plans resulting from their bird survey.

**(j) Any other matters arising.** There were none.

**4. Planning, Consultations etc, CH reported on the following;**

a) 0750/2019/REMM 10 houses, Torridge Rd., Appledore.

Outline consent was granted on appeal before the current NDTLP was adopted.

On present policies it would probably have failed. This is Reserved Matters, which covers all details of the development apart from access and number of dwellings, which are established. There have been very many objections, including Northam Council, on grounds of unsuitable design impacting on the undeveloped coast and views from N. Burrows. etc. 12 amended plans etc were submitted on 11th Oct., and now Peter Hames reports it is due to come to TDC Plans Comm. on Nov 7th.

Committee report not yet published. There is still time to object further.

b) 1343/2018/OUTM 181 houses, Wooda Rd./ Pitt Lane, Appledore. still awaiting decision.

c) 1222/2018/FUL 3 blocks of 2 apartments (6) on site of old bungalow, overlooking Skern. Was permitted by TDC Plans Comm. in July, but no decision notice entered yet. Possibly awaiting agreement on S106 or conditions ?

d) Golf Club, N. Burrows. Resiting of exposed greens and Tees. Permitted  
No objections.

(Note: since 2013 total 58 holiday units have been permitted in vicinity of Club House.)

e) Instow Housing: Pony Field – Construction proceeding apace.

f) Barton Lane – Reserved matters still under consideration (houses too big).

g) Brunswick Wharf: 'Red Earth Developments' have contract subject to new planning app. Pre app public consultation awaited.

**5. Minutes of Policy & Consultation Committee.** the notes of the P & C meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> July and 23<sup>rd</sup> August (circulated) were adopted.

**6. Treasurer's Report;** Val Deering reported that funds were standing at £4027 and some members were still to pay.

**7. Urgent Matters brought forward by the Chairman;** the lack of a Secretary was still a problem.

**8. Correspondence Received;**

a) TEP Newsletter & Forum (5<sup>th</sup> Nov.)

b) Ferry Newsletters,

c) NDC Supplementary Planning Documents consultation,

d) Marine Planning Newsletter – Sept.

e) AONB 60<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Info.

**9. Agenda Items proposed for next Meeting;** there were none.

**10. Any Other Business: (short information items only).**

- i) Mel Parker mentioned the 2020 Lundy Marine Festival and bioblitz.
- ii) Workshop on Climate Change for parish councillors, 26th Oct at Cedars.
- iii) Meeting of Torridge Climate Emergency Working Group 22nd Oct.
- iv) VAI Deering mentioned a letter from Mr Reed requesting an archeology survey for Torridge Road site.

**11. Dates and Venues of Forthcoming Meetings;** Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 7.00pm in Barnstaple.