

DRAFT

TTEF CONSULTATION & PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING; Friday, 27th March, 2026 2.30pm Venue; Beechfield Centre, Fremington

MEMBERS PRESENT. TP (Chair), JN (Vice Chair/Treasurer), M H-B, JP, SP, JC

WELCOME & APOLOGIES; There were no apologies

1. MINUTES OF Friday, 13th February, 2026 (Circulated)

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES; These were adopted

3. URGENT MATTERS ARISING ; Replacement of Secretary

The Chair started the meeting by pointing out that the lack of a secretary was giving rise to a serious state of affairs. He said that without a secretary the TTEF could not carry on. Several suggestions were laid before the P&CC.

- a Find a secretary
- b Employ a secretary
- c Streamline the working of the TTEF
- d Fold up TTEF

Lengthy discussion centred around the likelihood of needing to employ a self employed secretary. This would obviously result in the need to reintroduce subscriptions for membership of TTEF at a higher rate than before. It was felt that it would be helpful to explore the situation with grant funding for TTEF to increase income. Local and national bodies to be considered.

It was agreed that at the April meeting the subject would be put before the membership in a form of statement from the Chair with the subject on the agenda for the July meeting.

TP asked all members to refer to the website for the job description of the secretary.

4. PLANNING MATTERS;

There were none known.

5. FINANCE - JN	Bank balance	£2639.20
	Expenditure	
	Hall booking	£25.00
	Secretarial assistance	£100.00

6. OTHER MATTERS ARISING

a) Action reports;

i) TP; a) Estuary Strategy Update; C. Fuller & P Brown were still working on it and there is little progress.

b) Barnstaple Quays Response; Good news to report as NDC are now going to keep the quays as working up to date assets.

c) Reports and website; The website has been fully updated and member organisation reports are being sent direct to the web master.

ii) JP; a) Update on Rivers Group; JP updated on progress. There is now a secretary and the group is supported by the Biosphere and others. In September an event is to be held at Arlington Court. The group is also starting to produce controlled documents to help make reporting of observations uniform.

b) Bideford Port Update; JP reported that Ken Hind is still preparing information and it is not clear what is the future and the right way to proceed.

c) Alaboa Project; JP reported that he would be in a group going to Spain in the summer for the annual festival. The replica whaling ships would be sailing to USA and on their return would come to Bideford.

d) Navantia July Meeting: JP reported that the company is keen to give a talk but have not identified as yet a suitable speaker. **Action JP**

iii) SP a) Velator Quay Update; SP reported that the trial survey had been previously circulated. She encountered no trouble from boat owners or public.

b) Exe Estuary Consultation; SP reported that she had previously circulated relevant information.

b) Any other matters arising.

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) TP stated that he would be having a meeting about the estuary wrecks and the Crown Estate involvement with Peter Lawrence from the Crown Estate. During a short discussion it was mentioned that the River Yeo needs including between the Taw and the Braunton road bridge, what would the qualifications be for those inspecting craft, what would the insurance state be for anyone carrying out inspections. The Chair said that TTEF was expected to play a leading role in this project. **Action TP**

b) April Main Meeting; JN reported that he had contacted Mary Breeds who confirmed she would be talking and the subject was Braunton Burrows. She will be bringing her own audio visual equipment.

- c) Current Issues. There were no new Current Issues for the website
- d) Venues Possible NDYC for P&CC; TP was asked to explore this. **Action TP**
- e) Bideford Fountains; These are now working after refurbishment with technology to prevent them being a nuisance. Bideford Harbour Master has manual control to stop them in the event of polluted water.

8. A.O.B

- a) JC reported that he had made informal contact with the assistant to the North Devon MP Ian Roome to explore what the MP understands about TTEF. **Action JC**
- b) JN said that he had filled out the official forms with Fremington Parish Council for the hire of the hall for the meetings and was therefore regarded as the responsible person by the PC. He also stated that he had been asked to ensure that all members shut the large storage cupboard doors tightly with both bolts and the latch to stop false security alarms.
- c) SP reported that she had spoken to Joe Newberry and was undertaking her induction in April to the National Landscape North Devon. **Action SP**

9. NEXT MEETING; This was agreed as Friday, 5th June 2026. **Action JN**