

## AGENDA FOR THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

### MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023 IN THE GUILDHALL

There are stairs to the Council Chamber but if any member of the public has mobility issues the Council can relocate to the lower Guildhall.

You are hereby **SUMMONED** to attend the **Planning Committee** on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023** at **6.30pm** for a maximum of 90 minutes in the Guildhall for the purpose of transacting the following business:

**Committee Members:** Councillors G Allen (Chair), T Bennett, S Collinson, J Cummings, R, Hendriksen, J Hodgson, P Paine and Smallridge.

#### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair will read out the following statement:

Welcome to everyone attending and observing the meeting.

A reminder that open proceedings of this meeting will be video recorded. If members of the public make presentations, they will be deemed to have consented to being recorded. By entering the Council Chamber attendees are also consenting to being recorded.

This meeting is limited to 90 minutes and therefore members are asked to raise their points succinctly and not repeat the same view expressed by colleagues if it does not add to the debate.

To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.

*The Committee will adjourn for the following items:*

#### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Committee or other items that affect Totnes.

*The Committee will convene to consider the following items:*

#### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To approve the minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 and update on any matters arising. Document attached.

#### 3. TREE WORKS APPLICATIONS

To make recommendations on the following tree works applications:

3a. 0163/23/TPO – H1: Hedge (a variety of species) - Lateral reduction on Southern side to maintain a 3m gap between the hedge and buildings and crown raise on southern side & western side by 2.4m above the footpath & 4m above parking area due to hedge

encroaching on the neighbouring land. Follaton Rise, Totnes, TQ9 5DQ. See <https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/230163>

#### 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To make recommendations on the following planning applications:

4a. 4342/22/FUL & 4374/22/LBC - Refurbishment of existing annexe, reinstatement of side passage, upgrading lower rear lower roof & addition of solar panels and Listed Building Consent for refurbishment of existing annexe (ancillary to the main dwelling).

Reinstatement of side passage to rear courtyard/annexe and separating dwelling from shop. Upgrading rear lower roof to the existing first floor bathroom and addition of solar panels on roof of main building. 90 High Street, Totnes, TQ9 5SN. See

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/224342> and <http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/224374>

4b. 4504/22/FUL - Application for renovation of the ground floor/hall at the rear. Flat 41 Fore Street, Totnes, TQ9 5HN. See

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/224504>

4c. 0184/23/FUL – Conversion of basement to additional living accommodation and Provision of garden store and amenity area. Lower Ridgeside, Jubilee Road, Totnes, TQ9 5BW. See <http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/230184>

4d. 0102/23/LBC - Listed Building consent for demolition of internal stud wall forming kitchen separation from hallway, remodelling of two first floor bathrooms. 6 Cistern Street, Totnes, TQ9 5SP. See

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/230102>

4e. 0164/23/LBC – Listed Building Consent for replacement of four first floor windows. 1a Moat Cottage, Moorashes, Totnes, TQ9 5TN. See

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/230164>

#### 5. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

To note a report conducted by Totnes Ramblers on the condition of public rights of way in Totnes. Document attached.

#### 6. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT FORUM

To consider any recommendations from the Traffic and Transport Forum Annual General Meeting and meeting held on 25th January 2023. Document attached.

#### 7. EVENTS ON SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL LAND

To note the following event taking place on South Hams District Council land (no document):

a. Teignbridge Trotters Totnes 10K Event, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 0700-1500hrs, Borough Park.

b. Eat: Totnes Food Festival, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 0700-1900hrs, Longmarsh.

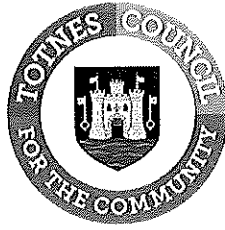
#### 8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date of the next meeting of the Planning Committee – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6.30pm in the Guildhall.

S Halliday

Governance and Project Manager

15<sup>th</sup> February 2023



## DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2023 IN THE GUILDHALL

Present: Councillors G Allen (Chair), T Bennett, J Cummings (from 18.35), J Hodgson (from 18.55) and P Paine.

Apologies: Cllrs Collinson and Hendriksen.

In Attendance: Cllr Smallridge, S Halliday (Governance and Projects Manager).

### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.**

Cllr Allen read out a statement about how the meeting would be conducted and recorded.

The apologies were received and accepted.

*The Committee will adjourn Standing Orders for the following items:*

### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

*The Committee reconvened Standing Orders.*

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**To approve the minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and update on any matters arising.**

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of proceedings. Matters arising:

#### Item 5 – Totnes Neighbourhood Plan.

- a. It was **RESOLVED** that the deletion of policy C12 from the Neighbourhood Plan is left to the Examiner.
- b. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council works with South Hams District Council to draw up a programme and timeline for engagement on the former Dairy Crest Site.
- c. It was **RESOLVED** to include the wording of Policy C12 in the body of text in the Neighbourhood Plan, and that this revised plan is then sent to the Examiner.

### 3. TREE WORKS APPLICATIONS

**To make recommendations on the following tree works applications:**

- 3a. 4424/22/TPO – Crown reduction of G1: Alder, T3, T4, T5, T6 & T8: Robinia, and T7 - Rowan and crown raise of T1 & T2: Ash China Blue, Station Road, Totnes, TQ9 5JR.  
Support.

3b. 0038/23/TCA – T1: Magnolia - Crown height reduction by 1.5 metres to previous points leaving, Lateral reduction on the northern side of the canopy back by 2 metres to appropriate pruning points, Lateral reduction on the Southern side of the canopy back by 1 metre to appropriate pruning points, Lateral reduction on eastern & western sides by 1-1.5 metres the reductions will contain the tree and make it more aesthetically pleasing. Northgate Lodge, Castle Street, Totnes, TQ9 5NX.  
Support.

and to note:

3c. 0094/23/TCA – T1: Katsura Tree – pollard tree to 5m at its highest point to stop further damage to phone lines. Totnes Museum, 70 Fore Street, Totnes, TQ9 5RU.

#### 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**To make recommendations on the following planning applications:**

4a. 1522/22/FUL - READVERTISEMENT (revised plans) Construction of 6No. two-storey residential dwellings with associated landscaping. Proposed Development Site East, Dartington Lane, Dartington TQ9 5LB.

Object. The Committee objects to the application on reviewing the most recent plans for the following reasons and its comments provided in June 2022 (as indicated below):

- Repeated request for revised flood assessments of the flood risks based on up-to-date 2022 data. Personal observations by committee members over recent weeks has shown this field to be flooded.
- The South West Water comment on the website is unreadable and the site address is incorrect.
- Concerns about the impact of the development on the bat pinch point area.
- Inappropriate design in a rural setting, contrary to JLP policies DEV 23.1 and DEV23.2.
- Concerns about inadequate parking provision and vehicles parking in neighbouring streets or along Dartington Lane.
- Surface water drainage – what attenuation provisions have been made?

The Planning Committee comments from June 2022 remain valid:

- The impact of the development on Joint Local Plan Spatial Priorities for Development in Totnes (SP6) points 3 (Ensuring that all development, singularly or cumulatively, will not negatively impact on the ability of the relevant authorities to improve air quality within the A385 AQMA) and 6 (Ensuring all new development does not have any negative impact on the greater horseshoe bat species and their flight paths within the protected South Hams SAC).
- Concerns about the flood risk. The Committee supports the Dartington Parish Council call for flood containment modelling for this site based on the 2022 data which is a requirement from September this year, rather than using data from 2013.
- The loss of trees around the proposed entrance to the development.

4b. 1523/22/FUL - READVERTISEMENT (revised plans) Construction of 39No. two-storey dwellings with associated landscaping. Proposed Development Site West, Dartington Lane, Dartington.

Object. The Committee objects to the application on reviewing the most recent plans for the following reasons and its comments provided in July 2022 (as indicated below):

- Repeated request for revised flood assessments of the flood risks based on up-to-date 2022 data. Personal observations by committee members over recent weeks has shown this field to be flooded.
- Concerns about the impact of the development on the bat pinch point area.
- Overdevelopment of the site.
- Inappropriate design in a rural setting, contrary to JLP policies DEV 23.1 and DEV23.2.
- Concerns about inadequate parking provision and vehicles parking in neighbouring streets or along Dartington Lane.
- Surface water drainage – what attenuation provisions have been made?
- No cycle path linking Nellies Wood through the edge of the sites is shown, but it is a requirement of the JLP allocation.
- Adverse impact on nature conservation interests and biodiversity opportunities. This site was known as the plantation and many trees have been removed.

The Planning Committee comments from July 2022 remain valid:

- The impact of the development on Joint Local Plan Spatial Priorities for Development in Totnes (SP6) points 3 (Ensuring that all development, singularly or cumulatively, will not negatively impact on the ability of the relevant authorities to improve air quality within the A385 AQMA) and 6 (Ensuring all new development does not have any negative impact on the greater horseshoe bat species and their flight paths within the protected South Hams SAC).
- Concerns about the flood risk. The Committee supports calls for flood containment modelling for this site based on the 2022 data which is a requirement from September this year, rather than using data from 2013.
- The loss of trees around the proposed entrance to the development.
- S106 funding – it is suggested that this would be better spent on the proposed cycle path through the rear of the plot from Meadowside to the river rather than travel vouchers.
- Concerns on health and safety grounds on the impact on local facilities – there has been no mitigation made for the increase in properties/households in the area to upgrade the water treatment and reduce water pollution, the danger to pedestrians from increased vehicle numbers and the impact on air quality along the A385.
- Concerns about the requested increase in light levels recommended in the Police comments and the impact on the bat foraging area and wildlife at night.
- Concerns about service and emergency vehicles accessing the development via Dartington Lane.

4c. 3829/22/FUL – Demolition of existing house & rebuilding to create a new 4 bed house (retrospective). Robinswood, Jubilee Road, Totnes, TQ9 5BW.

The Committee would ask that the applicant clarifies what the changes are compared to the approved application 3804/21/HHO. The plans submitted are dated 2021 for the application being considered and appear identical to those submitted as part of application 3804/21/HHO.

4d. 2790/22/FUL - Re-development works include internal refurbishment of site facilities block and installation of solar panels, replacement service points, installation of new barrier system, conversion of existing grass pitches into 47no. all-weather serviced pitches, a new tractor store & prefabricated reception building. Quay Caravan Club Site, Steamer Quay Road, Totnes, TQ9 5AL. Support. The Committee welcomes this application and the additional tree planting. It also notes the Devon Highways comment about the location of the barrier and hopes that this can be resolved.

4e. 4022/22/FUL & 4025/22/LBC – Listed Building consent for change of use application from staff room/storage space to one bed residential unit. 37 Fore Street, Totnes, TQ9 5HN.  
Support. The Committee would encourage appropriate insulation of the walls and ceiling.

and to note:

4f. 3997/22/FUL - Change of use from residential (Class C3) to office space (Class E). 5A Ramparts Walk, Totnes, TQ9 5QH.  
Noted.

#### **5. SCAFFOLDING ON BOGAN HOUSE**

**To consider a Council view on scaffolding on Bogan House from April 2023 through until September/Autumn 2023 to undertake the repairs and renovation required.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it emails Devon Highways to say that it will support the erection of scaffolding on Bogan House and for it to remain in place over the summer months to enable essential works to be completed. The Council would request that all necessary safety measures are taken given this busy location in the town, including covering/wrapping the scaffold if appropriate.

#### **6. EVENTS ON SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL LAND**

**To note the following event taking place on South Hams District Council land (no document):**

a. **Tetrathlon Youth Sporting Event, Saturday 1st July 0800-1400hrs, Borough Park.**

Noted.

#### **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**To note the date of the next meeting of the Planning Committee – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.30pm in the Guildhall.**

Noted.

Sara Halliday  
Governance and Projects Manager

ITEM 5

Parish Paths Partnership Survey Form - TOTNES

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Parish	Status	Number	Length (m)	Date of Inspection	Pass / Fail	Reason for Failing (use Condition Codes)	Works Needed	
Totnes	Footpath	1	710	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	2	1230	17/01/2023	P		None. Minor cut back of vegetation	
Totnes	Footpath	3	440	17/01/2023	F	Path across 2 fields not re-instated by farmer. Some of the new gates don't close properly	Both problems were reported last year. The contractor who installed gates should make them good. The farmer is a regular offender and firm action is required.	
Totnes	Footpath	4	280	17/01/2023	P		None. Minor cut back of vegetation	
Totnes	Footpath	5	1400	04/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Bridleway	6	730	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Bridleway	7	840	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	9	30	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	10	50	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	11	40	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	12	210	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	13	30	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	14	60	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	15	80	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	16	30	17/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	17	1280	17/01/2023	P		Path surface improved since last year. Just one small stretch still in need of repair, not urgent	
Totnes	Byway	20	810	04/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Footpath	20	230	11/01/2023	P		None	
Totnes	Bridleway	21	500	17/01/2023	P		None, but muddy	
Totnes	Byway	22	390	17/01/2023	P		None	

It has been good to see recent work on Footpath 17 to improve the surface alongside the River Dart - which was a problem raised a few years ago. There is still a small section of the path in need of repair, but the path is currently safe to use, so the work is not urgent.

Footpath 3 remains a problem. New gates were installed to replace stiles, which is good, but as I mentioned last year, some of them do not close properly. I would have expected that the contractor would be obliged to fix this without charge, since the gates clearly never closed properly. As in previous years, the farmer has not done anything to re-instate the path where it crosses 2 fields, although at the moment the crop is not growing sufficiently to hinder passage. However, the ground is uneven and the route of the path is not visible. Since this has happened several times in recent years, I think a clear message should be sent to the farmer.

All the other PROW in Totnes remain in good condition and there are no other issues I need to raise.





# Totnes & District Traffic and Transport Forum

## AGM & Meeting

25 January 2023, 18:30 – 20:00

### Present:

TTC Cllr Tim Bennett - Chair

G■■■■ B■■■■ - Totnes Ramblers

M■■■■ e C■■■■ – Chamber of Commerce (online)

L■■■■ W■■■■ - Totnes Bike Hub

S■■■■ G■■■■ - Bob the Bus

V■■■■ C■■■■ – Kingsbridge Hill Area Residents Association

V■■■■ W■■■■ – Market traders

P■■■■ W■■■■ – High Street resident

R■■■■ P■■■■ - Transition Streets Plymouth Road

N■■■■ F■■■■ – Transition Streets Plymouth Road

R■■■■ M■■■■ – Bridgetown Alive!

P■■■■ B - Transition Streets Plymouth Road

TTC Cllr Darren Peters

S■■■■ M■■■■ – South Street resident

F■■■■ P■■■■ – Transition Streets Plymouth Road

G■■■■ E■■■■ r-D■■■■ – Transition Town Totnes

L■■■■ A■■■■ – Moorashes residents

TTC Cllr John Cummings

Maiken Hutchings – TTC Sustainability Officer (SO)

S■■■■ C■■■■ – Inclusive Totnes

H■■■■ C■■■■ – Bridgetown resident and cyclist

Apologies: John Scanlan, SHDC Cllr Sweett, DCC Cllr Hodgson

### Actions:

- 1) SO to share the various traffic surveys via the mailing list
- 2) SO to get the latest information on signage improvements and bring to the next SG meeting

### 1. Welcome & brief introductions

- The acting chair, Cllr Bennett, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.
- The SO briefly outlined what the Forum and Steering Group are:
  - The Forum is an advisory body to Totnes Town Council
  - It is a space for discussion (and attempts to resolve) issues relating to T&T and the transition to sustainable forms of travel in Totnes and the surrounding areas

- TTC Cllrs seeks the views of the Forum on all matters of relevance to them but may not always choose to take the Forum's advice
  - Forum / Steering Group meeting notes go to the TTC Planning Committee before going to Full Council (if needed)
  - The Forum has established a smaller Steering Group (SG) drawn from the community which meets more regularly to progress work, and also to ensure that a variety of views/stakeholders are represented (especially during any voting)
  - Forum meetings are open to anyone but only Steering Group members have voting rights.
  - Forum meetings are quarterly (January, April, July and October) on the last Wednesday of the month. The Steering Group can choose to meet between this if they deem it necessary to progress certain projects.
- The Terms of Reference need updating. The SO invited comments and suggestions via email.

## **2. Agree minutes from previous meeting**

- It was agreed to wait with confirming the minutes until SC arrived at the meeting

## **3. Chairperson report**

- The SO read aloud the Chairperson report written by outgoing chair, John Scanlan
- See Appendix A
- SO added: signage improvements, KHARA proposal & The Lamb

## **4. Sustainability Officer transport report (attached)**

- SO read out the key points from the SO transport report (Appendix B)

## **5. Election of Steering Group members**

- SO briefly outlined the Steering Group member categories: Cllrs (max 4), citizens (max 5), community groups (max 5), businesses/traders (max 5), experts (max 5)
- Nominations for SG by category
- Elected SG can be seen below or in Excel document attached to notes on the TTC Traffic and Transport website
- It was noted that the Terms of Reference are not entirely clear on groupings of SG members and this needs be considered in the update

- M [REDACTED] said the CoC would try to get three more business representatives on board

## 6. Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

- G [REDACTED] B [REDACTED] nominated by Cllr Bennett (no relation), GB elected Chair
- Deputy Chair post vacant
- GB took over chairing from Cllr Bennett. He thanked John Scanlan for chairing last year and highlighted the importance of partnership working. He thanked the Chamber of Commerce (CoC) for offering to try to get more businesses involved in the SG through the Chamber who aren't necessarily a part of the Chamber.

Category	Group name	Nominee	Proposed by	Approved
Town Cllr	Totnes Town Council	Cllr Peters	Self	Y
Town Cllr	Totnes Town Council	Cllr Cummings	Self	Y
District Cllr	South Hams District Council	Cllr Sweett	Self	Y
County Cllr	Devon County Council	Cllr Hodgson	Self	Y
Citizen	Moorashes Residents		Self	Y
Citizen	Kingsbridge Hill Area Residents Association		Self	Y
Citizen	High St resident		Self	Y
Citizen	South St resident		Self	Y
Citizen	Transition Streets Plymouth Rd		Self	Y
Community group	Ramblers		Self	Y
Community group	Bob the Bus		Self	Y
Community group	Cycling group		Self	Y
Community group	Bridgetown Alive!		Self	Y
Community group	Transition Town Totnes / Climate Hub		Self	Y
Business	Chamber of Commerce		Self	Y
Business	Market traders		Self	Y
Business		Vacant		
Business		Vacant		
Business		Vacant		
Expert	Inclusive Totnes		Self	Y
Expert	Totnes Bike Hub		Graham Bennett	Y
Expert		Vacant		
Expert		Vacant		
Expert		Vacant		
Chair			Cllr Bennett	Y
Deputy		Vacant		

End of AGM

## 7. Totnes Bike Hub update

- L [REDACTED] gave an update from Totnes Bike Hub
  - It's been operational for approximately 16 months
  - Business and community arm
    - Service and repair shop, one full-time mechanic, one part-time mechanic
  - Community arm
    - Share building space with Resilient Lives / Pizza Pirates
    - About 11 volunteers
    - Workshops, led/social rides, pre-loved bike project
    - 26 bikes sold, 15 donated
  - 2023 plan is to expand on community activities – good space that can be utilised more often, more volunteers, more workshops, potentially link in with schools
- GB asked whether L [REDACTED] could be convinced to join the SG, which she eventually agreed to do.

## 8. Plymouth Road transition street survey

- The Plymouth Rd Transition Streets group shared their recent traffic survey with the group and explained some initial thoughts resulting from it
- See [Appendix C](#)
- A discussion followed regarding some of the points raised
  - A lot of traffic coming through High St before shops are open, which has air quality, noise and noise implications
  - A number of years ago the police did a stop action and apparently a lot of the people driving through were SHDC employees heading for Follaton House.
  - Speed also an issue
- Discussion around the issues not being isolated to the High St but the town as a whole, e.g., St Katharine's Way and Kingsbridge Hill

**ACTION:** SO to share the various traffic surveys via the mailing list (including KHARA survey)

- The feeling in the room was that a proper dialogue with DCC is key and that we need to secure a meeting with them.
- The issue of DCC officers not being familiar with the problems in Totnes was raised. It was agreed that there would be merit in stakeholders mapping out the key problem areas in town and attempts to describe the issues – as a way to communicate the issues felt by the whole town, not just the High St.
- It was agreed to hold a separate meeting to create such a map

- This could link in with a wider safety and accessibility audit/plan for town that the Town Council has voted to create

## 9. Cycle path signs

- H [REDACTED] briefly introduced himself (cyclist, lives in Bridgetown) and talked about cycling safety and infrastructure
- Discussion of cargo bikes
- Discussion of road bike markings by Seven Stars which are fading away
- Something that can be discussed at a future meeting

## 10. Pedestrian safety priorities / KHARA update

- V [REDACTED] briefly outlined the Kingsbridge Hill Area Residents Association proposal and that they had attempted to get it through to the South Hams HATOC (Highways and Traffic Orders Committee) but that it has been refused
- KHARA have officially responded to [REDACTED] on the refusal
- There are some unanswered questions regarding what DCC's statutory responsibilities are on the type of road they are on

## 11. Wrap up

- RM brought up the issue of Bridgetown technically being a 20mph zone but that drivers regularly disregard this
- Lack of signage and road markings to indicate 20mph zone
- There are also safety issues with an increase in people crossing the road on Bridgetown Hill at the bus stop now that the Gold bus has been rerouted. Zebra crossing desperately needed.
- SC mentioned the signage improvement project across town and asked for an update on this
  - **ACTION:** SO to get the latest information and bring to the next SG meeting
- LA reiterated that maintaining the vibrancy of the town centre is really important – no one wants to lose the vibrancy of the shops and that we need to work holistically with the traders, etc.

Potential dates for the next Steering Group meeting to be circulated after the meeting.

Date of next Forum meeting: 26th April 2023

SO requested agenda items for the next meeting and reminded the group that the Terms of Reference need updating

End of meeting 20:05

## Appendix A: Chairperson Annual Report

### Chairperson Annual Report

Totnes & District Traffic & Transport Forum, TDTTF - April, July, October,  
Steering Group, GTSG - February, May, November

The TDTTF and SG both met on 3 separate occasions over the past year. These meetings were held mainly at the Guildhall.

### Notable topics and actions in these meetings

- Fore Street consultation
- Green travel survey
- Expansion of 20mph zone
- Totnes Climate Hub
- Bike parking map, racks and maintenance stand
- Bus routes and stops

Thanks for your support and participation whilst I have been Chair. I am required to be in London on Wednesdays when working so will rarely be able to attend in person going forward.

Chair - John Scanlan

## Appendix B

# Traffic & Transport Annual Report 2023

Sustainability Officer, prepared for Totnes & District Traffic and Transport Forum

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### 1) Traffic on Fore St & High St – DCC discussions

*January 2022: Public consultation into Fore St traffic calming measures*

2022 kicked off with a proposal from Devon County Council (DCC) for some traffic calming measures on lower Fore St.

Totnes Town Council (TTC) was asked to send these out for public consultation. The consultation ran from January – March and consisted of a survey (online and hard copy) and in-person drop-in event.

The consultation report can be downloaded from the TTC website [here](#).

As a result, DCC asked that TTC organise a facilitated stakeholder meeting.

*Facilitated traffic meeting – 13 September 2022*

The traffic meeting was run by two facilitators independent of the Town Council. A lot of effort was put into trying to get a wide representation of people at the meeting, including businesses, residents and community organisations. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, Fore St residents ended up being underrepresented at the meeting. DCC had asked for the meeting to try to reach a consensus around what the key problems are in town. A key consensus emerged that through-traffic is a central concern by all.

The facilitators wrote a report outlining the meeting. This was discussed by the Traffic & Transport Steering Group in November 2022. The report and the SG's comments were sent to DCC in December 2022. We are awaiting DCC's response.

The report and SG's comments can be downloaded from the TTC website [here](#).

### 2) Other ongoing projects

#### E-bike trial scheme

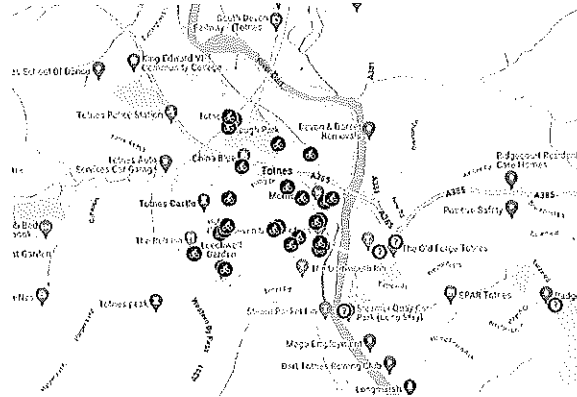
Totnes Town Council worked alongside Exeter's social enterprise, Co Bikes, to apply for South Hams District Council's Climate Infrastructure Fund to launch an e-bike trial in town. Co Bikes were successfully awarded £25,000 which will contribute four stations and eight bikes to support an already growing network which will total seven e-bike stations and 26 bikes across Totnes and Dartington. The trial is expected to start in 2023 and will run for 12 months. It is hoped the trial will prove the scheme is viable and enable it to become a permanent service in town with a wider offering.



### Bike parking map

A bike parking map for Totnes and Dartington has been created, although only Totnes town centre is currently covered. If anyone knows of other locations, please email [greentravel@totnestowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:greentravel@totnestowncouncil.gov.uk) .

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1VuzGhPRdhC0I2RAUbqjDt77zx6DYjWE&usp=sharing>



### Cycle links

Click [here](https://umap.openstreetmap.fr/en/map/proposed-cycle-links-10-853181#13/50.4402/-3.6955) for basic overview of proposed routes in the immediate area:

<https://umap.openstreetmap.fr/en/map/proposed-cycle-links-10-853181#13/50.4402/-3.6955>

#### *Riverford cycle route*

Sustrans are in the process of creating a feasibility study for a cycle route that would run through Dartington Hall, Staverton and Riverford through to Buckfastleigh. This study is being paid for by Riverford. Completed feasibility study is expected in April.

#### *Quiet Lanes*

Attempts to get DCC support or guidance on creating a Quiet Lane (or even just introducing better signage) on the back road between Harbertonford and Totnes have so far been unsuccessful but it will continue to be pursued in 2023.

### South Hams Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

South Hams District Council have been awarded over £1million from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities), some of which will be spent on creating a LCWIP for the area. This will be commenced in 2023 and Totnes will of course feed into this.

### Totnes car club: E-cocars

There is an ongoing conversation about the future of Totnes' car club, E-cocars, as the person who currently runs it is stepping down. Conversations between E-cocars members, Bob the Bus and Exeter's Co Mobility are currently in progress to ascertain the best way forward.

### 20mph trials

Early in 2022, DCC opened up for applications for 20mph trials across the county, after the Newton Abbot trial was cancelled. FTC applied in March with the view to connecting up and extending the existing zones. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful (only 4 schemes were approved) but more schemes will go ahead in 2023/24 as a

further £150,000 has been secured in DCC's road safety capital allocation. We hope to be successful this time.

**Climate Hub sessions**

SO to trial a two hour green travel drop-in session at the Climate Hub.

**Air quality monitor**

Air quality monitor is being installed on the High St in February.

**Traffic & Transport policy schemes, 2023 update**

SO to create an update document for the transport schemes listed in the Traffic & Transport Policy.

**3) Upcoming and potential projects in 2023**

**Active travel + public transport leaflet**

SO in process of creating a leaflet – primarily aimed at residents of new developments – with an overview over active travel and public transport in the area. It would be a PDF document that could be printed if requested.

**Engaging schools**

SO working with Cllr Bennett to try to engage with schools to discuss active travel plans and improving air quality.

**Green travel survey**

Plans to launch a permanent online survey as a way to gauge interest for certain projects and for residents to comment/come with suggestions for new projects.

**Town Plan / Walking & Wheeling safety audit**

Exploring the possibility of doing a 'walking and wheeling safety audit' to determine key routes in town and how to make them safer (if needed).

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## Appendix C

### Upper Plymouth Road Transition Street and the Totnes Traffic and Transport Forum.

We are Transition Town Totnes Upper Plymouth Road (top of Narrows to the traffic lights at the junction with Western Bypass). Eight residents working to improve the quality of life in our street and town. For sustainable, common sense, human solutions to the many problems that confront us all. The cost of living; climate change; pollution; environmental degradation. And traffic in our street.

We are privileged to live in this wonderfully accessible part of town. But our experience, over recent years has been of an intolerable increase in traffic, generating significant noise and air pollution. Vehicles often accelerate along Plymouth Road as they leave the Narrows to beat the lights at the Western bypass junction. Just crossing the road can become, at times, seriously hazardous.

In November 2022 we undertook a comprehensive survey of traffic movements into Plymouth Road from The Narrows and Cistern Street over a twelve-hour period. Traffic from The Lamb into Cistern Street and the Western bypass was separately monitored at peak times.

The report has been shared with the Town Council and is an agenda item for tonight's meeting.

The survey provides proof of what we all know. Instead of using the bypass system, drivers are coming up Fore Street/High Street and the Narrows into Plymouth Road, and down from the Lamb and Cistern Street into Plymouth Road. Hundreds of vehicles per hour are clogging our street, thereby saving themselves perhaps a minute or two by short circuiting the bypass routes. Bypass routes that were built years ago to protect our historic town centre.

Drivers are not deterred by road signs indicating that entrance to the High Street is for 'Access only,' nor by the sign at the Lamb directing through traffic up to the Western Bypass. And they are aided and abetted by sat navs which direct their vehicles to the shortest route, mindless of the human consequences.

So, we say, something must be done. It must **just stop the rat runners**. The nature and scale of the problem is clear from our survey and from our daily experience. We know that this situation has evolved over many years. Some would say the Totnes traffic problem is intractable. But Totnes is a town renowned for its creativity.

Suggestions, including those put forward by some of the many people who showed an interest in our survey, are included in our report. It is difficult, however, to find any solution which will not be opposed by some interested party.

From a Plymouth Road perspective we would suggest that a 'No Right Turn' sign from the Narrows to Plymouth Road would achieve something for us and would, at least, hugely reduce the rat running to the benefit of the High Street as a whole. The cost, to the County Council would be minimal. A more comprehensive solution, however, should not be beyond the ambition of the town.

Transition Streets Totnes, Plymouth Road  
January 2023

