

AGENDA FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE

MONDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 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 **Town Matters Committee** on **Monday 25th September 2023** at **6.30pm** for a maximum of 90 minutes in the Guildhall for the purpose of transacting the following business:

Committee Members: Councillors J Cummings (Chair), G Allen, J Chinnock, S Collinson, B Piper, E Price, N Roberts and L 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 26th June 2023 and update on any matters arising. Document attached.

3. OPEN SPACE, SPORTS, RECREATION AND WELLBEING POLICY REVIEW

To consider a phased review and update of the Council's Open Spaces, Sport Recreation and Wellbeing Policy including projects for future section 106 investment. Documents attached.

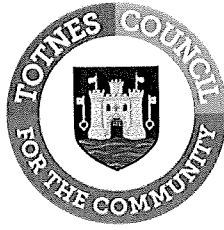
4. COMMUNITY AWARD POLICY
To consider the draft Community Award Policy. Document attached.
5. SKATE PARK CONSULTATION
To consider the South Hams District Council consultation on the skate park and make any recommendation to Full Council. Document attached.
6. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY FORUM
To note the minutes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Forum held on 18th July and to consider the recommendation under item 4 that the Council formally support the Friends of the Dart request. (Document attached)
7. KEVICC ENGAGEMENT
To consider a request from KEVICC for Council engagement with its student enrichment activities and how the Council might support. Document attached.
8. D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS
To consider taking part in lighting a beacon (representing the 'light of peace') as part of national D-Day 80th anniversary commemorations. Document attached.
9. RNLI REQUEST
To consider a request from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) for Council support. Document attached.
10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 27th November 2023 at 6.30pm.

Sara Halliday
Governance and Projects Manager
20th September 2023

USE OF SOUND RECORDINGS AT COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The open proceedings of this Meeting will be audio and video recorded. If members of the public make a representation, they will be deemed to have consented to being recorded. By entering the Council Chamber or Zoom meeting, attendees are also consenting to being recorded.

Televised, vision and sound recordings or live broadcastings by members of the press or public at Councillor Committee debates are permitted and anyone wishing to do so is asked to inform the Chairman of the respective Committee of their intention to record proceedings.



DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE

MONDAY 26TH JUNE 2023 IN THE GUILDHALL

Present: Councillors J Cummings (Chair), G Allen (from 1840), J Chinnock (from 1840), S Collinson (from 1840), B Piper (from 1905), E Price and L Smallridge.
Apologies: Cllr Roberts.

In Attendance: Cllrs Auletta, Beavis, Cooper, Peters and Presswell, C Marlton (Town Clerk), L Ferrier (Marketing and Communications Manager) and 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 Cummings read out a statement about how the meeting would be conducted and recorded.

The apologies were received and accepted, and it was noted that Cllr Piper was running late.

The Committee will adjourn for the following items:

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

On behalf of a resident Cllr Auletta raised the maintenance and clearance of the Leechwell and concerns about it potentially getting clogged with the lower volume of water flowing through it. It was **AGREED** that this will be brought to South Hams District Council's attention as the Leechwell is their asset.

The Committee reconvened.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

To elect a deputy chair for the Committee.

Cllr Smallridge volunteered to be the Deputy Chair which was **AGREED** unanimously.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To approve the minutes of 27th March 2023 and update on any matters arising.

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of proceedings. Matters arising: Item 3 – South West Water Consultation response. It was **RESOLVED** by majority to submit the response as drafted to the South West Water Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024 consultation.

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders to enable wider Councillor discussion under Item 4.

4. COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

To consider the timeline, branding and draft survey for the Community Conversation and make a recommendation to Full Council.

Councillor discussion included: the budget; possible duplication in using direct mail and the Totnes directory to disseminate the survey; the inclusion of a demographic age range box under 'personal details'; engaging with youth groups and people in care homes; ticking five priorities rather than ranking them 1-5; a brief summary of the community's priorities from the 2019 consultation; including information on the responsibilities of the various tiers of local government; whether the question about precept contributions should be included; placing more information on the Town Council website; including a note of thanks from the Mayor.

The Committee reconvened.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to accept the timeline, branding, and draft survey subject to the amendments discussed in the meeting and further input from Councillors. Full Council is asked to vote on the budget element of the proposal.

5. MOTOR HOME FACILITIES AT LONGMARSH

To consider the implications of overnight parking by motorhomes in Longmarsh car park and make any recommendation to Full Council.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it writes to District Councillors, and South Hams District Council's Environmental Health and Localities teams to register the town's concerns. Cllr Piper to draft a letter for the Clerk to send.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COMMUNITY SAFETY CHARTER

To consider signing up to the Devon and Cornwall Policy Community Safety Charter and make any recommendation to Full Council.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it signs up to the Community Safety Charter.

7. SKATE PARK

To note an update on the skate park.

Noted.

8. COST OF LIVING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

To note the minutes of the Cost of Living Partnership meeting and statistics provided from Stepping Stones.

Noted. The Committee praised the work that those involved in the Cost of Living Partnership are carrying out.

9. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

To note the minutes of the Climate Change Working Group held on 21st March 2023 (standing item).

Noted.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 25th September 2023 at 6.30pm.

Noted.

Sara Halliday
Governance and Projects Manager

ITEM 3 – OPEN SPACE, SPORTS, RECREATION AND WELLBEING POLICY REVIEW

The Open Space, Sports, Recreation and Wellbeing Policy (OSSR) that was put together following extensive community consultation as part of preliminary work for the Neighbourhood Plan back in 2016/17. The original policy document contains a lot of background detail on: the process followed; consultation; evidence base; contextual information. Much of the OSSR is still relevant, but there are some areas where information is now out of date, has been completed or overtaken by events – highlighted in yellow.

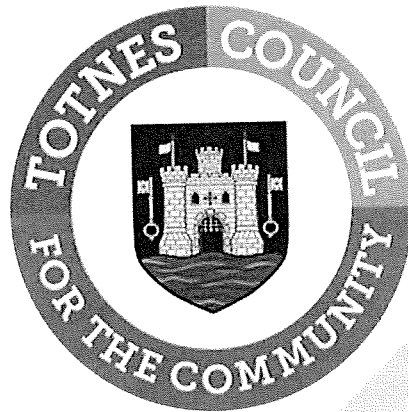
The attached revised document:

- Retains the key information and explanations (role of the Town Council, s106 in a planning context, glossary and terms, objectives and priorities in the 12 categories identified, ownership of assets).
- Includes details of current s106 contributions for Totnes.
- Removes the supplementary detail to reduce the document to rough half its original length (42 to 21 pages).
- Contains officer notes (in italics) and new text (underlined) to update on policies as they stand in 2023 (for example, the OSSR was drafted before the Joint Local Plan was finalised).

Town Matters is asked to consider an approach to review this document over the coming months given the size of the document. This will help to ensure that should any future building developments take place, then s106 contributions can be identified for specific projects in the town, supported by the OSSR.

The suggested approach for Town Matters Committees is:

- Consider the format of the policy – to update the existing or to adopt the South Hams District Council OSSR template (see attached). This could be populated using existing data and updated into the new format prior to the first review of categories. Alternatively, consider adopting the tables shown at part 4 (extract shown in Totnes draft plan) and 6 of the SHDC guidance which may be simpler to review all information in one place than the current Totnes OSSRW format (and include more useful information in determining priorities).
- To review two or three categories per meeting (some will be more complex than others) to ensure that the issues (objective, quantity, quality, accessibility, key challenges, projects/priorities) as currently drafted are current, up-to-date and new ideas/projects are included, drawing on the Joint Local Plan's OSSR evidence base and scope for improvement in Totnes.
- To invite link councillors/representatives on outside bodies who are not Committee members to attend as necessary to be included in discussion (Standing Orders can be suspended to enable this).
- To ask the Council Assets and Public Realm Working Group to review the 'Churchyard and Cemetery' category and make a recommendation to Town Matters.
- To ask the Traffic and Transport Forum Steering Group to review the 'Greenways' category to ensure that this aligns with the aims and priorities as set out in the Traffic, Transport and Pedestrian Policy 2023, and make a recommendation to Town Matters. This should ensure consistency of approach and messaging to SHDC and DCC.
- Agrees to review the document every four years (therefore each Council term) going forward, with progress against the implementation plan every 6 months or annually.



Totnes Open Space, Sport, Recreation and Wellbeing Policy

TOTNES TOWN COUNCIL

AGREED XXX

NEXT REVIEW XXX

This Policy is drawn from the Open Space, Sport, Recreation and Wellbeing Policy (OSSRW) produced as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process. The policy aims to direct OSSRW provision and connectivity via footpaths and cycle paths in our community to create a healthy town and will be integral to the life of the community and all new developments. The policy looks at how the Town Council can support the enhancement and development of the town's existing facilities, natural heritage and other assets to provide all people ages with access to appropriate play, sports, recreation spaces and amenities which are inspiring, creative and encourage universal participation.

New sections to consider including in the policy:

- Executive Summary
- Vision
- Implementation Plan
- Map showing the location of the categories

1. The Role of the Town Council

1.1 The Town Council has an important key role in supporting the provision of both the green infrastructure and the sport and recreation facilities through its roles as: the provider of strategic priorities and policies; an enabler through link councillor and council representatives on outside organisation roles; facilities manager; and a statutory consultee to the planning authority. The Council through the Neighbourhood Plan consultation process, has worked with partners and, engaged with many groups, organisations and individuals within the town to produce and adopt the Open Spaces, Sport, Recreation and Wellbeing (OSSRW) Policy in conjunction with the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

1.2 The Totnes Town Council OSSR Plan brings together the evidence of need and the aspirations of our community for necessary improvements, through consultation with local sports clubs, community groups and residents, directly by members of Totnes Town Council. The Plan also incorporates a requirement for review and updating, to ensure the plan can continue to be used as effective and up to date evidence. The Town Council will undertake to monitor progress against the implementation plan 6 monthly/annually and conduct a review this policy once in a four-year Council term.

2. The Open Space, Sport, Recreation and Wellbeing Plan in a Local Planning Context

2.1 The initial development of the Totnes Town OSSRW was based upon a robust process of consulting local clubs and the wider community to collect evidence of need for projects to ensure the community has a voice in setting the priorities for S106 money across the town.

2.2 The updated OSSRW will provide a reference point to identify potential projects requiring funding sources for provision and enhancement of the town's facilities and a mechanism for prioritisation of projects which can be kept under review.

2.3 Section 106 (s106) agreements are legal agreements between Local Authorities and developers; they are linked to planning permissions and can also be known as planning obligations. S106 Agreements are drafted when it is considered that a development will have significant impacts on the local area that cannot be mitigated on site. They may also be used where it is appropriate to seek financial contributions for offsite projects. This might be either for new facilities or the improvement of existing facilities to meet the needs of and mitigate pressure from new residents.

2.4 The current mechanism for this is through agreements signed under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act. For Open Space, Sport & Recreation (OSSR), financial contributions are sought in accordance with the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan (JLP) policies DEV4 and DEV27 and the JLP Developer Contributions Evidence Base document.

2.5 What does the District Council do with the OSSR s106 funds? The funds, once received, are held in ring fenced accounts by South Hams District Council and projects are then developed by the Place Making Team to deliver the required outcomes. At this stage there are opportunities to maximise benefits for existing communities and to lever in additional funding. Details of current s106 contributions for Totnes can be found at Annex A.

3. Glossary and Definition of Terms use in this Policy

3.1 General terms

“Green infrastructure” refers to the full range of open spaces and the linkages between them. These spaces provide many multiple benefits for residents and visitors plus additional environmental benefits – in particular for biodiversity, landscape and flood alleviation.

“Sport and Recreation” applies to a wide range of physical activities both indoor and outdoor and the facilities where they are carried out including Open Space.

“Wellbeing” refers to a good or satisfactory state of existence characterised by health and happiness. It is included in this policy to draw attention to the importance of appropriate and sufficient areas for amenities, recreation and sport for all ages to the development of state of wellbeing within individuals and communities.

“Healthy High Street” is a key indicator in health terms and includes green spaces.

3.2 The OSSR&W policy has been structured to reflect the different categories of Open Space and Sport and Recreation facilities in the Town. The 11 categories and their definitions are listed in the table below:

Public Space & Open Space: Green Infrastructure - Sport and Recreation		
	Type	Purpose
1	Allotments	<p>These provide opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce. The provision of allotments has increased in Totnes over the last 10 years. At a time of increased interest in sustainability, healthy eating, food security and locally produced food, increasing the number of allotments is an important issue. Allotments fall into three separate categories: Statutory / Temporary / Private. The categories reflect varying degrees of protection from development for other purposes.</p> <p>Statutory allotments fall under Section 8 of the Allotments Act 1925, being best protected in that a local authority must seek permission from the Secretary of State before selling or changing the use of such sites.</p> <p>Temporary and private sites have protection against change of use provided by the normal planning procedures.</p>

2	Amenity Greenspace	Open grassland which provides opportunities for informal activities close to home or work and enhancement of residential or other areas. Amenity Greenspace rarely has formal equipment, facilities or even seating. It is within the newer housing estates such as Bridgetown. These areas often provide open space within residential areas but frequently lack a clear use and are often used for informal recreation activities.
3	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Burial, remembrance and quiet contemplation. Churchyards are primarily the responsibility of the individual churches or the diocese, and the cemetery is managed by the Town Council. St Mary's Churchyard is maintained by Totnes Town Council.
4	Civic Spaces	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public activities and community events. Civic spaces are important and the character and quality of them say a great deal about the town itself.
5	Greenways	Walking, cycling or horse riding routes, whether for leisure purposes or commuting. Taken to include Public Rights of Way and permissive paths. Can also provide corridors for wildlife migration. Adopted pathways within towns and settlements and Public Rights of Way are the responsibility of the Highways Authority (Devon County Council) although landowners are required to keep them free of obstructions.
6	Natural Spaces	Areas for wildlife, quiet enjoyment and environmental awareness, including woodland, meadows, heath, moor land and coastal areas
7	Parks and Gardens	Accessible, formal, sites designed for recreation and community events.
8	Play/Activity Space	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters. The opportunity for free exploratory play is fundamental to a child's ability to develop their physical and social skills. The opportunity for children over the last thirty to forty years to enjoy free unhindered open play has been curtailed and play has tended to be seen as a formalised activity within "play areas".
9	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Formal facilities for participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis and bowls.
10	Indoor Sport Facilities	Formal and semi formal facilities for the provision of sport and recreation facilities indoors eg Leisure Centre, School facilities in dual use provision and hall/rooms etc. adapted for use.
11	River/amenity usage	River Dart, flowing through Totnes providing an amenity, community and sporting facility for the town. It encourages wildlife into the town and it aids the tourism/employment and casual social/amenity usage on its banks with access from the footpaths and cycle paths.

3.3 Details of the identified locations and ownership within these categories of green space and sports and recreation facilities can be found in Annex B.

4. Objectives and Priorities Summary of OSSRW Provision in Totnes

4.1 The identified provision of OSSRW facilities has been subdivided in to 12 categories. These categories have been assessed and the summary of each is tabulated below, including objective, existing quantity, quality, accessibility, key challenges/shortfalls, and new initiative projects/priorities drawing on the Joint Local Plan's OSSR evidence base and scope for improvement in Totnes [Officer's note – considering making the projects and priorities site-specific].

1. Allotments: What are the issues?	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish the local demand for allotments in the Town. - Enhance existing allotments to meet statutory requirements. - Develop a strategy to manage the agreed needs.
Quantity	The information on the overall quantity and quality of existing allotments is held by different landowners. An overall survey of all allotments needs to be undertaken and related to known information on the demand. This should relate to $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ and full-size plots.
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential contamination of sites. - Land features. - Need for suitable facilities on site and planning issues.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The allotments tend to be on the edge of town due to the pressures on land in the middle of town. This presents some accessibility problems for certain residents. - Alternative uses for either allotments or growing land should also be developed to give greater access for those who have difficulties/disabilities.
Key challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve quantity and accessibility related to the demand for allotments. - Acquisition of land for allotments relate to the geographical need around the town. - Develop a policy for the contribution of land or s106 towards acquiring allotments in the town. - Addressing the site and accessibility problems for certain residents who have difficulty accessing available allotment sites.
Projects/Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gathering information on all allotment sites and the demand for them in the town. - Putting together a structure/ strategy for the acquisition and administration of increased allotments in the town. - Developing alternative options for traditional allotments for those who need them.

2. Amenity Greenspace: What are the issues?	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop a policy and strategy with the landowners. - To ensure that these identified areas are maintained and that any developments include meaningful areas of amenity green space. - Ensure the green open space mosaic around the town is maintained and developed for the benefit of the community.

Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional amenity Greenspace, where it provides a positive contribution within residential areas, will be required within any new development. - A policy on the long-term maintenance of amenity greenspace will be developed and incorporated into s106 agreements.
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amenity Greenspaces should serve a positive function and contribute to the quality of the public realm. - Where all new amenity Greenspaces are proposed the priority should be for providing specific community, wildlife and landscape benefit.
Accessibility	When new Amenity Greenspace is brought forward it should be easily accessible to as many users as possible. All development designs should include meaningful Amenity Greenspace.
Key challenges	Improve the quality. Through community engagement in the assessment process the question of the viability, management and possible alternative options for specific plots of Amenity Greenspace can be raised and discussed.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement of local residents where there are areas of Amenity Greenspace on the options for those spaces. - Develop a policy on the provision of Amenity Greenspace in any development pro rata to the size of the development including the management of them. - Introduce a ratio for a percentage of SqM floor space of a development = x Amenity Green Space.

3. Cemeteries and Churchyards: What are the issues? *[Officer note: suggested initial review by the Council Assets and Public Realm Working Group.]*

Objective	To provide an open and appropriate area for burials and quiet contemplation.
Quantity	There are three cemeteries/ <u>churchyards</u> in Totnes: St. Mary's churchyard (<u>closed to burials</u>), St. John's Bridgetown churchyard and Totnes Cemetery owned and maintained by the Town Council. At present there is sufficient land for the needs of the town. <i>[Officer note: St John's churchyard is reaching capacity.]</i>
Quality	The Churchyards <u>and cemetery</u> are managed as befits their character <u>and function</u> . Opportunities exist to increase the environmental value through selective planting and cultivation and encouragement of their wildlife value by the appropriate management by the <u>Town and Parochial councils</u> .
Accessibility	All the churchyards and cemetery are accessible to the public but some are closed to more burials (St Mary's). St. Mary's in the centre of town is also used as an amenity area. Disabled access improvements to St Mary's.
Key challenges	The management of the churchyard and cemetery varies according to location and accountability. St. Mary's in the Town Centre presents a challenge for monitoring and maintenance, due to it being an open and easily accessible site.

Projects/ Priorities	<p>- Totnes Trust in conjunction with the Parochial Council is developing the project at St. Mary's, High Street. This is opening up of the approach to the Church, alterations of walls moving of Remembrance Cross and landscaping to provide a more open, accessible area with an enhanced approach to the Church.</p> <p>- Environmental enhancement of Totnes cemetery with increased tree planting and extending hedgerows for plants and wildlife. <i>[Officer note – tree planting in the cemetery has been completed, there is an MOU in place between TTC and Incredible Edibles for maintenance of the fruit trees in the cemetery. Conducting maintenance for wildlife benefits is ongoing.]</i></p>
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4. Civic Spaces: What are the issues?

Objective	Identify and manage the civic spaces in the town to ensure there is accessibility for public access, activities and community events.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current range of civic spaces must be maintained. - New civic spaces to be developed to provide greater community access and facilities for a variety of uses.
Quality	Opportunities for the enhancement of civic spaces should be sought in consultation with local communities and where any development is proposed nearby.
Accessibility	Access to civic spaces should be made as effective as humanly possible. A wide variety of opportunities for the community use of civic spaces should be sought and the areas made easily to undertake them.
Key challenges	Improvement of the facilities to allow a wide range of uses both commercial and cultural. The activities could include musical, art, drama etc.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a policy to ensure all new developments within their design brief include flexible provision of civic space. - Identify appropriate community activities which could take place in them integrating their use into wide community activities e.g. festivals, outside concerts and drama etc.

5. Greenways: What are the issues? *[Officer note: suggested initial review by the Traffic and Transport Steering Group – this section should draw from the separate Travel, Transport and Pedestrian Policy to ensure a consistent approach and prioritisation.]*

Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the specific aspects of the Cycle plan for Totnes. - Enhance the connectivity of the town to its urban, recreational areas and green spaces for leisure purposes or commuting, using legally established and maintained route ways and with a focus on Footways. - Ensure that any development will contribute to greenway maintenance and the enhancement they provide for the connectivity in the town.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Totnes is well served with a network of greenways, bridleways, footpaths and cycle ways – however many are poorly connected and little used. - Where opportunities exist to provide “missing links” to improve public safety or to provide attractive circular routes around the town and to outlying parishes and places these should be pursued.

Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pathways within towns and settlements are maintained by the Highways Authority, and Public Rights of Ways are required to be kept accessible by relevant landowners. - The town is served by a variety of paths, bridleways and cycle ways, the current quality of which is variable apart from some significant exceptions. A number of paths start at the boundary of the town and then run through neighbouring parishes which the community use.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access around towns and villages for recreational walking need good public rights of way and greenways. Opportunities for increasing circular walks and links to the open countryside, so enabling walking, cycling by individuals or groups for both recreational and health benefits needs active promotion. Organisations both voluntary and others supported by statutory bodies have sprung up in recent years and the Ramblers Association has played a lead role in monitoring public footpaths. - Opportunity exists to improve the standard of some routes to encourage access for those with disabilities and are recuperating from illness and using activity as an aid in medical treatment. - Many greenways are isolated and in poor condition opportunities, should be sought to link these into existing networks making them more accessible for the wider community.
Key challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The knowledge of and accessibility of route ways needs active promotion and publicity, working with a variety of partners both voluntary and statutory. - The promotion of their appropriate use by the community is recognised as a factor in developing the physical and mental wellbeing of the community. - An enhanced infrastructure of the various route ways aids the economic benefit to the town through tourism and encouraging physical activity of the community enhancing their wellbeing.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using P3 surveys establish a strategy for the priority of establishing and maintaining a hierarchy of footpaths for upgrading and maintenance. (Currently the Ramblers Association act as partners in the P3 surveys and are looking to develop the Footpath system further to provide both recreational walking and connections to neighbouring parishes). - Develop more community cooperation and participation of groups encouraged to work as a partnership. - Establish a group made up of key users and stakeholders to actively monitor and identify the quality of the route ways encouraging community involvement in their use.

6. Natural Spaces: What are the issues?	
Objective	Establish a strategy to maintain access to areas for wildlife, quiet enjoyment and environmental awareness within the Town.
Quantity	There is no overall shortage of available countryside, wildlife sites and woodland surrounding Totnes but opportunities exist to look for further natural open spaces and woodlands, both within and outside of the Parish boundary. These would need to be integrated into the Green Mosaic around the town, the usage and management identified and agreed.

Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The maintenance and management of the sites would need to be with partners seeking opportunities for land management and obtaining grants to further enhance the management and support of the areas. - Reconciling potential conflicts between public access and appropriate conservation management regimes in natural spaces on the town fringe, while promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the individual area's special qualities by the public.
Accessibility	Access to the sites in and around towns and villages need good public rights of way and greenways. Opportunities to increase links to sites to enable walkers and cyclists to access them which would make them more accessible and the use of them to provide a greater health benefit for residents and visitors.
Key challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve accessibility by working with other community groups. - Accessibility and availability of sites needs active promotion.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish partnerships to allow greater flexibility on the maintenance and management of the spaces and to encourage familiarity and a greater variety of activities. - Develop a publicity strategy to raise the awareness of the areas. - Incorporate where possible into projects re Greenways/Parks and gardens.

7. Parks and Gardens: What are the issues?

Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop a policy that enhances existing parks and gardens and enables the creation of new ones in any areas of development in the town. - Create new spaces which will be accessible, appropriately formal, providing high quality sites designed for recreation to be used for private or public events.
Quantity	Maintain the extent of existing key parks and gardens within the town and where possible extend them appropriately for the locality they would be in.
Quality	The quality is variable and relates to the local usage and the multifunctional aspect of the largest park – Borough Park. Any new acquisitions through developments, need to ensure that they are appropriate for the locality and the development.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake reasonable access improvements to make parks and gardens available to all. - Improve linkages to and from parks to allow access for all and connecting with the greenways in the town. - Improve signage and information and publicity about the existence of and the accessibility of the parks and gardens.

Key challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve quantity, quality and accessibility of parks and gardens in the town. Through a process of gradual focused improvement, looking at the appropriate layout, design and facilities. - Establish partnerships and funding opportunities for the enhancement work of parks and gardens. - Introduce management plans in agreement with the partners, for key parks and review the maintenance, monitoring to assess improvements in quality. - Create as part of the OSSRW policy, guidelines for the development of appropriate parks and gardens in new developments and the capacity/resources to maintain them. - There are particular challenges related to drainage and deficiencies of quantity.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Redeveloping the play area in Leechwell Gardens. [Officer note: project completed, suggest delete] - Tackling the drainage in Borough Park with the possibility of an AWP cricket square in the park. - Developing in association with TQ9, the park/garden/amenity green space areas, in the Baltic Wharf development. [Officer note: Phase 1 of BW completed, but this will need to be continued for Phase 2 and would be relevant for any new significant housing developments.]

8. Play: What are the issues?

Objective	To develop a town wide plan and a strategy to rationalise existing play spaces to establish age and gender appropriate play spaces. These would be designed primarily for active play and social interaction involving all young people such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are 13 play areas spread over the town, including upper Bridgetown which is in Berry Pomeroy Parish. - The play/activity facilities are not designated for specific age groups except in Borough Park. - Most of the play/activity facilities are the responsibility of SHDC while some others are located in housing association developments.
Quality	The play/activity facilities vary from relatively new equipment to very old equipment, with the play/ activity facilities being reduced as Health & Safety considerations mean the removal but not the replacement of equipment.
Accessibility	A need to ensure that access into play spaces is to a reasonable standard and that appropriate levels of disabled facilities are available.
Key challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This gives widest opportunity but means maintaining small, isolated play areas at the expense of larger well used ones in town. - Improve quality and accessibility. - Limited financial resources to improve quality of play areas. Opportunities to look at more exciting and open 'play spaces' rather than traditional 'play areas'. - Need to ensure that play equipment meets reasonable requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act. - Ensuring play spaces are neighbour friendly and are age appropriate. - Creating opportunities to increase play value, in public spaces outside formal play areas

Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake a complete audit of all play space within the town, based on the initial assessment work undertaken. This should then allow for the development of a strategy for reviewing and putting forward plans for the appropriate facilities to be provided on each play/activity space. <i>[Officer note: much has been done to improve play areas throughout the town since the initial OSSRW was drafted, e.g. in 2022 Collapark and lower Westonfields play areas, meadowbrook park in Bridgetown, Leechwell garden play area, Baltic wharf play area]</i> - Undertake a prioritisation process. - Opportunities for external and lottery funding should be sought to provide support for projects concerned with free play and natural play/activity programmes as well as equipment.
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Outdoor Sports Facilities: What are the issues?	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop a policy and strategy through community sports partnership, to increase both Indoor and Outdoor sports provision with an emphasis on enhancing the Health and Wellbeing of the Town. <i>[Officer note: Borough Park Users Group?]</i> - Enhancement of existing facilities. - Development of new provision, to encourage greater participation in both indoor/outdoor sports, following existing statutory and advisory guidelines.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific deficiencies have been identified in outdoor sports provision, in order to achieve increased participation and activity levels these need to be addressed. - There are two Rugby pitches at Borough Park, tennis courts and a bowling green, the only other pitches are based at KEVICC (the local community college located within the town). The most actively used pitch, identified as being used 100% is the All Weather Pitch based at KEVICC. - Working more closely with KEVICC, there is an opportunity for dual use of some school pitches. Where it is possible and feasible, opportunities to work with clubs, landowners and governing bodies to bring forward additional or the relocation of pitches should be pursued. and used both by the school and the community.
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The quality of the pitches in the town is poor. The rugby pitches in Borough Park and at other pitches at KEVICCS the playing surfaces suffer, due to drainage problems. - There is significant room for improvement in the quality of pitches and the associated facilities, such as changing and facility rooms with the possible opportunities for clubs to share facilities and resources.
Accessibility	<p>Due to the lack of Outdoor Sports Facilities in the town a number of pitches are situated in the neighbouring parishes and unless adequate transport arrangements are in place, particularly for younger users, they are not accessible. There is an obligation on local clubs to manage their own transport for adults and youth players. Clubs which have their own pitches would also require members to pay fees and therefore, may deter potential users. Given the lack of pitches there is limited choice on what outdoor activities can take place. Therefore, this restricts what activities, for both able and disabled members of the community, they can participate in.</p> <p><i>[Officer note: no mention of the wheelchair accessible tennis facility in Borough Park.]</i></p>

Key challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To improve quantity and quality through joint use between Schools and the community. - Community involvement in the redevelopment of KEVICC sport and recreation facilities agreeing community joint use agreements. - Liaising with Neighbouring Parishes, where most of the Totnes clubs outdoor pitches are based, to agree mutually beneficial location and provision of pitches.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the links/contacts made during the consultation process develop a town wide Sports Partnership with clubs, school, Town Council, SHDC and other interested bodies. To link the clubs together in a mutual supporting body which can also agree an overarching plan for the development of Sport and Recreational activities in the town. - Encourage the clubs which have pitches/outdoor sports facilities, to take over responsibility for them with either a freehold transfer or lease, through negotiation and agreement of the current asset owner. - Review of the pitches at Borough Park to encourage and progress the development of the scheme to improve the drainage of the park/pitches. In conjunction with the Rugby Club support the building of new changing rooms alongside the present club house. - Review and reassess the sporting provision for both the tennis and bowls clubs at Borough Park so as to develop club facilities for changing, coaching, competitive events and storage. - Working with SHDC revisit and review the previously agreed works in the development plan for Borough Park including the jogging track and outdoor gym around the park. - Urgent Priority: the All Weather Pitch [AWP] at KEVICCS, for dual use by both the school and community. This has been identified as the primary priority for the town by the clubs and community. <i>[Officer note: overtaken by events – the updated all-weather pitch is used by community groups such as hockey and football. This section needs a thorough update.]</i>

10. Indoor Sports Facilities: What are the issues?	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a sports partnership at the Pavilions – Fusion/SHDC/Tadpool. - Increase Indoor and Outdoor sports provision with an emphasis on the health and wellbeing of the Town. - Enhance existing facilities and develop new provision to encourage greater participation in indoor/outdoor sports, following existing statutory and advisory guidelines.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within the town there are specific deficiencies which have been identified in the provision of indoor sports activities, in order to achieve increased participation and activity levels these need to be addressed. - The town has one leisure centre with occasional use of some of the KEVICC facilities. There are also halls and rooms scattered around town which groups use as there is no other dedicated provision.
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The leisure centre is not purpose built but is an original community swimming pool and fitness suite which is over 45 years old with a sports hall built on to it which is about 30 years old. Both parts need extensive refurbishment and redeveloping in the coming years. - The School [KEVICC] facilities date back to the 70's and before. The school is considering a complete redevelopment and it would engage with the community in the planning for the redevelopment of KEVICC's sport and recreation facilities. This would improve both the quantity and quality of indoor sports and recreation facilities making them available through joint use between School and the community through agreements for community joint use.

Accessibility	All the facilities should be open to all and Disability Discrimination Act compliant. This would mean that the facilities could be used for the maximum amount of time and catering for all members of the community.
Key challenges	- Partnership working with the community and the School and SHDC to develop a coherent and strategic indoor sports structure for the town. This would allow for the planning of appropriate facilities within the school. - To stabilise the functioning of the leisure centre for the good of the town.
Projects/ Priorities	Develop a town wide Sports Partnership with clubs, school, Town Council, SHDC and other interested bodies in order to link the clubs together in a mutual supporting body which can also agree an overarching plan for the development of Sport and recreational activities in the town.

11. River: What are the issues?

Objective	To develop a River Park from the weir to the end of Longmarsh in partnership with relevant statutory and community organisations.
Quantity	No identified issues.
Quality	Need to maintain standards of cleanliness both of the river and its banks as well as subsidiary streams. Seek to introduce, maintain and improve the standard of associated facilities and safety both in the river and along its banks. Look to co-ordinate management arrangements on both public and privately owned aspects of the river.
Accessibility	Where the river is accessible with car parking nearby, the provision of this access should be maintained, and where possible, enhanced for all ability use. The identification of footpaths and cycle ways should be signposted and advertised within publications and promoted at appropriate points throughout the town. It should also identify the connectivity of recreational walking around the town with the river footpaths.
Key challenges	- Improve quality and quantity of various facilities and route ways both in the river and alongside on its banks, and permitting access to the river. - Coordination and liaison with the relevant voluntary and statutory bodies as well as landowners to encourage participation in the process. - Appropriate promotion of the river and its banks etc. should be actively pursued, both for local community and tourist use. - Both the development/redevelopment and enhancement of community facilities currently located by the river and who uses the river should be reviewed, prioritised and supported by the local statutory bodies.

Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A complete proposal involving all parties both local and statutory, landowners and developers as well as the community of the town should be developed and put forward to create an overarching River Park from the Dartington parish boarder at Queens Marsh to the end of Longmarsh <i>[Officer note: this section of the riverbank sits in Berry Pomeroy Parish.]</i> This would include e.g. facilities on the banks, connecting footpaths and cycle ways, recreational and contemplative seating and developing specific environmental aspects of the river bank. - A strategic plan for the upgrading of the footpaths and cycle ways along the river should be undertaken in advance to ensure the stability and use of the paths are viable and can be maintained. - A review of community facilities which are associated with the River should be undertaken and their enhancement where appropriate should be prioritised and become part of the River Strategy. - In conjunction with the community organisations that use the river, a review of their facilities need to be undertaken and where necessary the enhancement or development of those facilities should be supported to encourage greater community involvement on the river e.g. Totnes Canoe Club by the weir, Totnes Sea Scouts, Guides Brownies and cubs facilities on Steamer Quay. <i>[Officer note: some of these youth groups are no longer meeting in Totnes, and no mention of the Rowing Club or Boating Association.]</i> - Liaison with the Environment Agency in their flood defence work and developers, in any proposal that would affect the river and its bank should be engaged with and monitored. <i>[Officer note: suggest removal of reference to EA as the flood defence work has been completed.]</i>
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12. Health and Wellbeing: What are the issues?	
Objective	Maximise the potential for health and wellbeing for all through ensuring an integrated approach to development and access to Open Space, Sports and Recreation facilities and amenities in the town.
Quantity	Various depending on partnership between organisations and health providers.
Quality	
Accessibility	
Key challenges	Improve quantity and accessibility.
Projects/ Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To recognize the importance of a healthy High Street to the town and work on improving it. - Infrastructure improvements to the High Street e.g ease of access, disability provision.

An alternative format which could combine the information in the category tables above and the assets identified in Annex B is suggested below for consideration (examples taken from Dartmouth and Kingsbridge OSSRs):

Type of Open Space	Owners	Quantity Deficiency	Quality Deficiency	Area (ha)	Access Deficiencies
Parks and Gardens					
Coronation Park Community Facilities; LEAP, RNLI base, Tennis Courts, putting green and boat and trailer storage. Commercial area of cafe & seating	Dartmouth Town Council	Additional boat and trailer storage required	A flat multi-purpose area in a central location. Nominated for Local Green Space (LGS) in the NDP. Putting green fallen into disuse, and may be repurposed.	2.1	Fully accessible from most aspects ≤ 400m < 5 mins (1800m 22mins)
Duncombe Park Owner South Hams District Council (SHDC) SHDC/Kingsbridge Town Council (KTC) licence for several assets e.g. seats Central grass space (free play) Young children's play area (enclosed) Mural (KTC/KCC 2018) Zip wire Space net Climbing blocks (Bloqx) Spinning pole Basket swing Trim trail kit x 6 Goalposts (portable) x 2 Seats x 8 Picnic benches x 2 Interpretation panel/noticeboard Trees & shrubs Litter bins (stainless steel x 4) Grit bin (winter weather) CCTV (managed by KTC) Nil dog orders (dogs can run off leads)		None Identified	Young children's play area was very tired and required a complete refit ACTIONED 2019 No public art apart from a mural Large area of central grass space had sharp stones on the surface which were a hazard to children therefore required new top soil and turf to be laid ACTIONED 2019 Some trees and shrubs were in a poor condition and replacement/ further planting was required with new trees x 12 planted ACTIONED 2023		No off-site signage to Duncombe Park Disability access cannot be gained off Belle Vue Road
Allotments					
Milton Lane: 16 allotments W/L 7		Allotment Act 1925, section 8	Water on site, adjacent car park. LGS Nomination	0.3	Excellent access on flat area 1,800m 23 mins. (280m 4 mins)
Treblepark Owner private and leased to KTC		Circa 43 allotments for 4,300 adult population	No information board Perennial maintenance required		Disability access poor due to undulating ground

Annex A – Extract from South Hams District Council Website: OSSR – Section 106 contributions by Parish

Explanatory notes to assist interpretation of the main table	
Term	Explanation/Meaning
Status	Funds received - these funds are available for commitment and spend S106 signed – the s106 is signed, but the development has either not commenced, or the trigger for payment has not been reached. Please note, there is no guarantee funds from a signed s106 will be received, the development must commence and triggers be met – not every development will be built out and some permissions (and s106s) will lapse.
Amount	This is either the amount included within the signed s106, or if funds are received – the amount received (this can be more than the signed s106 as interest may apply to payments). Where part of a s106 contribution has already been spent or committed, the amount remaining and available for commitment is shown. References to SPD relate to the residents per dwelling calculation within the SHDC OSSR SPD 2006.
MF – monitoring fee applies	Most s106s include a clause enabling SHDC to take a percentage (commonly 5%) of the s106 contribution to cover monitoring costs associated with administration of that s106
Project Officer	This indicates where a percentage (up to 10%) will be deducted as a contribution towards a Project Officer to be employed by WDBC. Where this contribution is taken, the Officer will assist with delivery of either the named projects, or assist with local consultation, commitment and spend of the OSSR funds in accordance with the applicable s106 agreement. Where TBC this indicates that any deduction will depend on likely level of officer input to realise OSSR projects in relation to the particular s106 agreement.
Trigger	Each OSSR contribution has a trigger within the s106 agreement. Once this trigger is reached the payment is due, and SHDC will invoice the developer/landowner. If you are aware (or suspect) that a trigger has been reached, please contact SHDC who can then confirm and if reached will invoice the developer/landowner. If trigger shows as N/A then the contribution has already been paid.
Spend By	The majority of s106 agreements include a term within which a s106 contribution should be spent (this includes being 'committed' to a project within a formal offer agreement). This could be 5, 10 or 25 years from receipt of funds by SHDC, however if the funds are not spent (or committed by contract/formal offer) within this timescale then the developer/landowner is entitled to clawback the contribution.
Projects	Pencilled projects – this refers to SHDC officers pencilling an OSSR contribution (of less than £30,000) against a project. This is not binding. Projects require agreement by Lead Specialist and Local Ward Member(s). Named projects – where reference is made to 'named projects' these projects/sites are specifically named within the s106. There is limited flexibility to change such projects (it would likely require a deed of variation to the s106 agreement). Deferred to Parish/Town OSSR Plan – recognises that the local community may identify and prioritise projects through a Parish/Town OSSR Plan – priority projects could be supported (with officers required to obtain agreement from the Lead Specialist,

	Portfolio Holder and local Ward Members). Where a Town/Parish OSSR Plan (or similar) is not planned or written, then project identification/prioritisation could be based on local consultation, or the Town/Parish Council/SHDC Member/officers or a local group identifying a need. Requires local consultation – where no project has yet been identified or a Parish/Town OSSR Plan is not underway – it may require local consultation with local Ward Member(s), Town/Parish Council, local community (or the writing of a Parish/Town OSSR Plan). Indicates a Parish/Town with no current OSSR s106 funds (received or pending whereby a s106 has been signed).
Shaded boxes	

Please note:

- Whilst every effort has been made to ensure this table is accurate there is of course room for human error. If you consider there are s106 agreements missing, or triggers have been met, officers would welcome Parish and Town Councils and SHDC Members making them aware.
- This table includes only off-site OSSR contributions.
- OSSR contributions which have recently been fully spent or formally committed to a project are not shown in the table.
- S106s which are being negotiated but are yet to be signed are not shown in this table
- the table will be kept updated by officers as new s106s are signed which contain OSSR contributions.

Details below for Totnes (and monies from neighbouring parishes earmarked for spend in Totnes) are as at 31st August 2023:

Parish	Planning application	Status (s106 signed/funds received)	Amount	MF – Monitoring Fee applies	Project Officer	Clause	Trigger (if funds not yet received)	Spend / commit by	Projects
Totnes	Riverside (Camomile Lawn) 56/0447/12/O	Funds received	£43,271.44 remaining	Already deducted	Already deducted	Provision of playing fields benefiting residents of Totnes and/or community facilities in the Bridgetown area of Totnes and/or community facilities on the site	N/A	None specified	£35,000 earmarked for projects (Camomile Lawn and Elm Walk/Rush Way play) Remainder via local consultation/OSSR Plan
	Coco's Nursery, Ashburton Rd (56/2221/15/O)	S106 signed	£19,500 First instalment	Already deducted	TBC	Sports and recreation facilities at Borough Park	50% on commencement & 50%	10 years of receipt	Named project:

Annex B - OSSR Designation, Locations and Ownership by Category in the Totnes Parish

Type	Purpose	Provision in Bridgetown	Ownership	Provision in Totnes	Ownership
Allotments	<p>Provide opportunities for people who wish to grow their own produce. The provision of allotments has increased in Totnes over the last 8 years. At a time of increased interest in sustainability, healthy eating and locally produced food, increasing the number of allotments is an important issue.</p> <p>Allotments falls into three separate categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory • Temporary • Private <p>Their status reflects the degree of protection from development for other purposes.</p> <p>Statutory allotments fall under Section 8 of the Allotments Act 1925, being best protected in that a local authority must seek permission from the Secretary of State before selling or changing the use of such sites.</p> <p>Temporary and private sites have protection against change of use provided by the normal planning procedures.</p>	<p>Rowssel Lane</p> <p>Bridgetown Hill</p>	<p>Duke of Somerset</p> <p>Allotment Association</p>	<p>Smithfields</p> <p>Castle Meadow</p> <p>The Lamb (growing space T Trust Project)</p> <p>[Copland Lane]</p>	<p>South Hams District Council (SHDC)</p> <p>Totnes Town Council, managed by Allotment Association</p> <p>SHDC</p> <p>[Dartington Trust in Dartington Parish, managed by Totnes Allotment Association]</p>

Type	Purpose	Provision in Bridgetown	Ownership	Provision in Totnes	Ownership
Amenity Greenspace	Open grassland providing opportunities for informal activities close to home or work and enhancement of residential or other areas. Amenity Greenspace rarely has formal equipment, facilities or even seating. It is within the newer housing estates such as Bridgetown. These areas often provide open space within residential areas but frequently lack a clear use and are often used for informal recreation activities.	Parkers Way Weston Lane (Chicken Run) Westonfields Longmarsh [Upper Bridgetown- Elmfirst Field and Furze Road]	All SHDC [SHDC, in Berry Pomeroy Parish]	Follaton Community centre	SHDC Management groups formed where new developments occur.
Churchyards and Cemetery	Burial, remembrance and quiet contemplation. Churchyards are primarily the responsibility of the individual churches or the diocese. The cemetery is managed and maintained by the Town Council who also maintain St Mary's closed Churchyard.	St John's Bridgetown Cemetery	Exeter Diocese	Totnes Cemetery, Plymouth Road St Mary's Churchyard	Totnes Town Council Exeter Diocese
Civic Spaces	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public activities and community events. Civic spaces are important and the character and quality of them say a great deal about the town itself.	Steamer Quay	SHDC	The Plains Civic Square [Market Square] Rotherfold	All SHDC

Type	Purpose	Provision in Bridgetown	Ownership	Provision in Totnes	Ownership
Greenways	Walking, cycling or horse riding routes, whether for leisure purposes or commuting. Taken to include Public Rights of Way and permissive paths. Can also provide corridors for wildlife migration. Adopted pathways within towns and settlements and Public Rights of Way are the responsibility of the Highways Authority (Devon County Council, DCC) although landowners are required to keep them free of obstructions.			South Hams District Council has worked in partnership with the County to support the development of recreational routes for pedestrians and cyclists.	SHDC DCC
Natural Spaces	Areas for wildlife, quiet enjoyment and environmental awareness, including woodland, meadows, heath, moor land and coastal areas.	[Longmarsh Elmhirst Playing Field - Weston lane (Chicken Run) – both in Berry Pomeroy Parish]	[SHDC, in Berry Pomeroy Parish]	Colwell Community Woodland River Dart Walkway & weir area Follaton Arboretum Smithfields - railway land Castle Meadow	SHDC SHDC SHDC Totnes Town Council

Type	Purpose	Provision in Bridgetown	Ownership	Provision in Totnes	Ownership
Parks and Gardens	Accessible, formal, high quality sites designed for recreation and community events.				All SHDC
Play/Activity Space	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.	Play/Activity Space	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.	Play/Activity Space	Sovereign Housing English Heritage Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Formal facilities for participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis and bowls.			Borough Park area 7 acres (2.83 hectares) 2 Rugby pitches, Tennis and Bowls clubs KEVICC School	SHDC KEVICC

Type	Purpose	Provision in Bridgetown	Ownership	Provision in Totnes	Ownership
Indoor Sports Facilities				Pavilions Leisure Centre (Borough Park)	SHDC /TADPool
River Dart	River Dart, flowing through Totnes providing amenity and sporting facility for the town and encouraging Wildlife and Tourism/Employment.	River Dart	Dart Harbour Authority Duchy of Cornwall Environment Agency Landowners	River Dart	Dart Harbour Authority

South Hams Parish/Town Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan - Template and Guidance

1. Aim

e.g. To consult with existing clubs and the community to gather into a Parish/Town OSSR Plan proposed projects within the town/parish for open space, sport and recreation. The Plan will prioritise projects, to assist with targeting existing funding and resources, and to identify future projects and requirements which may result from increased housing development.

2. Introduction

e.g. South Hams District Council request contributions from new housing development towards new and improved OSSR facilities where it is considered that a development will have significant impacts on the local area. These contributions are secured through Section 106 (s106) legal agreements between Local Planning Authorities and developers and linked to planning permissions, and are based on policy requirements set out within the Plymouth and South West Deon Joint Local Plan (JLP) policies DEV 4 and DEV27 and the JLP Developer Contributions Evidence Base.

The collection and use of s106 funds are dictated by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations 2012. The purposes to which the funds are applied must be:

- Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
- Directly related to the development; and
- Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

The Parish/Town OSSR Plan is a clear method of reflecting evidence of need and community aspirations when pulling together into one place the project/facility requirements of a community.

Following the template, which is based upon gathering of existing evidence (e.g. Playing Pitch Strategy), and community consultation with local sports clubs, community groups and parish residents ensures the plan is robust and compliant with legal requirements. The Plan also incorporates a requirement for review and updating, to ensure the plan can continue to be used as an up to date evidence base.

3. Existing evidence base and review/listing of existing policies, projects, and priorities

Councils/groups are recommended to contact SHDC with respect to the most up to date and useful sources of evidence for reference, and to check which projects have already been identified within your town/parish. Include these within this section of the OSSR Plan.

4. Identify current OSSR provision including existing quantity, quality and access shortfalls

Provide a description of existing facilities in your parish including:

- Publically accessible parks and gardens
- Accessible natural spaces including nature reserves, community orchards, accessible woodland
- Greenways – including public rights of way (footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways, byways open to all traffic), cycle routes, permissive paths and unsurfaced unclassified county roads
- Outdoor sports facilities
- Indoor sports facilities
- Play facilities
- Other recreational facilities (e.g. skate parks, BMX tracks, Trim Trails, Multi-Use Games Areas)
- Allotments
- Beaches (where applicable)
- Cemeteries

Make a note of any issues regarding quantity, quality and accessibility. It would be useful to provide a summary table showing the key findings. This is a useful exercise in highlighting perceived shortfalls in existing provision/facilities – and may assist with shaping project ideas later in the process. Think about all age groups when working through this stage.

Type of open space and policy standard	Existing provision within parish	Quantity shortfalls	Quality shortfalls	Access shortfalls
Parks and gardens				
Accessible natural spaces				
Greenways		N/A		
Outdoor sports facilities				
Indoor sports facilities				
Play facilities				
Other recreational facilities				
Cemeteries				
Beaches		N/A		

To help identify facilities in the South Hams, you may find the South Hams interactive map useful, available via the SHDC website and by selecting the Joint Local Plan Public Open Space layer.

To help you identify greenways in Devon please use ordnance survey maps or visit [Devon Interactive Mapping](#)

5. Identify existing organised activities/teams

Provide a description of existing organised activities and teams – as well as formal sports teams, this might include other groups or activities such as Walking for Health, park runs, or conservation volunteering. Think about all age groups when working through this stage.

6. What improved and/or new facilities are needed to meet existing quantity/quality/accessibility shortfalls, and anticipated future demand from additional housing development

Shortfall/ Issue	Site/location /facility name	Project description	Evidence of need and community support	Site/facility owner, project lead and partners	Perceived obstacles	Cost	Funding	Target for completion

When identifying projects please review projects/needs identified within the evidence base listed in section 3. Think also about less obvious projects/needs – these might include community orchards, trim trails, new footpath links that might have become apparent when working through sections 4 and 5. For any project, it is important to include

evidence of community support and need (i.e. how the need was identified, and how you know that the community are behind the project – e.g. community consultation, letters received by Parish Council, etc.).

It is strongly recommended that you consult with your community to make sure that all projects/needs/aspirations are identified, collected and represented within the Plan. Community consultation could include letters to residents, consultation day associated with a fete/community event, targeted consultation/meetings with user groups/clubs/residents groups. This need not be onerous, however it is essential that all projects are identified through this process, both to ensure fairness and transparency, but also to ensure the process is robust.

It would also be useful to consider and reference how new/improved facilities might be managed and maintained. If there is community support for taking on ownership/licenses/leases for facilities it would be useful to include this detail.

It is important to outline how projects might be funded. It would be expected that any use of s106 funding would be match funded by community fundraising or other funding sources (e.g. Foundations, Trusts, Lottery).

7. Projects priority list

Based on an objective assessment of relative need and reflecting the priorities of the community as a whole, prioritise the projects – this will assist with prioritising the spend of any existing s106 funds which have already been secured, and assist in the future with identifying local priority projects if development proposals are received.

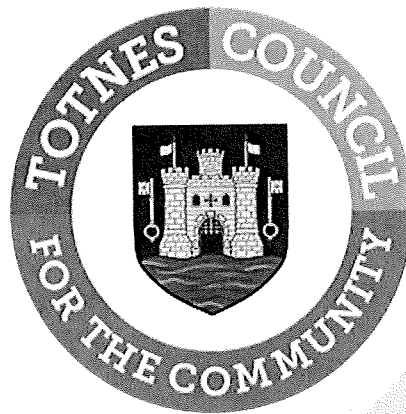
8. Method/frequency of review of Parish OSSR Plan

The ability of the plan to be used as a robust evidence base with which to secure developer and external funds will depend on how up-to-date the document is. It would be useful to fix a method and frequency of review to ensure the OSSR Plan remains current and reflects the status of projects and town/parish priorities.

Appendices

Detailed project briefs/plans - If any of the projects above have been project briefs/specs/costings/plans include here.

Consultation responses - It may be useful to include key consultation responses (e.g. from sports clubs, community groups, etc.)



Community Awards Policy

TOTNES TOWN COUNCIL

AGREED XX

NEXT REVIEW XX

In March 2022 Totnes Town Council launched its Community Award scheme to recognise the efforts of individuals who volunteer their time to help or enrich the lives of others in the community.

This policy sets out: the categories of award; eligibility; nomination process; Council consideration of nominations; format and presentation of awards.

Categories of Award

There are two categories of Community Award:

- Individual award; and
- Community group award.

Eligibility

Nominations should be for individuals or community groups that are carrying out their work within the Totnes parish boundary.

Individual Town Councillors and council officers are not eligible to receive an award under this scheme and any nominations for them (regardless of whether they are acting outside of their council role) will be discounted.

Nomination Process

Nominations are invited from members of the public and Councillors to propose one name per category for those who they consider deserve recognition for the time they give to the community. This could be through a number of different ways, for example: caring and supporting those in need; working with young people, the elderly or vulnerable; helping people's health and feeling of togetherness through exercise and sport.

Nominations can be made by email, in writing, by telephone or in person.

The timeline each year for the nomination process is as follows:

- February - nominations will be invited from the public through the Totnes Directory, Town Council Website and Social Media with a closing date of mid-March.

Council consideration of nominations

The timeline for Council consideration of the awards each year is as follows:

- End March - Town Matters Committee will consider the nominations received in Part 2 of the meeting, and make a shortlist of recommendations to Full Council.
- April - Full Council considers Town Matters Committee recommendation.

Format and presentation of awards

Depending on the number of nominations received, the top three nominees in each category (as determined by Full Council) will be invited to attend the Annual Town Meeting in May where the awards will be presented.

Council officers will write to all nominees inviting them to attend the Annual Town Meeting.

Certificates will be produced and presented to all nominees, the runner up and winner in each category.

The winners of each award will be presented with a medal based on the town council logo, engraved on the back with the year, name of the winner and the category of award. The individual medal will be presented on a ribbon and the group medal in a presentation box.

All medals and associated costs will come from the Civic Events budget.

ITEM 5 – SKATE PARK CONSULTATION

The District Council last undertook a stakeholder consultation in 2021 to consider two proposed locations for the new skatepark within Borough Park – extending the existing skatepark site next to the Multi-Use Games Area (avoiding impact on existing trees by locating between Root Protection Areas) or a new site behind the leisure centre.

After that consultation SHDC started to progress the option of a location behind the leisure centre. A design was agreed with skaters, and in late 2022 SHDC hosted a residents consultation event to present the proposal to residents bordering Borough Park in advance of seeking a Certificate of Lawfulness as Permitted Development. At this event, a considerable level of objection was expressed by residents to the location behind the leisure centre.

In listening to this objection SHDC have revisited the two proposed locations, and in agreement with the new District Councillors for Totnes, it was decided there should be a fresh and wider consultation to hear all relevant views. This consultation will be open for response from stakeholders, skaters, the Totnes community and adjacent residents, and will gather opinions about the two proposed locations. SHDC will then review and make a final decision about which location to progress with. There will of course be a lengthy process of fundraising to follow, and it is important that the location is decided before fundraising can continue in earnest.

The difficult decision on which of the two Totnes Borough Park sites the skatepark will be placed at will be decided once residents have had a final say in a conclusive consultation.

SHDC have been working with local partners, residents and the skating community for several years to move past a stalemate on the whereabouts of the exciting, proposed development.

SHDC understand the clear need and demand for a modern, fit-for-purpose facility for the skating community in Totnes and want to reach a decision on the proposed location so that they can work with the community to find the remaining funding required to deliver the new skatepark.

Two Borough Park sites remain the proposed locations for a skatepark within this key and central recreational site for the town. There are currently no other identified practical locations for a skatepark within Totnes. Even within Borough Park, SHDC are working within many restrictions such as noise, trees, and competing and conflicting objectives for the same space.

SHDC want to give everyone the fresh opportunity to give their views and preference of location, so that we can balance these views in trying to make the best decision.

A basic online survey with some background information has been set up at <https://totnes-skatepark.commonplace.is/> - please use this survey to have your say. The survey runs from 12th September until the 12th October.

Climate & Ecological Emergency Forum

18 July 2023, 6.30-8pm
Guildhall, Totnes and via Zoom

Present

JH — Cllr J Hodgson
TC — Cllr T Cooper
MH — Maiken Hutchings (TTC Sustainability Officer, notes)
RO — Totnes Trust
LW — Bigbury Net Zero (online)
KS — Totnes resident (online)
WH — Totnes supporting Fairtrade (online)
JF — Transition Town Totnes (online from 7pm)

Apologies from: FB

Recommendations

The group **RECOMMENDED** that TTC formally support the FoD requests.

The Forum **RECOMMENDED** that TTC allocate £2,500 from the Climate Change budget towards the Energy Wise Show

Actions

- (Action carried across) MH to liaise with RO on getting something (a little description/report) on the Colebrook Leat project that can go to TTC Planning Committee to say whether they would object to this project.
- MH to incorporate suggestions into the ToRs and present second iteration at the next Forum meeting
- MH to speak to JH about progressing the Friends of the Dart requests to Full Council.
- ALL to share Friends of the Dart information as widely as possible
- MH to feed meeting decisions back to Hannah at FoD
- MH to liaise with JH on getting the Climate Change budget recommendation to Full Council in September.
- MH to include the links for the Impact data and slides in the mailing list email.
- MH to add SH emissions data parish collaboration to the agenda for the next CEEF meeting

1. Welcome & who is here

2. Notes and actions from previous meetings

MH updated on the actions. She apologised for the delay in getting the notes out from the last meeting; this was partly due to issues with the Mailchimp account. She highlighted that one action from the previous meeting needed to be carried forward and that she would liaise with RO on this.

3. Draft Terms of Reference

MH had drafted up some Terms of Reference now that the group is a Forum rather than a Working Group. The group ran through these and made suggestions for additions and amendments.

A discussion was had about how engage with a wider group of people. Various suggestions were raised, such as having a specific engagement drive and improving communications, having a speaker at each meeting, 'advertising' in the Totnes Directory and at the Climate Hub, etc.

ACTION: MH to incorporate suggestions into the ToRs and present second iteration at the next Forum meeting

4. Friends of the Dart – call for support

Friends of the Dart (FoD) are looking for council support on a couple of their projects. MH read out the information provided by FoD regarding their key asks around the Bathing Water Designation and Community Designated River Health projects – this information and an FoD FAQ can be found in the appendix.

The group was very positive about the work that FoD are doing and expressed a desire to support as much as possible. Several people highlighted the incredible work and progress to date by Hannah and the FoD team.

FoD letter of support template:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MyOJ5g0NELB1L886aRGem6QfwZleA08N/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=109293550772264730415&rtpof=true&sd=true

FoD newsletter template:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GBmKyfWDI1MCoK_3DdIWRqrKNvQwQ2ne/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=109293550772264730415&rtpof=true&sd=true

The group **RECOMMENDED** that TTC formally support the FoD requests.

JH suggested that the FoD requests be sent through to Full Council to consider officially supporting, rather than it go to all Cllrs individually.

ACTION: MH to speak to JH about progressing the Friends of the Dart requests to Full Council.

ACTION: ALL to share as widely as possible.

ACTION: MH to feed decisions back to Hannah

5. Transition Town Totnes - Energy Wise funding discussion

Transition Town Totnes had applied to the TTC Community Grant to fund an Energy Wise Show but sadly were not successful as the budget was oversubscribed by approximately £65,000. They were encouraged to apply for an allocation from the TTC Climate Change budget, which the CEEF makes recommendations on.

JF from Transition Town Totnes (TTT) explained the Energy Wise project.

- The first Energy Wise Show was last year. There were speakers, stalls, space for interaction. 200-300 people turned up during the day, and this was after only 6 weeks to set up. TTT want a much longer lead time this year, and also to increase business presence, e.g., companies doing solar, heat pumps, etc.
- The show would be in November 2023

The aim of the show is to make practical support and advice on energy use, waste, and renewables, as accessible to as many people in need as possible in Totnes and nearby parishes. This is in response to the rising energy bills and cost of living crisis in the UK, and aimed primarily at those in financial hardship. The objectives of the event are to help the community:

- reduce its electricity costs;
- reduce its electricity waste;
- reduce its dependency on fossil fuel sourced electricity;
- shift to using renewable energy;
- reduce its spiraling costs of living.

The event will consist of stalls, interactive displays & talks all focused on energy & helping people with their cost of living. TTT will be working with several local energy groups (South Devon Community Energy, TRESOC, Energy Local Totnes, LEAP, Regen, the National Energy Action charity), Caring Town Totnes, Citizens Advice Bureau & various organisations & businesses who are able to provide a diverse range of advice on energy related support. To publicise the event they will be using the Post Office's leaflet delivery service so that everyone who lives in Totnes will receive direct information about the event

TTT are looking to fundraise **£2456** to cover the costs of the project.

The Forum discussed the project and voiced general support for it. It was unanimously agreed to recommend that TTC allocate £2,500 from the budget. JH stated that she would be happy to give some of her Devon County Council Cllr budget towards it, offering £500.

ACTION: JF / TTT to apply for £500 through the DCC website

The Forum **RECOMMENDED** that TTC allocate £2,500 from the Climate Change budget towards the Energy Wise Show.

It was suggested that this recommendation should go directly to Full Council due the Energy Wise Show being in November.

ACTION: MH to liaise with JH on getting the Climate Change budget recommendation to Full Council in September.

6. South Hams District emissions

JH has asked LW whether she would be willing to present some data that she had collated on the South Hams emissions, using the Impact calculator.

The PowerPoint slides are available here:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1F1MfycMvkJmTiXB5tlkmYoriw0hK5cSG/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=109293550772264730415&rtpof=true&sd=true

The spreadsheet data can be found here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1L - jmSI2YvIhZCIQ0499MIleO5247-ZA/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=109293550772264730415&rtpof=true&sd=true

ACTION: MH to include the links for the Impact data and slides in the mailing list email.

The group discussed the various slides and how this could be used. A suggestion was made to have a special meeting / workshop with other neighbouring parishes to discuss how we can use this information to collaborate to take action. This could possibly be facilitated via the Sustainable South Hams group.

ACTION: MH to add SH emissions data parish collaboration to the agenda for the next CEEF meeting

LW was thanked for her work on developing these parish profiles of carbon footprints and very helpful presentation to explain how to use the Impact Tool.

7. AOB

JH gave a brief update on developments at South Hams District Council.

- Sustainable South Hams (SSH) are now working in close partnership with SHDC, having received funding to continue their work.
- Cllr McKay – portfolio holder for climate change – is setting up a climate change panel
- JH is working with the SSH composting team to progress setting up community composting sites across the district.

End of meeting 20:05

Appendix

Friends of the Dart council support request

Friends of the Dart is asking District, Town & Parish Councils to gather letters of support from both Councils & their constituents to join our growing evidence of support for a reduction of sewage being discharged into the River Dart and their other related campaigns.

The **2 main requests** we want Council help with.

1. Show support for Bathing Water Designation (Dartington, Totnes steamer quay, Dittisham Stoke Gabriel and Dartmouth). If successful, a drastic reduction of sewage spills at these places will be required. They are asking that Cllrs who support sign a letter of support (have provided a template)
2. They are establishing a river-long campaign: the COMMUNITY DESIGNATED RIVER HEALTH PROJECT and they would like help sharing information about this.

The project aims for a reduction to 1-2 spills (CSOs) per sewage outlet (the same water quality as Bathing Water Status) along the entire length of the Dart. This takes the form of a timeline of resolution of CSOs and an agreement with South West water to update infrastructure, both of which will be backed up by a legally binding document of accountability.

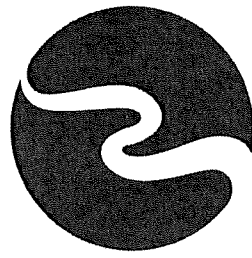
I enclose two TEMPLATES which we would like you to send to Councillors please so that we can gather letters of support for both campaigns from Councillors & from their constituents.

1. The first letter is for individual councillors to complete to show their support for a bathing water application. Please ask councillors to fill in the template letter & tick the sites that they agree with before returning it to us at hello@friendsofthedart.org

2. The second is a newsletters or mail-shot template that Councillors will send out to constituents

The householders who receive the newsletters are asked to support us by completing the survey. We would like local businesses to write a letter of support using the template and return it to us at hello@friendsofthedart.org

We are looking to fund FOD in a sustainable way and welcome any input that the council can provide. Note we will be operating a year round and river long testing programme and hosting the data in a way that makes it easily accessible to the community.



Friends Of The
**River
Dart**

Who are we?

Friends of the Dart is a grassroots community group. We exist as an advocate for the River Dart & for our community. We believe that effective collaboration, connection & information is key in remedying water quality & ecology issues on the river, & that the same mind-set that created these issues over many years is not the one that can solve them. As a community we are coming together in collaboration with government organisations, corporations, academics and NGOs to ensure that we collectively move towards long term sustainable health for our rivers with tangible & notable outcomes that enrich & revitalise both the river & our community's connection to nature.

Why was FOD set up?

Friends of The Dart began with a group of friends coming together after people became ill from swimming in the river. We asked ourselves what is in the water? The group has rapidly gained momentum and we have been joined by a whole host of river lovers including, swimmers, landowners, farmers, kayakers, canoeists, athletes and runners, boaters, picnickers, ecologists, anglers and walkers. We are a growing movement that includes local businesses, clubs and schools.

What is FoD doing?

1/Community River Health Designation, CRHD is a new model that involves collaboratively creating a timeline for the resolution of river pollutants, initially resolving Combined Sewage Overflows (CSOs). Our aim is for these spills to be at bathing water standards (1-2 spills per year per wastewater treatment plant) for the whole river. Data from 2022 with 90% of event duration monitors in operation shows 1584 spills over 9709 hours into the river Dart (source: Department for Environment, Food and rural affairs. <https://environment.data.gov.uk/dataset/21e15f12-0df8-4bfc-b763-45226c16a8ac>).

Community River Health Designation accounts for sensitive ecology in parts of the Dart, as well as sections of the river where more human activity takes place - We expect to have achieved significant results over the next two years, we will then offer this model to other rivers and river partners. In order to evidence both the need for

change and the changes in water quality we have established a community survey and water quality testing programme.

2/ Friends of the Dart water quality testing programme.

By testing for bacteria along the length of the river we are gaining information to share with our community and to evidence both the need for change and the changes as they happen.

We are testing for E-coli, enterococcus, total coliforms and phosphate in the river water. Bacteria samples are analysed in a lab and are of a comparable standard to sampling done by the Environment agency and water company. We are currently taking weekly samples from 10 locations on the Dart.

Phase two of our testing programme will begin year-round testing from source to sea at multiple sites.

Results will be posted on our website, on our FB page and several key locations and businesses in the local area.

It is important to note that these pollutants are by no means the whole picture in terms of pollution entering the water course. We are working to bring data being gathered by other stakeholders together and make it publicly available.

3/ River User Survey.

We are looking at the interconnection between water quality and river ecology health and the physical and mental health of our communities in relationship with the river. Our survey has been designed and is being analysed by professional researchers who we are grateful to have in our volunteer team.

This will give us a wide-ranging view of all those who are Friends of our River Dart.

– Who interacts with the river – eg. swimmers, canoeists, anglers, bird-watchers, walkers, etc.

– People's relationship with the river Dart

– How the river influences the lives of our community

– How often people interact with the river

– What is our community's experience of pollution & the ecology of the river

This survey will help us to work towards our community water quality designation to revitalise both the river & our community's connection to nature.

4/ Building local community hubs

Each village & town along the Dart has / will have a hub that replicates all the FOD activities. Our community engagement team liaises with schools, businesses, & clubs and councils.

5/ Inspiring, informing and engaging our community

We are hosting a series of in person events with inspiring river and ecology experts, establishing connection with the river ecology, and inspiring care and positive engagement.

6/ Building a core team

We are building a team of experts to ensure that our objectives are achieved – We couldn't work without our amazing volunteers in the following teams – Lead team, administration, community engagement, press, communications, research & data analysis, legal, events, public health & ecology.

7/ Creating a model for other rivers and community groups

Once our initial phase is achieved on the Dart we will offer this new collaborative model to other rivers, building a **Friends of The Rivers** network of communities, Water companies and other partners.

8/ Water contact log

As a part of evidencing the need for improved water quality, we need you to tell us when you or others have contact with the river water or you observe others getting wet, we are relying on you to help us to collect the numbers of dippers, swimmers, paddlers, canoeists, sailors etc.

We will put bathing water designation applications in via the DEFRA system for multiple spots along the river where the ecology isn't compromised by visitors. Although a useful tool to highlight issues there are limitations to bathing water designation in that large numbers are needed at one site and it doesn't include a legal requirement to remedy any issues.

You can support us by completing the count on our web site and sending the link to everyone you know who loves the river.

9/ Working in Partnership with Exeter University

We will be supporting and participating in research by Exeter University looking at antibiotic resistant bacteria in swimmers and river water.

How is FOD set up?

FOD is a community group with a constitution and members. We are currently transferring to a community-interest-company (CIC)

How does FOD account for money donated?

To date we have operated on a completely voluntary and unfunded basis. We are now inviting funding and sponsorship to enable us to achieve our goals and create long term positive impact for our rivers and communities. Our phase one bacteria testing programme is supported by Surfers against Sewage.

Other Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is the river polluted?

Pollution enters the water course from many different sources, CSO spills, agricultural run-off, run-off from roads and pollution from industry. We are working towards clear and available information on what is in our water and positive steps to resolve these issues.

2. Is it safe to swim in the river?

The choice to swim should be based on many factors, your swimming ability, health and consideration of river conditions and safe access.

FOD will be posting data on sewage spills on its web site, FB page, in shop windows etc. We hope to add a fuller picture of chemical pollution and also make this publicly available. Because our testing is done in a lab, data will be three days old once it reaches you. You should always make a considered personal choice before entering the water taking into account any visible pollution, smell to the water or algae present.

3. What is a CSO?

A CSO is a combined sewage overflow –

Sewage overflows are meant to act as an emergency relief valve for our sewerage system to stop sewage backing up into our homes. Legislation states they should only be used in 'exceptional circumstances'. Despite this, hundreds of thousands of discharges are happening every year. On the Dart River alone there were nearly 10,000 hours of CSO spills in 2022.

England has a combined sewage system made up of hundreds of thousands of kilometres of sewers, built by the Victorians. This means that clean rainwater and wastewater from toilets, roofs, bathrooms and kitchens are conveyed in the same pipe to sewage treatment works. Run off from increasingly concreted areas, roads and from fields with low absorption ability increasingly adds to this volume.

During heavy rainfall the capacity of the water treatment plant can be exceeded, which means possible inundation of sewage works and the potential to back up into buildings, homes, roads and open spaces. CSOs were developed as overflow valves to reduce the risk of sewage backing up during heavy rainfall.

Combined sewer overflows are currently a necessary part of the existing sewerage system, preventing sewage from flooding homes and businesses. The existing infrastructure needs to be upgraded to stop this from happening.

4. Why do they overflow?

A 'spill' or overflow occurs when excess water runs into the waste water system after e.g. heavy rainfall or when an increase in use of sewage systems occurs due to new housing, runs off roads & fields into the sewage system

5. Where are they taking place on The Dart?

They are taking place at 23 sites from Holne to Dartmouth. The highest hours of overflows are at Scoriton / Holne, Buckfastleigh, Totnes, Cornworthy and Dartmouth (source Environment Agency).

6. Where is FoD testing?

Friends of the Dart has recruited teams of volunteers to test and monitor water quality up and down the river. Testing is taking place at two sites in each of these locations, Dartington, Totnes, Stoke Gabriel, Bidwell Brook and Dartmouth. Phase two will see the addition of Ashburton, Buckfastleigh, Staverton and Dittisham to these.

7. What are the results of FoD water testing so far?

We are working towards an efficient and clear system to share this data. It will be available as soon as possible. Phase 1 testing runs until the end of September.

8. What can I do personally to reduce river pollution?

- Save water from your roof by collecting it in water butts or tanks to use on your garden
- Reduce your water consumption – have a shower, not a bath, re-direct your grey water to your own soak away or butts rather than overloading the sewage system
- Consider carefully what you put down the waste pipes – wet wipes, fat, hygiene products, household chemicals all go into the sewage system, some overflow into the river
- Consider what you put into your bodies – pharmaceutical drugs, hormones also go into the sewage system & into the river

10. How do I report a pollution incident?

If you see a pollution incident you can report it to the environment agency on 0344 346 2020

What can I do to support Friends of The River Dart?

1. Please **JOIN Friends of the Dart**. Our membership gives us strength in negotiating for change. We can do amazing things when we come together and the river needs you.

Individuals, please join us as a friend & if you are a local business, organisation or school, email at hello@friendsofthedart.org to find out how you can join the campaign.

2. Complete our **user survey and log your water contact**.

You can find this on our website, send it out to all your local family & friends, or business/school/club members/ staff/ pupils/ customers.

3. **Please keep updated** –join the Facebook page, Instagram Friends of the River Dart, or check our web site www.friendsofthedart.org where you can also add your email to our mailing list. We will be sending newsletters

4. **Come to our events** The programmes will be on our web site & we will send out EventBrite invitations.

5. **To offer your skills, please** contact hello@friendsofthedart.org

6. **Please donate** via our web site www.friendsofthedart.org

ITEM 7 – KEVICC ENGAGEMENT

Please see text from the email received below:

I am contacting you to see if we can develop some links between your organisation and the staff and children in Education South West schools. Education South West is a trust set up in 2017 including thirteen schools, both primary and secondary, across south Devon. More details can be found on our website <https://educationsouthwest.org.uk/>

One of my roles across the trust is to develop character education and enrichment opportunities for all children in our schools.

Eleven by (age) Eleven – all pupils in ESW primary schools will have opportunities and experiences across the following areas by the time they move onto secondary school at the age of eleven.

Eleven by (year) Eleven – all students in ESW secondary schools will have opportunities and experiences across the following eleven areas by the time they end year eleven.

The eleven areas that we focus on are as follows;

- Leadership
- Performing Arts
- Wellbeing/Mental Health/First Aid
- Local Community Involvement
- Sports
- Environmental Activities/Awareness
- Cultural Visits
- Careers/Preparation for the world of work
- Outdoor Education
- Wider World Culture
- Learning a New Skill/After School Clubs

One of our schools, KEVICCS, is within your area and I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss ways that we might be able to work together to enhance the character education for the children in our schools.

ITEM 8 – D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS

The Committee is asked to consider whether the town should light a beacon to commemorate the D-Day landings in 2024.

Information from the D-Day website:

The 6th of June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day, when Allied forces mounted the largest amphibious invasion the world has ever witnessed. The D-Day 80th Anniversary initiative are asking villages, towns, cities and organisations of all sizes to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day by lighting a beacon at 9.15pm on Thursday 6th June 2024, to represent the 'light of peace'. This would be followed by the reading of the International Tribute to those assembled (see below):

The Tribute

Let us remember those who gave their lives at home and abroad during the D-Day landings, whose sacrifice enables us all to enjoy the peace and freedom we have today.

Let us remember those who came home wounded, physically and mentally, and the friends and family who cared for them.

Let us remember those who returned to restore their relationships and rebuild their working lives after years of conflict and turmoil.

Let us remember the families that lost husbands, wives, sons, daughters and sweethearts.

Let us remember the servicemen and women and merchant seafarers of all faiths and nationalities - from all countries - who fought, suffered and died during the D-Day landings and six years of war.

Let us all remember those in the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force, Merchant Navy, and our Allies - the brave people who kept us safe on the home front and abroad and those in reserved occupations during the difficult time of war.

Let us remember the brave doctors and nurses who cared for the wounded, the men and women who toiled in the fields, the coal mines, the factories and the air raid wardens, police officers, firemen, ambulance drivers and the young people of the Scouts and Guides who all played such a vital role in the war.

ITEM 9 – RNLI REQUEST

The RNLI's Community Manager covering South Devon, has contacted the Town Council requesting support for the lifeboats on the Dart. Their emails says:

Next year is the RNLI's 200th Anniversary and we [RNLI] also have an appeal underway to develop a new lifeboat station. In order to position ourselves as a lifesaving charity, we are looking to work with a wider community. The Dart lifeboat services the River Dart and we are interested in doing more with the community of Totnes.

We have a really engaged group in Dartmouth and used to have a fundraising branch in Totnes. I am very interested in recruiting more volunteers in the town and expanding our engagement activity. I would love a discussion with someone at the council about what support we may potentially get from Totnes Town Council.

