

## **FULL COUNCIL**

### **19 NOVEMBER 2019**

#### **Present:**

Councillors Austen, Bradford, Bullivant, Clarence, Colclough, Connett, Cook, D Cox, H Cox, Daws, Dewhirst, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury, Gribble, Haines, Hayes, Hocking, G Hook, J Hook, Keeling (Chairman), Kerswell, MacGregor, Morgan, Mullone, Nutley, Nuttall, Parker-Khan, Patch, Peart, J Petherick (Vice-Chairman), L Petherick, Phipps, Purser, Rollason, Russell, Swain, Taylor, Thorne, Tume and Wrigley

#### **Apologies:**

Councillors Eden, Evans, Jeffery, Jeffries, Jenks, Orme and Parker

#### **Officers in Attendance:**

Neil Blaney, Economy Manager  
Graham Davey, Housing Enabling and Development Manager  
Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer  
Phil Shears, Managing Director  
Karen Trickey, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer

## **62. MINUTES**

The Portfolio Holder for Sport, Recreation & Culture, seconded by the Leader proposed that the minutes of the Full Council on the 24 September 2019 were approved as correct and signed by the Chairman.

## **63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hocking declared an interest in respect of minute no.64 (Stover Park Presentation) as he received a pension from one of the land owners.

## **64. STOVER PARK PRESENTATION**

Jon Avon from Devon County Council gave a presentation on the Stover Park Project [attached to minutes].

Members were advised of the historic nature of the park and its buildings, the submitted lottery bid and the plans for the future enhancement of the park including the restoration of the Stover Lake and the Historic Buildings and the creation of new access routes and a café.

Members thanked Jon for his informative presentation.

**65. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4.5(K)**

The Members' questions and responses are attached to the minutes.

In response to Councillor Clarence supplementary question, the Leader clarified that the Portfolio Holder for Business, Economy & Tourism, Portfolio Holder for Sport, Recreation & Culture and Portfolio Holder for Communities & IT all had experience at the highest levels of Government.

In response to Councillor Purser supplementary question, the Leader commented that the Executive would welcome the feedback from Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the Connecting Devon & Somerset Broadband project as it progressed.

**66. NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4.5(L)**

***A notice of motion to Teignbridge District Council that we declare our support for The Royal British Legion's campaign to 'Stop the Service Charge'.***

Councillor Foden in presenting this Notice of Motion stated that she had the upmost respect of all of the UK Armed Forces personal and the service that they gave to the country. It was important that all service personal were treated equally and fairly.

Councillor Foden proposed this Notice of Motion, it was seconded by Portfolio Holder for Communities and IT and was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that Teignbridge District Council declare its support for the Royal British Legion's campaign to 'Stop the Service Charge' and to write to the Government calling on them to abolish the Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) fees for Commonwealth servicemen and women.

***Motion to support the RSPCA campaign regarding fireworks and Firework Displays***

Councillor Nutley in presenting this Notice of Motion stated that the letting of fireworks caused anxiety and stress to both vulnerable people and animals and that there should be legislation in place on the noise limitation of fireworks for sale to the public for private displays. There was also a need to address the contamination and environmental impact of the fireworks.

Members raised the following points:-

- This Notice of Motion had the full backing of the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals (RCPA) and was a national campaign
- There was already legislation in place to deal with the use and sale of fireworks and there were limited options as to what the Council could do
- there were other festivals that fireworks were used to celebrate

**RESOLVED** that the Notice of Motion be referred to Executive for further detail on what the Council could put in place to support the Notice of Motion.

**67. CONNECTING DEVON AND SOMERSET BROADBAND CONTRIBUTION**

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services presented the report regarding the commitment of the council to continue with the £250,000 to the Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) rural broadband rollout programme, following the cancellation of the original contract and proposal to go back out to tender. He stated that a letter had been received from Connecting Devon and Somerset clarifying the position regarding the £250,000 and the match funding.

Members welcomed the continuing support for this project which would enable the role out of broadband to rural parts of the district. They noted that Councillor Nuttall was the council's representative on the Board.

The Economy Manager commented that the Council would receive regular updates on the role out of the project and its performance as part of the quarterly reporting on the Council Strategy. In response to a Member's question regarding giving funding to local communities as an alternative approach, he advised that there was still opportunity to work with the CDS team and rural communities on local solutions, alongside the main programme. Investment in this scheme did not prevent other bids and projects coming forward to increase connectivity in rural areas of the district and confirmed that the Council's contribution and match funding would be allocated to schemes in the district.

The recommendation was proposed by Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, seconded by Councillor Purser and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that subject to satisfactory assurances being received from Connecting Devon & Somerset about this Council's investment in rural broadband achieving enhanced provision and support in this district that:-

- (a) Teignbridge continues to invest the currently identified £250,000; and
- (b) the matter be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to conclude an agreement.

**68. CHUDLEIGH SHARED EQUITY SCHEME**

The Portfolio Holder for Climate Change Emergency & Housing presented the report to seek Member approval for Section 106 offsite affordable housing contributions of £667,265.69 generated within the Parish of Chudleigh to be used for a Shared Equity Scheme within the Parish.

Members welcomed the scheme which would assist first time buyers in Chudleigh with the deposits they require to access a mortgage.

In response to a Member's question, the Housing Enabling and Development Manager clarified that all these off site Section 106 contributions were ring fenced for affordable housing in perpetuity and any funds received as part of the scheme would be reinvested in affordable housing in Chudleigh.

The recommendation was proposed by Portfolio Holder for Climate Change Emergency & Housing, seconded by the Chairman of the Council and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that a Shared Equity Scheme is set up in Chudleigh using £667,265.69 of capital receipts received by way of offsite affordable housing contributions to assist up to 13 local purchasers.

## **69. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**

The Leader presented the report to ensure that all electors had reasonable voting facilities and that polling places were accessible to electors, including those with disabilities. This was a legal requirement and the report was solely to approve the wards polling stations across the district.

The recommendation was proposed by the Leader, seconded by Councillor Bullivant and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (1) The draft Polling District Places Order be approved; and
- (2) A full review of polling districts is conducted ahead of the next full district council elections with a view to addressing the anomalies created within certain parishes by the 2016/17 review of Teignbridge Council's ward boundaries by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).

## **70. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Portfolio Holder for Sport, Recreation & Culture proposed, seconded by Councillor Bullivant that because of the financial sensitivity the Council go into Part II session and exclude the press and public. This was carried.

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**71. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT EAST STREET AND DRAKE ROAD  
NEWTON ABBOT**

The Portfolio Holder for Climate Emergency and Housing presented the report to seek Council approval to develop, own and manage social rented housing on two parcels of land in the Council ownership in Newton Abbot.

The recommendation was proposed by the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change Emergency & Housing, seconded by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and carried.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (1) Two parcels of land in Teignbridge ownership be developed by the Council as “social” rented affordable housing; and
- (2) the use of funds within the Affordable Housing Capital programme to deliver these schemes be approved supported by a bid to Homes England for additional grant funding to make the schemes viable.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.35 am.

Chairman

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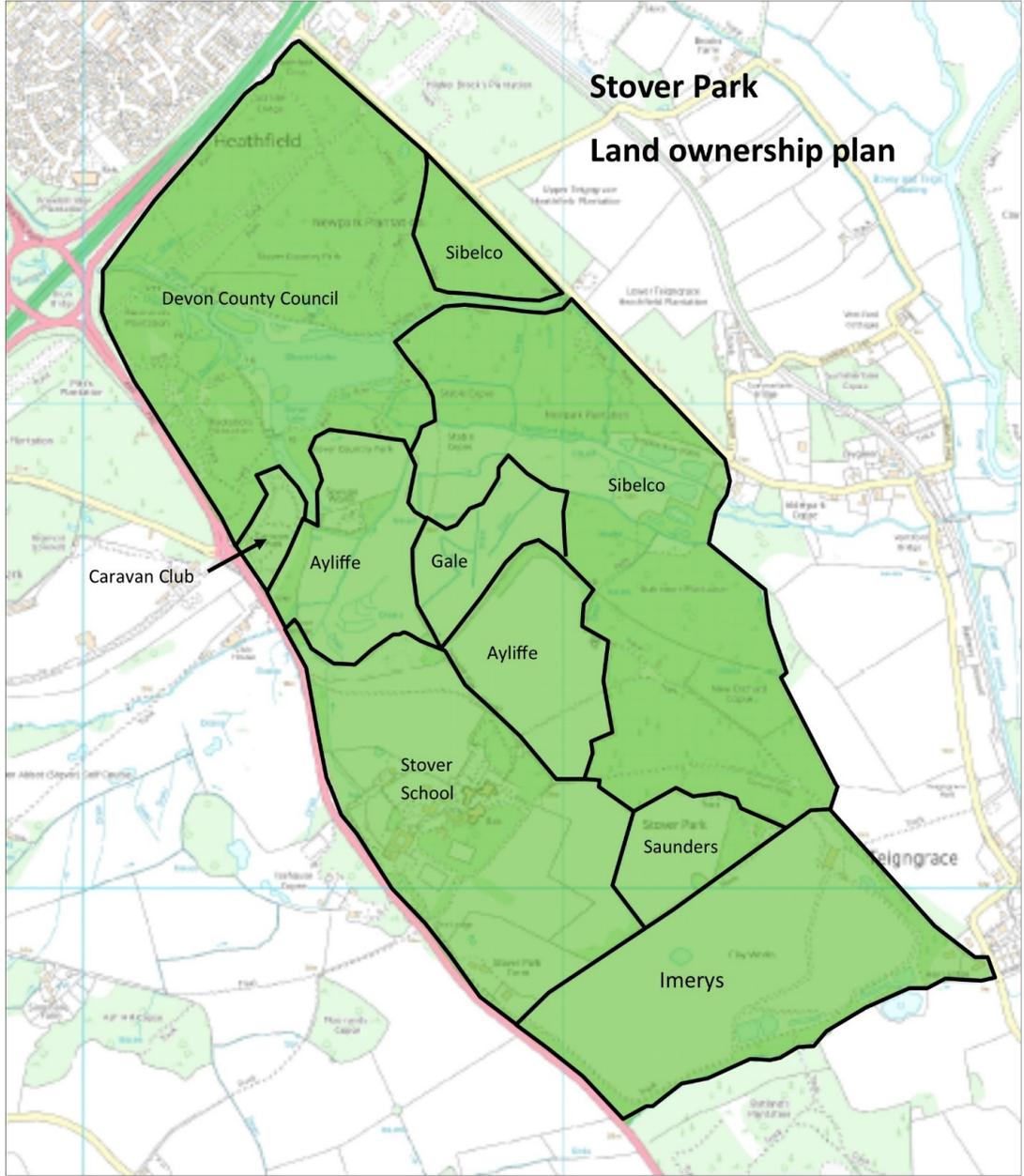


# Restoring Stover Historic Park



# Stover Park 1826





# Restoring Stover Lake



# Restoring historic buildings







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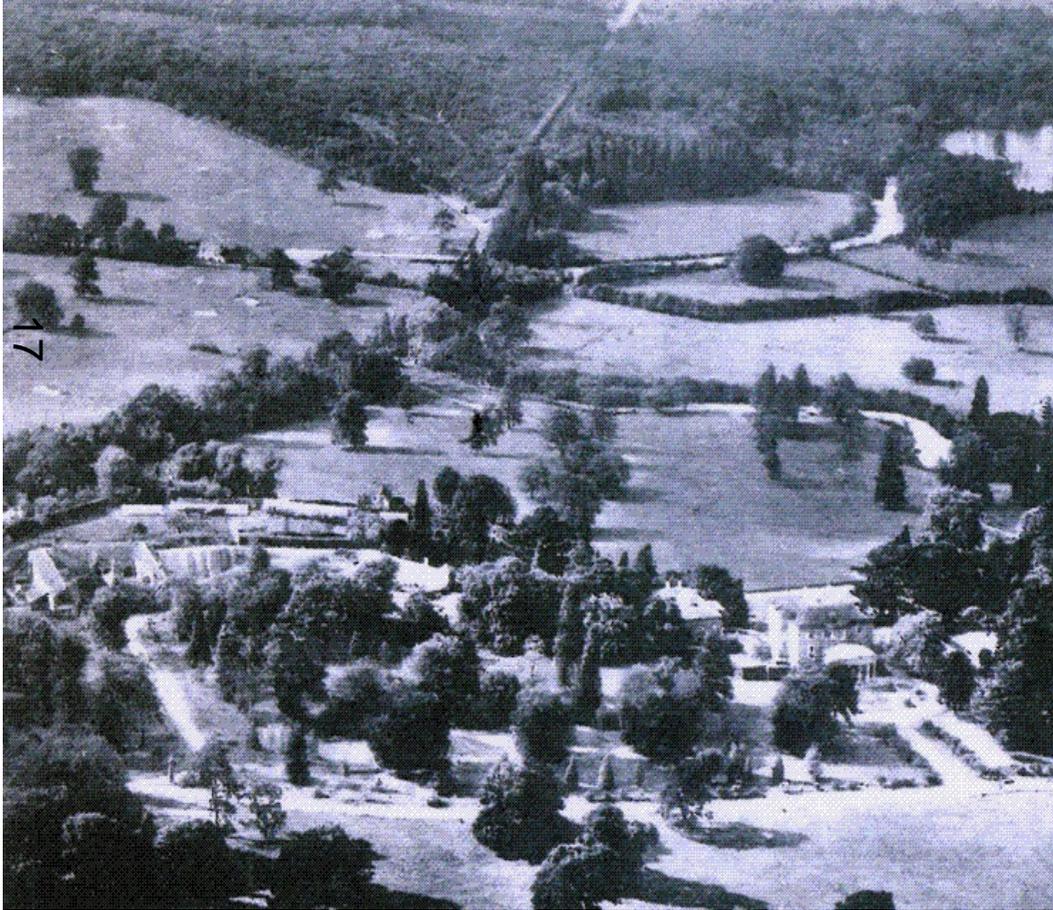
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# Restoring historic views



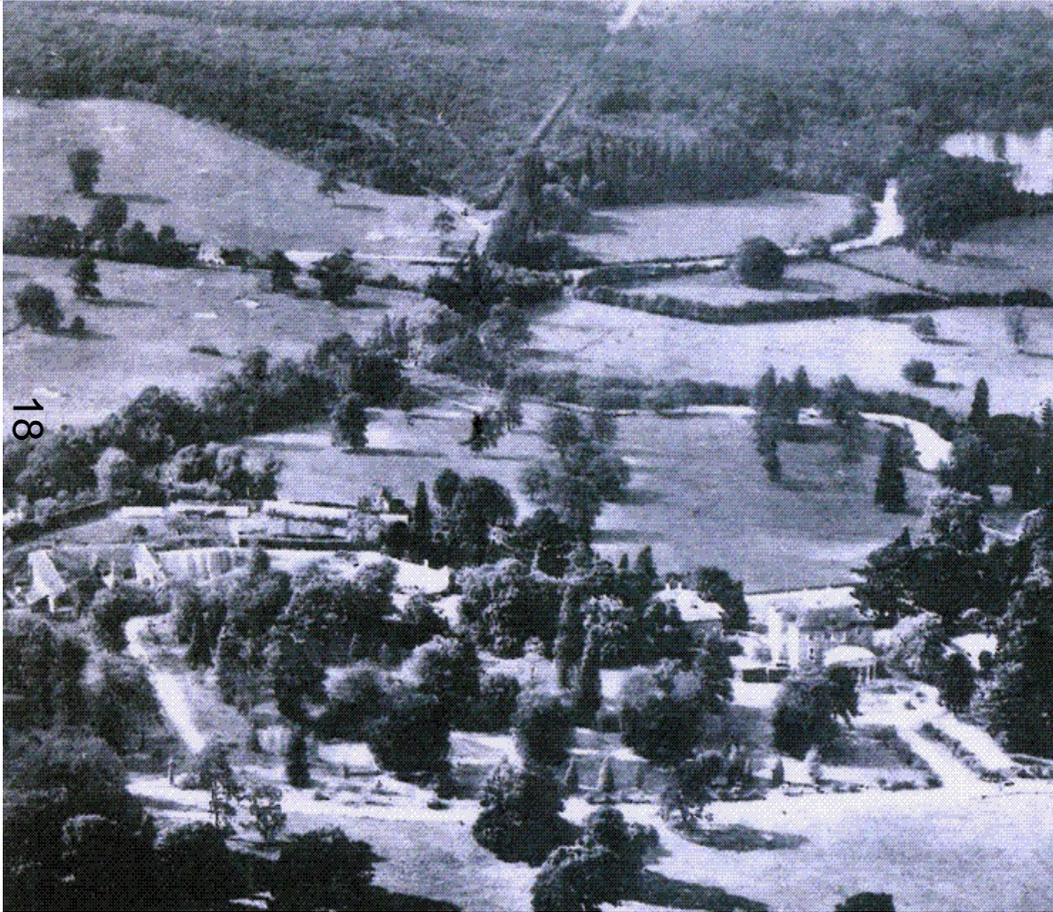
# Restoring the Ornamental lake



17



# Restoring the Ornamental lake



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# Creating new access routes



# Installing new features



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Creating a new cafe



# New storage and volunteer space



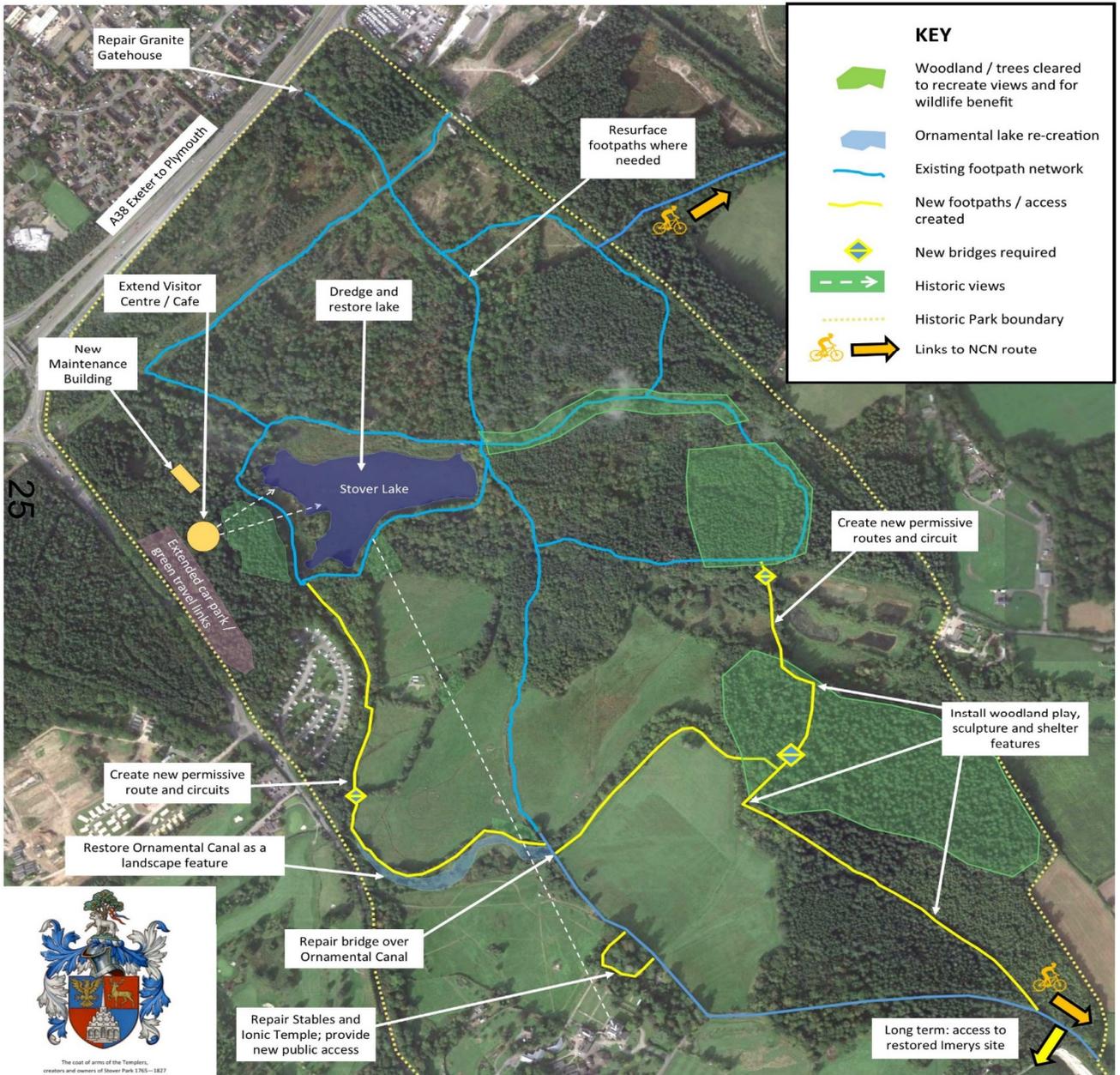
# New activities and events





Involving  
people





# Restoring Stover Park Masterplan

# Timetable

- Late November – Submission
- March 2020 - Decision
- April 2020 – Sept 2021 - Development Phase
- September 2021 – submit the Round 2 application
- April 2022 – begin the Delivery Phase
- April 2023 – most capital works completed, Lake dredged, Discovery Centre re-opened
- March 2025 – project completed

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**COUNCIL MEETING**

**19 November 2019**

**Member Questions under Council Procedure Rule 4.5 (K)**

**1. The following questions have been asked by Cllr Clarence**

*Question 1.*

*Given that TDC is now run by a Lib/Dem administration rather than a Conservative one, would the leader agree with me that having now a group of 26 L/D councillors, many of which are new members of the Council, 3 of which have gone straight onto the Executive which consists of 8 of you, effectively running the Council, it was really disappointing that only one of the 26 of the L/Ds turned up to the financial briefing on the 25 September?*

**Response from the Leader**

We always welcome questions from members, but particularly those from Cllr Clarence.

1) Whilst the ideal situation is that members attend as many briefings as possible, the meeting referred to by Cllr Clarence was not attended by Exec members as most had previously arranged/other engagements that unfortunately coincided. The Exec does receive regular budget updates from both the Chief Financial Officer and the PH for Corporate Resources. I understand the problems of trying to fulfil all the demands placed upon a councillor whilst working full time.

*Question 2*

*Does the leader recognise that Local Authority accounting is very different and recognised as complicated to comprehend and this two and a half hour briefing by the Chief Financial Officer and his team should certainly at least been attended by the three new members of the Executive when they are directly responsible for policy and spending the budgets under there Executive portfolios?*

**Response from the Leader**

2) I am not inclined to take financial lessons from Cllr Clarence. It is worth noting that at least two of the newly elected councillors on the current Executive have advised Ministers of State on policy and legislation, including making the best of “ever-decreasing budgets”, which will prove invaluable to this new administration.

*Question 3*

*How can the leader assure me that those new members of the council, especially those three new to the Executive have the skills and comprehension to conduct their roles in the Executive and administer the councils finances in view of this disappointing showing on the 25th Sept?*

## **Response from the Leader**

3) Part of the answer to this question is in the response to 2 above. Here is an Executive of very real talents; experienced in some cases at the highest levels of Government, some with successful business experience, others with experience of management, but all very able people, in whom I have considerable confidence. A fresh and new outlook is clearly what is needed to reinvigorate this council and that is exactly what is happening following the election result in May, when Teignbridge residents roundly rejected Cllr Clarence's party. There are no vacancies.

## **2. The following questions have been asked by Cllr Purser**

### *Question 1*

*What is Teignbridge District Councils view to any further increases in permitted development rights for telecommunications operators in relation to visual impact and health and safety. Despite the Government's attempts to do so, the issue of health cannot be separated from the relaxing of developer's rights to undertake telecommunications developments.*

### *Question 2*

*Is Teignbridge District Council concerned that there are insufficient assurances in place that such permitted developments will not have a detrimental visual impact and be harmful to the health of residents of and visitors to Teignbridge.*

## **Response from the Leader**

Any proposal for telecommunications infrastructure that comes before the Council for prior approval includes the opportunity for the Council to assess the siting and design. This gives us the opportunity to consider visual impact and respond accordingly.

With regards to health impacts, this does not fall within the remit of the Local Authority. There are a large number of studies into impacts of telecommunications on human health. 3, 4 and 5G technologies fall within the 'non-ionising' bracket of the electromagnetic spectrum. The World Health Organisation states:

*"In the area of biological effects and medical applications of non-ionizing radiation approximately 25,000 articles have been published over the past 30 years. Despite the feeling of some people that more research needs to be done, scientific knowledge in this area is now more extensive than for most chemicals. Based on a recent in-depth review of the scientific literature, the WHO concluded that current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields."*

We welcome measures that help to bring forward the infrastructure that will enable our residents and businesses to access the latest and quickest technology, and believe that there are adequate safeguards proposed through the consultation document to allow us to properly scrutinise and challenge any proposals before they come into effect.

I am happy to give an assurance that this council places the health of all residents at the very top of its agenda, and nothing will be ever agreed that compromises that situation.

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