

Mr S Hearse
Chief Executive
Torrige District Council
Riverbank House
Bideford
Devon
EX39 2QG



Tel : Bideford (01237) 428700

Date: 25 August 2023
Quorum: 18

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

On:	Monday 4 September 2023	At:	6.30 pm
Venue:	Caddsdwn Business Support Centre - Caddsdwn Bideford EX39 3BE		

The meeting will be able to watch through the Councils YouTube Channel
<https://tinyurl.com/TorrigeYouTube>

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to the Meeting of the District Council at the aforementioned date and time

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Hearse", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Executive

To:	Councillor D Bushby (Chair) Councillor P Christie (Vice-Chair) Councillors: S Andrews, L Bach, A Brenton, D Brenton, C Bright, L Bright, C Cottle-Hunkin, J Craigie, A Dart, T Elliott, L Ford, S Gibson, J Gubb, P Hackett, P Hames, S Harding, C Hawkins, K Hepple, R Hicks, C Hodson, S Inch, K James, T Johns, C Leather, W Lo-Vel, R Lock, S Newton, P Pennington, L Piper, P Shepherd, D Smith, H Thomas, C Wheatley and J Whittaker
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Members are requested to turn off their mobile phones for the duration of the meeting

AGENDA

PART I - (OPEN SESSION)

1.	Apologies For Absence To receive apologies for absence from the meeting
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2.	<p>Council Minutes (Pages 5 - 13)</p> <p>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 31 July 2023.</p>
3.	<p>Public Contributions</p> <p>15 minute period for public contributions. The deadline for registering to speak is by 2pm Thursday 31 August 2023. To register please email dem.services@torridge.gov.uk</p>
4.	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>Members with interests to declare should refer to the Agenda item and describe the nature of their interest when the item is being discussed.</p>
5.	<p>Agreement of Agenda Items Part I and II</p>
6.	<p>To consider correspondence or other business especially brought forward by the direction of the Chair</p>
7.	<p>2023 Update of Torridge District Council's Carbon, Environment & Biodiversity Plan (Pages 14 - 74)</p> <p>To receive the report of the Head of Communities & Place.</p>
8.	<p>Council Tax - Care Leavers Discount Policy (Pages 75 - 78)</p> <p>To receive the report of the Head of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer).</p>
9.	<p>Annual Report on Treasury Management 2022-23 (Pages 79 - 85)</p> <p>To receive the report of the Finance Manager (S151 Officer).</p>
10.	<p>Street Name and Numbering Policy (Pages 86 - 108)</p> <p>To receive the report of the Head of Communities & Place.</p>
11.	<p>To answer questions submitted under Procedural Rule A9</p>
12.	<p>Petitions</p> <p>To receive petitions (if any)</p>
13.	<p>Notices of Motion</p>
(a)	<p>Written Notice of Motion from Councillor Lo-Vel</p> <p>I propose that the excessive parking charges for the use of Bideford Quay for charitable events such as the Rotary Water Festival, should be waived.</p> <p>The fact that "for some years" it has been Council policy to charge "all events that require exclusive use of the car park a fee equivalent to what the Council 'might' earn from that car park on that day" is not a good enough reason to continue to do so.</p>

I firmly believe that the financial gains of such events to the town are considerable and are of more benefit to the Council than the average local on the day parking receipts would be if they were not to take place.

I think that these events need to be recognised and supported as they often raise money for services which Torridge has cut back funding for. They bring positive benefits to Traders and the Council by increasing the number of visitors to the town (most of whom will utilise and pay for alternative car parking) and are of considerable local community benefit supporting wellbeing and happiness.

(b) **Written Notice of Motion from Councillor J Craigie**

Torridge District Council recognises that tourism plays a large part of the economic activity of the District and that Heritage tourism adds £1.9 Billion to the South West economy (£96.6m Northern Devon) every year. As the highest value added form of tourism, heritage tourism offers a strong contribution to the levelling up agenda and will form elements of levelling up to be submitted by the District Council. We therefore call on Torridge to support the consortium of Heritage Charities and voluntary bodies working on 'Bideford Heritage Harbour' designation for the tidal zone of the Torridge adding significantly to crucial levelling up objectives. A significant portion of the £90,000 funding given by central government for the levelling up partnership bid over 2 years, should be made available to the consortium led by Way of the Wharves and The Freshspring Trust for the heritage harbour designation. £15,000 should be ring fenced for the creation of a district wide Heritage Development Trust Business Plan. The Trust is estimated to bring over £2.5 million inward investment into elevating heritage tourism, and return of the schooner "Kathleen and May" that a team are working to secure funding for, based on it's valuation of £500,000

(c) **Written Notice of Motion from Councillor C Wheatley**

We are proposing a notice of motion regarding this council recognises the huge importance of the mobile library service across the whole of the Torridge District. We request that Devon County Council rethink their decision to close the service across Devon and seek a way to replace the mobile library vans. We ask DCC to explore future opportunities of the mobile service which will enhance lives for our rural communities.

There is a ground swell of public support to save our treasured mobile library service including celebrities and authors Stephen Fry, Michael Rosen, Michael Morpurgo, Dermot O'Leary, Nick Butterworth, Sarah McIntyre, Jacqueline Wilson, Malorie Blackman, Belinda Bauer, Liz Shakespeare, Veronica Henry, Patrick Gale, Tanya Landman, Claire Barker and Harriet Knock.

As well as being classified as "Rural-80" with more than 80% of our population living in rural settlements, Torridge is one of the most deprived districts in the country with the second lowest social mobility rate in England, and the third lowest workplace earnings in the UK. Books are the foundations of education. To help lift our communities out of poverty, deprivation, isolation, and loneliness we should be increasing access to books not removing them.

(d)	<p>Written Notice of Motion from Councillor C Cottle-Hunkin</p> <p>“Torrige District Council declared a housing crisis back in 2021 and has since spent considerable time and energy looking at housing solutions on council-owned land. It is clear that only a very small number of sites will be able to provide some temporary accommodation, far short of what is needed to solve the housing crisis in Torrige.</p> <p>Therefore, this council puts out a request to landowners to come forward with land which might be suitable to be developed in the form of Community Land Trusts. When such land is available and considered appropriate, this council will actively support local communities to bring forward their own local housing schemes.”</p>
14.	<p>Exclusion of Public</p> <p>The Chair to move:</p> <p>“That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972”</p>
15.	<p>PART II - (CLOSED SESSION)</p> <p>Items which may be taken in the absence of the public and press on the grounds that exempt information may be disclosed.</p>
	<p>Meeting Organiser: Democratic Services</p>