

**DRAFT Notes of meeting with representatives of Devon County Council, Teignbridge District Council, Bishopsteignton Parish Council and the Teign Estuary Trail Campaign Group on 29 November 2023 at 3.30 pm at Bishopsteignton Community Centre**

**Present:**

BPC Cllr Henry Merritt (Chair)

BPC Cllr Kate Benham (also a campaign group member)

DCC/TDC/TTC Cllr David Cox

Ms Estelle Skinner TDC Officer

Mr. John Penaligon DCC Contractor

Ms Rona Boyne Teign Estuary Trail Campaign Group member

DCC/TDC/DTC Cllr Martin Wrigley

TDC Cllr Gary Taylor

Note-taker: Mrs Kim Ford (BPC Clerk)

**Apologies:**

Hannah Clark, Arron Carpenter, Cllr Jackie Hook, Cllr. Keeley Gearon, Cllr Ron Peart, Judith Sharples

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Attendees introduced themselves.

**2. Update from DCC provided by Hannah Clark via Estelle Skinner**

Hannah has updated SUSTRANS on the status of the TET and pushed the importance of making this multi-function facility a priority. In addition, SUSTRANS were provided general updates for schemes across the county. They expressed continued support for the TET project. It was considered opportune to keep regular and open communications with SUSTRANS.

It was reported that the that following the recent resolution of TDC it has been agreed for a statement shall be prepared and circulated to all Town & Parish Councils which can be linked to the Trail; whose communities will benefit from the Trail. This will outline progress and seek the support of the community via its local council; this might be used to evidence a joint approach to achieve this goal. Furthermore, support in the form of a financial contribution will be suggested. This letter is not likely to be circulated before Christmas, but hopefully by the end of January 2024. It will be a joint correspondence from both DCC & TDC.

She also touched on TDC funding commitment from CIL, and on land negotiations, which John Penaligon was able to expand on.

**3. Land Acquisitions**

John Penaligon provided an update in relation to the land requirements for the Trail. There is now likely to be further funding available via the TDC Full Council decision, which would support progress on this.

#### 4. Update from Cllr. Wrigley as leader of Teignbridge District Council

Cllr Wrigley confirmed that TDC's Full Council had approved up to £1million, initially to progress a business case and, subject to that evidencing a suitable scale of benefits against costs (Benefit Cost Ratio), to fund further design work and land acquisition costs. Estelle confirmed that the business case has a delivery timeframe of late summer/early autumn 2024.

See the report (section 10 of the linked agenda) from which the resolution referred to was made, [Agenda for Full Council on Tuesday, 28th November, 2023, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#)

Cllr. Wrigley suggested that where acquisition of land may be more straightforward these negotiations should be progressed. For a more segmented but simultaneous approach to build momentum, rather than linear as with most council business. When land is secure a simple permissive path could be installed and used until the trails final scheme is shovel-ready with funds secured. This was discussed, including consideration for the potential maintenance and liabilities for this provision while awaiting the trail. He will liaise with Meg Booth, Chief Officer for Devon Highways for opinion on this proposal.

#### 5. Actions:

1	Preparation of statement, request for support and financial contribution (from CIL) from Town & Parish Councils which shall benefit from the final scheme.	ES/HC
2	Secure contractor for the business case by end January 2024	ES
3	Liaise with Meg Booth on proposal for a permissive path to be installed on acquired land while awaiting final trail scheme to be shovel ready.	MW

#### 6. NEXT MEETING: 10.30am Tuesday 20th February 2024.

To be held at Meeting Room 2, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot. Meet Estelle at Forde House reception.

It will be possible to join via Microsoft Teams on your computer, mobile app or room device.

For login details please contact Estelle Skinner [estelle.skinner@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:estelle.skinner@teignbridge.gov.uk)