

# TEIGNBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (TALC)

Secretary: Dudley Swain 01392 833353 email: dudley@the-swains.co.uk

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## Minutes

of the meeting held Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Forde House

### Present:

Bishopsteignton .....	Elaine Cawthraw; Keith Lambert; Kim Ford	Moretonhampstead .....	Jane Willis
Bridford .....	Roger Dowding	Newton Abbot .....	David Howe (Chairman) Carol Bunday; Mike Hocking
Buckfastleigh .....	Fanny Jackson; Janet Jones	North Bovey .....	Peter Keesom
Denbury & Torbryan ....	Tony Brownhill	Ogwell .....	Richard Broome
Dunchideock .....	Dudley Swain	Shillingford St George ..	John Parrott
Ideford .....	Anthony French; Ashley Lamb	Tedburn St Mary .....	Pat Moody
Ilsington .....	Reg Winsor	TDC	Douglas Hellier-Laing; Mike Haines Phil Bullivant Gary Powell

### Apologies:

Bovey Tracey (Tony Allen; Steven Leigh); Hacombe-with-Combe (Anna Taylor); Ide (Rose Saunders); Ipplepen (Roger Carnell); Kenn & Kennford (Andy Chislett; Bridgette Williams); Kingsteignton (Chris Meatherel)

### 1 Cyber Crime at Your Desktop - Det. Spt. Alex Dawson, Digital Capabilities Unit and Laura Cowie, Cyber Protect Officer, Devon and Cornwall Police

The speakers highlighted police activity dealing with cyber crime and suggested many of the practical measures that users can adopt to protect themselves and the IT systems they use.

The risks are real and substantial with significant consequences. Some users have already been seriously affected in terms of operational ability, reputation and cost.

The statistics presented covering users, usage, crimes and threat levels, illustrated how this topic merits serious attention. Cyber crime is far easier and safer for the criminal. Phishing, vishing and smishing – all dangerous criminal approaches for those users who are gullible and are taken in. Some of the very serious cyber risks were explained in detail, including ransomware, poor passwords and lack of backups.

Extensive advice was offered towards cyber security along with suggested web site support and post-attack action. The Q&A was extensive and informative. These notes cannot do justice to the importance of this presentation. The speaker's presentation, expanding on all these points, is available from the Secretary on request.

### 2 Paperless Planning – progress towards change - Nick Davies, TDC Business Manager – Strategic Place and Tamsin Cook, TDC Planning Support Manager

The transition is now progressing well, in accordance with the timetable, towards a full changeover by the end of March 2017. Some 70% of applications are now being received in IT form rather than on paper. 27 councils have so far taken up the TDC training sessions; more tuition will be arranged should the demand arise.

A number of problems remain for LC's, including broadband connectivity, equipment, Clerk's preparation time and the quality of the TDC web data. The TDC planning web site will be improved in the coming months to enable a clearer view of files (names) for applications, better quality documents and site reliability. The changes may still not enable a zip file to be downloaded of the complete application, the public comments or similar, meaning that many multiple separate downloads seem still to be necessary.

There remains the opportunity that a LC can obtain paperwork for the larger applications by requesting this direct from the developer. With such extensive information freely available on the TDC web pages, it is to be anticipated that councillors and public can personally access the information they need. The practicalities of this were discussed, challenged and remain a

stumbling block for some. Quality presentations at a LC public meeting are clearly going to be necessary. This transition is still evolving, especially for smaller councils that have not yet met the need to handle matters in this new way. If Members have any further concerns to share, please send them to the Secretary.

**3 Minutes of the meeting 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017** – These were approved

**4 Secretary's Report** We are grateful to have been given a grant of £100 from DALC to support our meetings and the bank balance is now £165.22.

There was a discussion regarding the TALC members that are invited to attend TDC Standards Committee. The committee has not met for at least a year. Our representatives would not have voting powers and there may be questionable worth in attending. Nevertheless, TALC agreed that Cllrs. Swain and Dowding would be their representatives.

**5 Meeting June 29<sup>th</sup> 2017.** Members requested to hear from Alison Hernandez, the Police and Crime Commissioner. This meeting will also be the TALC AGM.

**7 Matters brought forward by Members.** Concern was raised about how Devon CC is closing rural roads as a means of reducing the highways maintenance bill. We might look further into this topic one day. CCG's policies were mentioned and may be a topic for discussion idc.

**8 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017** at 7.00pm at Forde House.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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