

Executive Summary Appendix C – Community Actions and Projects

For the **built environment**, the projects and actions are:

- Actively promote use of the Design Code in the planning system and for development allowed through permitted development rights;
- Continue a constructive dialogue with Devon County Council with regard to: improvements to the existing flood storage area in the Coombe Valley, controlling Bitton Brook to reduce the risk of flooding to existing properties; and, re-evaluation of the gully cleaning programme for Teignmouth in the light of the torrential deluges that present a problem with the level of run off from high up by the golf course that comes all the way down through the town to the river, often unable to utilise full drains;
- Continue to work with landowners with riparian rights to ensure that drainage gullies and ditches are kept clear to ensure good water flow during high rainfall and potential flood events and pursuing measures and actions identified in the Drainage Management Plan with relevant bodies;
- Extend a dialogue with relevant authorities about creating additional attenuation and upstream planting measures;
- Work with Teign Heritage Centre and TDC to secure local heritage assets' recognition on the "local list";
- Explore development of a Heritage Trail with TDC, including rationalisation and refurbishment of information boards;
- Work with local land and property owners to encourage the protection of heritage assets and their setting from significant harm; and,
- The Town Council will use and encourage others to use this Neighbourhood Plan as a basis to comment on pre-planning applications and planning applications in the town.

For the **housing** theme, the projects and actions are:

- The Town Council will work with community led housing initiatives where such an approach can add value;
- The Town Council will use and encourage others to use this Neighbourhood Plan as a basis to comment on pre-planning applications and planning applications for housing in the town; and,
- The Town Council will remain fully engaged in the Local Plan Review process to help influence housing numbers, location and design during and beyond the Plan period.

For **sport, leisure and recreation**, the projects and actions are:

- Proactively explore solutions for a facility / multi-use facility which can accommodate gymnastics;
- Explore locations and funding for outdoor gyms / trim trails in park areas and local green spaces;
- Explore provision of an outdoor gym, lockers and showers on the beach;
- Explore provision of and a water sports centre at Polly Steps;
- Proactively pursue improvements to Coombe Valley nature reserve, including informal play and recreation space as identified in the Teignbridge Infrastructure Delivery Plan¹;
- Repurposing the Walled Garden at Mules Park Community Orchard;
- Continue to explore the refurbishment of The Den with Teignbridge DC and other parties, including wet and dry play areas and extension of the skatepark;
- Work with stakeholders to help develop a long-term strategy for the Lido, which includes refurbishment in-keeping with the architecture of the facility; and,
- Refurbishment of Broadmeadow Leisure Centre.

¹ See <https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/media/8895/tdc-infrastructure-delivery-plan-2020-update-pdf.pdf>

For the **community facilities and services** section, the projects and actions are:

- Proactively explore and deliver new and / or improved fit-for-purpose facilities for young people on the site at Park Hill;
- Explore and support delivery of a range of facilities for young people including (but not limited to) undercover meeting places for young people / youth in suitable outdoor locations, a multi-functional indoor hall space for youth groups and organisations, a “strategic” / large play park for younger children to access all-year round and others if identified during the Plan period;
- Explore renovation of the Pier and / or purchase through a Community Interest Company;
- Engage in dialogue with arts / culture / drama / music interest groups to determine the need or not for additional performance space in the town;
- Promote connections between the community and organisations and local and small-scale food production, such as (but not limited to) “Incredible Edible”, “Gorilla Gardening”, pollinator patches, community orchards and trees (to respond to the ecological and climate emergencies, and as an educational and food production resource);
- Work with stakeholders to help develop a long-term strategy for the Lido, which includes refurbishment in-keeping with the architecture of the facility;
- Provide input into TDC’s work in Teignmouth under the Adolescent Safety Framework to address risks of exploitation for some young people from the town and also as a location where other vulnerable young people gravitate. Explore opportunities to provide, or protect, safe spaces for adolescents where there is natural surveillance and limited risk of exploitation; and,
- Continue to engage with key stakeholders to improve local community and health facilities and amenities.

For the **town centre and retail** theme, the projects and actions are:

- Encourage use of the Design Code by business and premises owners in the town centre, including for development not requiring planning permission (permitted development);
- Encourage property owners in the town centre and other locations around the town to improve the quality of the exterior of their property;
- Encourage fresh market traders to build a sustainable source of food and associated stalls to build confidence in local shopping;
- The Town Council and town centre retailers will continue to work with TDC to seek improvements to the retail and town centre offer in a positive way which benefits all without requiring restrictive and sometimes unviable requirements to buildings in the Town Centre Conservation Area (for example, to open-up or widen shop frontages for ease of access and social distancing, to modernise premises to contribute positively to the climate emergency through improved energy efficiency or help reduce costs to businesses);
- Encourage and support appropriate planting of flower beds, and their regular maintenance, in the town centre and seafront;
- Maintain a dialogue with Devon County Council and Teignbridge District Council to help ensure that commercial and domestic wheeled bins and boxes in the town centre are not obstructing accessibility to anyone;
- Usefully encourage “express size” national retailers;
- Support a “shop local online” marketing strategy, including delivery and click and collect, for local retailers in the town centre;
- Encourage more small and medium enterprises / businesses to the town to promote choice and healthy competition to encourage local shopping;
- Support renovation of the Pier and potential purchase through a Community Interest Company;
- Explore provision of a town centre indoor play facility for children with a commercial provider / local business;
- Develop a grouped distribution list of all retail outlets in the town centre, as per the town shopping guide, to facilitate communication; and,

- Explore other “honeypot” and dual linked trip facilities in town centre – around linking leisure, business, shopping, click and collect, community hub and community / small leisure centre space, for example.

For the **tourism, arts and culture** theme, the projects and actions are:

- Explore renovation of the Pier and / or purchase through a Community Interest Company;
- Continue to explore the refurbishment of The Den with Teignbridge DC and other parties, including wet and dry play areas and extension of the skatepark; and,
- Engage in dialogue with arts / culture / drama /music interest groups to determine the need or not for additional performance space in the town;
- Encourage arts-based businesses in other parts of the town to develop links in some way with those in the Arts Quarter for mutual benefits; and,
- Continue to support and actively publicise the huge variety of events and courses held at Teignmouth Pavilions to ensure its continued operation.

For the **transport, accessibility and parking theme**, the projects and actions are:

- Explore, promote, support and deliver the projects and actions identified in the Transport and Accessibility Plan;
- The Town Council’s Air Quality Management Working Party, currently working on TDC’s list of 25 possible Generic Measures to improve air quality, will inform this part of the plan in the future. It should be noted that as one of the main causes of poor air quality in the Bitton Park Road Air Quality Management Area is stop-start traffic caused by the volume of traffic and traffic lights but dealing with all such Highways issues is in the hands of Devon County Council. Of course, they are aware of Teignmouth’s problems and an increasing lobby for 20mph limits to be implemented in many areas. However, the jury is still out, overall, on the 20mph issue and Devon’s trial in Newton Abbot will not yield any information for approximately 2 years so we need to look at initiatives which are achievable locally in the interim. Campaigns such as “Is your journey really necessary?”, “Reduce engine idling while in traffic”, and working with schools on their Travel Plans (walking buses, car sharing, parking farther away from schools to avoid the congestion and walking further for good exercise), are among the things that can be investigated and promoted by Councillors;
- The Town Council will work with local schools and Devon County Council to help support safer journeys to school;
- Continue to explore, with Devon County Council an appropriate scheme which could safely open Upper Den Carriageway area for parking all year around without compromising safe access in the summer months; and,
- Explore electric vehicle hire scheme (such as Co-cars / Co-bikes) with TDC.

For the **natural environment** theme, the projects and actions are:

- The Town Council and others in the local community can play an important role in identifying trees of particular value for TDC to designate them with TPOs and should continue to identify such trees for protection;
- The Town Council will lobby the District Council for increasing protection of trees;
- The Town Council will lobby Teignbridge District Council to ensure that a strategic and cross-Parish boundary protection is put in place for habitats and significant green and blue infrastructure corridors, through the Local Plan review; and,
- The Town Council will continue to work on plans to upgrade the Bitton Park grounds with tree planting / orchards, which it will aim to deliver, subject to viability of long-term maintenance and management.

For the **economy, employment and business** theme, the projects and actions are:

- The Town Council, Teignmouth Traders and the Town Centre Management Partnership will work proactively with Devon County Council and Teignbridge District Council to develop a positive economic development strategy which

supports recovery and sustainable growth of the local Teignmouth economy including improvement to Internet connectivity and speeds.