

TEIGNBRIDGE LOCALITY (COUNTY) COMMITTEE

13 July 2023

Present:-

Councillors G Gribble (Chair), J Bradford, J Brook, A Connett, D Cox, S Khan, R Peart and M Wrigley.

* **19** **Election of Chair**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Gribble and **SECONDED** by Councillor Peart and

RESOLVED: that this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee (to be held in person).

* **20** **Election of Vice-Chair**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Gribble and **SECONDED** by Councillor Peart and

RESOLVED: that this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee (to be held in person).

* **21** **Minutes**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Gribble and **SECONDED** by Councillor Peart and

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2023 be signed as a correct record.

* **22** **South West Rail Resilience Programme (Teignmouth and Dawlish Line) Update**

The Chair welcomed Network Rail representatives Mr Ewen Morrison (Senior Programme Manager) and Ms Alina Murray (Senior Sponsor) to the meeting, for a presentation update on Phases 2-5, in summary:-

Phase 2 - Dawlish Sea Wall, Coastguard's to Colonnade

Phase 2 comprising resilience works and the incorporation of historical features retaining old stone, arches and Coastguard's boathouse footprint was opened to the public at the end of May 2023, with the formal opening by The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP, Secretary of State for Transport on 3 July 2023. Lifts for the accessible footbridge at Dawlish station were due to be

installed when the build was complete, due to come into service later this year.

Phase 3 – Rockfall Shelter, North of Parson's Tunnel

This work was due to be completed by December 2023, with measures to address the significant risk of rockfall, including main shelter and 7000sq m of mesh and soil nails and hedges for cirl-bunting mitigation.

Phase 4 – Dawlish to Holcombe Cliff Resilience

To help determine the resilience measures required, this section was divided into Cliff Behavioural Units (CBUs), with some CBUs covering designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). Work was starting soon on the cliff face including matting, netting and drilling for the hybrid soil nails, together with the preparatory removal of vegetation, enlarging the Teignmouth Road compound and the building of cliff top haul roads.

Phase 5 – Parson's Tunnel to Teignmouth

Following the last public consultation in 2020, Network Rail was working hard (including ongoing ground investigations) to find cliff based and water management solutions to reduce the impact on the beaches between Holcombe and Teignmouth, including potentially leaving the railway where it currently was. A funding submission was to be prepared in the coming months.

Members' discussions and comments included:-

- noted the use (Phase 4) of combined galvanised/stainless steel 12m soil nails still guaranteed their longevity for 100 years, but reduced the cost by £10m in stainless steel material costs;

- clarification sought on the proposals for stopped up paths which could enable access to cliff areas;

- noted the communications involved with a wide array of landowners (both private and companies) affected by Phase 4 of the scheme;

- concern regarding how Network Rail would proactively manage and influence on an ongoing basis, any proposed future development/landscape changes on both sides of the A379 impacting the water flow rate and flow route and thus affecting resilience of the cliffs and railway;

- noted that further extensive drainage and flow monitoring investigations were required to influence design for Phase 5, currently factoring in predicted rainfall/climate over the next 100 years;

- noted that the haul roads built for the works would have the farmland and hedgerows reinstated on completion;

-regular discussions with both Devon County Council and Teignbridge District Council regarding cycle routes and provision; and

-welcomed the environmental, aesthetic details and quality of the scheme on this special stretch of coastline, which had attracted community support and goodwill.

* **23 Local Member Updates**

Cllr Cox advised the Committee that the Teign Estuary and Coastal Partnership was in the process of developing boat links and as part of this there was a small grant scheme available, on which further details would be circulated in due course.

* **24 Council/Cabinet Forward Plan and Scrutiny Work Programme**

The Committee noted the Council/Cabinet Forward Plan and the Scrutiny Work Programme were available for inspection by using the links below, in the event that the Committee may wished to provide evidence to specific Task Groups or otherwise comment upon specific areas of activity to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee or the Cabinet.

<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

* **25 Dates for Future Meetings**

Please use link below for County Council Calendar of Meetings for meeting arrangements (subject to change):

<http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

Thursday 2 November 2023;

Thursday 14 March 2024.

NOTES:

1. *Minutes should always be read in association with any Reports for a complete record.*
2. *If the meeting has been webcast, it will be available to view on the [webcasting site](#) for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting*

* **DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.50 am