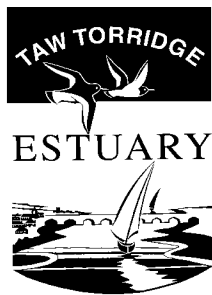


# TAW TORRIDGE ESTUARY FORUM

NEWSLETTER UPDATE – 13th. JANUARY, 2008



- **Environment Agency: Communications Network:**
- **DWT: New Marine Awareness Officer:**
- **ND & Torridge: Core Strategy Issues & Options:**
- **NDDC: Environmental Expo - 18th. February :**
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- **TDC: New Harbour Board Working Group:**
- **Braunton PC: Enhancement of Velator Quay:**
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- **Devon Area Estuary Officers' Group: Meeting:**
- **ND's Biosphere Reserve: Strategy and Action Plan:**
- **SWW: Replacement of Pumping Main at Instow:**
- **NDCCS: Estuary Registration Scheme Meeting:**
- **EA: Estuary Fish Survey:**
- **DCC: Northam Burrows – Disused Landfill Site:**
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- **Consultations:**
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## ENVIRONMENT AGENCY: NEW COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Following the merger of the EA's Devon and Cornwall Areas and a review of how best to organise liaison between the EA and other stakeholders, the Devon Area Environment Group has now been discontinued in favour of a new two-way communication network.

This new network will have the same aims as the Area Environment Group – to provide a means for the EA to listen to other people's views about their work and to find out what other organisations are doing to benefit the environment.

Briefings will be sent out to the members of the network or, when necessary, face-to-face briefings can be arranged on specific topics (e.g. the Water Framework Directive).

## DEVON WILDLIFE TRUST: NEW MARINE AWARENESS OFFICER

We are pleased to welcome Cat Jones, the new DWT Marine Awareness Officer for the North Devon Voluntary Marine Conservation Area. She, like her predecessors, will be working from the Braunton Countryside Centre, and her contact details are as follows:

Cat Jones  
Marine Awareness Officer  
Devon Wildlife Trust  
Braunton Countryside Centre  
Caen Street Car Park  
Braunton  
North Devon. EX33 1AA  
telephone: (01271) 812777  
e-mail: [dwildlifetrust77@clara.co.uk](mailto:dwildlifetrust77@clara.co.uk)

## NORTH DEVON AND TORRIDGE CORE STRATEGY: ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Please note that the deadline for this very important consultation has now been **extended to 31st. January 2008**. The consultation document is available on the Councils' websites:

[www.northdevon.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.northdevon.gov.uk/corestrategy) or  
[www.torridge.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.torridge.gov.uk/corestrategy)

and responses should be forwarded, before this date, to:

[ldf@northdevon.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@northdevon.gov.uk) or  
[corestrategy.dpd@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:corestrategy.dpd@torridge.gov.uk)

## NORTH DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL: IT'S IN YOUR HANDS – ENVIRONMENTAL EXPO MONDAY, 18th. FEBRUARY 2008

This awareness-raising public event will be held in the Pannier Market, Barnstaple between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on Monday, 18th. February, 2008. The TTEF will be running a stand on the day, and any offers of help or information leaflets, etc. from our member organisations would be gratefully received.

If you would like more information about the event, please contact:

[Jessica.Hall@northdevon.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.Hall@northdevon.gov.uk)

## NORTH DEVON AONB AND BIOSPHERE RESERVE: DISCOVERY DAY AT THE MILKY WAY SUNDAY, 16th. MARCH 2008

The North Devon AONB will be teaming up with North Devon's Biosphere Reserve for its annual event, which will be held this year at the:

### Milky Way Adventure Park, Higher Clovelly on Sunday, 16th. March 2008

This will be a most enjoyable day out for all of the family, so please put the date in your diary.

As usual, we shall be running a TTEF stand at the event, and will be asking for volunteers to help during the day.

Any TTEF member organisations that would like to run their own stands should contact:

[nickie.moore@devon.gov.uk](mailto:nickie.moore@devon.gov.uk) – (07875) 207822 or  
[rachel.ackerman@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.ackerman@devon.gov.uk) – (01237) 423655  
[www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk](http://www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk)

## BRAUNTON BURROWS: CAR PARK CLOSED AT SANDY LANE

As from last Friday, the car park at Sandy Lane, access point for the "middle" part of Braunton Burrows, has been closed until further notice. There is, at present, no indication when the car park will re-open. However, you can still access Braunton Burrows, either at the northern end from the Saunton Sands car park, or at the southern end from Broadsands (via the Toll Road from Velator).

## TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL: NEW HARBOUR BOARD WORKING GROUP

Following a review of the management of Bideford Harbour, a new Harbour Board Working Group has now been formed. This Group will operate as an Open Forum to discuss all issues, problems and improvements relating to the Harbour, and will make clear recommendations to TDC Policy, Performance and Resources Committee.

The Group will consist of five elected members and two independent non-elected members. Applications for the two independent places are being sought from those with a particular interest or expertise in the management of the Harbour.

[kathy.mccormack@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:kathy.mccormack@torridge.gov.uk)

Telephone: (01237) 428772

#### **BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL: ENHANCEMENT OF VELATOR QUAY**

Cllr. Mrs. C. Palmer, with the full support of Braunton Parish Council, is spearheading a project to enhance the area at Velator and to make safe and re-open Velator Quay. This would involve obtaining sufficient funding to carry out the necessary remedial work on the Quay and to develop a maritime tourist attraction.

Mrs. Palmer is looking to set up a committee to look at all of the issues, to write a business plan, and to obtain the necessary funding. An initial meeting is to be held in the near future to take this process forward, and interested organisations are being canvassed for their support. I have registered the TTEF's interest, and we will discuss this matter further at our meeting on 21st. January.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY: WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE WORKSHOPS**

I have been invited to represent the TTEF at an EA Water Framework Directive Workshop in Exeter on Thursday, 28th. February 2008. The EA is responsible for implementing this new piece of European legislation in the South West and this workshop will give us the opportunity to help the EA to deliver a better water environment.

#### **OUR COAST: COURSE ON NORTH DEVON'S COASTAL ENVIRONMENT – JANUARY TO MARCH:**

Paula Ferris has now organised a fourth session of this very popular Coastwise course on Thursdays from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon featuring North Devon's cliffs, shores, sea and wildlife. The course fee is £30 for ten sessions, but enquiries are also invited from those only able to attend individual sessions at £3.00 each. For further details, please contact Paula:

[p.s.ferris@btinternet.com](mailto:p.s.ferris@btinternet.com)

Telephone: (01271) 812789

#### **DEVON AREA ESTUARY OFFICERS' GROUP: REPORT OF MEETING ON 19th. DECEMBER, 2007**

I attended this DAEO meeting at County Hall before Christmas, where Jim Masters of the Devon Maritime Forum presented the results of his research into Devon Estuary Partnerships. At a time when funding is becoming increasingly difficult, Jim's research has investigated the differing ways in which Estuary Partnerships are supported and funded throughout Devon, and has put forward some suggestions for future management. (Tony Pratt and I had met Jim in the Autumn to discuss the TTEF's role.)

Over the next two months, the Devon Area Estuary Officers will discuss a response to this consultation. At the same time, Defra is also conducting research into the financial benefits of Estuary Partnerships.

**NOTE:** The TTEF is the only voluntary Estuary Partnership in the County, and there has been no Estuary Officer for the Taw Torridge Estuary since 1999.

#### **NORTH DEVON'S BIOSPHERE RESERVE: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN**

Following the recent consultation on North Devon's Biosphere Reserve Strategy, the final version of this document is now being produced. The subsequent Action Plan has also been the subject of a recent public workshop at Durrant House Hotel, and this is due to be completed soon.

#### **REPLACEMENT OF PUMPING MAIN: INSTOW SEAFRONT**

Work began on 7th. January on a replacement pumping main between Instow Pumping Station 'A' (next to the Commodore Hotel) and the apron of the Instow Sandhills car park. The work will continue for approximately eight weeks.

#### **ND COAST & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE: REVIEW OF CRAFT REGISTRATION SCHEME**

A meeting was held at the offices of the NDCCS on 23rd. November 2007 to discuss the registration scheme and access controls at the Churchfields Slip, Appledore in the 2007 season, and to plan the 2008 season.

It was generally agreed that the Registration Scheme was working well, and that it would be extended in 2008. The NDCCS was thanked for servicing the scheme in 2007 free of charge, and the Service has agreed to continue to do so in the future.

Actions to be taken following the meeting were:

- NDCCS, TDC and the Maritime Volunteer Service are to discuss the need for new ticket machines at Appledore Churchfields Car Park
- The District Councils are to be approached to carry information about the Registration Scheme and launch regulations on their websites
- Enquiries are to be made as to the regulations governing houseboats, with particular reference to effluent, waste and parking
- The telephone number displayed on the information signs around the Estuary is to be updated
- Contact was to be made with the Swansea Coastguard with regard to the Marine and Coastguard Agency's responsibilities in "Areas of General Navigation", i.e. those areas in the Estuary that fall outside the area administered by the Bideford Harbour Authority
- A further meeting is to be convened on Tuesday, 5th. February, 2008 to update the Estuary Users' Guide and the Estuary Code of Conduct Leaflet

#### **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY: FISH SURVEY IN THE TAW TORRIDGE ESTUARY**

As previously reported, the Environment Agency carried out a fish survey in the Estuary on 13th. September 2007. Two areas were studied and the resulting data was:

Taw Estuary:

- Brill (2)
- Plaice (5)
- Sprat (12)
- Sand Eel (40)
- Flounder (8)
- Lesser Weaver (13)

Torridge Estuary (Appledore):

- Plaice (3)
- Scad/Horse Mackerel (1)
- Common Goby (4)

**DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL/DEVON WASTE:  
DISUSED LANDFILL SITE ON NORTHAM BURROWS  
- SITE INVESTIGATION -**

Mr. Adrian Middlewick, the Senior Waste Management Officer of Devon County Council, has met a former Burrows Ranger and walked the site with him. Mr. Middlewick has also contacted a DCC employee, who was a former local engineer for this site.

The former Burrows Ranger has indicated that there may be live ordnance buried beneath one of the earliest sections of the landfill, which is now beneath the access road onto the site. Specialist contractors have been consulted, who believe that they can produce a safe working procedure to investigate this area.

Devon County Council is still waiting for a response from Torridge District Council with regard to obtaining permissions to carry out works on the area of the site outside the fence.

**NORTH DEVON FERRY PROJECT:  
INSTOW/APPLEDORE FERRY**

The promoters of the North Devon Ferry Project have now had meetings with Devon County Council and with the Chief Executives of both North Devon and Torridge District Councils.

An Environmental Impact Assessment will be required for the project, and TTEF members will have an opportunity to comment on this EIA in due course.

Delays have meant that it is unlikely that the full project can be implemented in time for the summer season in 2008. However, it is hoped to run one vehicle between Instow and Appledore for the 2008 summer season, and the committee will be having a further meeting to discuss this early in February.

**CONSULTATIONS:**

**Torridge District Council:**

**Draft Supplementary Planning Documents:  
Area Design Statements for Appledore, Northam and  
Westward Ho! and associated Sustainability Appraisal.  
Torridge District Local Development Framework**

Documents can be viewed at Riverbank House, Bideford and on the TDC website: [www.torridge.gov.uk/dawn](http://www.torridge.gov.uk/dawn)  
e-mail: [dawn.spd@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.spd@torridge.gov.uk)

**Devon County Council: Development Control Committee:  
28th. November, 2007**

**Enlargement and Continuation of Use of Transfer Station  
at Former Yelland Power Station Site:**

A 5-year temporary permission has been granted subject to:

- (a) the submitted contamination report proving satisfactory, and the removal of the Environment Agency objection relating to the flood risk assessment and contamination; and
- (b) the application being referred to the GOSW, and the Secretary of State deciding not to call it in;  
and

**Completion of Capping of Ashbeds at Former Yelland  
Power Station Site:**

Temporary permission is granted to December 2008 subject to the contamination report proving satisfactory.

For full DCC minutes, please access the DCC website:

[http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/democracymunities/decisions/making/cma/index\\_dvc.htm](http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/democracymunities/decisions/making/cma/index_dvc.htm)

**Marine and Fisheries Agency:**

EIA and Natural Habitats Regulations 2007:  
Area 472 Culver Sand

The Secretary of State was not in a position to issue his decision on this matter by 11th. December, 2007 and amplification on the decision will be sent out early in the New Year.

**Devon County Minerals and Waste Development  
Framework:  
Minerals Core Strategy – Issues and Options Consultation**  
Deadline: 18th. January, 2008

**NDDC: Land at Rolle Quay (Former Gliddon & Squire)  
Mill Road, Barnstaple**

Notice of Appeal against the decision of the Local Planning Authority to refuse planning permission for this development

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**Devon Maritime Forum:**

Feedback - 1st. November, 2007 – Barnstaple Hotel  
[http://portalstaging.devonline.gov.uk/dmf/forumfeedback/devon\\_maritime\\_forum\\_november\\_1st\\_barnstaple.htm](http://portalstaging.devonline.gov.uk/dmf/forumfeedback/devon_maritime_forum_november_1st_barnstaple.htm)

and

Newsletter Issue 1: December 2007

Jim Masters,  
Devon Maritime Forum Coordinator,  
c/o Devon County Council,  
Lucombe House,  
County Hall,  
Topsham Road,  
Exeter, EX2 4QW  
e-mail: [jim.masters@devon.gov.uk](mailto:jim.masters@devon.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01392 383231

**South West Rural Affairs Forum  
Newsletter – Issue 1**

[www.ruralaffairs-sw.org.uk](http://www.ruralaffairs-sw.org.uk)

**Devon Wildlife Trust:**

ND Voluntary Marine Conservation Area Newsletter  
and

FREE two-day wildlife and tourism workshops

26th. and 27th. February 2008 or

4th. and 5th. March 2008

from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (lunch and refreshments  
included)

[www.devonwildlifetrust.org](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org)  
[dwildlifetrust77@clara.co.uk](mailto:dwildlifetrust77@clara.co.uk)

**CPRE**

North Devon Group Newsletter - November 2007

[bobbarfoot@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:bobbarfoot@tiscali.co.uk)

and

CPRE: Countryside Voice  
Magazine – Autumn 2007

[www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk)

**WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre**

[www.wwt.org.uk](http://www.wwt.org.uk)

[enquiries@wwt.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wwt.org.uk)

Telephone: 01453 891900

### **Finding Sanctuary:**

Information Pack on its role in recovering and protecting the coasts and seas of South West England for future generations and

FisherMap: Recording fishermen's use of the seas  
Address:

Finding Sanctuary,  
South West Food and Drink,  
Darts Farm, Topsham, Devon. EX3 0QH  
[www.finding-sanctuary.org](http://www.finding-sanctuary.org)

### **2008 Annual Coastal Partnerships Forum:**

3rd. and 4th. April, 2008 in Bristol

[www.solentforum.hants.org.uk](http://www.solentforum.hants.org.uk)  
[solentforum@hants.gov.uk](mailto:solentforum@hants.gov.uk)

### **Decision-Making in the Coastal Zone:**

Seminar – 15th. January, 2008 – Holiday Inn, Southampton

[www.solentforum.org](http://www.solentforum.org)  
[tracey.hewett@hants.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.hewett@hants.gov.uk)

### **North Devon Natural History Network:**

2008 Events Calendar

A list collating all of the natural history talks and activities available in North Devon for the forthcoming year and the contact details of the relevant organisations

Contact: Paul and Ro Madgett  
[madgett@baggypoint.org.uk](mailto:madgett@baggypoint.org.uk)

### **AONB State of the Environment Project News:**

Newsletter – December 2007

[www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk](http://www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk)

### **Defra: Access Newsletter:**

Issue 29 – December 2007

Summary of Responses to the Consultation on Proposals to Improve Access to the English Coast

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/coast-access/index.htm>

### **Europarc: Protected Areas in the 21st. Century**

#### **What does the Future hold?**

Spring Seminar – 27th. /28th. March 2008

Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff

[www.europarc-consulting.org](http://www.europarc-consulting.org)

### **Environment Agency:**

Torridge & Hartland Streams CAMS – October 2007

[cams.devon@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:cams.devon@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/cams](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/cams)

### **Torridge Voluntary Services:**

Newsletter – Autumn 2007 and Winter 2007

[administrator@torridgecvcs.org.uk](mailto:administrator@torridgecvcs.org.uk)

### **Environment Agency**

River Basin Planning Newsletter

Issue 3 – Autumn 2007

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd)

### **North Devon+ - The Facts:**

Brochure

### **Rural Affairs:**

Newsletter: Issue 1 Winter 2007/08

[www.ruralaffairs-sw.org.uk](http://www.ruralaffairs-sw.org.uk)

### **TTEF WEBSITE:**

Amongst the information contained on the TTEF website,

[www.ttef.org.uk](http://www.ttef.org.uk)

copies of the following are also available:

- Taw Torridge Estuary Users' Guide: containing  
Estuary Code of Conduct  
Estuary Zoning System  
Estuary Speed Limits
- Taw Torridge Estuary Free Registration Scheme:
- Taw Torridge Estuary Incident Log:
- Taw Torridge Estuary Moorings Code of Practice:
- Taw Torridge Estuary Crab Tiling Code of Conduct:
- TTEF Management Study for Braunton Marsh:
- Taw Torridge Estuary: Geomorphology and Management: Executive Summary:
- All recent TTEF Newsletters:
- All recent TTEF Minutes:
- Regular Reports and Information on:  
Braunton Burrows  
North Devon's Biosphere Reserve  
Bideford Harbour and Estuary Pilotage

### **DATE OF NEXT TTEF MEETING:**

Monday, 21st. January 2008 (AGM)

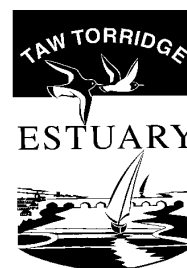
at

Bideford Town Hall

The meeting will begin at 7.00 p.m.

(Please bring your diaries)

**Wishing you all a peaceful and healthy  
New Year**



**Rose Day**

**Chairman**

**Taw Torridge Estuary Forum**

**The Crow's Nest**

**Marine Parade**

**INSTOW**

**Bideford,**

**North Devon.**

**EX39 4JN**

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website: [www.ttef.org.uk](http://www.ttef.org.uk)