

From: Susannah Hunter <>

Sent: 19 November 2021

To: Totnes Town Clerk

Subject: Totnes Town Council consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan process re: an amendment (known as C12) to include the area known as the former Dairy Crest Site.

Importance: High

Dear Members of Totnes Town Council

I am delighted that Totnes Town Council has resolved to pause the Neighbourhood Plan process to consult on an amendment to include the area known as the former Dairy Crest Site. I wholeheartedly support the amendment (known as C12) which will ensure that ANY future development of the site will support:-

- Much-needed local housing - enabling the community to secure over 60 truly affordable homes for local people.
- Restoration of a significant heritage asset - the Grade II listed Brunel Building - for the community and wider public.
- Mixed-use development to meet the needs of sustainable businesses and increase employment opportunities and training.
- A sustainable transport hub.
- Low carbon energy generation for the whole site.
- Critical flood defences for the town.
- Protection and enhancement of important ecological habitats.

This amendment is of utmost importance to the town, to the people and communities of Totnes (now and for generations to come) and to the site itself. As we know, both Totnes Town Council and South Hams District Council have declared a Climate Change crisis and Biodiversity (or Ecological) Emergency, and more recently SHDC declared a Housing Crisis, so support for this amendment could not be more timely or essential.

The town (including myself) voted for a Community Right to Build Order in 2017 for the Dairy Crest site. My understanding is that the amendment will strengthen the plans the town designed, and ensure the following development brief for the site, as detailed in the Proposed Appendix E (C12) – Former Dairy Crest Site Development Brief:

2.2 Within the regeneration area the following should apply;

- a) Restoration and reuse of the listed Brunel building for community and public use
- b) Employment generating mixed use development for community, retail, employment, live/work, and healthcare uses
- c) Employment generating mixed use development that supports the sustainable industries including food and tourism industry
- d) An integrated sustainable transport hub for non-fossil fuel modes of transport;
- e) All development, singularly or cumulatively not to have a negative impact on the ability of relevant authorities to improve air quality with the A385 AQMA
- f) A sustainable renewable energy centre on-site to provide energy requirements

- g) A training hotel providing affordable accommodation to support the night time economy, tourism and sustainability of the town.
- h) Employment units including live /work units in excess of 5000m2
- i) Truly affordable homes in the order of 62 units addressing local needs. These units to form part of a mixed used development complying with policy C4 Housing and Policy C12 Former Dairy Crest site
- j) Retirement/supported living homes to meet local requirements
- k) Recognising the importance of the Brunel building, wider site and riverside, improving access and linkages to it, particularly walking/cycling and river links
- l) Flood risk mitigation and management measures complying with JLP policy EV 35; including improvements to the Leat to protect existing development downstream, remediation of contaminated land and habitat enhancement
- m) Overall enhancement of the public realm that improves access and safe links across the area for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. Complying with Policy En5 River Dart

Thank you for the opportunity to consult on this vitally important amendment.

Yours sincerely

Susannah Hunter
Totnes Resident