

Conservative Notice of Motion : Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust

Council Meeting

6 February 2020

The Council is aware that Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust have proposed the creation of an Ocombe Farm attraction that will enhance the recreational and visitor offer in Torbay and provide Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust (the Trust) with a source of significantly increased revenue. The increased revenue will enable the Trust to realise the ambition enshrined within its charitable objectives, which has hitherto been seriously constrained by a lack of funding.

It is believed that the proposed development will have significant positive benefits for Torbay as follows;

- Creation of 60 new jobs,
- Deployment of significantly greater resources to restore, maintain and enhance natural and built heritage on Trust managed land,
- Improve access for Torbay's communities and visitors to natural and built heritage on Trust managed land,
- Resource paid apprenticeships and trainee roles to improve career progression within the organisation,
- Improve the condition of the South West Coast Path and associated infrastructure (on land managed by the Trust),
- Provide new educational opportunities for local schools, with particular emphasis on the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, natural heritage and sustainability,
- Make significantly greater investment in restoring, maintaining and enhancing infrastructure across all Trust sites to improve the visitor experience,
- Establish a fully resourced volunteering programme to facilitate the ongoing contribution of volunteers towards the Trust's charitable activity,
- facilitate the improvement of land and facilities across Torbay for the benefit of the local community and visitors.

The Trust have resources to part fund the new offer, but is seeking grants, voluntary donations and access to external finance to ensure its deliverability.

Proposed motion:

PART 1

That the Council provide a loan facility to Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust, to be funded by new prudential borrowing, in order to facilitate an expanded retail offer, expanded catering offer, new indoor play facilities and a farm based visitor attraction on the following basis;

The remainder of this Notice of Motion is exempt by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and has been circulated separately.

Proposer Councillor David Thomas
Seconder Councillor Chris Lewis