Meeting to discuss Teign Estuary water Quality 1pm Monday 20/01/26 Bitton House

Present : Representatives from SWW, EA (Including Sam Huteson), Rob Parsons HM. Clerk to TTC, SPC (DW & JC) TDC Resorts Sarah Holgate, TDC Environment – Graeme Smith, Stuart Reynold FoRT.

- **Welcome and introductions**
- **31/07 Incident on the Teign- high results**
  EA & SWW said will update their model following some evidence that out flows not previously though to affect Shaldon's water quality had done so with the exceptional localised rainfall which precipitated the high readings on this date.
  Archebrook was being monitored but it was clear that Orchard close and Ringmore towers OF had had an impact on Shaldon's readings.
  Teignmouth's high readings were due to a misconnection leaking sewage into the Bitton Brook between Tesco express and Polly Steps.

- **Shaldon/Teignmouth Bathing Water Quality deterioration**
  The high readings of 31/07 had caused Shaldon's classification for bathing Water 2026 to go from Excellent to Good. EA expect this to bounce back to Excellent next year.
  Teignmouth's Beach (Sea side) rating has remained at Good since 2022. Birds roosting under the pier have caused a significant issue. Suggestions about moving the sampling point further along within the Designated Bathing Area where most people swim may improve this classification but the EA requires evidence to change this spot for sampling**.**

- **Warning mechanisms - Shaldon, Teignmouth, Ness Beach**
  Gales Hill is now redundant. Milford park – unusual for this to spill. KGV - an occasional spiller. On 31/07/25 3 ofs not currently listed on the WaterFit system discharged (Orchard Close, Ringmore Road & Fire station. – had these been part of the waterfit system the warnings about water quality would have triggered.
  SWW said that if there's evidence that OFs are problematic from the EA then investment will follow.
  All waterflows are being looked at by the EA over the next 5 years.
  SWW say that other areas pose a greater priority than those on the Teign. However shellfish beds and Designated Bathing Areas are always a priority.

- **Back Beach Water Quality**
  This is being monitored carefully even though not currently a DBA**.** Owned by Harbour Commission and not TDC. Difficulty to get this criteria due to the shipping lane and boating traffic on safety grounds – all signage advises swimmers to bath on the seaward side where there is lifeguard cover.

- **WINEP**
  Data map for this on EA website with explanation. Current period is work expected pre 2030 – Shaldon's OFs at KGV, Ringmore Road and Orchard Close are in this period – expected 2028. Anything else will fall in the 2030- 35 period now.

- **Vibrio**
  Brief presentation by SR of FoRT. 1 possible hospital case locally noted but no evidential link to a vibrio spike following 31/07 peak in bacteria levels.

  Wider forum - next meeting ? All said would be useful, but no date agreed.