

Proposal for Trail of Light Event

Submitted by: Torr Vale Mill

Introduction

Torr Vale Mill is delighted to propose a new and exciting event, the Trail of Light, as part of the New Mills Festival. This event aims to bring an innovative adaptation of elements from the beloved Lantern Procession while celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Millennium Walkway. The Trail of Light will provide a visually stunning and immersive experience, incorporating fire and light installations along a carefully planned route through New Mills.

Event Details

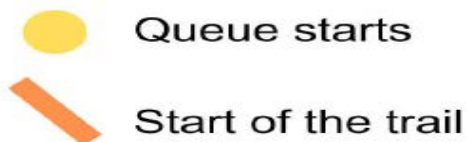
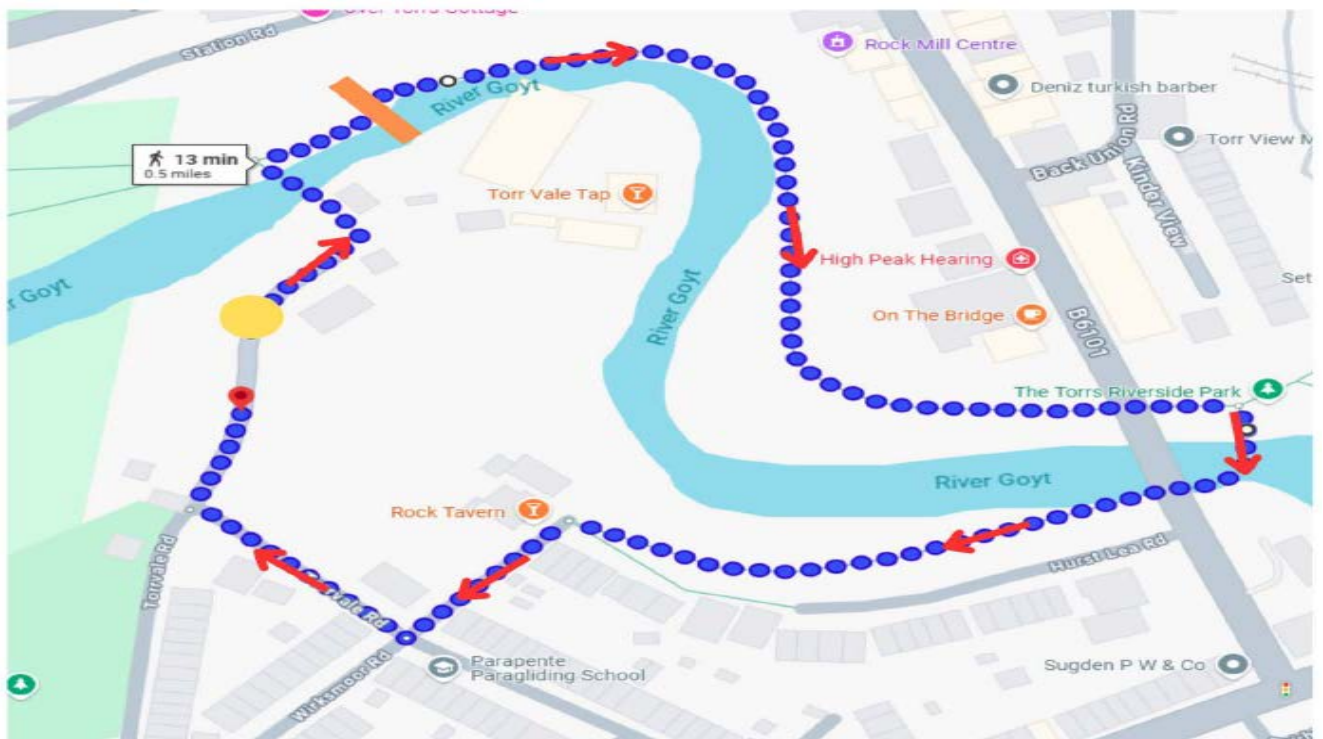
Date & Time: Saturday, 18th October 2025, 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Route: Revised following POSE Committee Comments (Map attached)

- Starting from Torr Vale Mill's car park, participants will enter on foot, queue down the hill, then turn left down the steps, over the footbridge, and turn right towards the Millennium Walkway.
- For those requiring flat access, we will direct vehicles to drive down Station Road and park in the existing car park, with access along the footpath to the Millennium Walkway.

This revised plan significantly reduces pedestrian congestion on Station Road and keeps the queue fully contained within the Torr Vale Mill car park.

The trail continues through the Torrs and up Schofield Lane to Wirksmoor Road.



Key Attractions

Installed and Managed by Walk The Plank:

Geo Lighting: Red and amber lighting effects to create a dramatic flame-lit floor effect along main pathways.

Rainbow Bridge: Programmable, shimmering or flowing lighting effects across the Millennium Walkway.

Fire Installations: A fire area under and leading to and from Union Road viaduct, featuring 20 gas burner units.

Fire Can Installation: Featuring wind chime effects.

Fire-lit Performance Area: Hosting semi-acoustic performances.

Managed by Torr Vale Mill:

Tea Light Bags: In the lead-up to the event, children can visit Torr Vale Tap to decorate paper bags with their drawings, which will then be used along the procession route with tea light candles.

Shadow Screens: Displaying the event title on the South Terrace, illuminated by fire cans or floodlights.

Drumming Performance: Drummers playing under the Union Road viaduct to enhance the atmosphere.

Event Logistics & Ticketing

Ticketed Entry: To manage crowd control, tickets will be sold in advance with allocated time slots.

Proposed Ticket Pricing: Adults: £8 Children: £2 (to keep the event affordable for local families)

On-Site Activities: Torr Vale Mill car park will host street food stalls, a pop-up bar, and potential fire performances after the event.

Safety & Accessibility

The route is designed to accommodate both stepped and flat access to ensure participation from all members of the community.

Risk Assessments: General, fire, and security risk assessments will be conducted.

Event Staffing: Adequate stewards and managers will be in place to ensure safety.

Medical & Welfare Provisions: On-site first aid and welfare services will be provided.

Insurance: Public liability insurance will be covered by both contractors and event organizers.