



ANNUAL REPORT 2016 / 2017



Councillor Liz Roberts
Mayor - 2016/ 2017



Phil Rowe
Town Clerk



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Presented by the Mayor of Newton Abbot,
Councillor Liz Roberts

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N.B. Reports of various organisation based in Newton Abbot will
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REPORT FROM THE MAYOR ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN COUNCIL 2016/17

The Council year has been a very busy one for me. I have attended over 100 engagements ranging from beauty salons to a carol service at Channingswood prison. They have all been unique in their own way and I have had great pleasure in attending the vast majority of the functions/engagements requesting me and my escort's attendance, when I couldn't attend or was "double booked" my very able Deputy, Councillor Ann Jones, stood in for me. I wish to thank Ann for all her support.

There have been two very significant events in this year. One being the confirmation of the adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan in May 2016 by Teignbridge District Council. Then the purchase of St Leonards Church. Both very big achievements. The neighbourhood plan is being used in conjunction with all new applications for development and us as a Town Council will continue to monitor this closely with District.

The purchase of St Leonards Church which will become our new Town Council Flagship, a space for the community also housing the Museum and the Town Hall personnel and Town Councillors. This will be a real Community Hub. The hope is that the funding will be met by various applications, the largest being the Heritage Lottery Fund. We wait patiently for the outcome of that soon.

The two open days for people to visit the church were heralded as a great success. Residents, shop keepers etc. were delighted about the plans for the church. The Town Councillors and staff were all on hand to assist and we all felt that we are delivering on what has been asked for from the people of Newton Abbot.

So, watch this space!!

AROUND TOWN

Our Town Development Manager continues to ensure that the shops are occupied, welcoming in new local tenants with a wide variety of shops, from eyelash enhancements to Stitching clothes etc., together with various events such as the car show, Easter fun days.

New pavements in Queen Street and Courtenay Street have been laid. This replaces the slabs that were not able to safely take the foot traffic anymore. It is hoped that this enhancement will be seen as a significant improvement, we do not want to see any more accidents occurring!

The Market Walk is slowly being revamped, and shop units being either occupied or at least have a frontage that will tell people how to apply.

A new Bistro, Li'Aise opened its doors in November. I must say that I have had several lovely meals there. The staff are very attentive.

TOWN EVENTS

The Town Events continue to be delivered with the utmost professionalism and I am very proud to have been part of the many events that took place during this past year. Our Carnival week was very busy. We were lucky with the weather (for the most part), and added a new event for children's sports at the Recreational Centre on the Tuesday of Carnival Week.

The band concerts were very well attended, and I am very proud of the Army Cadets for showing up each time to assist my fellow councillors in setting out the chairs and collecting money for my charities. We had an additional concert in the park to celebrate our Queen's

90th birthday. Everyone who attended were wonderful. Some brought their own picnics, others purchased from the catering van. The music and camaraderie was just fantastic.

We as a town also sent her Majesty the Queen a book with messages from the residents, old and young. I received a very warm letter from her Majesty's office thanking us for this book.

All the events in the town are carefully co-ordinated by our Town Hall Events Co-ordinators, with help from my fellow town councillors who all give up their valuable spare time to help. We all work very hard to deliver the events for the residents of Newton Abbot. A very huge thank you to all involved.

A special thank you too to my secretary, Carla Winsborrow for keeping me in check all year and ensuring I am fully informed of all the engagements. And finally, our Town Clerk, Phil Rowe, who works very hard on the Town Councils behalf to make sure we are fully compliant, Quality Town Council.

My escort, John Phillips and I have enjoyed the Mayoral year. We have loved meeting people from all walks of life, enjoyed some wonderful civic services, and I personally have been honoured to serve as the Town Mayor for 2016/17.

Looking to the future, we will continue to deliver what is asked of us and beyond. I believe strongly in this town and want to ensure we are fully "on the map"!

Town Councillor and Mayor for 2016/17

Liz Roberts

MAYORAL YEAR 2016 – 2017 ENGAGEMENTS CARRIED OUT

MAYOR – COUNCILLOR LIZ ROBERTS

Thursday 5 th May	Opening of Lotus Spa Centre
Saturday 7 th May	Ashburton Civic Event "Community Celebration"
Saturday 14 th May	Christian Aid Walk
Sunday 15 th May	Band Concert
Saturday 21 st May	Civic Society Civic Award Judging
Friday 27 th May	Wolborough C of E Primary School Crowning Of May Queen
Sunday 29 th May	Newton Bushell Beating of the Bounds
Thursday 2 nd June	Besigheim Students visit Town Hall
Friday 3 rd June	Royal Naval Association Annual Dinner
Saturday 4 th June	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Queen's Birthday Celebrations
Sunday 5 th June	Royal British Legion Decoration Day
Monday 6 th June	ATC Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 8 th June	Official Opening of South Devon UTC
Saturday 11 th June	Community Transport 25 year celebration
Sunday 12 th June	Band Concert
Thursday 16 th June	Planting at Southlands Residential Home
Saturday 18 th June	Civic Society Presentation of Civic Awards
Saturday 18 th June	High Sheriffs Garden Party
Sunday 26 th June	St. Mary's Wolborough Patronal Festival
Monday 27 th June	Highweek Primary School Sports Day
Tuesday 28 th June	Opening of outside Café area at Ilford Park Polish Home
Friday 1 st July	Stover Senior School Speech Day and Prize Giving
Sunday 3 rd July	Band Concert
Monday 4 th July	Independents Day Walkabout
Monday 4 th July	Carnival Quiz

Tuesday 5 th July	Newton in Bloom Schools Painting Competition Presentation
Tuesday 5 th July	Carnival Children's Fun & Games
Wednesday 6 th July	Carnival Duck Race and Tractor Pull
Thursday 7 th July	Carnival Tea Dance
Thursday 7 th July	Carnival Bingo
Friday 8 th July	Carnival Charity Fun Run
Saturday 9 th July	Carnival Procession
Sunday 10 th July	Carnival Praise Concert
Wednesday 13 th July	Homestart AGM
Friday 15 th July	Exeter Lammas Fair
Wednesday 20 th July	Avenue Church Coffee Morning
Friday 22 nd July	Business Breakfast
Sunday 31 st July	Proms in the Park
Monday 1 st August	Newton in Bloom Local Competition Presentation
Sunday 14 th August	Band Concert
Friday 19 th August	Shop Mobility Challenge
Saturday 20 th August	100 th Birthday Party of Fred Daw at Southlands
Sunday 21 st August	Torbay Council Civic Garden Party
Wednesday 24 th August	Photo shoot at St. Leonard's Tower
Wednesday 31 st August	Community Transport Draw
Friday 2 nd September	Fly the Red Flag for Merchant Navy Day
Saturday 3 rd September	Autumn Fayre
Saturday 10 th September	Town Criers Competition
Sunday 11 th September	Band Concert
Tuesday 13 th September	100 th Birthday Party for Mrs Dora Jordan at Ogwell Grange Residential Care Home
Friday 16 th September	Newton Abbot and District Society of Arts Concert
Friday 23 rd September	Helen Foundation Fundraising evening

Sunday 25 th September	Harvest Festival
Thursday 29 th September	Teignbridge Scout Council AGM
Wednesday 5 th October	Visit To Rowcroft Hospice
Wednesday 5 th October	Maid of Honour Presentation
Thursday 6 th October	Musical Comedy Society Civic Performance
Sunday 9 th October	Torbay Council Civic Service
Saturday 15 th October	Newton Abbot Town Ball
Sunday 16 th October	Dawlish Civic Service
Wednesday 19 th October	Community Transport Silver Jubilee Celebration
Friday 21 st October	Newton Abbot and District Society of Arts Concert
Saturday 22 nd October	Borough Law Day
Saturday 22 nd October	Visit from Bishop of Plymouth
Sunday 23 rd October	Chudleigh Civic Service
Friday 28 th October	Cancer Research "Fun with Antiques"
Sunday 30 th October	Civic Service
Thursday 3 rd November	College Assembly and tour
Saturday 5 th November	Proclamation of St. Leonard's Fair
Monday 7 th November	Opening of Zara Morgan
Friday 11 th November	Armistice Day
Saturday 12 th November	Pre-Opening of Liaise Restaurant
Sunday 13 th November	Remembrance Sunday
Friday 18 th November	Newton Abbot and District Society of Arts Concert
Sunday 20 th November	Newton Abbot Rugby Juniors Club
Wednesday 23 rd November	Brunel Skills Centre Open Event
Friday 25 th November	CIC Primary School Council visit to Town Hall
Friday 25 th November	Opening of Early Years Centre
Friday 25 th November	Opening of refurbished Buckland and Milber Community Centre

Saturday 26 th November	Switch on of Christmas Lights
Friday 2 nd December	Teignbridge Sports Personality Awards
Saturday 3 rd December	Newton Abbot Christmas Show
Saturday 3 rd December	Lash Dolls Photo Shoot
Monday 5 th December	Newton Abbot Christmas Show Dinner
Wednesday 7 th December	Victorian Evening
Friday 9 th December	Stover School Carol Service
Friday 9 th December	ATC Christmas Dinner
Monday 12 th December	Kingsteignton Civic Service
Tuesday 13 th December	Channing Wood Christmas Carols
Wednesday 14 th December	Presentation and naming of bus for Community Transport to Bill Brough
Wednesday 14 th December	Lantern Parade
Friday 16 th December	Museum Volunteers Christmas Party
Sunday 18 th December	Friends of Rowcroft Hospice Christmas Service
Wednesday 21 st December	Auction 1 st Turkey at the Christmas Poultry Sale
Wednesday 21 st December	Carol Service
Sunday 25 th December	Visit Newton Abbot Hospital
Monday 17 th January	Meet Mr Menachem Olberg
Wednesday 18 th January	Launch West Country Appointments
Thursday 19 th January	Holocaust Memorial Service – Paignton
Friday 20 th January	Holocaust Memorial Dedication Service – Paignton
Saturday 21 st January	Israeli Folk Dance – Paignton
Sunday 22 nd January	Newton Abbot and District Society of Arts Concert
Sunday 5 th February	ATC Awards night
Tuesday 7 th February	Dyrons Journal Talking Newspaper AGM
Friday 17 th February	Cancer Research Fun Pig Race Night
Sunday 19 th February	Newton Abbot and District Society of Arts Concert

Saturday 4 th March	Searching and Sealing of Leather
Saturday 4 th March	40 th Anniversary Party of Dyrans Journal Talking Newspaper
Sunday 5 th March	Lord Mayor of Exeter Civic Service
Saturday 11 th March	Lord Mayor of Exeter Charity Banquet
Sunday 12 th March	Teignmouth Civic Service
Monday 13 th March	Fly a Flag for Commonwealth
Saturday 18 th March	World Rocks Against Dementia
Saturday 18 th March	Newton Abbot and District Society of Arts Concert
Tuesday 21 st March	Licensing of Rev. Nicholas Debrey
Thursday 23 rd March	Presentation of cheque from Tuckers Maltings
Thursday 23 rd March	Opening of Stitches
Friday 24 th March	Dawlish Civic Fundraiser
Thursday 30 th March	Cancer Research AGM
Tuesday 4 th April	Opening of new exhibition at Museum
Wednesday 5 th April	Choir 86 Easter Concert

Engagements carried out by Deputy Mayor – Councillor Ann Jones

Saturday 7 th May	Newton Abbot Borough Courts Beating of the Bounds
Saturday 18 th June	Borough Ale Tasting
Monday 20 th June	Raising of the Armed Forces Flag – TDC
Saturday 25 th June	Coronation of Carnival Queen
Sunday 14 th August	Dawlish Celebrates Carnival
Friday 19 th August	Shop Mobility Challenge
Wednesday 5 th October	Maid of Honour Presentation
Thursday 13 th October	Networking event
Saturday 22 nd October	Borough Law Day
Saturday 22 nd October	Exeter Lord Mayor's Charity Concert
Monday 7 th November	Carnival Presentation

Friday 11 th November	Coombeshead Academy Remembrance Day Assembly
Tuesday 6 th December	Rowcroft Light up a Lift Service
Tuesday 13 th December	Presentation of certificate re St. Leonard's Fair
Saturday 18 th March	Ashburton Civic Service

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For details of the Devon County Councillors representing the two Newton Abbot electoral divisions and Teignbridge District Councillors representing the four Newton Abbot wards see final page.

OFFICERS

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Monday – Thursday

Mayor's Secretary

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Tuesday – Friday

Events Co-ordinator Job Share

Miss Kelly Burridge

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Mrs Natalie Hicks

Email: natalie.hicks@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Part Time 3 days a week

Office Administrator

Miss Kelly Burridge

Email: kelly.burridge@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Committee Administrator (Tues, Wed & Thurs)

Mrs Alex Robinson

Email: alex.robinson@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Handyman

Mr Kieran Dore

Mobile: 07870 752725

Housekeeper

Mrs Michele Webber

Newton Abbot and Great Western Museum.

Curator: Mrs Felicity Cole
Tuesday - Friday 2a St. Paul's Road,
Newton Abbot
TQ12 2HP

Opening Hours :- April to October
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs - 10 am - 4 pm
Fri 10 am – 12 pm
Saturday 2-4 p.m. (Easter-Sept)

Telephone: (01626) 201121

Email: museum@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.museum-newtonabbot.co.uk and www.devonmuseums.net

Newton Abbot Museum Assistant Job Share

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Charlotte Edwards Email: charlotte.edwards@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Town Development Manager - Sally Henley

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Newton Abbot Community Interest Company

Business & Community Development Officer - Emily Farrell

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NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017

Report to the Annual Town Meeting Saturday 8th April 2017

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the May 2015 Local Government elections the Council has found itself with two vacancies in the Bushell Ward. There was a very healthy level of interest in the co-options, with a total of five candidates. The Council was delighted to welcome Councillors Rob Hayes and Mike Joyce to its ranks. The 'Father of the Town Council', Mr Henry Cole as the first Honorary Freeman of Newton Abbot, continued to attend many meetings during the year, bringing his unique brand of insight (in a non-voting capacity). Henry was joined two years ago by town 'stalwart' Mrs Di Nicholls CBE who became Newton Abbot's first lady Freeman and only the second Freeman in the town's history. Di has struggled to attend and support the many town events held throughout the year due to ill health.
- 1.2 The Council had received interesting presentations and reports on a variety of subjects from:-
- Mr Arron Carpenter, Senior Engineer and Ms Samantha Taylor, Senior Transportation Planner, of Devon County Council on the improvements to the A38 Road at Drumbridges roundabout;
 - Ms Josephine Brown Heritage Assets Officer of the Architectural Heritage Fund;
 - Ms Val Harrison on the Heritage Assets Register for Newton Abbot;
 - Councillor Mike Pilkington on proposals for the Newton Abbot Town Quay by Pilkington Marine;
 - Mrs Mary Sherwood of 4Dementia Carers promoting Newton Abbot as a Dementia friendly town;
 - Mr Peter Snook of the Newton Abbot Street Pastors;
 - Mr Nigel Canham of Strategy Public Relations on a marketing strategy for the Newton's Place Project.
- 1.3 The other significant developments in the town include:-
- Ongoing involvement in the economic vitality of the town by the Town Development Manager, Mrs Sally Henley;
 - The operation of the activities of the Community Interest Company Chairman via Mrs Lynn McElheron;
 - Issues with the ongoing development/use of the Community Garden on Town Council land at Vicary's Field by Transition Newton Abbot;
 - Continued maintenance of Victoria Gardens (the Rose Garden) following the delivery of the project to totally transform the area into a beautiful and tranquil town centre amenity space, with views of the River Lemon (albeit subject to acts of vandalism to two of the viewing panes which now have decorative screens erected);
 - Ongoing maintenance of two areas of the Mill Leat adjacent to Bradley Manor/Allotments;
 - Ongoing delivery of the contract for Christmas Illuminations in Newton Abbot with bespoke features procured by the Town Council delivering both striking Christmas displays and year on year financial savings;
 - Introduction of CCTV cameras following the completion of the 2nd phase of redevelopment of the Town Quay following the opening of the cycle/footbridge over the River Teign at The Town Quay. The second phase delivered resurfacing,

- improved lighting, seating cycle racks and picnic tables. A mobile refreshment facility commenced operation in July 2015 and will continue throughout 2017;
 - Formal opening of the publicly owned and refurbished Golden Lion Square at Bank Street;
 - Regular updates at Council meetings by County and District Councillors on their activities as they affect Newton Abbot.
- 1.4 The work of the Council is carried out by delegation to various standing Committees which, in turn, delegate powers and duties to Sub-Committees. The Council has continued to operate a new streamlined Committee structure with ever evolving terms of reference, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. From May 2016 it has operated a revised Committee Structure with more emphasis on community, heritage and improved financial reporting. This new structure was reviewed in late February 2017 when it was decided to continue with the revised structure. Members were of the view the new structure had worked well, and better reflected the current and future vision, aims and objectives of the Council.
- 1.5 The Council continues to undertake a number of activities and puts forward a number of representations which are suggested for detailed consideration and in many cases actioned by Teignbridge District Council, Devon County Council and other public utility services. In the last three years the Council has been partnering with the Chamber of Trade and Commerce on delivering CCTV through a Newton Abbot Security Trust. The Partnership has worked extremely well. Since 2015, the Town Council has funded the cutting of all grass verges throughout Newton Abbot arising from Devon County Council as Highway Authority cutting the service other than visibility splays for road safety purposes. From November 2014 the Town Council took over the leasehold ownership and operation of the Newfoundland Way public conveniences. The conveniences have subsequently been redecorated inside and out and continue to provide a valuable facility for residents and visitors alike.

2. INVOLVEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

- 2.1 The Town Council has once again supported a number of community groups around the Town, including Newton Abbot Community Interest Company.
- 2.2 Newton Abbot Community Interest Company activities broadly fall into three areas – direct delivery of projects, enabling and supporting other community organisations and activities, and lobbying for change and improvements within the town. Priorities during 2016/17 have included delivering various projects within Buckland & Milber Ward, including various ways of engaging with the community and starting a job club, as well as continuing to support the management of Buckland & Milber Community Centre. The main priority for the CIC this year has been to actively work with other partners to lobby for, and hopefully deliver, the provision of additional infrastructure (shops, community facilities etc.) to meet the needs of the town's growing population. Work is progressing following consultation with the new communities at Hele Park and other developments along the Ashburton Road.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR, COMMITTEE BY COMMITTEE

- 3.1 **Finance & Audit Committee** (Chairman, Cllr Colin Parker; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mike Hocking) and **Policy & Resources Committee**, (Chairman Cllr Mike Hocking, Vice-Chairman, Cllr Colin Parker).

These are the main Committees of the Council which meet on a regular basis to consider:

- ◆ Month by month income and expenditure statements, including balance sheets;
- ◆ Recommend policy to the Council;

- ◆ Recommend budget and Precept to the Council;
- ◆ Consideration of all aspects of the maintenance of property and assets of the Council;
- ◆ Deals with all matters relating to the staff of the Council;
- ◆ Reports from Council representatives that serve on various outside organisations;
- ◆ Regular updates by the Police Inspector based in Newton Abbot.
- ◆ Applications for financial support.

This year detailed consideration has been given to various issues, including the following:

- ◆ Involvement in Newton Abbot Community Trust to own, develop and maintain 'Golden Lion Square', which was officially opened on Saturday 16th April 2016;
- ◆ Awarded a number of Shop Front Improvement grants to local business owners;
- ◆ Identified projects to be supported by the Elector's Fund;
- ◆ Ongoing contributions to the funding and management of CCTV facilities in Newton Abbot;
- ◆ Refining relations with the local press;
- ◆ Considered reviews of investment and banking arrangements;
- ◆ The purchase of the former St Leonard's Church in Newton Abbot;
- ◆ Review of the Town Council's Vision & Priorities;
- ◆ The management of the Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group, following the successful outcome of the Referendum for the Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Development Plan for Newton Abbot, which was held on 5th May 2016;
- ◆ Review of the Council's Standing Orders and other Council policies;
- ◆ Continuation of the Localism Act and its various Regulations;
- ◆ The budget provides £7,400.00 for grants and financial assistance to various organisations in Newton Abbot. This sum includes an amount specifically for environmental projects.

This year grants were made to local organisations including;

- ◆ Bradley Barton Primary School;
- ◆ Homeless In Teignbridge Support (HITS) Foodbank;
- ◆ Newton Abbot Community Interest Company, on behalf of Buckland Community Centre;
- ◆ Newton Abbot District Society of Arts;
- ◆ Teignbridge Citizens Advice Bureau;
- ◆ Newton Abbot Community Transport.

The Committee had received interesting presentations and reports on a variety of subjects from:-

- ▲ Ms Alison Hernandez, Police Crime Commissioner for Devon & Cornwall – regarding her proposals during her time in office;
- ▲ Mr Ian Crews Principal of the South Devon University Technical College presenting and overview of his first year as Principal;
- ▲ Inspector Adrian Woon of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary on policing issues in Newton Abbot;
- ▲ Mr Tony Watson regarding development proposals in the town centre.

- 3.2 **The Strategic Planning Forum** has concentrated not only on current budget performance but also budget strategy and the Precept for 2016/17/18, together with setting out guidelines for all committee future budgets over the short and medium term.
- 3.3 **Community and Heritage Committee** (Chairman, Cllr Mrs Carol Bunday; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs Julie Cleave) has the responsibility for the Events, Museum, Newton in Bloom, (via the Community Engagement Group) and Allotments Sub-Committees,

together with environmental issues and Town Council amenities. The Committee has been very active during 2016, details of which are listed as follows:

- ◆ Various events (see Events Sub-Committee);
- ◆ Approved budgets for its sub-committees, (Events, Museum and Newton in Bloom);
- ◆ Approved an exciting programme for the Museum, including the Newton Abbot Great War, Threads and the Heart of Oak (HOO) project (see Museum);
- ◆ Facilitation of the provision of a multi-wheeled sports facility in Buckland, officially opened on 19th March 2017;
- ◆ The establishment of a Community Resilience Forum to undertake the development of an Emergency Plan for Newton Abbot Town Council;
- ◆ Responsibility for maintenance and provision of street furniture within the town;
- ◆ The authorisation of Pavement Cafe Licence applications (for various town centre establishments);
- ◆ The management of the Newfoundland Way Public Conveniences, (a devolved service from Teignbridge District Council);
- ◆ The facilitation of grass verge cutting, (a devolved service from Devon County Council);
- ◆ The maintenance of 40+ public footpaths within the Newton Abbot parish boundaries;
- ◆ The management of the oasis that is Victoria Gardens;
- ◆ Numerous floral displays within the town centre;
- ◆ Currently planning a series of events to commemorate the Great War, (to take place between now and 2018).

The Committee had received interesting presentations and reports on a variety of subjects from:-

- ◆ Ms Amanda Mugford, Town Clerk, Camborne Town Council on working in partnership with local businesses in providing a Community Restroom scheme;
- ◆ Mr Darren Hewings the Quarry Manager for the Sibelco's Preston Manor site on Ball Clay Heritage in Newton Abbot;
- ◆ Mrs Ros Davies, of Devon County Council on the 'Public Rights of Way' and 'P3' scheme, in Newton Abbot.

3.4 **Community Engagement Group** (Chairman, Cllr Richard Jenks; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs Lesley Sheffield) has the responsibility for matters relating to community engagement within the town and wider community.

As a new sub-committee formed this year, it has brought together matters relating to the Museum, Newton in Bloom, the CIC and other community issues.

Next year will bring greater opportunity for public engagement and involvement for a wide variety of groups across the community with the development phase for Newton's Place.

(a) **Community & Engagement Group – Museum** (Chairman Cllr K. Purchase; Vice-Chairman Cllr R. Jenks) The Community and engagement committee meets on a regular basis to discuss the forward plan and museum policies and information concerning Newton Abbot Town & GWR Museum and St. Leonard's Tower's activities and events.

Newton Abbot Town & GWR Museum - Annual Report April 2016 - March 2017

Newton's Place project

On the 23rd August 2016, the Town Council completed the purchase of St Leonard's Church in Wolborough St, Newton Abbot. Plans for the church building include relocation of the Town Hall and the Museum, and flexible community spaces for use by the public.

We are very excited about the proposed move as it will provide a much larger museum space, allowing us to display more of the items that are currently in our stores and making it possible to tell more stories of the history of Newton Abbot and its people. A central location and better parking will also make visiting us much easier and more convenient. The close proximity of St Leonard's Tower (currently managed by the museum) means that we will have better opportunities to hold joint events in the town, with activities for all ages.



The building will need a lot of work to make it ready for us to move in. We are currently in the process of gathering all the information required for the initial stages of submitting funding bids. We expect that the development process, and the building conversion work that will follow, will take around two to three years.

Newton's Place Community Engagement Officer- Kate Green 2016/2017

As a community outreach worker for the town's museum, during November and December Kate met people of all ages and abilities to ask them what historic stories they would like to see displayed at the new site, and how they would like to use the new community space.

She is also keen to collect people's memories of the church. To date she's talked with schoolchildren, art group members, history buffs, railway devotees and more besides. Now she wants to widen her net to include anyone with a tale to tell about Newton Abbot or the surrounding villages.

The information Kate gathers will feature in an exhibition when the museum moves to the former St Leonard's Church Newton's Place 'community space' project.

Keen to gather as many stories as she can Kate is searching for people's memories of the town and surrounding villages, things that might not seem very important but in fact tell us so much about what makes Newton Abbot unique. Archiving this material, even if it's relatively recent, will add to our understanding of the place we call home, and help to define it.

Kate would like to hear stories and memories of those things that are special to you. Contact her via the museum on 01626 201121 or email museum@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk



St Leonards Church Open days 2017

We had a fantastic response to our first two open days at the former St Leonard's Church on Saturday 14th January and Wednesday 25th January 2017. Over 500 people poured through the doors to learn more about our £2 million scheme to create a new museum and community space. We were delighted with the positive reactions to the plans and the overwhelming public support for the project.



Local people dropped in to view the plans for their new community space and museum, and enjoyed short talks and tours of the church explaining its history, joined in with mini art workshops, told us their stories and memories of the church, and got 'hands on' with a variety of museum objects. Museum volunteers were on hand to assist the public with their many questions, recorded people's memories of the church, to add to the museum oral archives, gave tours sharing the history of the church and its architecture, manned the museum 'object handling-box', manned the sales counter and made the coffee.

Education- February 2017

Katy Bennie represented the museum at the Devon Cultural Education Partnership meeting in Exeter, and met Kerry Chappell (Senior Lecturer, MA Education Creative Arts Pathway Leader) from Exeter University. Katy explained that our museum was moving to new premises. Kerry expressed an interest in perhaps involving some of her Master's students in a project with the museum and local schools in the next academic year.

Katy arranged a meeting with Sam Eyres (Lead Practitioner Arts & Design & Digital Media Coombeshead Academy) Media, and Roger and Annie Kirk, Trustees of The Helen Foundation, to discuss a new project involving local schools and the museum, to start in September 2017

Education during the summer season 2016

In June 2016, children from Bearnese and Hennock primary schools enjoyed a Victorian Day at the museum. The activities included a tour of the museum, dressing up in Victorian costumes, a talk about the railways and Isambard Kingdom Brunel (and the opportunity to ring bells and operate the train signals!), a walk around Victorian parts of the town, and getting creative making Victorian cards to take home.

The children had a great time and enjoyed their day out. Many thanks to Katy Bennie, our volunteer Education Officer, for co-ordinating these events, and to all the other volunteers who helped out on the day.

The photo shows David Grylls as Mr Brunel, captivating the young audience from Bearnese with his railway talk.



Purchase of railway prints for archives 2016

The museum purchased a collection of unique black & white railway prints associated with Newton Abbot. The images were taken in 1966 and include internal photographs of the blacksmiths workshop at the railway station, in addition to other industrial images of the town such as the power station and the quay. A selection of the prints were on display when the Museum Link Group of ex-GWR men visited the museum in August 2016.



2016 visitors



During the 2016 season, these two happy visitors enjoyed the newly installed dressing up box!

Thanks to Joy Waterhouse, museum volunteer, for all the hours spent making the lovely costumes.

Here are Edward and Sophie having fun! What a delightful pair they were, they tried *everything*!



Museum volunteers

The museum volunteers have, as usual, been an invaluable asset, working behind the scenes during the closure period.

The volunteers have been working hard:

- Continuing to update Modes, the computer index of objects. The museum collection now holds (at the time of writing) 17000 artefacts;
- Researching public enquiries (2/3);
- Researching information for the GWR Room (1);
- Completing training in various areas of funding and education (3);
- Supporting St Leonard's Church Opening Days and leading architectural tours of the site (10);

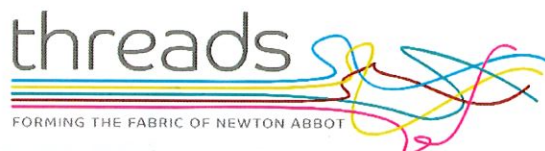


- Reviewing our collection of large photos and paintings (2);
- Reviewing our collections documentation (5);
- We have had 5 new volunteers who work in a variety of areas including administration, transcribing and stewarding St Leonard's Tower;
- Transcribing documents and manuscripts within the museum collection (4/5);
- Finding speakers for the Friends of the Museum Group (1);
- Cataloguing recent donations (6/8);
- Creating object history files (2/3);
- Developing and delivering educational visits during the winter closure period, helping to keep people engaged even when we are not open (3).

St Leonard's Tower volunteers-

The volunteers open the Tower to the public each year from May until the end of September. A dedicated team of Tower volunteers share their knowledge of the town with visitors to the town centre. See special open day dates on the museum website, otherwise the Tower opens every Wednesday morning throughout spring/summer season.

2017 exhibition



The Threads exhibition has been updated for 2017 with new objects linking to the history of the town. The Museum was officially opened by the Mayor Liz Roberts on 4th April, and re-opened to the public on 5th April. The Threads 2017 exhibition has a selection of new artefacts on display linking to the town's history. The GWR Room will also have some updated graphics for this year, drawing repeat and new visitors to the museum.

Once again the fresh and bright area has created an uncluttered and reusable space that provides access to more of the museum collection.



New Museum Administrative Assistant 2017



We welcomed Charlotte Edwards to the museum team; she was appointed as a part-time Museum Administrative Assistant in February 2017. Charlotte has a background in museums and administration and is job-sharing with Lisa, taking on her duties on Thursdays and Fridays.

Talks to the community and heritage groups

- November 3rd 2016- Felicity Cole gave a talk to Unison on Sandford Orleigh and Newton's Place- Fee £30:00 to go towards Newton's Place funds
- 24th February 2017 - Haydon Court, Newton Abbot -Tess Walker gave a talk on Sandford Orleigh and the Bakers - Fee received £30:00 for Newton's Place funds.
- 27th February 2017 – Tess Walker gave a talk 'Finding Private Chambers' how to research a WWI soldier to the Devon Remembers Heritage Project at the Devon Heritage Centre for 20 WWI researchers.

Request for talks and tours of St Leonard's Church, 43, Wolborough Street

- 26th April Twinning Association- Historic tour of the St Leonard's led by Tess Walker.
- Future talk as above to the Rotary Club to be planned and led by Tess Walker.

Staff and volunteer training 2017

- 11th January - Fundraising workshop- Marian Jenkins & Tess Walker
- 4th February- Devon Cultural partnership/DASI Seminar- Katy Bennie
- 23rd February –Fundraising workshop for churches, Bristol- Val Harrison
- 7th March- Kings College, Museums and schools workshop re-curriculum- Katy Bennie
- 15th March -Digital training- Charlotte Edwards
- 27th April- Entomology course at Torquay museum- Felicity Cole



WWI Travelling Exhibition

WWI travelling exhibition was displayed along with the Western Front Association exhibition at the Passmore Edwards Centre in November 2016, 77 people attended.

The WWI travelling exhibition will be on display once again in the former St Leonard's Church as an additional event for the annual town meeting. The public will be able to view the building. The Curator and volunteers will be on hand to lead heritage tours and assist with any questions on the WWI displays and the 'Newton's Place' project.

3.4 (b) Newton in Bloom

The **Newton in Bloom Competition** is organised through the Community Engagement Group (Chairman Cllr Richard Jenks and Vice Chairman Cllr Lesley Sheffield). Local residents and traders enter the annual competition for a chance to win prizes and trophies within various categories. This is where residents and traders in the town can be judged on their garden or premises displays.

Below are some of the traders and resident entries from 2016:



Below are the winners from the 2016 competition:

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

CLASS	RESULTS	
Championship Class	Ann Darke	
Supreme Class	1st	Rosemarie Burley
Winners from 2015	2nd	Fred Bond
Large Gardens	1st	Ann Darke
	2nd	Shane Tozer
	3rd	Shirley Griffin
	Com	Linda Barr
Small Gardens	1st	Diana Osborne
	2nd	Malcolm Bickham
	3rd	Helen Budd
	Com	Sylvia Saxton
	Com	Barbara Parratt
	Com	Diana Baker
Town Terrace House Frontage	1st	Robert Leyton
	2nd	Lucy Sibley
	3rd	Cheryl Wright
	Com	Elaine Picot
	Com	Mr & Mrs Laing
	Com	Rosemary Watkins-Hunt
	Com	David Rogers
Wildlife Garden	1st	Mr F. Akyol & Mrs H. Mather
Best Hanging Basket and/or Container	1st	Mr F. Akyol & Mrs Heather Mather
	2nd	Fred Bond
	3rd	Lucy Sibley
	Com	Ilze Dolmatova
	Com	Helen Budd

TRADERS & PUBLIC SERVICES

CLASS	RESULTS	
Champion Trader	The Co-operative Funeral Care	
Supreme Class Winners from 2015	1 st	Hometeign House
	2 nd	Rio Grande / Union Inn / Olive Tapas
	3 rd	D&S Sewing Machines
Licensed premises	1 st	Jolly Farmer
	2 nd	Buckland Football Club
	3 rd	Saracens Head
	HC	Richard Hopkins, Wetherspoons
	Com	Keyberry Inn
Traders - Large Frontage	1 st	Jolly Abbot
Traders - Small Frontage	1 st	F. Christophers & Son
	2 nd	The Co-operative Funeralcare
	3 rd	Charles Darrow
	HC	Roar Retro
	Com	The Wool Gallery
		Debra Jane Hairdressers

Traders with Garden layout	1st 2nd 3rd	Richard Holland Randall & Simmonds Daroma Hair
Residential Home & Sheltered Accommodation	1st 2nd 3rd Com Com Com	Gilberds House Tindal House Forde Park Nursing Home / Residential Home Dunmore D'arcy Court Southlands Residential Home
Industrial Estates	Com	Pilkington Marine
Best Public Building	1st 2nd	Railway Station Bowling Club

Chairman's Choice	Malcolm Bickham
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Pictured below – Newton in Bloom winners 2016



3.5 Allotments - The Town Council is fortunate that it has a management agreement with the Newton Abbot & District Cooperative Allotments Association Limited which, in turn, is responsible for allotment fields at Decoy, Blake's, Cooke's, Coach Road and Bradley fields. Council representatives meet with the officers of the Association on an annual basis to discuss any issues, and more often if required.

The Council also lets part of Vicary's field as allotments and has given over the remainder to Transition Town Newton Abbot as a community garden.

Negotiations continue to be ongoing regarding other sites which may also be created arising from developments commenced and planned at Mile End Road and Hele Park.

3.6 Events Sub-Committee (Chairman, Cllr Julie Cleave; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mike Ryan), the events diary was once again bursting at the seams during 2016, details of which are listed below:-

BAND CONCERTS – MAY TO SEPT 2016



Once again residents and visitors were entertained at the Sunday band concerts in Courtenay Park without the use of the wet weather venue.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Major George W. Braden, Lord of Manorial Borough of Newton Bushell, a variety of performances were enjoyed from local bands including: Spectrum Music Concert Band, Bay Brass, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Concert Band, Brixham Town Band and Tiverton Town Band.

The performances raised a total of £826.75 towards the Mayor's Charities "Newton Abbot Community Transport" and "Newton Abbot Memory Café".

Spectrum Music Concert Band once again performed in a special "Proms in the Park" concert on 31st July which was kindly sponsored by Major Braden. The collection taken raised £107.45 for the Mayor's Charity.



NEWTON ABBOT CARNIVAL – 25th JUNE – 10th JULY



The Newton Abbot Carnival comprised of a schedule of events that began with the crowning of the Carnival Queen on Saturday 25th June, which saw Tegan Berry crowned as the Carnival Queen for 2016. Carnival week was packed with events including a carnival quiz night, band concerts, duck race, bingo, tea dance and a fun run, plus new for 2016, a children's fun games evening.

Carnival Saturday on the 9th July saw a number of charity stalls in Courtenay Park selling their wares as well as demonstrations during the day. At the end of the week the Carnival Committee were pleased to donate to their chosen charity which was Meadowside Residential Home.

The organisers would like to thank everyone involved in the event for their hard work, time and generosity and all of the sponsors including: Redrow Homes, Recreational Trust, Tesco, Launa Windows, Andrew Hill, Teignbridge Propellers, Parkers Funeral Directors, Elite Holiday Tours, Danceworks Devon & Hamilton Gray Coaches. Many of the carnival raffles would not have happened without the help from local businesses in the area who supported the carnival by donating raffle prizes, so, thank you.



It was thoroughly enjoyed by all and we hope to have another successful carnival in 2017.

AUTUMN FAYRE - SATURDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

The annual parade of the cheese and onion trolley processed through Courtenay Street, Bank Street, Market Square through to Market Walk and concluding back in Courtenay Street for the proclamation. The event had a number of elements including local painter, craft stalls, free face painting and balloon modelling and a children's activities area put on by Humpty Dumpty Nursery. There was also live music outside of Austins The Globe from 'Cahoots'.

Two large pasties and accompanying mini pasties were very kindly baked and donated by 'Homebake' who are located in the Indoor Market and was donated to members of public on the day. £50 was raised and went towards the Mayor's charity (Newton Abbot Community Transport and Newton Abbot Memory Café).

Best presented indoor & outdoor stalls were judged by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Town Crier & Mayor's Cadet and the winners were as follows:

- Indoor Market – Cally's Accessories (prize of 5 tapas at the Olive Restaurant) below left;
- Outdoor Market – Craft by You, by Erica Audu (prize of a Toby Carvery voucher) below right.



The 'Cheese Curling' competition was situated in market Walk and was extremely popular throughout the day again. There was a chance for cheese based prizes to be won. First place of the adult category went to Aaron Williams and first place of the child category went to Jess Jones.



A new competition entitled the 'Newton Abbot Bake Off' was organised for 2016. Members of the public together with café & restaurant owners were invited to bring along their savoury scone for a chance to be judged. A total of 16 entries were received and the judges had a very hard job of crowning the winner. The winner was announced as Sam Scott.

(Pictured L-R: Sam Scott, Cllr Liz Roberts & Jess Jones)

St Leonard's Clock Tower was also open throughout the day for Tower tours.

TOWN CRIER'S COMPETITION – SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER

Newton Abbot once again played host to members of the Ancient & Honourable Guild of Town Crier's held on Saturday 10th September. 17 Criers took part in the competition, which was held in front of Austins The Globe throughout the day.

The competition involved 2 cries – the 'Home Cry' which took place in the morning where the criers promoted the town he or she represents, and an afternoon cry, which for 2016 was an 'Open Cry'.

All winners received a trophy, a certificate and also a monetary prize which was kindly donated by Lord of the Borough Keith Stokes Smith and Austins Department Store awarded a prize for Best Dressed Escort and Best Dressed Couple. A prize was also awarded to Best Dressed Crier.

Winners as follows:

	CRIERS NAME	CRIERS TOWN
1 st PLACE – CRIER	Stuart Cumming	Chard
2 nd PLACE – CRIER	Andrew Fox	Ilminster
3 rd PLACE – CRIER	Roy Goodwin	Ilfracombe
DEVON CHAMPIONSHIP	Roy Goodwin	Ilfracombe
BEST DRESSED CRIER	Owen Collier	Royal Wootton Bassett
BEST DRESSED ESCORT	Julie Fox	Ilminster
BEST DRESSED COUPLE	Mike & Angie Bishop	Frome

Many thanks need to go to a number of people, who have made the event possible. These include: Austins Department Store, Ken Purchase (Host Crier), Kieran Dore, Lord of the Borough Keith Stokes Smith, The Royal British Legion, The Union Inn, Tuckers Maltings, ATC, Army Cadets, the judges and a number of councillors from Newton Abbot Town Council.



CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON – SATURDAY 26th NOVEMBER

The start of the Christmas celebrations began on Saturday 26th November in front of St Leonard's Clock Tower with the annual light switch on.

Earlier in the day, Coombeshead Academy students entertained the shoppers with live music, there was also free balloon modelling and face painting for the children.

At 4.30 p.m. the Christmas parade began from the War Memorial down Queen Street and through to Courtenay Street, with Father Christmas, the Town Mayor, Cllr Liz Roberts and her Escort John Phillips, the Town Crier and Borough Criers, the winter carnival float carrying the Carnival Queen Tegan Berry and her attendants, the Carnival fair maidens and the fallen angel stilt walkers. Black Bess Morris Dancers & Heather & Gorse Clog Dancers were already at the Clock Tower entertaining crowds until the parade arrived.



Santa made his way up to the Clock Tower for the switch on at 5.30 p.m. Once the lights had been switched on the evening ended with a fantastic firework finale to Star Wars Music and set off from behind St Leonard's Clock Tower.

The Town Council are grateful to Newton Abbot Rotary Club, the Carnival Committee, Town Councillors and volunteers who put so much time, effort and enthusiasm into making this event such a lovely experience for families each year. We are also extremely grateful to businesses, for making contributions to the Christmas lights fund.



VICTORIAN EVENING – WEDNESDAY 7th DECEMBER

Wednesday 7th December saw the annual Victorian Evening take place in Newton Abbot in the Market Square and Walk. It is a well-known event now in the South Devon area and everyone looks forward to the charity evening with the Victorian atmosphere.

Elfic the Jester returned for the third year and entertained both children and adults alike in the Market Square throughout the evening and went down a storm.

Shoppers were also entertained in Market Square by Stagecoach Choir singing festive songs & Victorian Classics.

Once again the Market Square and Market Walk was jam packed with local charity stalls selling their wares. In total there were 41 stalls selling Christmas items from tree decorations, homemade cakes and buns to Christmas cards and 'bric a brac'. This year the 'best dressed stall' trophy went to 'Bradley Barton PTFA' (pictured below) they received a trophy as well as a cheque for £50 for their charity. Congratulations to all the efforts they had put into making their stall look so appealing.



The stilt walking policeman was also in the town centre again entertaining the general public throughout the evening. Children were also entertained by a gentleman on a penny farthing who was making balloon models for the children, music from Spectrum Orchestra and a fire juggling show in Courtenay Street, along with stalls selling world food in Courtenay Street.



Santa was in residence in his Clock Tower grotto and raised £47.03 for the Mayor's Charities: Newton Abbot Community Transport and Newton Abbot Memory Café.

NEWTON ABBOT LANTERN PARADE – WEDNESDAY 14th DECEMBER

Newton Abbot town centre was bursting with excitement on Wednesday 14th December, thanks to the lantern parade in the town. 200 pupils from Bearnese, Wolborough, All Saints, Decoy, Bradley Barton, Haytor View, St Josephs and Highweek Primary Schools took pride in parading their colourful Christmas lanterns through the streets of Newton Abbot towards the Clock Tower. The theme this year was 'A Child is Born' and the lanterns varied from goats and camels, kings and angels, soldiers and stars, chicken and sheep and much more. A big thank you to local artist Tony Gee and other members of the Creation Myth Puppets Company who were able to make this fantastic event possible once again, working in partnership with the Town Council.



The town was also bustling with activity as shoppers visited the first Wednesday of the popular Christmas street fayre. The town was a hive of activity as shoppers visited the popular Christmas street fayre with live entertainment throughout the night, and also the magical Santa's Grotto at St Leonards Clock Tower which raised £40.99 for the Mayor's charities.



CAROL SERVICE

This year we saw a change to the usual Carol Service and utilised Golden Lion Square.



The Service was led by the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. Patrick Parkes, along with Ogwell Village Choir leading the singing.

Hot chocolate and mince pies were offered for a donation to the Mayor's Charities and a total of £57.55 was collected.

SANTA'S GROTTO

Following all visits to Father Christmas during the winter months, a grand total of £206.16 was raised. All donations went to the Mayor's charities.



3.7 Planning Committee (Chairman Cllr David Howe; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Ken Purchase) meets every three weeks and looks in detail at all the planning applications affecting properties in Newton Abbot and its borders. During the past year it has considered and made recommendations to the Planning Authority, Teignbridge District Council on 167 planning applications. With the exception of 6 all recommendations have been implemented by the Planning Authority.

A further 44 applications affecting trees in conservation areas, or subject to tree preservation orders have been commented upon.

As further proof of the Council's involvement with the community, the Planning Committee would like to place on record its thanks to Eric Collar the Tree Warden.

The Planning Committee has during 2016 – 2017 had preliminary discussions and deliberations on a number major applications, including the following applications:-

- ❏ 16/01968/MAJ - Land at NGR 285452 72391, Whitehill Exeter Road, Residential development for 203 dwellings and associated development with full details for 193 dwellings and 10 self-build plots in outline only with all matters reserved for Mr Brown Linden Homes South West;
- ❏ 16/02693/MAJ - Land at Berry Knowles, Bovey Road, Newton Abbot Residential development (up to 135 dwellings), access from Old Exeter Road, public open space, landscaping and associated works and infrastructure for Mr Stringer Sibelco;
- ❏ 16/02929/MAJ - Queens Hotel, 142-148 Queen Street, Newton Abbot Alteration, extension and conversion of existing building into 21 apartments for Coyne Group

- 16/02917/MAJ - Ilford Park Stover, Newton Abbot. Removal of condition 8 on planning permission 14/03185/MAJ relating to use of area for storage of touring caravans only for Royale Parks Ltd;
- 16/02826/MAJ - Brunel House, Forde Close, Newton Abbot. Hybrid planning application including full permission for the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of a Class A1 food store (1,140 square metres net) with associated car parking and landscaping and outline permission for Class B1/B2 employment units with all matters other than access to be reserved for Mr R. Jones;
- 16/00922/MAJ - Stover Golf Club, Stover
Proposed extension works to replace land taken from Stover Golf Club for the proposed A382 Corridor Improvements scheme. This involves the construction of four and half holes with biodiversity enhancement measures such as vegetation planting and creation of a lake. The existing land is mixed agriculture bordered by hedge banks and woodland for Mr A. Carpenter, DCC
- 1/01336/DCR3 - West of Newton Abbot between Drumbridges Roundabout on the A38 and West Golds Way. Consultation from Devon County Council (DCC/3851/2016) under Town & Country Planning General Regulations 1992 – Regulation 3 for alterations to widen, as well as straighten the horizontal and vertical alignment of the A382. Proposal for a dual carriageway between Drumbridges and Trago Roundabout, and widening of the carriageway to 10 metres from Trago Mills Roundabout to White Hills Croft. Associated provision of a 3 metres wide pedestrian and cycle way alongside the widened road, landscaping and drainage. Provision of a new route connecting the A382 to West Golds Way near the new Newton Abbot Hospital site (Jetty Marsh II) for Devon County Council

The Committee continues to monitor closely the various policies and application of the Teignbridge Local Development Framework and Core Strategy which had been approved by the Planning Inspector in 2014. The Committee noted that the Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Development Plan was adopted in June 2016 following a public Referendum in May 2016.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Town Council encourages members of the public to attend its meetings and its Committees in order to listen to the debate, recommendations and decisions of the authority. It is pointed out that on every Agenda there is a business item entitled "Public Participation".

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take this opportunity to thank all members of staff for their support during the past twelve months. In particular, Samantha Scott's contribution as Deputy Town Clerk. And, of course, all Members of the Council at the various committees, sub-committees and working parties on which they have served. Those Members who joined the Council at the Elections in May 2015 are now settled into the Council, are enjoying their role in the community. All Councillors I believe continue to work together positively on behalf of the community of Newton Abbot.

Yet again I am able to confirm that none of the 18 Members of the Town Council receive any allowances when they act as Town Councillor. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor do however receive an allowance for their year of office.

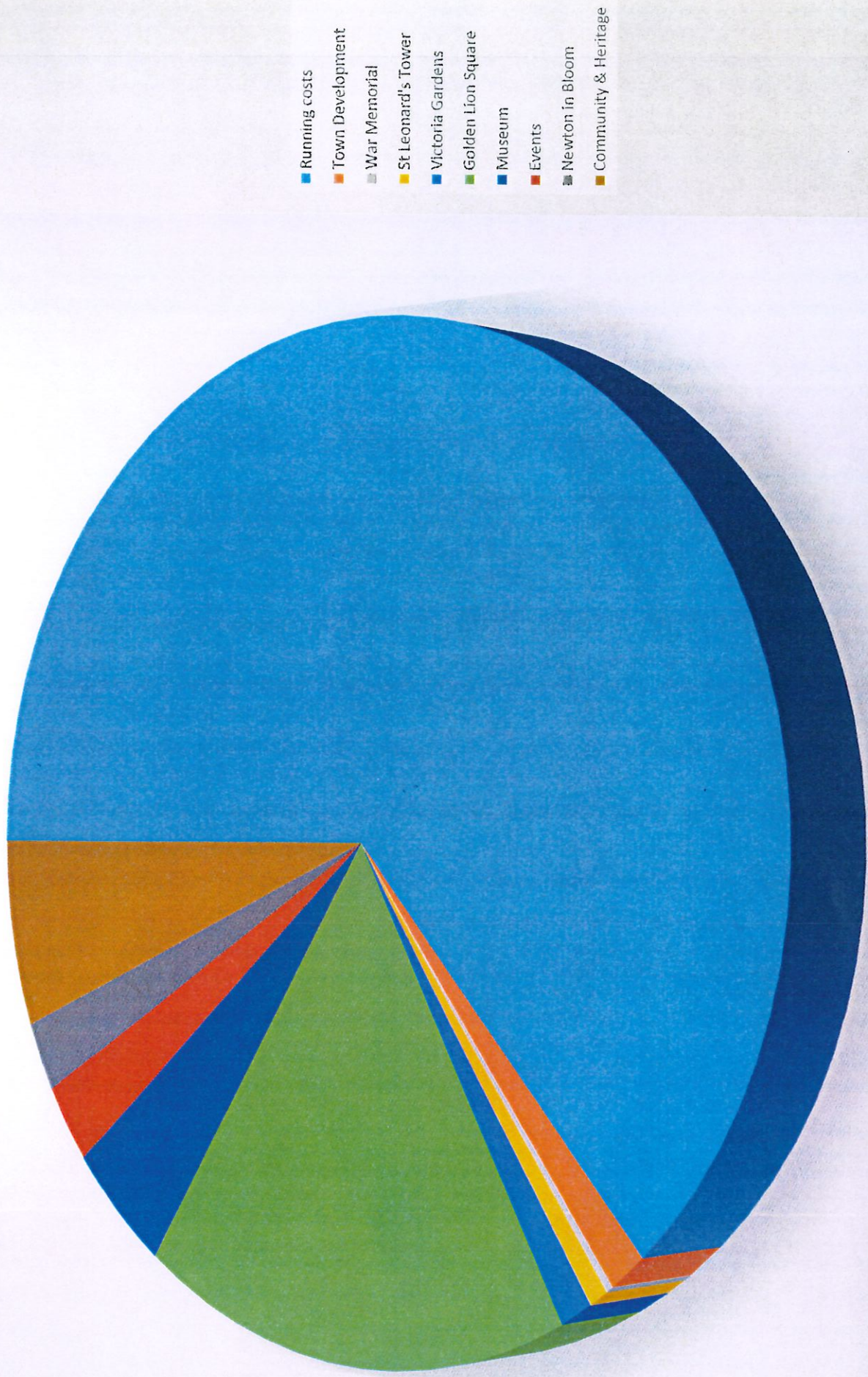
P A Rowe
Town Clerk
April 2017

Newton Abbot Town Council 2015/6

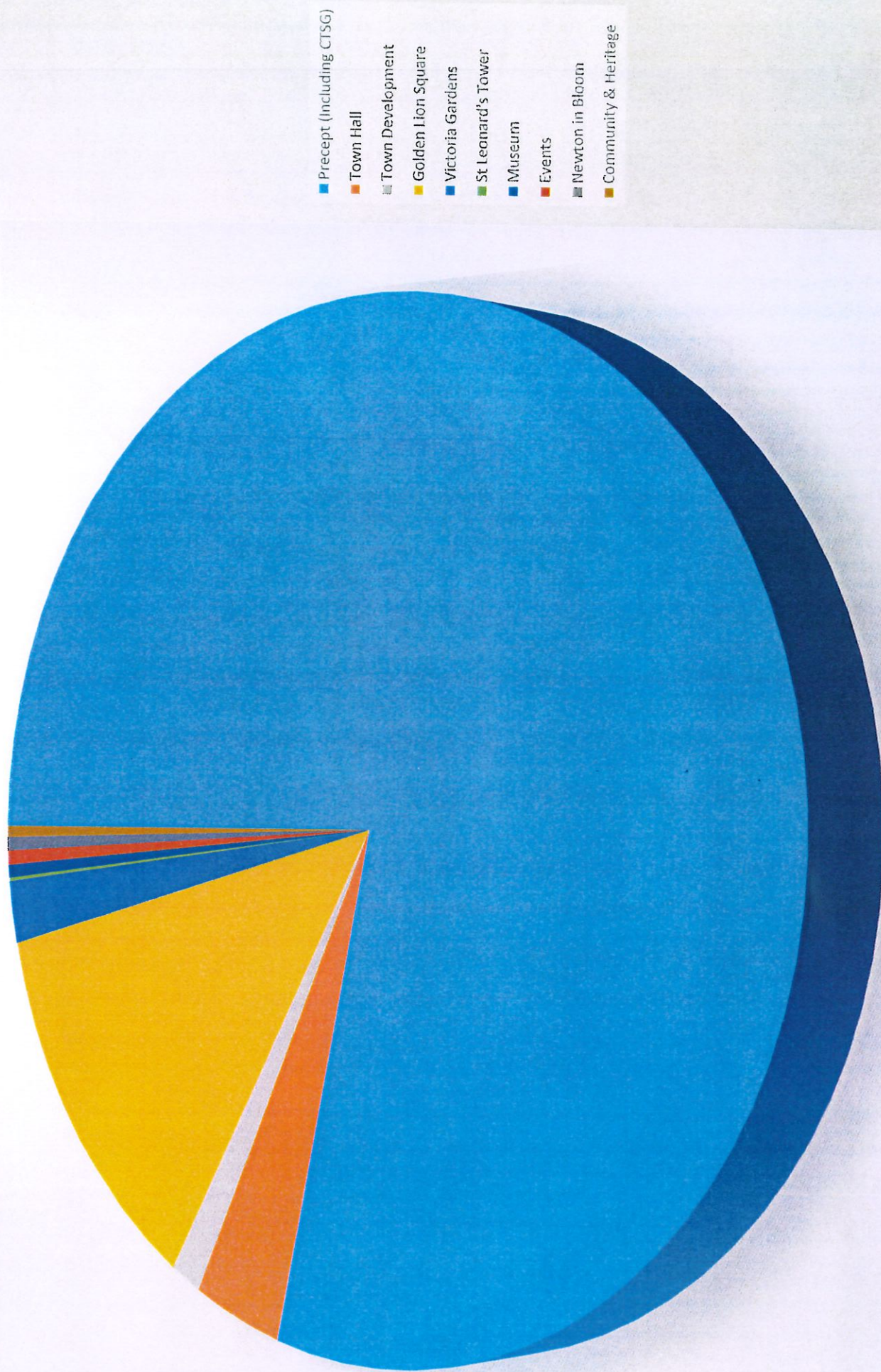
Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st March 2016

31st March 2015		31st March 2016
	Income Summary	
445,989	Precept	504,934
445,989	Sub Total	504,934
	Operating Income	
118,055	Administration	92,095
845	Town Hall	3,697
0	Civic	777
5,715	Town Development Manager	9,215
850	St Leonard's Tower	778
0	War Memorial	0
0	Victoria Gardens	14,906
0	Golden Lion Square	92,276
3,221	Museum	3,106
3,007	Events	3,406
4,698	Newton In Bloom	3,264
871	Allotments	1,157
600	Footpaths	1,508
25,000	Town Quay	0
0	Other Amenities	0
608,850	Total Income	731,118
	Running Costs	
319,944	Administration	388,966
38,302	Town Hall	46,421
4,529	Civic	10,409
5,235	Town Development Manager	10,591
1,974	St Leonard's Tower	5,311
561	War Memorial	2,050
47,439	Victoria Gardens	9,400
13,120	Golden Lion Square	131,303
13	Newton Abbot Community Trust	13
31,223	Community Plan	24,801
97,063	Museum	32,931
16,465	Events	19,641
16,849	Newton In Bloom	17,274
4,643	Allotments	2,613
680	Footpaths	307
1,590	Bradley Leat	0
80,582	Town Quay	27,347
7,617	Other Amenities	16,049
0	EMR - Election	0
687,828	Total Expenditure	745,427
	General Fund Analysis	
125,005	Opening Balance	46,027
608,850	Plus : Income for Year	731,118
733,855		777,146
687,828	Less : Expenditure for Year	745,427
46,027		31,718
0	Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	3,000
46,027	Closing Balance	28,718

Newton Abbot Town Council Expenditure Year Ended 31st March 2016



Newton Abbot Town Council Income Year Ended 31st March 2016



Town Development Manager's Report 2017

In my role as Town Development Manager for Newton Abbot it is a privilege to work with a wide range of fantastic local and national businesses and with councillors and officers from the 3 local authorities. I also collaborate with a huge number of local organisations, clubs and groups and there is a wonderful sense of community within the town. Communication is key - and residents, shoppers and businesses know that they can always contact me if they need help or support. If I can't help - I'm pretty sure that I will know someone who can! I am always found out and about in the town, or knee deep in an event or town centre promotion and that's where I like to be, helping to make sure that we always have our best foot forward.

The completion of the long awaited South Devon Link Road has provided a real 'shot in the arm' not only for shopkeepers and businesses but also for those who commute to work in Newton Abbot and it's great to welcome many more visitors to the town as tourism increases and it's now so easy to get here.

There has been a great deal of investment in Newton Abbot, both by private landlords who have been sprucing up their properties and by the local authorities, which have been improving the infrastructure within the town and also investing in the purchase of the local shopping centre.

A number of independent businesses have opened in the last 12 months and these entrepreneurs have not been at all deterred by the media doom and gloom regarding town centres, which is regularly served up by the national media. The vacancy rate in Newton Abbot as at February 2017, stands at 4.4%, whereas the rate nationally stands at 9.4% (statistics source 'Springboard'). Newton Abbot is therefore continuing to buck the trend and an empty shop is an opportunity and not a 'problem'. In terms of the shopping offer, Newton Abbot punches above its weight for a market town of its size and location. It has the usual charity shops, mobile phone shops and cafes, in line with all successful towns but it has a higher than average proportion of independent businesses at 53.3% compared with 41.4% nationally (Springboard again). The wide variety of shops include a fishmonger, a wool shop, a saddler and a record shop - all of which are rare as hens' teeth! It's also a source of pride that Newton Abbot is home to probably the best independent department store in the region - Austins. Mr Austin leads the way when it comes to investment, with major refurbishment works completed in all of his town centre premises. The evening economy has been given a boost with the opening of several new independent restaurants, which add to the rich variety of existing pubs and restaurants.

The council recognises the importance of a flourishing town centre and has made a small fund available, designed to help businesses present their best foot forward. 'The Shop Improvement Grant Scheme' encourages business owners to invest in their property, which not only helps the business but also helps keep Newton Abbot looking smart. Community Transport has recently celebrated its Silver Jubilee and what an important service this is for the community and for visitors. The town is also one of the safest in the Region, with an award winning CCTV service, which is operated and funded by a specially set up security trust. Thanks to the Town Council, Austins, the Chamber of Trade and more local businesses who support the scheme financially, safety is still a key feature and benefit of our town, protecting the young, the elderly and the vulnerable and acting as an effective deterrent to antisocial and criminal activity.



We pride ourselves on having a calendar of town centre events which help keep the town buoyant. Events start at Easter and culminate in 3 fantastic Christmas late night shopping evenings and there is always something going on in Newton Abbot town centre to make the shopping experience even more enjoyable! I am already looking at Christmas 2017 and hoping that local businesses will continue to be as supportive as they have been in previous years. I am particularly indebted to Market Walk Shopping centre for sponsorship of Easter and Christmas events and also to South Devon College and Teignbridge District Council as without their continued financial support it would be more challenging to deliver such wonderful community events. Due to its popularity we will have two motor shows in the town centre this year and, working again with TDC and Born Hectic events, we are also planning 3 new 'Summer Nights' street food events at the clock Tower. For updates on what's happening in town do follow me on Twitter @newtontownwoman and Facebook Newton Abbot Now. I always welcome calls too on 07595 893151!