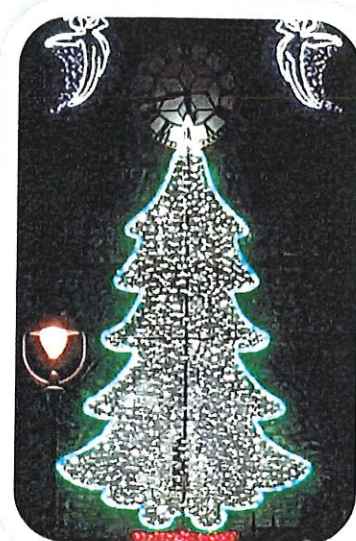




ANNUAL REPORT

2018 / 2019



Councillor Ken Purchase

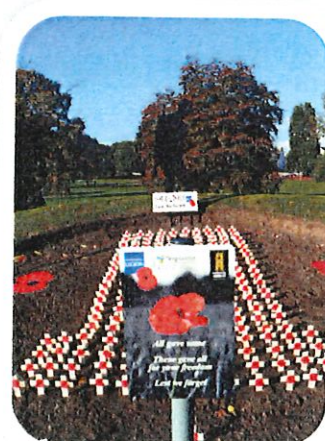
Mayor - 2018/ 2019



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
FOUNDATION

Phil Rowe

Town Clerk



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Councillor Ken Purchase

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Sub-Committees and Working Parties

End of year accounts – March 2018

Town Development Manager Annual Report

N.B. Reports of various organisation based in Newton Abbot will
be tabled at the Annual Town Meeting

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN COUNCIL 2018/2019

It has been a very busy year for me and my wife, Dulcie as the Mayor and Mayoress of Newton Abbot. We have attended various engagements, ranging from opening of shops and fetes to attending Lord Mayor of Exeter Civic Service.

Highlights of engagements also include various Court Leet and Royal British Legion events. I had a varied programme of events during Carnival week organised by the Carnival Committee. We also enjoyed attending the Autumn Fayre, Town Criers Competition and all the Christmas events organised by the Events Co-ordinators at the Town Council, Natalie Hicks and Kelly Burridge and the Events Committee. Thanks go to them for their hard work.

Thanks, must also go to Sally Henley, the Town Development Manager for organising various events throughout the town including the Summer Nights Food event.

Around our town much has happened. Market Square and Market Walk has had a large refurbishment with a new glass roof over the walkway and the shops have had a facelift. Thanks to Teignbridge District Council, Phase 1 has been completed and Phase 2 will be completed in the near future. I believe that our town centre, in general, is surviving well in these difficult times with many shop vacancies experienced in other towns. We owe much of this to Sally Henley.

Your Council, as always, has had an extremely busy year with events and Committee Meetings etc.. All Newton Abbot Town Councillors give their time freely to make things happen within the town.

The smooth running of our Council is due to the Town Clerk, Phil Rowe and his highly motivated team of staff.

This last year the St. Leonard's Church, now known as Newton's Place has moved on apace, with work still ongoing. It is going to be a great place for the community, Museum and Town Council. Keep your eyes wide open to see what is being done.

In completing my statement, I would like to say that it has been a great honour to be the Mayor of Newton Abbot for this past year and I only hope, as it was my wish from the outset, to have given as much as I could of myself to the town and the role of Mayor. To those who have supported and helped me during the year I would like to say thank you.

The whole experience has been a challenging but unforgettable one.

Yours truly

Ken Purchase
Mayor 2018-2019

MAYORAL YEAR 2018 – 2019 ENGAGEMENTS CARRIED OUT

MAYOR – COUNCILLOR KEN PURCHASE

2018

Sunday 6 th May	Lord Mayor of Exeter Civic Service
Thursday 10 th May	NHS/CSE Quality Award Presentation Ceremony
Saturday 12 th May	Beating of the Borough Bounds
Sunday 13 th May	Band Concert
Monday 14 th May	Christians Together in Newton Abbot "Thy Kingdom Come"
Sunday 20 th May	Lord Mayor of Exeter Service
Wednesday 23 rd May	Opening of St. Leonard's Tower
Thursday 24 th May	Totnes Mayor Choose Ceremony and Lunch
Friday 25 th May	Wolborough C of E Crowning of School May Queen
Tuesday 29 th May	Beating of the Bounds of Newton Bushell
Saturday 2 nd June	The Junction, Community Day
Sunday 3 rd June	Royal British Legion Decoration Day
Saturday 9 th June	Town Centre Motor Show
Sunday 10 th June	Band Concert
Monday 11 th June	Schools Council visit to Town Hall
Tuesday 12 th June	Besigheim Students visit to Town Hall
Saturday 16 th June	Court Leet & Court Baron Ale Tasting
Saturday 16 th June	55 th Anniversary of the consecration of St. Luke's Church
Monday 25 th June	Raising of Armed Forces Flag
Monday 25 th June	ATC AGM & President Inauguration
Friday 29 th June	Stover School Speech Day & Prize Giving
Saturday 30 th June	Crowning of Carnival Queen
Saturday 30 th June	Summer Nights Street Food Event
Tuesday 3 rd July	Talk given by Rosemary Griggs at St. Leonard's Tower
Thursday 5 th July	Lammas Fair – Exeter
Sunday 8 th July	Band Concert
Monday 9 th July	Carnival Quiz

Tuesday 10 th July	Young Devon Open Evening
Tuesday 10 th July	Carnival Poohsticks River Race
Wednesday 11 th July	Newton in Bloom Schools Painting Competition Presentation
Wednesday 11 th July	Buckfast Abbey Thanksgiving Service on The Feast of St. Benedick
Wednesday 11 th July	Carnival Duck Race
Thursday 12 th July	Carnival Tea Dance
Thursday 12 th July	Carnival Bingo
Friday 13 th July	Carnival Fun Run
Saturday 14 th July	Carnival Day events in Courtenay Park
Saturday 14 th July	Cream Tea and judging of Carnival floats
Saturday 14 th July	Carnival Procession
Sunday 15 th July	Carnival Praise
Wednesday 18 th July	Avenue Church Coffee Morning
Friday 20 th July	Wolborough C of E Fete
Saturday 21 st July	Summer Nights Street Food Event
Monday 23 rd July	Bearnes School Summer Fete
Wednesday 1 st August	Cream Tea at Wolborough Church in aid of Mayor's Charities
Wednesday 1 st August	Opening Event of Orsino Lounge
Saturday 4 th August	Judging of Work at Art Exhibition
Saturday 4 th August	Presentation of Certificates at Art Exhibition
Thursday 9 th August	Informal meeting of Newton Abbot Lions Club
Sunday 12 th August	Band Concert
Wednesday] 15 th August	Princes Trust Presentation
Saturday 18 th August	Teignmouth Town Council Race Night
Wednesday 22 nd August	Wolborough Court Residential Home Summer Fete
Saturday 25 th August	Summer Nights Street Food Event
Sunday 26 th August	Torbay Amateur Radio Society Communication Fair
Saturday 1 st September	Autumn Fayre

Monday 3 rd September		Fly Red Ensign Flag
Thursday 6 th September		St. Benet's Residential Home Summer Garden Fete
Saturday 8 th September		Town Criers Competition
Sunday 9 th September		Band Concert
Saturday 15 th September		Teddy Bear's Parachute Jump
Sunday 16 th September		Chudleigh Civic Service
Wednesday 19 th September		Courtenay Centre 50 th Anniversary Celebration
Thursday 20 th September		Teignbridge District Scout Council AGM
Friday 21 st September		Ten Icons of Exploration Exhibition
Saturday 22 nd September		Avenue Church Coffee Moring in aid of Air Ambulance
Saturday 29 th September	-	Classic Motor show
Sunday 30 th September	-	Dawlish Civic Service
Thursday 4 th October	-	Carnival Maids Tea
Wednesday 10 th October	-	100 th Birthday Celebration
Thursday 11 th October	-	Totnes Civic Service
Sunday 13 th October	-	Newton Abbot Town Ball
Sunday 14 th October	-	Newton Abbot Civic Service
Friday 19 th October	-	Society of Arts Concert
Friday 26 th October	-	Remembrance Poppies laying
Saturday 27 th October	-	Borough Lawday
Wednesday 31 st October	-	Shopmobility Challenge
Saturday 3 rd November	-	St. Leonards Fair
Tuesday 6 th November	-	Presentation of coins to Chairman of TDC
Friday 9 th November	-	Coombeshead Academy Armistice Assembly
Sunday 11 th November	-	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 11 th November	-	Remembrance 100 th Anniversary lighting of beacons
Friday 16 th November	-	Society of Arts Concert
Saturday 17 th November	-	Christian Aid Big Brekkie
Saturday 24 th November	-	Open Avenue Church Christmas Market
Saturday 24 th November	-	Christmas Lights Switch on

Monday 26 th November	-	Re-Opening of Pharmacy Café
Saturday 1 st December	-	Chain of Events Devon Link Up Christmas Party
Tuesday 4 th December	-	Rowcroft Light up a Life Service
Wednesday 5 th December	-	Victorian Evening
Saturday 8 th December	-	Vintage Bicycle Parade
Saturday 8 th December	-	Choir 86 & Spectrum Music Fundraising concert for Kingscare
Monday 10 th December	-	Kingsteignton Civic Service
Tuesday 11 th December	-	HMP Channings Wood Prison Carol Service
Wednesday 12 th December	-	Official opening of Market Walk
Wednesday 12 th December	-	Lantern Parade
Sunday 16 th December	-	Rowcroft Friends 'Celebration of Christmas'
Monday 17 th December	-	Community Transport Grand Christmas Draw
Monday 17 th December	-	ATC Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 19 th December	-	Carol Service
Tuesday 25 th December	-	Visit to Newton Abbot Hospital

2019

Thursday 10 th January	-	NADMCS Civic Performance Dick Whittington
Sunday 20 th January	-	Society of Arts Concert and presentation of Grants Cheque
Tuesday 22 nd January	-	Launch of 'My Place Panels' at St. Leonard's Church
Saturday 2 nd February	-	Teignmouth Town Council Burns Night fundraiser
Tuesday 5 th February	-	Dyrons Journal Talking Newspaper AGM
Sunday 10 th February	-	Teignbridge District Council Civic Service
Sunday 17 th February	-	Society of Arts Concert
Tuesday 19 th March	-	Presentation of cheque from SIBA (Tuckers Maltings)
Monday 25 th February	-	Southlands Care Home launch of Defibrillator
Sunday 3 rd March	-	Lord Mayor of Exeter Civic Service
Friday 8 th March	-	Opening of Kays Carers
Saturday 9 th March	-	Searching and Sealing of Leather
Sunday 10 th March	-	Teignmouth Civic Service

11 th March	-	Raising of the Commonwealth Flag
Friday 15 th March	-	Society of Arts Concert
Saturday 16 th March	-	30 year anniversary Dawlish Community Transport
Tuesday 19 th March	-	Presentation of cheque from SIBA (Tuckers Maltings)
Friday 22 nd March	-	Mayor of Totnes Farewell Dinner
Saturday 23 rd March	-	Portreeve Dinner
Thursday 28 th March	-	Linden Homes Community Event
Friday 29 th March	-	Lord Mayor of Exeter Charity Banquet
Saturday 30 th March	-	High Sheriff of Devon Award Ceremony
Wednesday 3 rd April	-	Schools Council visit to Town Hall

DEPUTY MAYOR – COUNCILLOR RICHARD JENKS

Sunday 10 th June		Newton Abbot & District Society of Arts AGM
Saturday 30 th June		Silver Jubilee of Ordination – St. Luke's Church
Thursday 5 th July		Stover Preparatory School Prize Giving
Friday 6 th July to Monday 9 th July		Visit Henry VI Celebrations in Ay, France
Wednesday 11 th July		Carnival Duck Race
Friday 13 th July		Choir 86 Summer Concert
Sunday 12 th August		Opening Ceremony of Dawlish Carnival
Sunday 9 th September		Judge Town Criers Competition "Cry"
Sunday 30 th September	-	Torbay Civic Service
Thursday 4 th October	-	Community Transport AGM
Friday 9 th November	-	Stover School Remembrance Assembly
Monday 17 th December	-	Bovey Tracey Carol Service
Monday 11 th March	-	Teignbridge District Council Raising of Commonwealth Flag
Tuesday 26 th March	-	Visit from Besigheim Students

Councillors, Names, Addresses and Telephone Numbers

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Bradley Barton
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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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Mr Phil Rowe
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Fax: 01626 369674

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E.Mail: phil.rowe@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk

Ms Sam Scott
Monday – Thursday

Email: sam.scott@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Mayor's Secretary

Mrs Carla Winsborrow
Tuesday – Friday

Email: carla.winsborrow@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Events Co-ordinator Job Share

Miss Kelly Burridge

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Mrs Natalie Hicks
Part Time 3 days a week

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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

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

Town Development Manager

Sally Henley Telephone: 07595 893151 or 01626 201120 Email sally.henley@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Newton Abbot Community Interest Company

Business & Community Development Officer - Emily Farrell

Telephone: 01626 206690 Email: manager@newtonabbotcic.org.uk

Community Interest Company Admin Officer - Faith Cummins

Telephone: 01626 215917

Email: admin@newtonabbotcic.org.uk

Town Crier

Mr Nigel Kenneison

Email nigelk57@gmail.com

NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2017 - 2018

Report to the Annual Town Meeting Saturday 7th April 2018

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council this year has found itself to be in a stable position with no vacancies arising. 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).
- 1.2 The Council received presentations and reports on a variety of subjects from:-
- Mrs Jackie Swanson gave a presentation from West Country Savings and Loans on local saving co-operatives.
 - An update from Inspector Nigel Yelland, Devon and Cornwall Police on local policing in the town.
 - Mrs Emily Farrell, Manager of Newton Abbot Community Interest Company (CIC), with an update of the work of the CIC in the community.
 - An update from Mrs Kate Green, Community Engagement Consultant on the work within the community for the Newton's Place Project and draft proposed Museum Design.
 - A presentation from Mrs Louise Cook, Chairman of Governors and Mrs Judy Martyn, Headteacher of Highweek Primary School on the successful Growth Mindset Project.
 - Received a presentation from Mr Ian Snell, on the work of the Lions Club and the development of the newly formed Lions Club in Newton Abbot.
 - Mrs Sally Henley, the Town Development Manager and Mr David Dance, Centre Manager Brunel Campus of South Devon College gave a presentation on the student project to create a Memorial Bench in Courtenay Street, Newton Abbot.
 - A presentation from Meryl Basham of the Newton Abbot Allotment Association on the centenary of the organisation.
 - Received an update from Sergeant John Dingle, Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Team Leader on local Policing in Newton Abbot.
 - Received an update from Mr Tom Winters, Teignbridge Development Plan on the Teignbridge Economic Development Plan 2018-2023.
 - A Presentation from Colin Bignall, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Teignbridge District Council on Air Quality in the town.
 - Laura Cowie, Devon and Cornwall Police, gave an informative briefing to Members on Protect Talk and advice on Cyber Security.

- A presentation from Toby Russell, Community Landing Sites Co-ordinator, Devon Air Ambulance updated Council on the development of suitable landing sites in Newton Abbot.

Please note that either the Chairman of the Newton's Place Project Board or the Town Clerk have provided updates on the Newton's Place Project at all Council Meetings.

1.3 The other significant developments in the town include:-

- Progressing the Council's main priority, delivering Newton's Place, a community space. Work on the Heritage Fund supported £2.2m Project to deliver community rooms; a new town Museum and offices for the Town Council at the former St Leonard's Church in Wolborough Street continues with completion planned for late 2019/early 2020;
- 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;
- 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 striking Christmas displays;
- Ongoing maintenance of the Town Quay. Sit in the shadow of the cycle/footbridge over the River Teign. The mobile refreshment facility continues to operate from The Quay during the Spring/Summer months since it commenced operation in July 2015;
- Ongoing maintenance of the 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 continued to operate 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 five 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. For 2018, the Town Council operates a contract to maintain all areas of grass verges (including the visibility splays) and has agreed to continue with the increase of the number cuts from 4 to 6 throughout the year. 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.

- 1.6 2nd May 2019 will see local Government Elections held in Teignbridge where all District, parish and town councillors will either seek re-election or retire. It will be interesting to see what changes result in the membership of Newton Abbot Town Council.

2. INVOLVEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

The Town Council has once again supported a number of community groups around the Town, including Newton Abbot Community Interest Company.

Newton Abbot Community Interest Company works across the town to seek improvements for the benefit of those living and working in the town. This can be through the direct delivery of projects or by working with other organisations to secure improvements. Over the last year we have worked on a wide variety of community projects. One of the highlights has been the improvements to the inside of Penn Inn Roundabout where trees, bulbs and shrubs have been planted with the help of volunteers, and a wildflower meadow has been created. This Project culminated in the 'Poppies at Penn Inn Project' where local schoolchildren placed crafted poppies on the roundabout over Remembrance weekend. Other projects have included on-going improvements to the facilities on offer at Buckland & Milber Community Centre, which continues to be a thriving venue offering a variety of community activities.

Alongside this project work, the CIC continues to work with partners to lobby for the provision of additional infrastructure (shops, community facilities etc.) to meet the needs of the town's growing population. Our current priority is to focus on the provision of facilities for the growing community on the western edge of the town at Hele Park.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR, COMMITTEE BY COMMITTEE

- 3.1 **Finance & Audit Committee** (Chairman, Cllr Colin Parker; Vice-Chairman, Cllr David Corney-Walker) and **Policy & Resources Committee**, (Chairman Cllr Mike Ryan, Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs Ann Jones).

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;
- ◆ Annual Governance and Accountability Return and internal audit report;
- ◆ 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:

- ◆ Successfully bid for Heritage Lottery Funding, (together with a number of other grant monies from other funding sources), to begin work on developing St Leonard's Church in Newton Abbot into a community space, known as 'Newton's Place';
- ◆ Involvement in Newton Abbot Community Trust to own, and maintain the public space, 'Golden Lion Square';
- ◆ 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;
- ◆ 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;
- ◆ Review of the Council's Standing Orders and other strategic and operational policies pertaining to the work of the Council;
- ◆ The management of the ever-growing threat of 'cyber-security';
- ◆ The management and reporting of Community Infrastructure Levy income
- ◆ 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;

- ◆ Newton Abbot Scout Group (Explorer Unit)
- ◆ Eloise Rokirlov for her Newton Abbot photographic history book project;
- ◆ Newton Abbot Community Transport;
- ◆ Newton Abbot District Society of Arts;
- ◆ Teignbridge Citizens Advice Bureau;
- ◆ Newton Abbot Twinning Association
- ◆ Buckland Surgery Support Project

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

- ▲ Mrs Rebecca Hewitt, Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager and Inspector Russell Dawe to update Members on the work of the Community Safety Partnership in the town;
- ▲ Mr Rob Cude, Crew Manager from Newton Abbot Fire Station and invited him to update Members, on the service and activities of the Fire Service within Newton Abbot;
- ▲ Tom Winters, Economy Project Officer at Teignbridge District Council updated members on the raft Economic Development Plan 2018-2023
- ▲ Update on neighbourhood policing issues in Newton Abbot given by Sergeant John Dingle, the Neighbourhood Beat Manager

In this way, members are empowered to inform you, the public, about the pertinent issues affecting Newton Abbot.

3.2 **The Strategic Planning Forum** has concentrated not only on current budget performance but also budget strategy and the Precept for 2018/19/20, 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 Julie Cleave; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs Lesley Sheffield) 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 2018, 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);
- ◆ 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.

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

- ◆ Mrs Emily Farrell, Manager of the Newton Abbot Community Interest Company (CIC) updated the Committee on the recent activities of the CIC within the wider community.
- ◆ Mrs Louise Cook, Chairman of Governors and Mrs Judy Martyn, Head teacher of Highweek Primary School, updated the Committee on the successful Growth Mindset Project;
- ◆ Mr Ian Snell and Mr Malcolm Stone of the Lions Club Paignton updated the Committee on their proposal to develop a new Lions Club group in Newton Abbot;
- ◆ Mrs Kate Green, Community Engagement Consultant gave a presentation to the Committee on the public engagement with a wide range of groups in the community on the Newton's Place Project and circulated draft proposals for the Museum Design.

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

The Group has brought together matters relating to the Museum, Newton in Bloom, the Allotments CIC and other community issues.

The Community Engagement Group 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.

The group have enjoyed a number of presentations this past year; some of which include:

- ❖ Museum Curator, Mrs Felicity Cole updated Members on the work behind the scenes, while the Museum is closed in preparation for the move to Newton's Place;
- ❖ Museum Volunteer, Mrs Katy Bennie, who has had a great deal of experience of working within education, (and has responsibility for the Educational Programmes within the Museum), gave a presentation on proposals for a new project; Heritage for Young People;
- ❖ Duncan Cherret, Head of Social Action at Young Devon and Phil Sanders, Programme Leader of Princes' Trust gave a presentation on the work of Young Devon in Newton Abbot;
- ❖ Meryl Basham of Newton Abbot Allotment Association gave a presentation on the Allotments Centenary Celebrations.

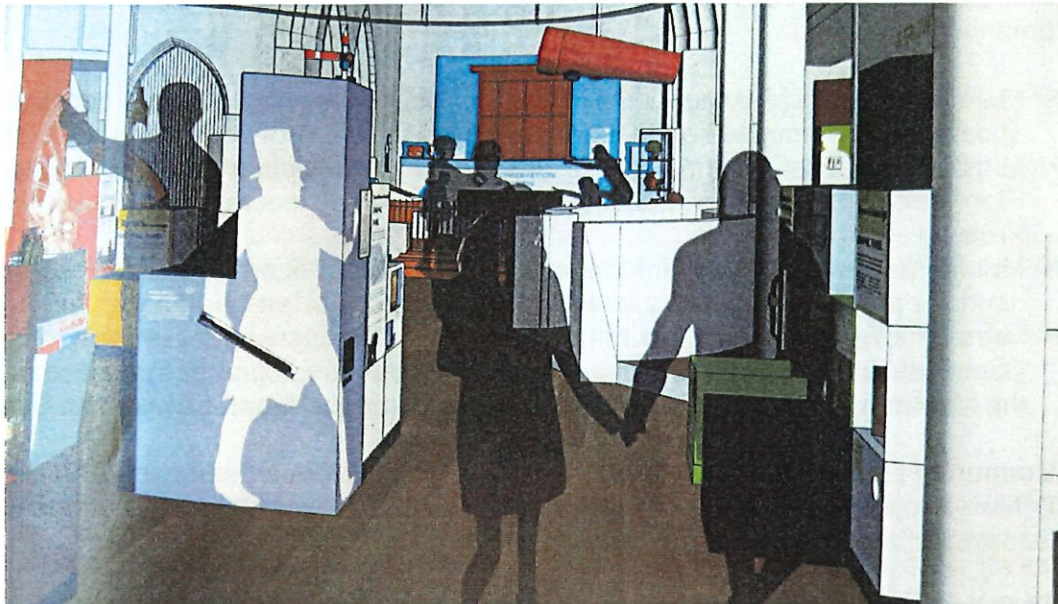
Next year will bring greater opportunity for public engagement and involvement for a wide variety of groups across the community with the development phase for Newton's Place.

Museum Annual Report - March 2019

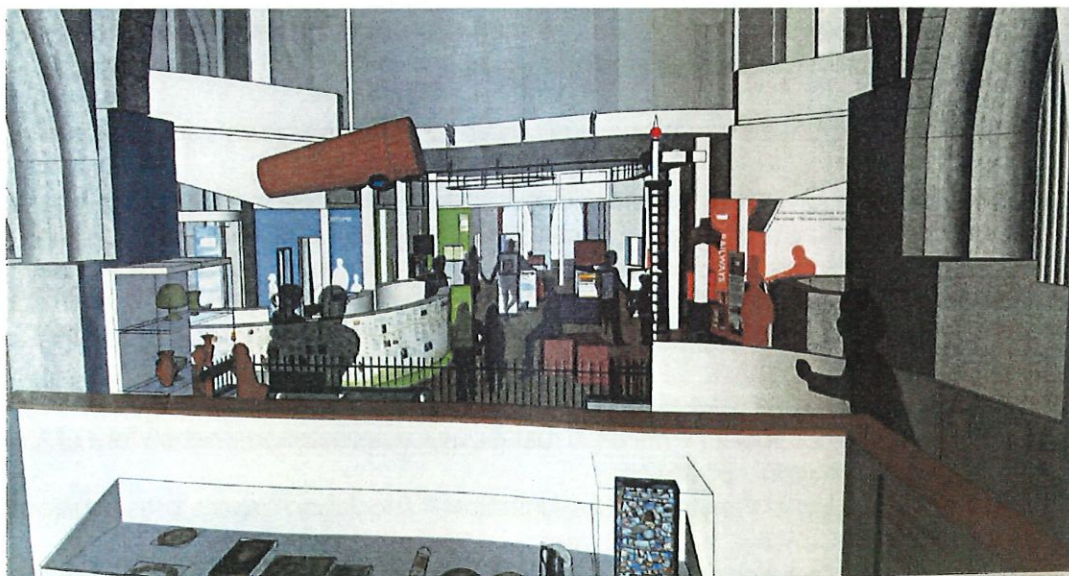
Newton's Place.

The Museum team is working closely with the museum designers Leach Studios. The latest designs were presented to the working group on the 12th February. Andy Cope who is the technical lead, is steering the team through the practical stages of the project.

The designs include the first overview of how all the themed sections within the museum space will work together.

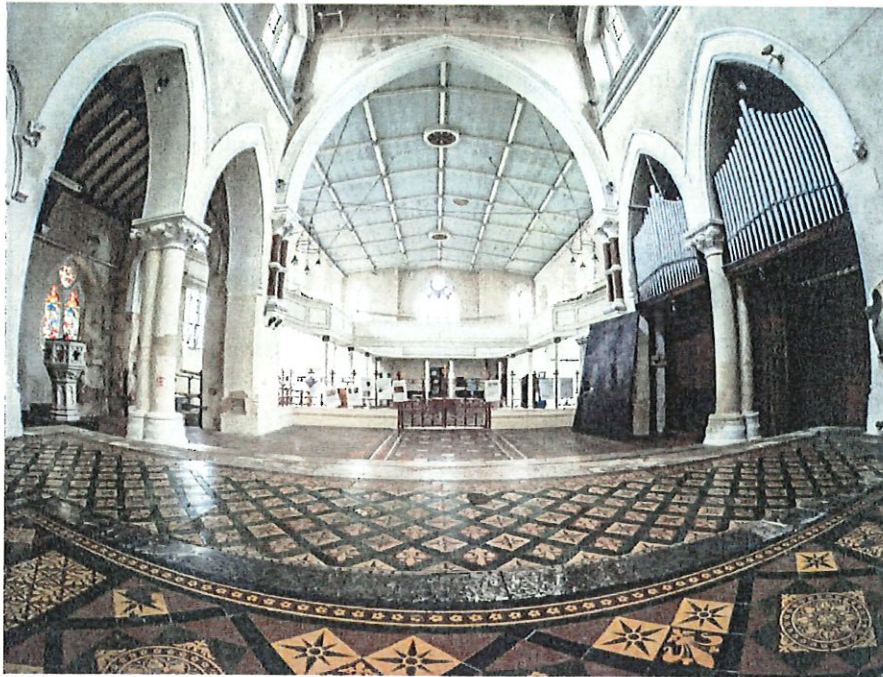


These working views of the new displays will continue to be developed and up-dated throughout the design process.



Community Engagement

Kate Green, Community Engagement Officer, continues to support the Newton Abbot photographic group who are kept busy recording the changes to the former St Leonard's Church as they occur through the new development. Their photographs will form one of the first temporary exhibitions within the new space.



Kate is also taking groups that she has worked with on tours of the construction site.



Other projects Kate is organising this is year are the 'People's Museum' – celebrating people's treasured objects, and a 'time capsule' project is also being developed with local schools and the community.

Watch out for 'pop-up museums in unexpected places around the town.

To find out more about the progress of the project and activities, information will be available at the following town council events in 2019 where there will be a Newton's Place stall.

- Three Summer Nights events -15th June, 13th July, 17th August
- The Autumn Fayre – 7th September
- Town Criers Competition- 14th September

and look on the Newton's Place website for more information and updates

www.newtonsplace.org

Digitising the museum photographic collection –

The museum photographic collection, consisting of approximately 6,000 images have been collected to be professionally scanned. The scanned images will be incorporated within the Audio- visual points within the new galleries, this will enable the public to access the photographic collection for the first time.

Loans

The Curator is in the process of organising loans from other museum collections. They include archaeological finds to be displayed for the first time in the area that they originated from.

- Torquay Museum- Milber camp bronze age votives – loan agreed.
- Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter - Local Roman pottery finds from Aller Cross excavations agreed, official paper work to still be completed.
- The Ball Clay Society- loan of ball clay tools and images.

Automaton donations box.

Keith Newstead, Automaton maker has been commissioned to create an automaton donations box for the new museum. Keith has been commissioned by many museums including Plymouth Museum and many other institutions previously. His humorous interpretation is sure to please the visitor. - click on the link to see his previous work.

<https://www.keithnewsteadautomata.com/>

Fundraising working group

Volunteers continue to actively seek funding support, fill in applications to grant bodies and write to the business community.

Museum Assistant post

The museum assistant post for the new museum has been advertised and selection process is underway. The successful candidate will start in July to gain an understanding of the museum collections prior to the move to Newton's Place. The post is for 18 hours a week for 2 years.

Volunteers

Volunteers have been key in the process of flagging up the museum profile whilst the museum is closed.

'My Place' Project

- Museum volunteer, Katy Bennie's worked with local artists and community groups (including eight primary schools) to use photographs of objects and buildings from the museum collections to create pop-art style art works. Each of the 11 vibrantly coloured illustrations create a historic timeline of Newton Abbot, researched and supported by, Tess Walker.
- The £10,000 project has taken a year to complete and was funded by Historic England and the Helen Foundation.

- The highly successful project not only attracted outside funding, it engaged local schools and community groups, and attracted a lot of interest from the media. Children attending the official unveiling on the 22nd January were interviewed by Breeze Radio, and the launch was featured on Spotlight- and they enjoyed every minute!



Talks and Walks

- Tess Walker gave a talk on notable Newtonian, Ivy Williams, to Highweek. A donation of £60 was given to the new museum.
- Tess Walker has been asked to give a talk to The Stokeinteignhead history group. The first half of our talk will be on the history of Sandford Orleigh, and the second half she will be explaining how to research for historic information.
- Michael Bennie has kindly agreed to give a short tour of the town to 40 Besigheim German students on the 26th March, prior to their visit to the Mayor that day.

Volunteers-behind the scenes

Volunteers have been:

- Scanning reference documents built up throughout the years to establish a searchable resource.
- Working in the museum stores – packing up books
- Sorting out the framed pictures ready for packing
- Supporting Newton's Place events and stalls within the town.



Volunteers de-constructing the walls within the present displays.



Volunteers continuing to catalogue new donations

Volunteer Training Day

A handling and packing training day was held on the 22nd February 2019. 15 volunteers attended, including three new volunteers. Helena Jaeschke, Museum Conservation Officer for the South West, led the training which included practical 'hands-on' sessions. The feedback from the volunteers was very positive, they had enjoyed learning new skills, working together, and all praised Helena for the way she had presented the training on the day.



St Leonard's Tower volunteers

Once again thanks go to the St Leonard's Tower volunteers, who are willing to give up their time to open the Tower every Wednesday during the summer season.

The Tower will open from 15th May 2019.

The volunteers will also open the Tower on Saturday events:

- Summer Motor show - June
- Autumn Fayre- September 7th
- Town Criers Competition- September 14th
- Late summer motor show- September 28th

The museum, and the town is incredibly lucky to have the support of so many highly skilled, energetic, dedicated volunteers happy to give up their time for the museum and Newton Abbot.

Without the support of the volunteers the museum would not exist as it does today.

Donations

Recent donations.




- A small glass window from Madge Mellor's Café, and wooden paneling
- Collection of GWR and family photographs of ex-GWR man Mr Fred Steer.
- Photographs of Newton Abbot donated by WBW
- Pamphlet of National Health service for Newton Abbot hospital with plan
- 1968 Service sheet in memory of Sir Winston Churchill produced by NAUDC
- 1968 Trade booklet.

3.4 (b) Newton In Bloom Schools Painting Competition 2018




Local schools in Newton Abbot were once again invited to take part in the Newton in Bloom painting competition. The theme was 'Summer Holidays', and the Town Council judges were inundated with fantastic paintings from the children.





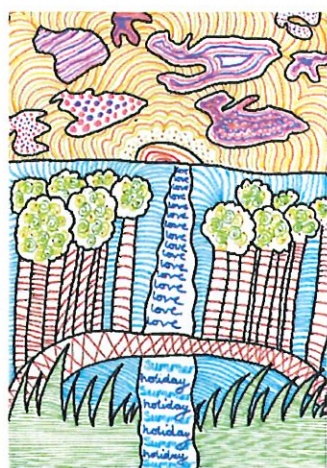
FOUNDATION STAGE (Nursery & reception: 3-5 years)

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
		
Eden Foord Newton Abbot Pre-School	Isla Hoskin St Joseph's Primary School	Amelia Thompson St Joseph's Primary School

KEY STAGE ONE (years 1 & 2: 5-7 years)

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
		
Bella Dodds Bradley Barton Primary School	Jude Mann St Joseph's Primary School	Jake Smart Bradley Barton Primary School

KEY STAGE TWO (years 3, 4, 5 & 6: 7-11 years)

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
		
Holly Emerson St Joseph's Primary School	Jason Mahon Haytor View Primary School	Ruby Douglas Bradley Barton Primary School

Also thanks again to our generous Newton in Bloom sponsors:

Newton in Bloom Sponsors:



- 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 Town 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 Liz Roberts; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Ann Jones), the events diary was once again bursting at the seams during 2018, details of which are listed below:-

BAND CONCERTS – MAY TO SEPT 2018



Residents and visitors once again enjoyed the Sunday afternoon band concerts.

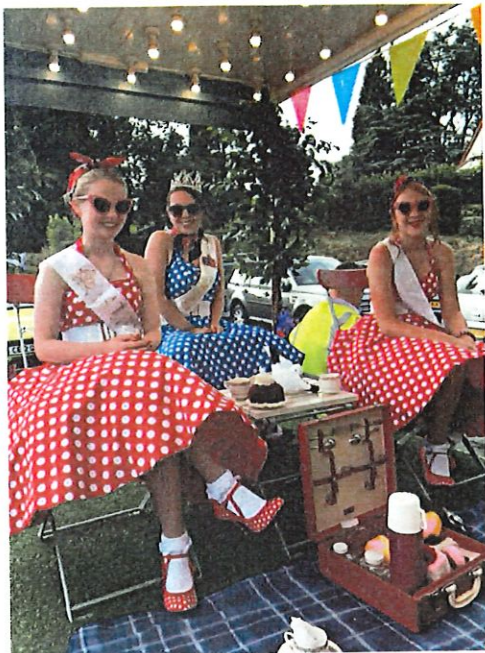
With the exception of one concert being moved to St. Paul's Church Hall due to weather conditions all concerts went ahead in Courtenay Park.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Best Accountancy, Major George W. Braden, Lord of Manorial Borough of Newton Bushell (who very kindly sponsored 2 concerts), Centrax and Davie Construction a variety of performances were enjoyed from local bands including: Brixham Town Band, Spectrum Music Concert Band, Exeter Railway Band, Okehampton Excelsior and Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Concert Band.



The performances raised a total of £707.34 towards the Mayor's Charities Dyrons Journal Talking Newspaper and Newton Abbot Street Pastors.

NEWTON ABBOT CARNIVAL – 30th JUNE – 15th JULY



The Newton Abbot Carnival comprised of a schedule of events that began with the crowning of the Carnival Queen on Saturday 30th June, which saw Sophie Rea crowned as the Carnival Queen for 2018. Carnival week was packed with events including a carnival quiz night, band concerts, duck race, bingo, tea dance and a fun run.

Carnival Saturday on the 14th 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 charities which were Dyrons Journal, The Talking Newspaper.

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, NATC, Tesco, Launa Windows, Andrew Hill, Teignbridge Propellers, Danceworks Devon, GMM Insurance, Recreational Trust, Panache Bars & Events, Harrier LLC and Best Accountancy Services. 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 2019.

AUTUMN FAYRE - SATURDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

The annual parade of the cheese and onion trolley processed through Queen Street and Courtenay Street, concluding at the main stage for the proclamation. The event had a number of elements including local painter, craft stalls, free face painting and balloon modelling. 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.

Best presented indoor & outdoor stalls were judged by the Mayor, Mayoress and Town Crier:

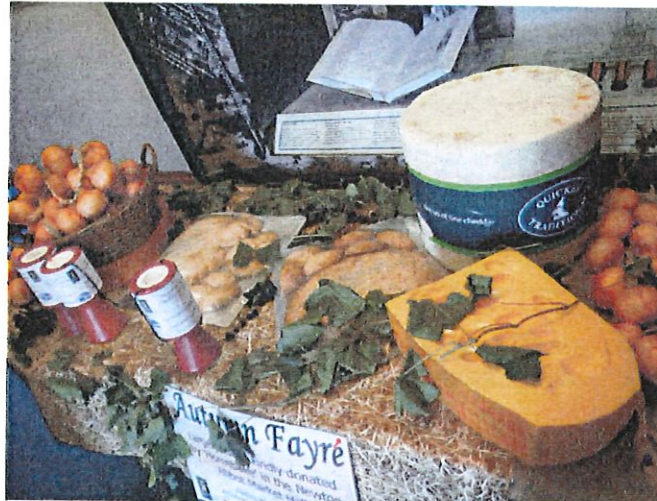
- Indoor Market – Lucia Falcone of Falcone Designs (meal voucher for the Olive Restaurant)
- Outdoor Market – Annette & Lisa of Nightlight Creations (prize of a Toby Carvery voucher)



Cheese rolling winners

The 'Cheese Rolling' competition was situated in Market Square and was extremely popular throughout the day. First place of the adult category went to Tim Pease and first place of the child category went to James Taylor.

Newton Abbot Bake Off was back and members of the public together with café & restaurant owners were invited to bring along a selection of their homemade cheese straws for a chance to be judged. The winner of the competition was Maggie Daniel.



TOWN CRIER'S COMPETITION – SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

Newton Abbot once again played host to members of the Ancient & Honourable Guild of Town Crier's held on Saturday 8th September. 12 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' and the second cry was based on 'Hedgehogs'.

Winners as follows:

1 st PLACE – CRIER	Roger Pinder	Kingsbridge
2 nd PLACE – CRIER	Les Ellis	Dartmouth
3 rd PLACE – CRIER	Roy Goodwin	Ilfracombe
DEVON CHAMPIONSHIP	Roger Pinder	Kingsbridge
BEST DRESSED CRIER	Chris Smirthwaite	Liskeard
BEST DRESSED ESCORT	John Hart	Kingsteignton
BEST DRESSED COUPLE	Dev and Jenny Hobson	Middlewich Cheshire

Many thanks need to go to a number of people, who have made the event possible from volunteers on the day to event sponsors of cash or prizes.



CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON – SATURDAY 24th NOVEMBER

The start of the Christmas celebrations began on Saturday 24th 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 in Golden Lion Square, there was also free balloon modelling and face painting for the children in Courtenay Street. At 4.30 p.m. the Christmas parade began from the War Memorial down Queen Street with Father Christmas, the Mayor, the Town Crier and Borough Criers, the winter carnival float carrying the Carnival Queen and attendants and the Carnival fair maidens. Local radio station 'The Breeze' 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 from the roof of the 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 5th DECEMBER

Wednesday 5th December saw the annual Victorian Evening take place in Newton Abbot in the Market Square. It is a well-known event now in the South Devon area and everyone looks forward to the charity evening with the Victorian atmosphere.

Shoppers were also entertained in Market Square by Newton Abbot Community Choir singing a selection of Festive and Gospel songs.



Once again the Market Square was jam packed with local charity stalls selling their wares. In total there were 33 stalls selling Christmas items from tree decorations, homemade cakes and sweets to Christmas cards and plenty of tombola's to try your luck on.

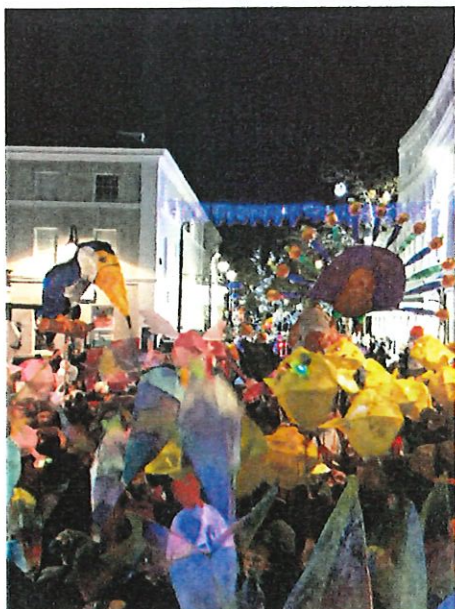
This year the 'best dressed stall' trophy went to 'Ogwell Women's Institute' they received a cheque for £50 for their charity.

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, Elfie the kids entertainer, bell ringing, walk about magic and stalls selling world food in Courtenay Street.

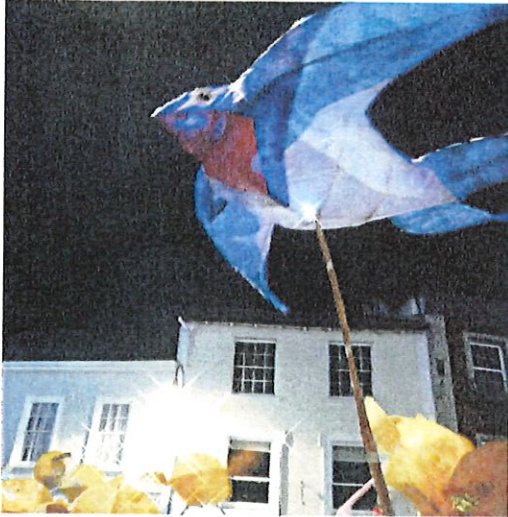
Santa was in residence in his Clock Tower grotto as well.

NEWTON ABBOT LANTERN PARADE – WEDNESDAY 12th DECEMBER

Newton Abbot town centre was bursting with excitement on Wednesday 12th December, thanks to the lantern parade in the town. Over 200 pupils from Bearnas, 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 'Up in the Air'. 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.



CAROL SERVICE

The Mayor's Carol Service was once again held in Market Square with a great turnout.

The Service was led by the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. Patrick Parkes and The Rock Choir accompanied the singing.

Hot chocolate and mince pies were offered for a donation to the Mayor's Charities and a total of £104.01 was collected by donations and the ATC Cadets with buckets

SANTA'S GROTTTO

Following all visits to Father Christmas during the winter months, a grand total of £259.60 was raised. All donations went to the Mayor's charities.

3.7 Planning Committee (Chairman Cllr David Howe)

Planning Committee (Chairman Cllr David Howe; Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mike Joyce) 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 160 planning applications. With the exception of 11 all recommendations have been implemented by the Planning Authority.

A further 35 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 2018 – 2019 had preliminary discussions and deliberations on a number major applications, including the following applications: -

- ❖ **17/02871/MAJ** Angharad Williams
BUSHELL - 65 Queen Street, Newton Abbot
Demolition of existing retail unit and the construction of a new four storey building comprising ground floor retail units with rear garden, cycle, bin and recycling storage and 16 apartments to the upper floors
NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE SUBJECT TO MEASURES TO ADDRESS POTENTIAL OVERLOOKING TO THE REAR AND OVERLOOKING TO THE NEIGHBOURING SCHOOL BEING ADDRESSED. THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT THE APPLICATION SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO RENEWABLES AND SUSTAINABLE ENHANCEMENTS IN CONSIDERATION OF THE NEWTON ABBOT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.
- ❖ **17/01542/MAJ** - Land At Wolborough Barton, Coach Road
Mixed Use (Hybrid Application) Proposal Involving: Outline - Mixed Use Development Comprising Up To 1,275 Dwellings (C3), A Primary School (D1), Up To 3,500 Sq. M Of Employment Floorspace (B1), Two Care Homes (C2) Providing Up To 5,500 Sq. M Of Floorspace for Messrs A & S & Ms J Rew

THE AMENDED APPLICATION PLANS WERE FIRST CLARIFIED; THE COMMITTEE HAD BEEN MADE AWARE OF A POSSIBLE APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT AND THEREFORE AGREED TO DEFER FOR THREE WEEKS TO AWAIT FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE APPLICATION AND THE MASTERPLAN FOR NA3.
- ❖ **DCC/4064/2018** – Replacement of Ringslade Culvert, including proposed masonry parapet at Ringslade Culvert on Ringslade Road, Newton Abbot.

THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL HAD RESPONDED TO THE APPLICATION, THE COMMITTEE RAISED NO OBJECTION
- ❖ **18/01180/MAJ** Angharad Williams
BRADLEY - Stover Golf Club, Stover
Change of use of agricultural land to allow extension to existing golf course including implementation of lakes and associated landscaping
NO OBJECTION
- ❖ **18/01220/DCC** Donna Crabtree
BRADLEY - Ringslade Road, Newton Abbot Replacement of Ringslade Culvert to link Ringslade Road with the proposed A382 widening scheme (Planning Ref: DCC/3851/2016). Since planning approval was granted for the A382 (which included original proposals of Ringslade Culvert), the design for Ringslade Culvert has had minor amendments – these are detailed in this stand-alone planning application. In addition, the red line-planning boundary requires a minor extension from the original application; this is also detailed in this application.
NO OBJECTION
- ❖ **18/01276/MAJ** Ian Perry
COLLEGE - Land at Wolborough Barton, Coach Road, Newton Abbot
Mixed use (hybrid application) proposal involving:

(1) Outline mixed use development comprising about 1,210 dwellings (C3) a primary school (D1) up to 12,650 sq. m. of employment floorspace (B1), care homes (C2) providing up to 5,500 sq. m of floorspace, up 1,250 sq. m. of community facilities (D1), a local centre (A1/A3/A4/A5) providing up to 1,250 sq. m. of floorspace, open space (including play areas,

allotments and MUGA), and associated infrastructure. (Means of access to be determined only)

(2) Full – Change of use of existing agricultural buildings to hotel (C1), restaurant (A3) and bar/drinking establishment (A4) uses, involving erection of new build structures, construction of an access road and parking, plus other associated conversion and minor works

THE CHAIRMAN INVITED THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE COMMENT ON APPLICATION 18/01276/MAJ TO THE COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR BY 24TH JULY, WHEREUPON THE CHAIRMAN WOULD DRAFT A RESPONSE FOR THE COMMITTEE'S CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING ON 7TH AUGUST 2018

❖ **18/01690/MAJ**

Kelly Grunnill

COLLEGE - Devon County Football Association, Coach Road, Newton Abbot
Construction of an external 3G Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) with fencing and associated hardstanding and car parking area

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE APPLICATION AT LENGTH NOTING THE EXISTING OPERATION AND AMENITY AS A SPORTS VENUE AND RAISED NO OBJECTION BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE HOURS OF OPERATION CONTAINED WITHIN THE APPLICATION HAD NOT BEEN AGREED AND SHOULD BE FIXED AT 9PM CONSISTENT WITH OTHER SUCH FACILITIES WITHIN THE TOWN.

IT WAS PROPOSED AND SECONDED THAT THE APPLICATION BE REFUSED UNTIL THE HOURS OF OPERATION HAD THE AGREEMENT OF THE RESIDENTS; ON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS LOST.

❖ **18/00012/MAJ**

- Land At Ngr 284376 71456, Ogwell Mill Road
Hybrid Application. Construction Of 100 Dwellings Including All Associated Public Open Space, Landscaping, Surface Water Attenuation And All Other External Works. Outline Planning Permission Sought For Self-Build.

THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO THE AMENDED APPLICATION AND THEREFORE IT RECOMMENDED REFUSAL ON THE CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATION ON THE BASIS OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) POOR VEHICULAR ACCESS IN THE BRADLEY BARTON AREA. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PRIMARY ACCESS TO THE SITE BE VIA THE JUNCTION OF EMBLETT DRIVE, ALREADY IN PLACE FOR THE PURPOSE.
- 2) DENSITY TOO HIGH. REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DWELLINGS FROM 100 (PLUS 5 FIVE SELF-BUILD PLOTS) CLOSER TO 70 PLOTS OVERALL, THEREFORE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE (REFERENCE NA NDP POLICY 3) AT THE CENTRE OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE SITE.
- 3) QUALITY OF DESIGN REFERENCE NA NDP POLICY 2 LEADING TO AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON VISUAL AMENITY OF THE OVERALL SITE
- 4) INSUFFICIENT DETAIL ON RENEWABLES AND SUSTAINABILITY AS PER THE NA NDP.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO NOTED THE CONCERNS RAISED BY HISTORIC ENGLAND AND THE DISTRICT AUTHORITY LANDSCAPE OFFICER.

- ❖ **18/01645/MAJ** Angharad Williams
 BRADLEY - Western House, 10 Howton Road, Newton Abbot
 Outline planning application for ten houses (all matters reserved for future consideration)
 THE COMMITTEE NOTED THE REVISED APPLICATION AND RECOMMENDED
 REFUSAL AS PER ITS PREVIOUS DECISION, ON THE BASIS THAT A) THE
 CONCERNS SURROUNDING VEHICULAR ACCESS HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY
 ADDRESSED AND B) OVERDEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE
- ❖ **18/02305/DCR3** Anna Holloway
 COLLEGE - Beverley Way to Steppes Meadow, Newton Abbot
 Consultation from Devon County Council on application under Town & Country Planning
 General Regulations 1992 for creation of cycleway/pedestrian path 330 metres in length
 from the end of Beverley Way through to Steppes Meadow (DCC ref RH/DCC/4093/2018)
 THE COMMITTEE RAISED NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE BUT NOTED THE
 POTENTIAL SAFETY HAZARD FOR CYCLISTS AT THE TOP OF STEPPES MEADOW
 WHERE THERE IS RESTRICTED VISIBILITY AT THE JUNCTION WITH THE TOTNES
 ROAD

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. This Plan is now in the process of being reviewed and the Town Council will closely monitor this review and comment as appropriate. The Committee noted that the Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) was adopted in June 2016 following a public Referendum in May 2016. During 2017 a new plan was introduced, the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP). This plan will provide an overarching layer of planning control/direction above both Plan Teignbridge and the Newton Abbot NDP. Again, the Town Council will follow the creation of this plan very closely, feeding into the consultation process on behalf of its implications for Newton Abbot.

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. Residents are also encouraged to attend to make representations or ask questions of councillors. 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 groups on which they have served. Those Members who joined the Council at the Elections in May 2015 will now be coming to the end of their term of office with the Council, the elections being held on 2nd May 2019. All Councillors I believe continue to work together positively on behalf of the community of Newton Abbot and it is hoped all those elected in May will continue so to do.

Yet again I can 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 2019

Newton Abbot Town Council 2017/18

Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st March 2018

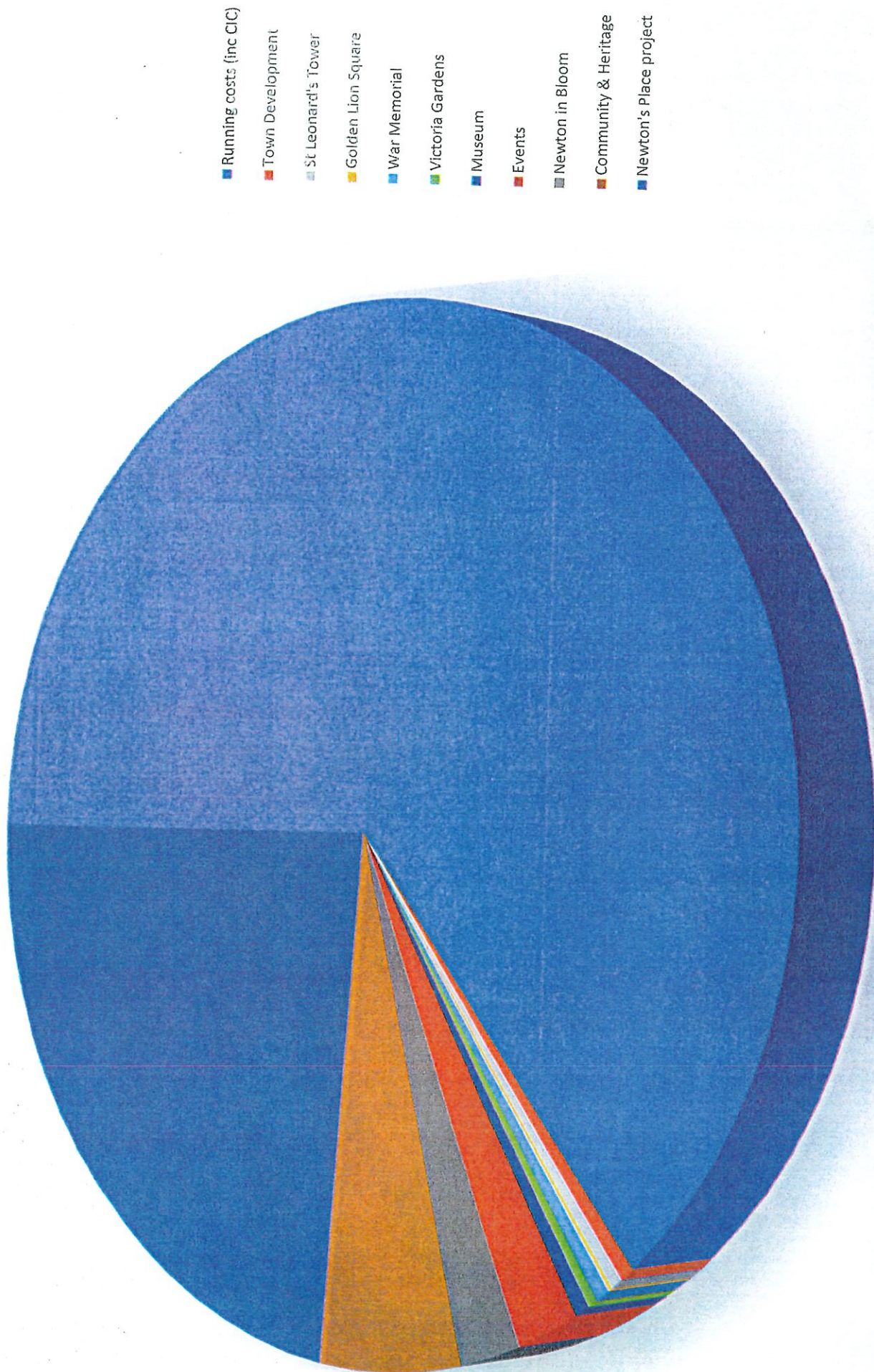
31st March 2017		31st March 2018
	Income Summary	
629,913	Precept	666,913
<u>629,913</u>	Sub Total	<u>666,913</u>
	Operating Income	
1,098	Admin F&A	920
101,076	Administration	132,475
5,080	Town Hall	1,635
216	Civic	486
7,985	Town Development Manager	3,579
680	St Leonard's Tower	868
0	Victoria Gardens	54
479	Golden Lion Square	0
8,630	CIC	6,467
3,840	Museum	1,824
2,507	Events	6,031
2,206	Newton In Bloom	1,653
939	Allotments	3,236
1,500	Footpaths	1,000
24,357	Other Amenities	13,928
1,467	Newton's Place	72,032
<u>791,971</u>	Total Income	<u>913,099</u>
	Running Costs	
45,221	Admin F&A	49,836
401,359	Administration	447,477
35,659	Town Hall	38,633
5,637	Civic	7,387
21,534	Town Development Manager	4,634
2,889	St Leonard's Tower	4,141
2,971	War Memorial	4,973
5,501	Victoria Gardens	2,952
4,451	Golden Lion Square	747
13	Newton Abbot Community Trust	2,763
15,945	CIC	18,892
43,184	Museum	4,744
18,010	Events	20,950
19,871	Newton In Bloom	20,725
4,466	Allotments	8,050
948	Footpaths	762
466	Bradley Leat	1,568
4,194	Town Quay	2,179
63,291	Other Amenities	37,522
261,516	Newton's Place	211,601
<u>957,127</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>890,537</u>

Newton Abbot Town Council 2017/18

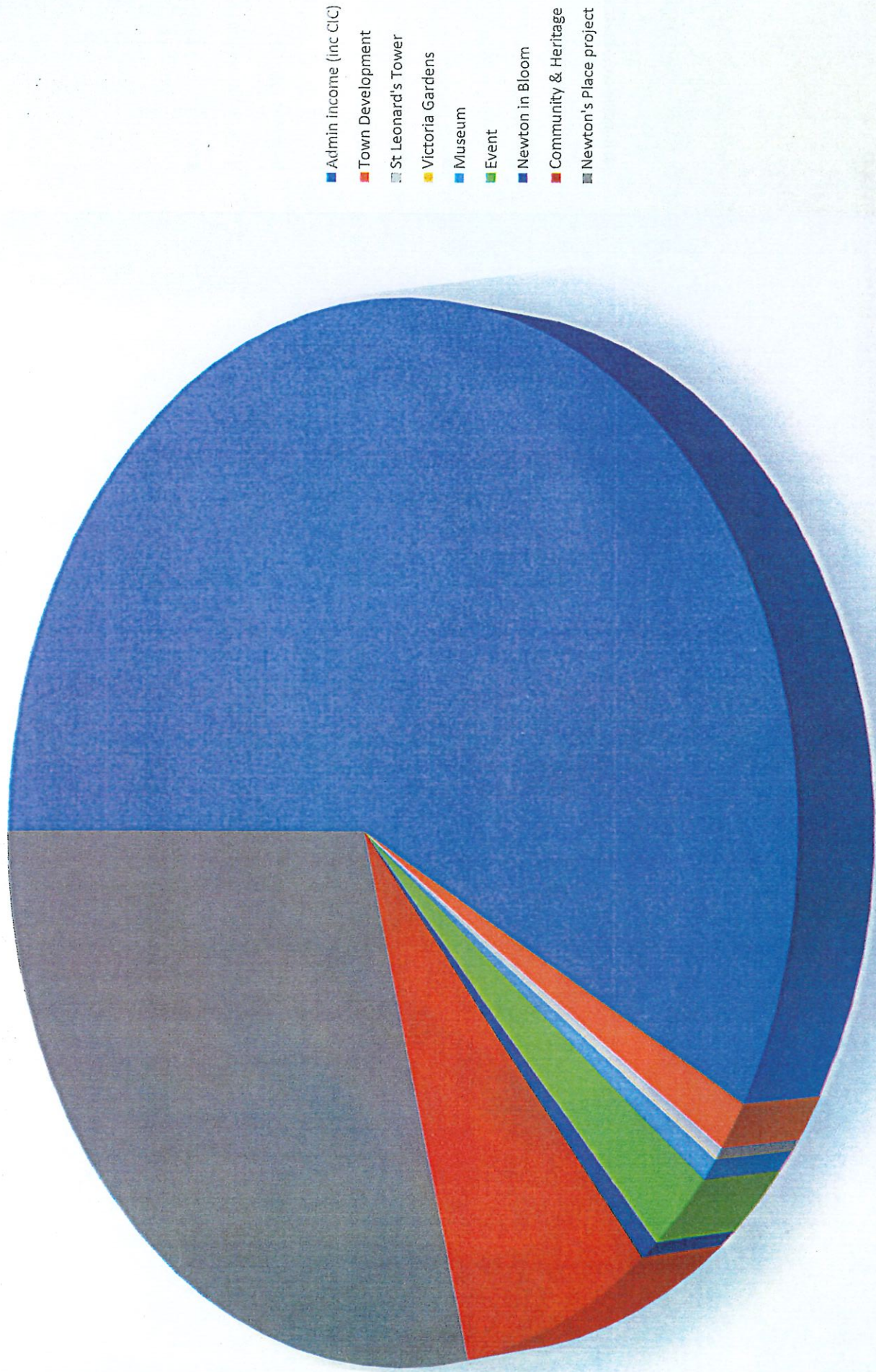
Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st March 2018

31st March 2017		31st March 2018
	General Fund Analysis	
28,718	Opening Balance	48,281
791,971	Plus : Income for Year	913,099
<hr/>		<hr/>
820,689		961,379
957,127	Less : Expenditure for Year	890,537
<hr/>		<hr/>
(136,438)		70,842
(184,719)	Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	32,879
<hr/>		<hr/>
48,281	Closing Balance	37,963
<hr/>		<hr/>

Newton Abbot Town Council Expenditure for the Year Ended 31st March 2018



Newton Abbot Town Council Income for the Year Ended 31st March 2018



Newton Abbot Town Council Annual Meeting 2019

Every single day brings with it headlines referring to 'dying' or 'struggling' high streets, with so called 'experts' giving advice on what should be done. However, much of what needs to be done, is in the hands of central government alone. I add my weight to the arguments of place managers nationwide and we do everything we can to lobby our local MPs and the government regarding the taxation imbalance which exists between those who trade from bricks and mortar properties in the heart of town centres and those who trade online and from much cheaper warehouses and industrial spaces. We live in a digital age now whether we like it or not and the taxation system has not kept pace with technology or our way of life. For me, it's disappointing, after a decade of lobbying alongside colleagues and working with other organisations such as Chambers of Trade, BID boards and the ATCM (Association of Town and City Management), that our voices appear to have been put on 'mute'. Instead of the root and branch reform of business rates, which for a decade, we have repeatedly advised is essential, the government instead continues to offer an assortment of 'funds' for which bids must be submitted by local authorities. At the end of the day, no matter how smart the town or innovative the event, a business will only open if the numbers stack up. Rents are not so much the problem, but business rates are. High street retailers are paying more than their fair share of tax and online retailers are simply not contributing enough. Amazon's rates contribution is less than 1% of turnover and yet look at shops in the high street and their contribution is more like 6.5%. Despite this, our government continues to shy away from addressing the anomaly and ignores the strenuous lobbying from all representative national and local organisations. It also ignores the findings from the very industry specialists, who government has specially commissioned to report on high street decline! We are all concerned about the potential decline of the high street, but without government intervention on this basic issue, it will ultimately be the consumer who will decide if we cherish our high streets enough to halt the decline which is seen in many towns. Fortunately, there is still plenty of shopping taking place in Newton Abbot.



Thinking about Newton Abbot's location, it lies a short distance between 2 major cities and sits next to acclaimed seaside resorts. Newton Abbot also has out of town retail parks and destinations on all sides and so it could be safe to say that we should be 'up against it'. However, Newton Abbot continues to support with pride, a vibrant array of independent shops and businesses. Whilst big names such as House of Fraser and Debenhams are disappearing from high streets nationwide, Newton Abbot has its own

independent department store, which has grown from year to year and received huge investment and is a massive attractor to the town. Just last year saw major refurbishment works to the main Austins ladies store, which resulted amongst other joys, in a superb new fragrance hall. Visiting fragrance bosses were bowled over by the department and one I spoke to, told me how some of the London stores would have been delighted to experience the level of footfall which our town enjoys! Newton Abbot is also still home to a wide range of national retailers such as Waterstones, Wilko and Bodyshop. There have been several shop closures over the last 12 months, but the vacancy rate remains on a par with the last decade and a cycle of openings and closures are normal and what has always lain at the heart of a vibrant town centre. Amongst other new businesses to the town centre, we welcomed over the last 12 months: Orsino Lounge, Meat 59, Greggs and The Pharmacy café (under new ownership). We also saw Kays Carers, Relocate Homes, the Accountancy and Tax Centre, Lolly stick Media, Malcolm Barrett Fine Art and Kelly Glover hair and beauty.



The range of shops in Newton Abbot reflects the needs of those who use it.

Mobile phones are a massive feature of our day to day life and therefore it's no surprise that we have a good range of mobile phone shops. Meeting for coffee and eating and drinking generally are popular activities and an experience which cannot be replicated online and so it's brilliant that our town boasts such a fantastic choice of places to go. Having an array of outlets in the same field is a positive thing as consumers visit towns with choice and not those with a 'Hobson's

choice'! The shop vacancy rate at January 2019 was 4.7% in Newton Abbot, maintaining a like for like with 2018 and still below the South West figure of 9.4% and the UK figure of 10.4%. (source Springboard). There are those who continue to mourn the departure of M&S from our town centre, but big bosses at major national chains don't get paid for the easy stuff. Numbers are crunched, and myriad meetings take place before difficult decisions like these are made. Much larger towns than Newton Abbot have lost their M&S, leaving much larger holes in the high street, but life goes on and at the time of writing this, I'm aware that this is one building which is not likely to remain empty for too long!

Few have missed the controversial rent-to-own retailer, Brighthouse, since it closed its doors last year and since the superb refurbishment of Market Walk Shopping centre, the landlord, Teignbridge District Council, has received a healthy interest in the 4 x vacant spaces within Market Walk from national and independent retailers. It is likely that by the summer new occupiers will be on site, which will drive greater footfall and enhance the overall offer both in the Centre and in the town.



It was brilliant to see Bank Street business and award-winning local gallery 'Frames and Boxes' open a pop-up shop in the Centre for the Christmas period and I'm grateful to Teignbridge District Council for providing space for pop-ups over the last couple of years.

Stephan and Molly Robinson in their Christmas 'Pop-Up' in Market Walk



We sympathise with nearby Teignmouth which is set to lose its Waitrose and the fact that the John Lewis Partnership is feeling the strain tells a very clear story about retailing challenges nationwide.

Newton Abbot however looks forward to the opening of a brand-new Aldi, which will be built to a bespoke design on a once derelict site at the entrance to our town. We are also delighted that Aldi has committed not only to a bespoke store design but also to a complete refurbishment of our historic railway signals at the location. Recruitment is under way at present and there has been a massive response to the vacancies advertised.

We look forward to the completion of the former Queens hotel as a residential development. Now that planning has been granted we also await the imminent commencement of work on the former Seymour Horwell site in Wolborough Street.

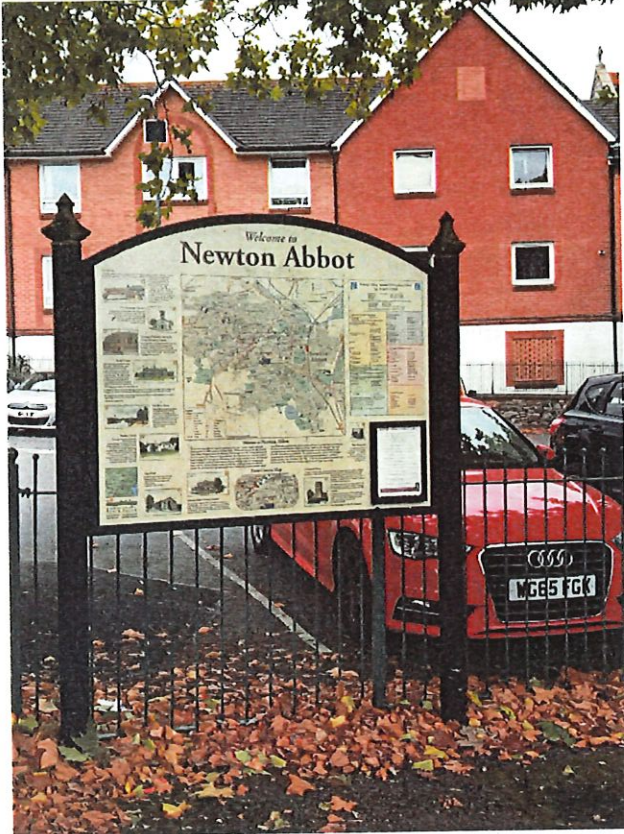


These are just three examples of investment which can be seen at every corner of Newton Abbot, a fact which we continue to celebrate as a sign of continued growth and confidence. With a new hotel coming soon, we will also be able to welcome more visitors to the town. Newton's Place is another fantastic project and the museum and community space is a place we will all be proud of and another 'attractor' to the town.

To ensure the vitality of town centres after the shops have closed, local authorities are hoping to encourage owners and landlords to convert disused upper floors into residential accommodation. This is something I'm working on with TDC as there are grants available. Newton does in fact have a good degree of vibrancy in this regard already. Residential can be found above shops in most of the main shopping streets, but there are more opportunities. Communication between local authorities, landlords and tenants is a key part of my role as town centre property ownership is complex

I've been working alongside colleagues in the Town, District and County Councils and with private partners. Alongside the lobbying I've been focussing on identifying other ways in which we can support our town centre.

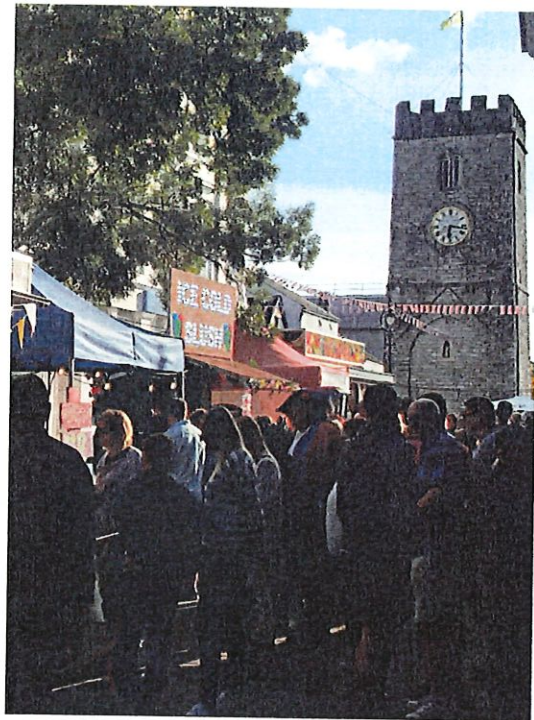
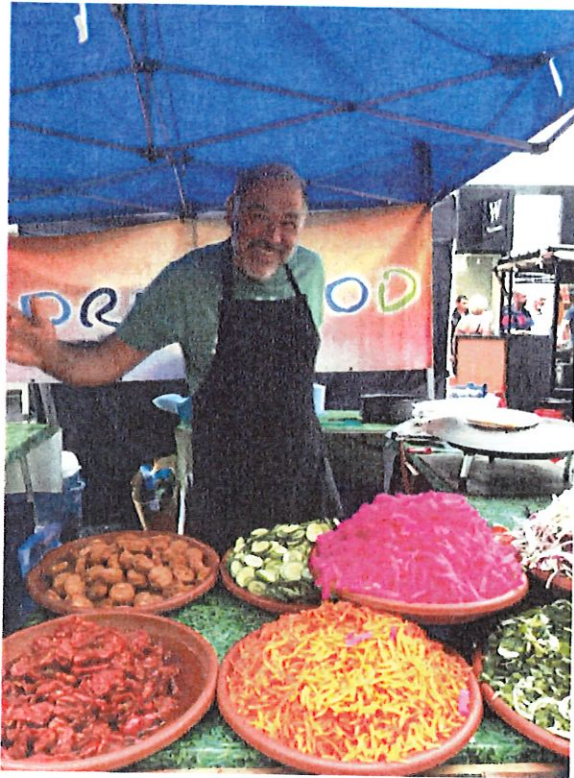
Newton Abbot has 5 town noticeboards located in car parks which are embarrassingly out of date and one of my projects is to get these updated and refurbished. I hope to have identified funds and get this done to coincide with the opening of our new community space 'Newton's Place'.



We now have two town centre classic vehicle shows and I am much indebted to the West Country Classic Vehicle Club members who I work alongside to put these events on for shoppers. This year we will also have a children's competition in partnership with the MDA and more vintage live music to add to the atmosphere.



Our second year of Summer nights street food events went down well with the community, seeing whole families and people of all ages enjoying an early supper with some live music before going on to enjoy the rest of what Newton Abbot has to offer at night. We plan 3 more events this year.

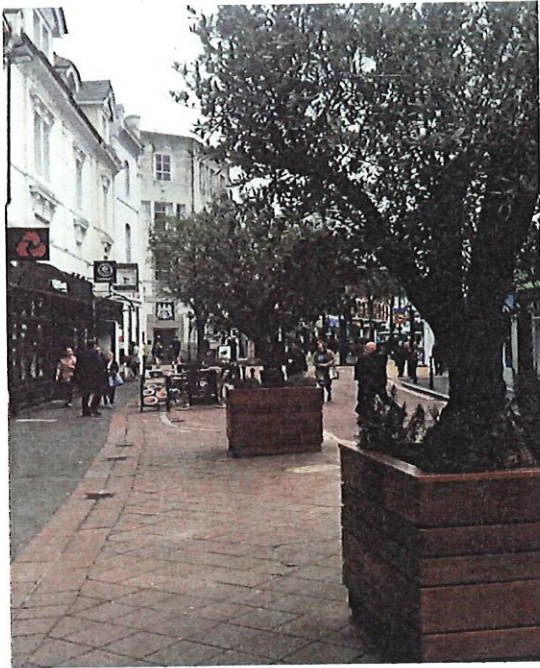


Working on behalf of the Community Trust, which owns Golden Lion Square in Bank Street, I have been pleased to organise several musical events last summer, culminating in a jazz concert. Kindly sponsored by the Passage House Hotel, Swervy world will be playing again on Easter Saturday – a lovely addition to our popular children's Easter activities.



I work with many schools colleges and organisations within the town and quite closely with South Devon College. Everyone seems to be thrilled with the Olive trees in the amazing planters designed and constructed by South Devon College learners. We will see more of their handiwork this summer as a special hexagonal bench is to be designed and made. This will fit around the tree by Costa in Courtenay Street, where the roots are lifting the paving and causing a hazard. The rather unattractive orange fencing will be replaced by a hand-crafted bench designed by our own youngsters. Newton Abbot streets have also become much safer over the last 12 months as work continues to replace 'wonky' paving slabs with tarmac. I understand that the rate of accidents has drastically reduced and shoppers and residents can go about their business without fear of a drenching in bad weather or without the need to constantly be on the lookout for trip hazards.

'Iroko' planters made by SDC learners



A new bench in this location in the summer!

It's no secret that Newton Abbot will double in size, as new homes are built over the next few years. It's therefore vital that the investment which we have been fortunate enough to have seen over the last decade, continues into the next. There are three Councils at work in the town and a host of enthusiastic and passionate organisations, groups and businesses and I'm honoured to work alongside most of them. It's great to see everyone working very hard to keep the momentum going and there is much about which to be positive.

Sally Henley Newton Abbot Town Development Manager

March 2019

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