



**TIVERTON TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014
JUNE 2014**

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MAYORS ANNUAL REPORT

It has been a real honour to be your Mayor since May, the Town I was born and brought up in and lived in for most of my life. There is a great deal going on in Tiverton and some wonderful people here who I have had the privilege to meet.

It has been a very busy year and I wouldn't have had it any other way, if I have been asked to do something, invited to attend I have done my best to do so, and when I couldn't fit it in I had my Deputy Sue to take over for me. Thank you Sue – I am sure you will have an excellent year as Mayor.

Some of the highlights of the year so far. One of my first duties was Going to Chinon with the Twinning Association for the 40th Anniversary of our Twinning Charter, which involved unveiling a plaque on the phone box given to Chinon by Tiverton in Tiverton square and then walking through Chinon on a warm evening fully robed for the official reception making a speech and signing the renewal of our Charter.

Our ceremonial events included the Civic Service, the Proclamation of the Fayre in June and October, Remembrance Sunday with the Commander and ratings from HMS Enterprise joining us. I have presented awards, opened shops and pubs and visited many groups and organisations that provide services with an army of volunteers. The people of Tiverton are very generous with their time to help others and I say a massive Thank you to all of you.

Tiverton has a tremendous amount of theatrical and artistic talent and John and I have been really impressed with the range of talent here. We have been invited and attended all the local theatrical events, Signpost, Operatic, Junior Operatic, Willow Tree, Dramatic, Tiverton Town Band, East Devon Choral Society, various productions at THS and Tcat and Macbeth at Two Moors, and enjoyed them all and would urge you to try some or all of the various productions. At the end of May is the Tivvy Fest, look out for their programme and do try to support them.

We have attended other various Mayoral events in North Devon and it is interesting to see what other Councils do.

You have the reports from the various Town Council Committees who work hard for the Council and the Town especially the Tiverton in Bloom and Christmas Lights committee who provide the floral and light displays to enhance our Town, and thank you to all the Councillors who go around selling the baskets and cleaning the streets prior to the In Bloom judging. We are permitted to have members of the public on these committees so if anyone is interested in joining or if you would like to part of a team to help tidy Tiverton you would be most welcome.

My Charity for the year as been to carry on the Mayor's Community Fund, originally set up by Lester Crocker, money raised by the Mayor is distributed to local Groups and organisation who can benefit from a small sum that can bring benefits to a number of people. I held a Charity concert which I split 50/50 for the Community Fund and Pine Lodge Hospiscare, giving them £1,000.

Thank you also to all the trade and businesses that "do their bit" to support the Council and our Town – it is greatly appreciated.

During the year we have had three resignations from the Council. One Councillor who was elected never attended any meetings and by the rules is now disqualified, and we are pleased to welcome Councillor Gosia Konarzewska from the Polish Community on to the Council.

Finally my thanks to the Town Clerk and the staff for their help and advice and especially to John Smith our Beadle who will be retiring after 27 years of service to the Mayor and Council. To the Mace Bearers Alan, who will be taking on the role of Beadle and to Sue who will be retiring Thank you for your years of service as Mace Bearers.

Janet Rendle

31st March 2014

ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

- **Waiting List**

Walronds 5

Beech Road 2

Elmore 3

Harrowby 3

King Street 0

Pinnex 4

Tomswell 5

Any site 10

TOTAL 32: There are also 5 existing tenants who would like an additional or larger plots

NOTE: There is a vacant plot at Elmore and another 3 or 4 at Tomswell at the end of March.

- **Beech Road: 49 tenanted plots:** Complaints received about a badly behaved dog, a letter was sent to the dog's owner who called into the office to his dog's behaviour. He did say that he would consider not taking the dog onto the allotment site. Need someone to write a specification for construction of a toilet, things to consider include materials, drainage and size? Mid Devon District Council has confirmed that a toilet would probably be permitted development so no planning permission is required, but this will depend on size etc. Will also need a legal agreement drawn up if the sewer pipe is to be installed through the garden of a neighbouring property.
- **Elmore: 17 tenanted plots:** Notice to remove bridge to be erected.
- **Harrowby: 17 tenanted plots:** All plots let and tidy.
- **King Street: 18 tenanted:** Look at producing a specification to obtain prices for upgrade of path and additional water trough so that the work can be carried out.
- **Pinnex: 43 tenanted plots:** All plots let and tidy, no issues at present
- **Tomswell: 68 tenanted plots:** Allotment Association would like permission to hold a BBQ on the site late in the year.
- **Walronds: (potential for 18 plots) Waiting for** MDDC to provide a draft lease, the owners of an adjacent property have agreed that a water service pipe can be laid along their path but this would incur legal fees and mortgage lender fees plus the cost of installing the water supply, remove trees and move earth bank.

PLANNING ANNUAL REPORT

The committee consists of Councillors from the five town wards; Castle, Lowman, Cranmore, Westexe South and Westexe North.

Meetings are held at the Town Hall on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month and members of the public are very welcome to attend and speak on any of the applications dealt with at that meeting.

Mid Devon District Council is the local planning authority and the Town Council is a statutory consultee. This means that the Committee can support an application or give reasons for objection but does not have the power to permit or refuse an application.

During the Local Plan Options Consultation the Tiverton Town Council made following comments:

Policy S3

Tiverton Town Council has a preference for option 2. We would not wish to extend the settlement line towards Halberton.

Policy S6 Public Open Spaces

The Council feels that it is important that this policy is included.

Policy S7

The Council supports this policy.

Policy S8 Town Centres

The Council supports this policy.

Policy S9 Infrastructure

The Council feels that this is an important policy. Need to ensure that appropriate community facilities are identified and inserted into development plans. Transport is a major issue and there is a need to ensure that links are improved to the railway station at Tiverton Parkway. Other forms of sustainable transport should be encouraged.

Policy S10 Environment

The Council wishes to highlight the importance of item C on this policy. There are great concerns regarding possible flooding as a result of additional dwellings. There are also concerns regarding the ability of sewage and water systems to cope with additional capacities.

Policy S11 Tiverton

The Council supports this policy.

Tiverton Development Strategy

As mentioned in Policy S3 the Council favours the new community option.

Policy Tiv1 Eastern Urban Extension

The Council notes that this is already an adopted policy (AL/TIV-7). There is a need to ensure that adequate arrangements are made to cope with the additional traffic that this development will cause. The Council is however broadly in favour of this option.

Policy Tiv2 Hartnoll Farm

The Council is totally against this option. This option would extend the settlement line and would involve a great deal of additional traffic towards Halberton. Halberton has difficulty coping with its present traffic flow, and any additional traffic would, we believe, cause major problems.

Policy Tiv3 Farleigh Meadows

This is an existing allocation site which already has outline planning permission with a reserved matters application expected in April 2014. Whilst the Council had some concerns in relation to pedestrian routes, this has been dealt with, and is included within this policy (d). The Council therefore supports this option.

Policy Tiv4 Blundell's School

Whilst the Council notes that this is already an adopted policy (AL/Tiv/9) it has concerns regarding the risk of flooding from any further developments in this area. Therefore, this Council would recommend that this option is not used if possible.

Policy Tiv5 Howden Court

This is a fairly small development and is supported.

Policy Tiv6 Town Hall/St Andrew Street

This Council was against the development behind the Town Hall, however, it has been passed by the planning authority, therefore there is little more that can be added in comment by this Council.

Policy Tiv7 Roundhill

The Council was against this option when previously looked at. There are concerns regarding the different levels and the possibility of subsidence from such a development, however small the proposal is.

Policy Tiv8 Hay Park, Canal Hill

The Council supports this preferred option.

Policy Tiv9 the Avenue

The Council supports this preferred option.

Policy Tiv10 Tidcombe Hall

The Council notes that this is a Contingency Site, and would prefer that it was not used if at all possible.

Policy Tiv11 Wynnards Mead, Bakers Hill

The Council does not feel that this option is necessary and suggests it is removed from the options.

Policy Tiv 12 Moorhayes Park

The Council supports this option.

Policy Tiv 13 Exeter Hill

This site is felt to be a difficult site to develop, and is not supported by this Council.

Policy Tiv 14 Leat Street

This option is supported.

Policy Tiv15 Palmerston Park

This option is supported.

Policy Tiv 16 Phonix Lane

This option is supported.

Policy Tiv 17 Bampton Street/William Street car park

This option is supported.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Localism Act 2011 introduces a new approach to planning which aims to give people more say about what goes on in their local area through the preparation of neighbourhood plans. Local community organisations that meet certain requirements or parish and town councils are able to prepare Neighbourhood Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.

The Main forms of Neighbourhood Planning are:

Neighbourhood Plans	A community led framework for guiding the future development and growth of an area which much conform to the strategic policies of the Mid Devon Local Plan
Neighbourhood Development Orders	A means for parish/town councils or neighbourhood forums to grant permission for certain types of development within a specific area
Community Right to Build Orders	These can be used to grant permission for development schemes e.g. housing

Town and Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums will need to apply to Mid Devon District Council in order to designate a neighbourhood plan area, submitting:

- A map identifying the area to which the application relates;
- A statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area;
- A statement that the organisation or body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2014

Income

Administration income	£ 982.16
Allotment Receipts	£ 2,649.37
Christmas Lights	£ 11,806.94
Civic & Ceremonial'	£ 12.50
Holding Fund for Grants	£ 7,500.00
Mayor's Charity Fund	£ 1,926.45
Mayor's Concert 2013	£ 1,980.00
Miscellaneous receipts	£ 1,590.25
New Hall'	£ 30,907.99
Precept	£ 236,442.00
Street Cleaning.	£ 6,000.00
Tiverton In Bloom Income	£ 2,432.09
Town Hall'	£ 555.45
Town Hall Letting Income	£ 1,479.50
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	£ 306,264.70

Expenditure

Administration	£ 103,276.28
Adverse Weather Conditions	£ 762.62
Allotments	£ 16,405.07
Christmas Lights.	£ 21,793.45
Civic & Ceremonial	£ 11,405.50
Community Garden	£ 160.00
Grants	£ 22,350.00
New Hall	£ 41,705.39
P3 Footpaths	£ 175.94
Payments from Mayor's Charity	£ 1,395.00
Projects	£ 34,298.90
Public Works Board Loan	£ 9,669.88
Tiverton In Bloom	£ 24,846.15
Town Hall	£ 12,145.36
Town Hall Letting	£ 1,793.17
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	£ 302,182.71

Balance carried forward from 2012/2013	£ 245,532.12
Add total income	£ 306,264.70
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	£ 551,796.82
Less total expenditure	£ 302,182.71
Balance carried forward	<hr/> £ 249,614.11

2013-2014 GRANTS AGREED FOR DISTRIBUTION

Name	Amount
Age UK	£ 1,000.00
Tiverton Citizen's Advice Bureau	£ 3,100.00
CHAT	£ 3,000.00
Churchyard Grants	£ 400.00
Headway Devon	£ 280.00
Mid Devon Messenger	£ 350.00
Mid Devon Show	£ 400.00
Old Heathcoat School Community Centre	£ 1,000.00
Reserve	£ 230.00
Sunningmead Community Centre	£ 600.00
Tiverton & District Community Transport A	£ 1,200.00
Tiverton & Mid Devon Museum Trust	£ 1,750.00
Tiverton Adventure Playground	£ 1,600.00
Tiverton Market Centre	£ 1,000.00
Tiverton Tourist Information Centre	£ 1,000.00
Tiverton Town Band	£ 500.00
Tiverton Town Football Club	£ 500.00
Tiverton Town Majorettes	£ 300.00
Tiverton VIP Club	£ 250.00
Tiverton Youth Orchestra	£ 440.00
Tivvy Fest	£ 500.00
Unite	£ 600.00
Total	£ 20,000.00

COUNCILLORS LIST 2013-2014

Name	Ward

Aly Berry	Lowman
Tim Bridger	Castle
Wallace Burke	Westexe South
Lewis Clarke	Cranmore
Neal Davey	Lowman
Di Donaghy	Lowman
Steve Flaws	Castle
Philippa Grainger	Westexe North
Alan Griffiths	Westexe South
Susan Griggs	Cranmore
Tony Hendy	Cranmore
Laina Howe	Cranmore
Gosia Konarzewska	Lowman
Dennis Knowles	Lowman
Tom Lindus	Westexe North
Gerald Luxton	Westexe North
Jeff Rawlings	Castle
Janet Rendle	Castle
Colin Slade	Lowman
Elizabeth Slade	Westexe South
Janet Smith	Cranmore
Elaine Trump	Castle
Mary Turner	Westexe South
Kevin Wilson	Cranmore