

Teignmouth Town Council Meeting – 17 October 2023 - 14 November- Mayor's Report

- A donation of £200 has been made to the Armed Forces Bikers local group who attend a number of our memorial ceremonies. This has come from the Mayor's events fund – it was particularly poignant, as those of you who attended will know, that we were all soaked to the skin – even through leather boots, handbags, etc, so the bikers who also patiently waited after the singer failed to attend must have been similar and were taking quite a risk riding in such weather. I felt it totally appropriate, on your behalf, to make this gesture of thanks since those who attend/organise these ceremonies are often forgotten.
- As the District Councillor/Mayor representing the Town Council in this instance, I spoke to the item at Teignbridge Executive meeting on 3 October 2023, re the transfer of the public toilets. I was bitterly disappointed that the officers did not explain the paper in detail (as happens at Full Council).

So the proposal was agreed as set out which is not what was agreed last December at all. So, our Extraordinary Council Meeting on 9 October is to discuss the ramifications of this Executive resolution and next steps.

Mayor's Visits

Events to which the Mayor was invited after the last diary report was made at the last council:

10 October invited to the **Scouts Group** meeting in the evening to see how the newly cleared and secured area now enables outdoor cooking (there's a badge for it) and took marshmallows for toasting. Pictures from around the fire pit were published in the Teignmouth Post and the visit was a pleasure – to engage with some really articulate and vibrant young people and see how our support is helping improve use of the existing accommodation whilst we await the replacement programme.

21 October – a double header:

attended a craft fair at **St Michael's Church** which had some stunning local crafts and other products on sale. Then a short walk down the road, following an invitation from the Station Manager, I spent a really interesting time, learning what they do at the **Coastguard** Watch Tower and how important it is for the safety of all users of the water - the local seal actually swam past, on cue, as well which was really exciting. The staff there work really hard and do a sterling job of quite literally keeping watch and recording what they see – they can assist in monitoring English Channel traffic where necessary and have some amazing technology to support this. As the RNLI, they are a charity with no government funding, so it is worth bearing in mind that they need financial help as do so many of our local organisations – they do a good trade in secondhand books to raise funds, if you're passing. Despite passing copy and a pic to the Teignmouth Post in good time for publication, it did not appear.

10 November Poppies to Paddington – attendance with others at Teignmouth Station to add a wreath from the Town Council to the train going to Paddington where the entire GWR delivery of poppies collected will be formed into a display at Paddington.

11 November Armistice Day Raising of a flag and short service in the Triangles.

11 November 12.30 attendance at the Heritage Centre Craft Fayre

12 November Remembrance Sunday service on the seafront at the War Memorial

Prospective Visits

26/7 November attendance at the Xmas event with a Mayor/Town Council gazebo and nativity in the market area. Any suggestions as to information that might be provided welcome. I'll have info on the NHPlan, weddings, room hire, etc – might even try a complaints form!!!

8 December Xmas Concert at St James -Teign Choral Society.

District Councillor Report October

16 October attended a briefing on the new consultation on parts of the TDC Local Plan which has gone out (prior to discussion at the TDC Full Council on 17th). <https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/news/latest-council-news/october-2023/councillors-to-consider-changes-to-local-plan/> The finalised contents of the Plan went out to consultation on 8 November as a Local Plan Addendum which can be found at www.teignbridge.gov.uk/localplanaddendum and comments are invited by **Friday 22 December**.

17 October – attendance at Full Extraordinary TDC Council meeting re above– involving preparation of papers, etc.

18 October I took up the invitation from Sarah Holgate and Anna Snow to meet with them to find out more about the beach management/resorts operation. A particularly pertinent day in terms of damage already being reported due to the stormy weather and impending Storm Ciaron and good networking with officers.

18 October attended one of the Community Safety Partnerships Let's Talk sessions on Living in a Porn Culture which was extremely interesting and a matter of some concern in terms of what it implies is acceptable behaviour.

24 October – Planning Committee – a useful education on the conditions under which you can refuse planning permission – this time in relation to a Gateway Residential Apartment block on the A379 into Exeter which raised many questions about its increased size, design, lack of parking, accessibility to Exeter, etc. Several members have an enormous amount of knowledge of the policies in the Local Plan and are able to argue strongly for their implementation with regard to applications received. Our Planning Committee members need to follow this example and start to gain a feel for the contents of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cancelled attendance at 2 briefing meetings – Energy Supply Contract and Finance due to the weather.

Town Councillor Reports

9 October met with Sylvia and Bill Russell re arrangements for the award evening, 26 January.

9 October Part II council meeting re toilets transfer.

17 October – Full TT Council meeting involving preparation of papers, etc.

19 October - met with the CEO of the Ivy Education Trust (which runs the academy of which the Upper and Lower schools are part) to reconnect and form relationships with TCS and Inverteign (now, please note **Teignmouth Primary School**).

20 October Attended the Police Surgery in the Triangle – staff by the two PCSOs now attached to Teignmouth – the Team Leader and Sergeant were also present in the town that morning. A steady stream of visitors was engaging with the PCSOs which is good to see.

20 October Attended a meeting at TDC with the MD and the Leader and the Town Clerk to see if the terms for toilet transfer, agreed by the Executive, could be amended to reinstate the original agreement not what was outlined in the paper put to Executive. This was a positive meeting but terms still to be confirmed, following a meeting of the Town Council on 26 October.

27 September attended Team Training session from NALC in preparation for our communications strategy deliberations, Engaging with the Local Community through Digital Engagement – as this turned out it was largely about NHPLan stuff (which it didn't say in the advert) it wouldn't have been particularly relevant for anyone else, but was a great comfort to me in that we did what we could do and did it right. Good experience for a communications strategy.

25 October attended a Teams Training session from NALC in preparation for our communications strategy deliberations: Empowering Young Voices in the Community – info. shared. Not particularly helpful in that it concentrated on 2 or 3 successful schemes which was OK as far as it goes, but as everywhere is so different didn't really enhance a knowledge base

24 October collected Anne-Marie Morris's wreath for Remembrance Sunday whilst in Newton Abbot – having attended our (very wet) Battle of Britain commemoration, she will be elsewhere in Teignbridge for Remembrance.

24 October Finance Committee meeting, as chair, with associated preparation of papers, etc.

26 October attended online training with the Clerk about the Community Safety Partnership and what it does (and who does it). Really useful and information then shared with councillors. Have again stressed that TDC's info for this team is minimal and needs to be expanded with just a few simple links to enable people to access information about all the good work that is being done. The next OPCC Seminar is on ASB on 21 November where I will represent the TTC.

26 October Extraordinary Part II Council meeting to share the outcomes of the 20 October meeting with local members and weigh up the options.

31 October – as Police and Crime Commissioner Councillor Advocate attended Teams meeting with Inspector James Johnson who has replace Steve Philp as our Sector Inspector and intends to continue these regular monthly meetings. A positive meeting sharing information up and down about issues – hoping crime stats might soon be available.

9 November will attend Teams Training on the Code of Conduct for (originally) Clerk and Mayors of Town/Parish Councils which, at the last minute has been opened up to all councillors, Run by TDC. Apparently now clashes with the Save the Hospital meeting of the Adult & Social Care Committee at Devon.

14 November Town Council meeting – preparation of papers in order to chair

TEIGNMOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

<https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/neighbourhood-plans-submitted-for-consultation-and-examination/teignmouth-town-council-neighbourhood-plan/>

The prospective examiner for our Neighbourhood Plan has already had discussions with TDC officers. It is expected that she will start work in earnest in early December. TDC officers have stated the clear intent to keep us informed as things progress and this is evidence that that intent is being met which is really encouraging. **Our Neighbourhood Plan final consultation (on the Plan as a whole) end on 15 November – copies are available with response forms at both the Pavilions and Bitton House. This is not the time for detailed changes to be requested again as these have been asked and answered previously. It is to do with the integrity of the Plan as a whole plan.**

Jla/8/11/23