



Council Corner

February and March 2022

West Ward Casual Vacancies – Co-option Opportunities

Elections for the casual vacancies in the Hayle West Ward have not been required to take place and the Town Council can now proceed to fill the two vacancies by co-option.

Any eligible person who wishes to be considered for co-option should write to the Town Clerk at the address shown below, providing a bit of background information about themselves and explaining the reasons they wish to be considered for co-option, by no later than noon on 15 February 2022. Candidates will be invited to attend an interview on the evening of 24 February 2022. More information about what is involved can be found on www.hayletowncouncil.net.

As long as you are eighteen or over you can become a town councillor, which is a voluntary role. If you have a few hours a week to give to your town, please consider standing for co-option. Having people of different ages and from a variety of backgrounds can lead to more informed decisions, which are based on real life experience, and it ensures that the Council better reflects the local community. The role of Towns and Parish Councils is growing. As a result of devolution, they have more powers and can consider preserving and taking on more services from Cornwall Council. You would be involved in making important decisions which directly benefit your town.

2022/2023 Precept Demand

The net effect is an increase in the precept in 7.43%, which equates to 2.09% or £4.54 per year for a Band D property. The final Precept for 2022/23 is £682,992.

Money has been built into the budget to cover the cost of a 'project officer' on a fixed term basis to assist the council in sourcing grants and delivering more exciting projects for the town, building on the work of the Town Team. We will also be looking to recruit a gardening apprentice later in the year. The impact of these costs has been softened by using funds from general reserves.

Careful budgeting over the last few years has allowed the town council to use the precept funding to continue to provide many services via the devolution process, some of which may have otherwise been lost to the town, such as public realm CCTV, public conveniences, footpaths maintenance, the library and information service and management of all open spaces, including Hayle Recreation Ground and King George V Memorial Walk. Additionally, the town council continues to work with and support a number of groups and organizations in the town annually, including Hayle Day Care Centre, Hayle in Bloom, Hayle Decorative Lights and Hayle Youth Project and it also contributes to the work of the Towns Ranger and the Friends of the Towns.

Town Team

The activities of the Town Team are continuing to ramp up and go from strength to strength. We are continuing to work on the Repair Shop and Farmers Market – which hopefully will commence in March 2022. We are also looking at rolling out a programme of cultural events and street entertainment to take place in the spring of 2022. The funding for all these initiatives was secured by way of the Town Team, led by the Town Council, from the Welcome Back Funding which was established to regenerate town centres post pandemic. In addition to this

pot we've also been successful in securing £90,000 from the Vitality Funding. This money will be used to carry out feasibility studies, with a focus on recreation and leisure facilities and activities and active travel and connectivity in the town.

The Town Team meets virtually (via Zoom) on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm and it is open to all. The group is made up of local businesses, community groups and residents of Hayle, and it welcomes ideas, discussion and opinions that will help Hayle, both now and in the future. Absolutely everyone is welcome to attend.

If there is anything that you would like to be discussed at the meeting, just contact the council office at info@hayletowncouncil.net and it will be added to the agenda.

A zoom link to attend is published on our Facebook page and the website with the link so anyone can attend and have their say. Further information can be found on the website on the Town Team Information Documents and Links page.

Town Council Relocation Project

As reported previously, the Town Council proposes to relocate to the library, to create a central administrative hub.

Planning permission, for the development and extension of the existing library building, was granted in the summer of 2021 and following the positive feedback from the public exhibition, held in August 2021, the Town Council has agreed to focus on and progress the project at speed.

To cover the cost of the relocation, the Community Centre, on Queensway, will be sold and additional borrowing, most likely from the Public Works Loan Board, will be required. The Council anticipates the loan repayments to be in the region of £20,000 per year and will look to build that sum into the 2023/2024 precept. If funds are needed this year, it has been agreed that they should be taken from the Relocation Project Ear Marked Reserve.

The building will continue to be the home of the library and information service but in addition will also become the administrative centre for all Council activities, including Council meetings. The meeting space will also be available for some community use, workshops and more interactive library sessions. The building will be brought into the 21st Century and will be almost carbon neutral, with the installation of air source pumps and solar panels. In the long term, the building will be sustainable and will ensure that the town council is reaches its owns climate change targets.

For those that missed that may have missed the exhibition, please see the plans on the Cornwall Council Planning Portal: PA21/05282.

Council Activity and Meetings

The Council continues to function and deliver its services, although for the majority of the time currently the administrative staff are working from home. Meetings are continuing to being held physically, despite the continuing challenges that Covid-19 but we now meet at Hayle Day Care Centre to maintain social distancing and to cater for members of the public to attend

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[Office hours 9.30am – 12.30 p.m.](#)