



## Council Corner

February and March 2024

### Local Council Award



We are delighted to announce that Hayle Town Council has received the Foundation Award under the Local Council Award Scheme administered by the National Association of Local Councils. This demonstrates that the council achieves good practices in governance, community engagement and council improvement and shows that we have gone above and beyond the legal obligations. The Award Scheme report congratulated the Council on a ‘first class application with a fantastic website’.

The Council lead the community and continuously seek opportunities to improve and develop even further and is now reviewing ways in which it can keep on improving its offer to the local community and welcomes input from local people and partners on this. Hayle Town Council, and other local councils like it, are at the front line of the government’s localism agenda and are doing as much as they can to deliver services whilst being efficient and cost-effective.

The team will be looking to achieve Quality or even Gold, after the next elections when we hope to have sufficient elected members to meet that criteria.

Sarah Mason, CEO, of Cornwall Association of Local Councils presented the certificate to Deputy Mayor Cllr June Lawrenson- Reid. Also pictured are Cllrs Tim Carey, Brian Capper, Jeremy Martin, Committee Clerk Matilda Costello and Town Clerk Eleanor Giggal-Hollis. However, not everyone could be present, and it should be recognised that this was a whole team effort.

### **Councillor Vacancies**

We currently have 2 vacancies on the council. More information about joining the council is published on social media, on our website and the noticeboards around the town. Feel free to call the office for an informal chat with the Clerk or one of the officers and/or contact one of the existing town councillors who could provide information and discuss what's involved from their perspective.

### **Allotments**



Back in the Autumn, Hayle Town Council secured the additional site and officially opened the new allotment site at Lethlean Lane. We are pleased to announce that the new plots have now been allocated to some delighted residents, and our oversubscribed waiting list has been reduced considerably.

Pictured with the Mayor & Consort, councillors and staff are representatives of Sustainable Hayle, who have been given a community plot.

Photo Credit: The St Ives Times & Echo

## **King Charles III Community Orchard**



Permanent plaques have now been installed at King Charles III Community Orchard. The first fruit trees were planted on 6 May 2023 to mark the coronation of King Charles III and to help increase the biodiversity of the town and are part of a long-term plan to establish a wildflower area in Hayle Recreation Ground. Our gardening and maintenance team will look to make further improvements in the coming months/years, with the potential for more trees and improved access.

If members of the public and or community groups wish to either plant or donate further trees, please liaise with the Town Council Office and arrangements can be made.

### **2024/2025 Precept Demand**

Prudent 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 may have otherwise been lost to the town, such as public realm CCTV, public conveniences, footpaths

maintenance, the library and management of all open spaces, including Hayle Recreation Ground, King George V Memorial Walk, and in the last year we are proud to have established a much-needed cemetery. We continue to work with and support several groups and organizations annually, including Hayle Day Care Centre, Hayle in Bloom, Hayle Decorative Lights, Hayle Youth Project and contribute to the work of the Friends of the Towans.

Last year we kept the increase of the budget to the minimum, putting certain projects on hold and reducing contributions to earmarked funds, recognising the cost-of-living crisis. However, that is not sustainable, and this time we have had to review the delivery costs of several services.

Following a recent tender process, Hayle Town Council has had to increase the budget for the cleaning contract to service the 4 public toilets. Cornwall Council has also withdrawn its support for the cleansing and waste management of the town's public open spaces and these costs have been included in this budget. We have also built in some funds for future project work. Additionally, the rise in utility and running costs for our buildings and amenities and the increase on minimum wage have been factored in and therefore increased the precept more than we had hoped.

The net effect is an increase in the precept in 24.91%, which equates to 21.85% or £52.50 per annum for a Band D property.

### **Hayle Community Action Group**

The next meeting of Hayle Community Action Group will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 7th February in the annexe at Hayle Day Care Centre. The group will focus on the next steps to becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), including making decisions about their constitution. By becoming a CIO, the group will be able to unlock crucial funding for projects around the town. As the group becomes constituted, they invite anyone who is resident in the town, or who owns a business in the town to become a member of the group. There is also the opportunity to become a trustee. To find out more about the group or to be added to the mailing list so that you can be the first to hear about projects and important information about the CIO, email [julie.baldwin@hayletowncouncil.net](mailto:julie.baldwin@hayletowncouncil.net) or come along to a meeting and have an informal chat with one of the group. Everyone welcome.

### **Hayle Business Week 26<sup>th</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> March**

In a testament to Hayle's vibrant business community, Hayle Business Week is set to make a triumphant return for its second consecutive year. Celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit that defines our town, this annual event is dedicated to nurturing local businesses and fostering community engagement. From insightful webinars about the business support currently available in Cornwall to networking opportunities, the Business Week promises a dynamic platform for entrepreneurs, both seasoned and aspiring, to connect, collaborate, and thrive. With a diverse array of activities and events lined up, this initiative underscores the council's commitment to supporting the growth and success of businesses in the Hayle community. For more information about Hayle Business Week, check our website and social media pages.

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