

CLERK REPORT FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

22nd May 2024

TOWN CLERK

- **VAT submission deadline** met; with the total VAT to pay, due to the VAT liability from 1/8/16 to 31/3/24 totalling £29,813.65
- **2023/24 Audit** is due; currently working on this, alongside supporting the work around the D-Day 80 Commemoration Event that is on 6th June 2024. Due to Council's current priorities have liaised with internal and external auditor and pushed back **audit to July 2024**.
- **LLoyds Bank mobile van** – today is the last day for this service
- Liaising with **Scribe regarding their newly launched Civicly App**. This will enable the Officers to record and manage the Council's assets, ensuring there is a maintenance programme going forward. Due to signing up early the app will be free for a year for the Council.

SHDC - Newsletter

Work completed to enhance Salcombe's Hangar Marsh nature reserve

- Part of the site reopening to the public this month. Initiative by South Hams District Council to address biodiversity loss
- Council's commitment to biodiversity highlighted in Council Plan
- Hangar Marsh: small wetland reserve behind North Sands beach and car park. Restoration of pond, conservation of reedbeds, creation of woody leaky dams
- New boardwalk and bird hide built; interpretation boards updated and installed. Funding secured in 2023: £20k from Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL). Funds administered by South Devon National Landscapes
- Involvement of ParkLife South West in managing restoration. Community volunteer involvement, including from local social enterprise.
- Importance of wetland habitats for biodiversity and carbon sequestration. Excitement about community involvement in conservation projects. ParkLife South West involvement in environmental volunteering and education. Contribution of volunteers from local community and educational groups
- Farming in Protected Landscapes programme (FiPL) funded by Defra. FiPL aims to deliver outcomes for Climate, Nature, People, or Place. John Yeoman's comment on the project's impact and community involvement. FiPL Local Assessment Panel's composition and ongoing funding availability
- Access to Hangar Marsh through North Sands car park. Hangar Marsh not fully accessible to the public beyond pond and hide

Police - Newsletter

Alison Hernandez - Re-elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall, and the Isles of Scilly

- Priorities set based on input from communities. Development of second police and crime plan for strategic direction. Engaged with residents across rural, coastal, and urban areas. Addressing community concerns about police presence and accessibility
- Increased police numbers to a record 3,610 with the help of central Government funding and investment through the police precept on our council tax bills
- Revamped and reopened 13 front desks, with more to come
- Established Prisoners Building Homes program for ex-offenders
- Acknowledgment of remaining challenges and need for further progress

- Budget allocation for 686 new police officers. Focus on ensuring visible, accessible, and reassuring police presence
- Addressing drug-related issues and lawlessness in communities. Commitment to supporting ex-offenders in rehabilitation efforts
- Ensuring substantive Chief Constable appointment for effective leadership. Continued commitment to achieving lowest crime rate and high police performance

PROJECT OFFICER'S ACTIVITY

- Daily – Email, admin and general office tasks.
- Weekly – Check Mortuary Building & Jubilee Gardens Playground & record
- Liaising with Grounds Maintenance Team – Maintaining Tracker
- Cemetery – Jackson Interment, Leete & Cooper Interment & Memorial
- Overseeing the office and the TC Inbox, while the Town Clerk has been working on the VAT liability.
- Allotment Association re issues around:
 - Bonfire Hill Hedge – Needs to be addressed by Grounds Mtce Team – Attention requested
 - Dumping of green waste by residents at Salcombe Heights - May need to send letters to ask them to desist if it continues.
- Specification/quotes for Park & Ride refurb. Contacted DCC re improvements recommended by Cllrs. Spec sent to Cllrs for consideration.
- Working on D-Day 80 Road Closure prep & Whitestrand closure for SHDC
- Liaising with Tally Ho & Cllrs – Complaints from residents & potential safety question over current route.
- Scribe Cemetery demonstration Zoom & follow up with John Fagen (CEO) to assess data migration requirements & costs to complete. Generated and exporting specific data files for John to analyse for costing to migrate.
- Moles – Trying to find insurance solution.
- Tree @ Welcome Garden – Complaint from resident – not an STC issue raise to DCC and directed resident int that direction.

ADMINISTRATOR'S ACTIVITY

- Updating of Planning agenda compilation
- Office administration