

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of  
**SALCOMBE**  
held in The Assembly Room of Cliff House, Salcombe  
at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT** \* - Attendance; A- Absent; N - No Apologies Received

Cllr Mark Goodey (Mayor)	*
Cllr Jasper Evans (Deputy Mayor)	*
Cllr Caroline Bricknell	*
Cllr Andrew Reed	*
Cllr Eoghan Grace	N
Cllr Kizzy Sims-Stirling	*
Cllr Christine Milton	*
Cllr John Cooke	*
Cllr Craig Niven	A
Cllr Rob Wheeler	*
Cllr David Higgins	*
Cllr Peter Dickinson	*

**Also in attendance:**

Dist Cllr Samantha Dennis	A
Dist Cllr Mark Long	*
Cty Cllr Rufus Gilbert	*
Richard Harding (South Hams Newspapers)	*
PS Charlie Wilkes	*
Sara Jones (Town Clerk)	*

**1 APOLOGIES**

No apologies received.

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were considered and duly AGREED for the Mayor to sign as a true and correct record.

**3. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

Annual Mayor's Address 2024- **See Appendix 1**

**4. VERBAL REPORT:**

**Cty. Cllr. Rufus Gilbert:**

- Congratulated Town Council and Town Clerk on the good work in their first year.
- Advised that his Localities allowance has been approved and signed off towards Salcombe's D-Day's celebrations.
- Supports 'Salcombe in Bloom' and pledges funding when applicable and apologised for his non-attendance at this meeting due to his prior commitments.
- Lead of DCC has resigned and no standing in forthcoming elections next year.
- £10M has been found to go towards road repairs, more detail provided at next meeting.
- MP Anthony Magnall was due to speak at the House of Commons to address the state of roads in Devon to secure more funding however due to vote positioning this was set back.

General Report submitted;

**GENERAL ROADS.**

- Devon has 8500 miles of roads and 426 Parish Councils.
- To put Devon's roads back to something reasonable would require about £1.2 billion
- Wettest year for 130 years and the system can't cope and was not designed to do so under these conditions.
- Highways will do their best to catch up in the summer.
- Please keep reporting the potholes/flooding etc. [www.new.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem](http://www.new.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem)

**DEVOLUTION.**

This is progressing well and for further information please visit: [www.devonandtorbaydeal.org.uk](http://www.devonandtorbaydeal.org.uk)

**DIY WASTE AND RECYCLING.**

For information please visit: [www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling](http://www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling)

**MOBILE LIBRARIES.**

Sadly this service has had to be discontinued due to lack of patronage and costs.

No static libraries have been closed.

Please contact your local library for information on books delivery

#### LOCALITY FUNDING.

Most of my parishes have been given some funding, which I hope was found to be helpful.

#### GENERAL.

I have attended too many varied enquiries and matters of concern across all my sixteen parishes and towns. Not least being SWW road closure in Modbury this year.

DCC Cllr. Rufus Gilbert

Cabinet Member Economy & Skills.

#### **Sgt Charlie Wilkes**

Introduced himself, taken over as Team Leader for Salcombe and Kingsbridge Neighbourhood Team.

Meeting with STC Members to discuss various elements of concern for summer policing

#### **Dist Cllrs Mark Long**

Noted the enthusiasm and working spirit has improved relationship greatly between Salcombe Town Council and South Hams District Council.

Joint General Report, with Dist Cllr Sam Dennis submitted – see **Appendix 2**

### **5. OPEN FORUM**

#### **a) From residents:**

**James Allen Resident of Knowle Road:** Had concerns about the Park And Ride service route since 2023. Recalled explicit danger to his son on one occasion. Questioning safety, noise and pollution, necessity and frequency of buses and cost to the taxpayer. Based on 2023 figures for 57 service days, the Park And Ride service came out at a loss of £12k. Estimated for 2024 based on 105 service days will be a shortfall of £22k.

Highlighted need to calculate the earnings of the Park and Ride service even if its to its demise. Pointed out the need to keep bus running as not allowed to switch off ignition as it will disable the 'tracker' hence the bus sits and idles all day.

Calculated that during Crabfest will have 80+ buses in one day.

Questioned route with Tally Ho, consulted with bus drivers and route and frequency of trips

Concerned of noise and pollution

See Report given – **Appendix 3**

**Julian Parkinson Resident of Knowle Road:** Fully in support of everything put forward by James Allen.

**Gill Parkinson Resident of Knowle Road:** Expressed her frustration at trying to get Cllrs to walk the route with her to experience the route at first hand. Therefore would again like to invite a Member of Council to spend 1hr walking the route with a Resident on a normal weekend in the holiday season to experience the traffic and witness what the danger pedestrians face. Has suggested bank holiday weekend 4 May. Voicing the collective frustration as wants to address this as "an accident will happen".

**Cathy Drew Resident of Coronation Road:** Concern over Coronation Road is very similar comment. Main concern is with cars parked over the pavement forcing pedestrians onto the road with buses shooting down and cars reversing. Watched many near accidents. Especially near a very narrow bend, visibility limited for a two-way road and amount of traffic forced through.

**Graham Lennox;** Supportive of Park and Ride and understands the requirement. Successful route over the years down Onslow Road dropped off at Courtney St and turned around again. However now the system has changed with older and larger buses running the route, with less economic and environmental consideration. Questions requirement to 4 buses per hour – when it is adequate to have 2 buses especially down smaller roads. Suggests uses the hourly bus with the other bus running ½ hourly and that would cover most people using service hence reducing costs and number of buses running especially on narrow roads like Knowle Road and Coronation Roads.

**John Sprague Resident of Knowle Road:** In support of comments made previously. Has witnessed cars pulling onto his drive which are precariously perched on 3 wheels to accommodate oncoming buses. Support Mrs Drew's comment about parking across the pavement on Coronation Road especially where the road narrows – queries whether the Police can do something about it? Appears that it is more the Park and Ride drivers that are 'speeding down'.

**Robert Smith Resident of Knowle Road:** In support of comments already made. Pointed out that everyone recognises the issue to get visitors from outside of town into town due to the limited parking availability and restrictions however the current situation is disproportionate particularly with the size of buses and frequency. Would like to see a collaborative approach with Representatives and Council sit down to discuss this issue to move forwards. Requested an update on the introduction of the electric shuttlebus and implications that would have on the Park and Ride.

The Mayor advised that the electric bus is a private enterprise as such Council would not be able to comment on that and there has been no recent update on its status.

**b) From non-residents**

No comments, reports or questions were raised from any non-residents of Salcombe Town on matters relating to Salcombe.

Meeting Closed: 18:41p.m.

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Town Mayor

