



KEIGHLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of Electors held at Keighley Town Hall, Bow Street, Keighley, BD21 3RY on Thursday 19 May 2022, 6pm.

Present:

Town Councillors:

Julie Adams – Town Mayor	Josh Clarkson	Michael Westerman
Luke Maunsell – Deputy Mayor	Kamal Hussain	Leanne Wrench
Nasar Ali	John Kirby	Martin Walker
Anayat Mohammad	John Lawless	Martyn Wood
Allan Clark	Abdul Shohid	

District Councillors

Russell Brown	Julie Glentworth
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9 members of the public present

Chairman's Annual Report

The Town Mayor Cllr Adams provided an overview of the Civic year and her activities throughout the last 12 months. The Town Mayor paid tribute to everyone who've helped and supported her through her term as Mayor.

Town Council Committee Reports

Allotments & Landscapes

- 13 sites
- 400 plots
- 300 tenants
- Received 42 new enquiries re allotments
- 15 additional plots created across two sites Arncliffe Road & Selborne Grove
- £15,788 in rent collected
- £10,000 invested to clear up part of the Guardhouse allotment site
- Over £11,000 spent on generic maintenance across allotment sites
- Installed 5 additional new benches in Town Hall Square in addition to the 6 in the previous year
- Renewed the Council grounds maintenance contract for the Town Hall Square and Low Street planters
- Entered into a new Management arrangement with BMDC for the day-to-day responsibility of the Town Hall Square
- Installed the first phase of festive lights in the trees surrounding the town hall square

Civic Centre & Strategy

- Undertook improvement works to the entrance to the Civic Centre to create a warmer welcome including removal of metal shutters and a new information screen

- Fully let all current office space available within the Civic Centre
- Increased the function hire use within the Civic Centre, events such as birthdays, christenings and wedding receptions have been held
- Commenced a marketing plan to continue to encourage greater use of the Civic Centre
- Oversaw H&S audit inspection
- Painted the bar area
- Renewed internal signage

Community Development

- Organised Swing into Sprint project bringing together groups and organisations from across Keighley to highlight the work they undertake
- Commissioned CIC to deliver a targeted outdoor programme during Easter holidays for vulnerable young people in Keighley
- Over Seat with a View project which saw former Town hall Square benches renovated and placed around Keighley
- People's Planters – worked with residents in the Knowle Park area to bring back into use stone planters that had been left unmaintained.
- Youth Arts Development Programme: This project has been formed in partnership with Keighley Creative to bring several workshops and art classes in different key locations within the community. Keighley Creative will provide workshops focusing on a variety of styles and mediums that can be accessed by young people in hubs around the center of Town including The Downstairs Project, Keighley Creative exhibition space, The Airedale Shopping Center, Keighley Market and more. Once the artwork is made, the participants will then have the opportunity of exhibiting it within the civic Centre and Keighley Creative's exhibition studio.
- Youth Citizenship Workshops: Planning has begun to initiate interest in a project which will then hopefully link into plans being made with Bradford Youth Service and Keighley Town Council to start a Youth Summit and have a number of educational workshops/ seminars for young people. Meetings have been held with Bradford Youth Service to try and tap into already existing networks for Youth Ambassadors and Council members.

Events & Leisure

- 10 events held throughout the year
- Virtual St. George's Day due to Covid
- Tea on the Square was cancelled due to the weather
- Community Awards to highlight the work of groups and volunteers across Keighley
- Yorkshire Day celebrations
- Outdoor summer markets on Church Green
- Spooktacular in October
- Christmas market and celebration event
- Commenced plans for Yorkshire Day 2022

Finance & Audit

- Oversaw the financial work of the council

- Allocated over £80,000 in grants and community projects via the council's two grant funding pots
- Appointed BWG to develop annual budget options to be considered by the committee and approved by Full Council
- Oversaw the Council's Investments
- Undertook monthly spot checks of the councils internal control processes relating to payments

Policies & Governance

- Established a working group to development proposals as part of the Community Governance Review
- Monitored performance of the Council's KPI's on a quarterly basis.
- Recommended new CCTV Policy, Vulnerable person Policy
- Reviewed Anti-fraud policy and pesticides policy
- Oversee the Action plan arising from the Corporate Risk Assessment
- Monitored Council social media presence and press releases

Planning Committee

- Considered over 300 applications and provided a response as a statutory consultee

Watch & Transport

- Oversaw the annual winter git bin contract
- Installed new boundary signs which had been damaged
- Installed a new CCTV camera in Long Lee
- Developed a speeding action plan to help tackle speeding vehicles in Keighley
- Allocated funding to create a Mobile CCTV scheme to target ASB hotspots

Question Time

One member of the public asked about a question regarding the arrangements for the Annual Town Meeting.

The Town Clerk confirmed the Annual Town Meeting is a meeting of electors and not a meeting of the Town Council.

The Town Mayor thanked everyone for attending.

Signed..... **Date**.....