

**BOVEY TRACEY ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
BAPTIST CHURCH HALL, HIND STREET, BOVEY TRACEY
MONDAY 23rd MARCH 2020 6.15 PM**



All electors of Bovey Tracey Parish are invited to attend the Annual Town Meeting to be held in Bovey Tracey Baptist Church, Hind Street, Bovey Tracey on Monday 23rd March 2020 at 6.15pm

Agenda

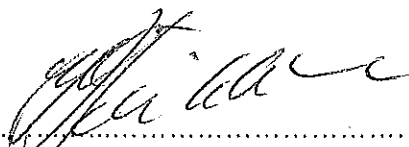
1. **Welcome and Introductions**
The Town Mayor of Bovey Tracey, Cllr George Gribble, will open the meeting, welcoming members of the public.

2. **Minutes of Annual Town Meeting**
To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 13th March 2019.

3. **Town Mayor's Report & Town Council Project Updates**
To receive the report of the Town Mayor (Cllr George Gribble) summarising the work of Bovey Tracey Town Council since the last Annual Town meeting.
 - Bovey Tracey Community Hub (Cllr Eoghan Kelly)
 - Climate Emergency Bovey Tracey & Heathfield (Cllr Debbie Fletcher)

4. **Community Reports**
To receive and note reports attached to the Agenda from Clubs, Societies, Charities, Schools, Churches, other Groups and Organisations in Bovey and Heathfield.

5. **Public Question Time**
To receive questions from members of the public.


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Cllr George Gribble - Town Mayor
16th March 2020

BOVEY TRACEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN'S MEETING HELD IN THE PHOENIX HALL,
BOVEY TRACEY ON WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH 2019 at 7.00pm

Present:

The Town Mayor, Cllr Ms J H Blair
The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs A J Kerswell*

Cllr A Allen	Cllr M J Evans
Cllr U Arnold	Cllr G J Gribble**/*
Cllr R J Ashby	Cllr E Kelly
Cllr R A Bray	Cllr S P Leigh
Cllr D K Elphick	Cllr Ms C O Richardson

**County Cllr
*District Cllr

In attendance:

Mr M Wells - Town Clerk
Rev K Hooke - Chaplain to the Council
Nominees for Young Citizen of the Year Award 2019.
53 members of the public including representatives of various organisations.
One member of the press
Sgt S Saunders & PC Hollie Lynch

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs Blair, chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

1. Apologies:

Cllr C W Robillard (Leave)
Cllr M Tregoning (Unwell)
District Cllr Mrs S Morgan (Unwell)

2. Notice Convening the 2019 Annual Town Meeting:

The Town Clerk, Mr Wells, read the notice convening the meeting.

*(*Copies of all reports provided for this meeting are available on request from the Town Clerk's office.)*

3. Approval and signing of the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting dated 28th March 2018:

The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of the previous year (2018) were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Town Mayor, Cllr. Ms Blair. *(*Copies were available at the meeting)*

4. Presentation of the Young Citizen of the Year Award 2019:

Cllr Tony Allen congratulated the nominees for the Young Citizen of the Year Award and then read out their names and nomination briefs: Amy Horrell, Sam Russell and Amy Williams.
Cllr Allen announced that Amy Williams had been awarded a Young Heroine Award for her brave intervention in an emergency situation and Amy Horrell and Sam Russell were joint winners of the Young Citizen Award. The Town Mayor, Cllr Ms Blair made the presentations.

Cllr Allen expressed gratitude and thanks to the House of Marbles and the Bovey Tracey Riverside Co-op who had provided prizes.

Photographs were taken.

Young Citizens of the Year nominees, their families and friends then left the meeting.

5. Town Mayor's Report:

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs Blair presented her report. She noted reference to the NDP community questionnaire this time last year being delivered to households in the snow, with 1,200 being returned. A second consultation was held in November, approving draft objectives by 90% or more that responded. The Steering Group are now translating these results into policies for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Two members of the public joined the meeting.

She referred to the new Community Centre project and noted that some set-backs have arisen. Most of these have been resolved and it is anticipated that work will commence shortly.

The town received a Silver Gilt award in Britain in Bloom Town and City Pennant category and 4 star rating for Mill Marsh Park in Pride in Parks Award. Cllr Ms Blair extended thanks to Mr R Rance and Mr P Stanyon (Town Council staff) and also to Mr R Taylor for their efforts.

Many successful public events have taken place during the year. The third Green Man festival is taking place on 27th April. The Contemporary Craft Festival, Carnival Week, Garden Show, Nourish Festival and Christmas Fayre continue to attract residents and visitors into the town.

Attendance at civic events has been outstanding this year, in particular, the Centennial of Armistice Day and the civic Carol Service.

The Town Council continues to support established community projects such as the Youth Café, Moorland Community Care and Young Citizen Awards and to respond to initiatives such as Plastic Free Bovey and Fair Trade.

The Town Council approved a Devon Air Ambulance night landing site at the Recreation Ground. A new Town Centre noticeboard has been installed to improve communications. A Draft Traffic Management Plan is in the final stages of completion.

6. Financial Report:

Cllr Leigh (Chair of FR&GP Committee) presented his report outlining the present position regarding the finances of the Town Council. He advised that External Audit had raised no issues. An Interim Audit raised two key recommendations - electronic banking and setting up a separate bank account for monitoring S106 and CIL contributions. These items are being progressed.

Annual grants have been awarded to Moorland Community Care (£1500) and Bovey Tracey Youth Action (£7500).

The Town Council has successfully secured grants in excess of £100k. This includes a grant of £82,880 from the GD Leaf funding towards the creation of incubation offices at the new Community Centre building.

The Town Council will be investing 50% of its surplus revenue in a fixed rate bond. This will provide better security for funds and a better return. This will be reviewed annually and the newly elected Council will give further consideration to a longer term investment strategy.

The Precept for 2019/20 will increase from £205,990 (2018/19) to £232,850 (2019/20) a 9% increase per Band D property. The increase is mainly due to the Council Tax Support Grant being removed by TDC

A formal application for a Public Sector Works Loan for £500,000 towards the Community Centre Development was approved.

7. Report of County Councillor:

County Cllr Gribble presented his report and made particular reference to the following: DCC - Comprehensive Spending Review, shows 28% cut. He highlighted the net revenue budget and reduction in government funding. £240 million additional funding to be spent on adult social care. The basic increase in Council Tax is 3.99% (limited not to generate a referendum). DCC only received £33 million from government post Brexit funding. Leader John Hart unhappy about this as it has created a reduction in income without consultation.

He noted that potholes in Devon are numerous (there are 4000 miles of road in Devon). Each pothole is investigated when reported, but prioritised based on set criteria. Climate Change is an issue that has been raised and DCC is tackling this. The Teign Estuary Trail is being progressed and Wray Valley Trail is being extended. Parking Traffic Orders are being addressed in Bovey Tracey in a number of areas.

8. Reports of District Councillors:

a) District Cllr Gribble reported that:

- i) Issues with travellers around the Drumbridges/Staple Hill area have now been addressed and the travellers have left the area.
- ii) The £14,760 Community Tax Support Grant (CTSG) has been removed from the Town Council's budget.
- iii) Council Tax 2019/20 will increase by 3.03%.

b) District Cllr Mrs Kerswell:

Advised that she had been elected Chairman of TDC. She had attended many events in different parts of the District. She noted various ceremonies, including Teignbridge Sports Awards, the parade in Newton Abbot for Armistice Day, upcycling event in Newton Abbot Library and the 50 years celebration of the Courtenay Centre. She thanked Rev Kevin Hooke for supporting the Council. Various issues have been debated at TDC including the provision of superfast broadband, power points in car parks for charging electric cars, homelessness and safe housing, Public Space Protection Orders and self-build housing sites. TDC is promoting sport and wellbeing. She referred to the Council Tax increase of 3.3%. Teignbridge District Council together with South Hams, Mid Devon and East Devon District Councils are progressing the establishment of the South West Mutual Bank. Climate Change and Clean Air discussions have been on the agenda. Residents of New Park have

been in contact with TDC Officers to discuss legislation for park home owners. Cllr Mrs Kerswell continues to be a member of the Overview & Scrutiny and Planning Committees. She noted that through her Community Fund she has supported BTAT, Tennis Club, Garden Show, Heathfield Community Centre and Garden Club.

c) District Cllr Mrs Morgan: Report presented by Cllr Allen in Cllr Morgan's absence.
Before presenting the report Cllr Allen reminded those present of the 50th Swimming Pool anniversary event on 13th April which all are invited to attend.

District Cllr Mrs Morgan noted that she has been active in her role on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and at Full Council meetings. She has worked with fellow ward members regarding the Community Centre development and several planning matters including the proposals at Challabrook and Indio. Through her Community Fund she has supported the town flags, Nourish Festival, Swimming Pool 50th Anniversary, Life Saving Club, Primary School Gardening and Growing Project and a joint art project between the Primary School & the Devon Guild.

9. Report by Devon & Cornwall Constabulary:

Sgt Seth Saunders presented the Police Report. (*Full report available on request*).
A member of the public advised that graffiti is appearing around the Town. PC Hollie Lynch asked for photographs and details in order to deal with the matter.
Rev. Kevin Hooke recorded thanks to Police Force for acting within limiting resources.
Sgt Saunders and PC Lynch left the meeting at 7.50pm.

10. Report of St. Catherine's CE Primary School:

No report had been submitted.

11. Report of Bovey Tracey Primary School:

Mrs A MacDonald presented the Report on behalf of the Governors.
(*Full report available on request*).

12. Reports of Bovey Tracey Town Trust & Samuel Croker's Almshouses:

Mr James Mann presented the Report. (*Full report available on request*).

13. Report of the Tracey Almshouse Trust:

Mr B Huxtable presented the Report.

A member of the public left at 8.05pm.

14. Report of the Churches in Bovey Tracey & Heathfield:

Rev K Hooke presented the Report. (*Full report available on request*).

15. Report of Bovey Community Care:

Rev K Hooke (Treasurer) presented the report on behalf of Mr D Risdon (Chairman). *(Full report available on request).*

16. Report of Bovey Tracey Exhibition Trust:

Mr R Edmunds (Chairman) presented the Report. *(Full financial report available on request).*

17. Report of Bovey Tracey Youth Action:

Mr M Sugden presented the Report. *(Full report available on request).*

18. Report of Bovey Tracey Heritage Trust:

Mrs V Styles (Chairman) presented the Report. *(Full report available on request).*

19. Report of Bovey Tracey Residents' Association:

Mr P Beecher (Chairman) presented the Report. *(Full report available on request).*

20. Bovey Tracey Neighbourhood Watch Forum:

Mr L Calder presented the Report. *(Full report available on request).*

21. Bovey Tracey Information Centre Trust:

Ms E Steer presented the Report. *(Full report available on request).*

22. Bovey Futures:

Mr T Wilson presented the Report. *(Full report available on request).*

23. Public Participation Session:

Mr D McGilvrey referred to the revised traffic flow plan for the Town Centre and requested an update. Cllr Arnold confirmed that the revised plan is being finalised and this will be considered by the Full Council. Following that it will go forward to DCC for consideration.

Mr M Watson enquired if the Wray Valley Trail will be extended. DCC Cllr Gribble confirmed that it will extend on to the A382 north of Lustleigh, however this will be on the lanes. This will then provide a walking/cycling link between Bovey Tracey and Moretonhampstead.

Mr J Mann noted that a planning application has been submitted for a property near the Wray Valley Trail (see above) and he mentioned that it may be possible to divert the Trail via this area. Cllr Gribble stated that he was not aware of any planning application.

Mr J Mann referred to Accomodation Lane and enquired if it would be possible to arrange for a road sweeper to go through to clear the lane on an annual basis. Cllr Gribble agreed to follow-up.

Questions submitted in advance:

Mrs M Edwards enquired about Community Infrastructure Levy funds held by TDC and identified for educational purposes. Cllr Ms Blair (Town Mayor) advised that the funds are from a S106 contribution from the Bradley Bends development for increased education capacity and is earmarked for DCC as the education authority. DCC has confirmed the estimate for the relocation has increased to £6.5-£7m. Currently there is no funding source that would support the relocation. It was noted that the Town Council is not a statutory body for the provision of education.

Mrs M Edwards referred to the many potholes in East Street and enquired when these will be repaired. Cllr Ms Blair (Town Mayor) advised that these particular works do not appear on the current repair schedule (*roadworks.org site*). It is therefore likely that this work will be scheduled for the new financial year.

Mr T Wilson noted recent variations in the Community Centre plans and enquired if a new planning application will be necessary and if the timescale for building will be compromised. Cllr Ms Blair (Town Mayor) explained the variations and advised that a revised application will be submitted following the Full Council meeting on 18th March 2019. Following a positive decision the building work should take 40-46 weeks to complete.

Mr L King requested Cllr Ms Blair to share a description of her work with the school, its objectives and accomplishments to date. Cllr Ms Blair advised that in July 2017 the Town Council set-up a Review Group to formulate a plan for examining potential uses of the covenanted land. The first meeting of the Review Group in August 2017 agreed that it would be beneficial to meet with the Chair of Governors to find out their position and to contact DCC to ascertain its position. Three meetings took place in November and December 2017 and February 2018 with Primary School representatives to ascertain the current position and future plans.

Mrs A MacDonald (Bovey Tracey Primary School Governor) stated that the Governors feel well supported by the Town Councillors and thanked them for their assistance.

Mrs C King enquired on the action being taken by DCC regarding Climate Change. DCC Cllr Gribble agreed to provide further information following the meeting.

Mr L King referred to an example of an issue with the Town Council defining a problem, but no ownership/remedy.

Cllr Kelly left the meeting at 8.57pm.

Meeting closed at 8.59pm.

COUNCILLOR AVRIL KERSWELL

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT AND BOVEY TRACY ANNUAL COUNCIL REPORT.

MARCH 25th 2020

2019 - 2020 has been an interesting year for me as a serving District Councillor, as it is the first time since being elected that I am not with the party that has the majority in the Chamber.

My work on the Council has been very challenging and the most demanding aspect has been within the Planning area. Bovey Tracey has seen a huge amount of building within its boundaries and it is very difficult to engage with Developers when it seems their only agenda is to build and turn a quick profit without fully engaging fully with the problems of infrastructure, flooding, speeding roads and much more. However, I will keep pushing to be heard and hopefully make a difference where possible.

I like to think that within my time on Teignbridge, I have represented my ward to the best of my ability and will continue to do so even though we now have a Liberal Democrat party in overall control.

Last year the local parish constituency boundaries changed, which meant that I now no longer represent Lustleigh which is a shame because it was very interesting to see how smaller communities manage their every day to day council business.

There have been quite a few changes too for the electorate and these include having to pay for wheelie bins at £80 per bin when buying a new house.

Also as from April 2020 our free Sunday parking will be abolished and a £1.00 charge will be put in place in all TDC Car parks.

Also, for TDC Councillors, our Community Fund pot which was £1,500.00 to enable us to help local causes, has been cut to £1,000.00, which means that I will not be able to give to the locality the amount of monies which I have been able to support in the past. This year so far, I have supported the Sharks rugby, the Football Club, the Charter Day and the new wild flower verges scheme

As you can imagine, I did not support any of these changes. However, I am still enjoying representing the town of Bovey Tracey and Heathfield and thank you for putting your trust in me.

Bovey Tracey Town Trust & Samuel Crokers Almshouse Trust

The trust continue to care for the almshouses and its residents. Last year we answered requests for grants from Bovey Sharks Rugby Club, Bovey Tracey AFC, Nourish Festival, The Craft Fair and Bovey Tracey Information Centre.

Portrieve Park our main source of income has been given a tidy up and we continue to explore different uses for this amenity.

REPORT BY THE TRACEY ALMSHOUSE TRUST

The Tracey Almshouse Trust manages six Almshouses in East Street, maintaining the buildings and financing any necessary repairs.

Originally three Almshouses were built in 1910 on land gifted by the Tracey family. Another three Almshouses were built in the mid 1990's when a parcel of land was sold to developers for housing. The remaining proceeds from the land sale were invested and surplus income from these investments is applied in the provision of grants towards diverse charitable causes in the parish of Bovey Tracey under guidance from the Charities Commission on public benefit.

In 2019 the Trust reached a milestone as it has now given away over one million pounds in grants to various organisations from sports clubs to churches, youth projects to arts projects, food banks to the Library, the Information Centre and the Primary School. We have helped buy tractors, contributed to the building of new sports facilities and helped with repairs to roofs, windows and doors for several organisations, provided T-Shirts, equipment for the Talking Community, flags for the Town and recyclable cups for the Craft Festival.

We are very lucky to have such a resource in Bovey Tracey.

Vanessa Steer
Chair

Christians Together in Bovey Tracey
Report for the Annual Town Meeting: March 2020

The worship and work of the various churches has continued over the past year. We believe that our differing styles of worship and theological traditions complement each other, to cater for people's different needs and understandings, so that between us, we offering something for everyone.

All our Churches currently have priests/ministers/pastors and in some there are also lay ministers, including two children and families' workers. The Baptist Church has welcomed Mark Godbeer as pastor, to replace the outgoing minister, Mark Styants, and after a long interregnum St John's Parish Church is now served by Fr. Nick Debney.

Each Church remains independent, but we also work together and coordinate our activities where practical. During the past year, the Parish Church of St Peter, St Paul and St Thomas again hosted significant civic ceremonies, most notably the Remembrance and Carol Services, and the Methodist Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary in Fore Street. Among other things, together we sang carols as a part of the Town's switching on of the Christmas tree lights and had another successful children's club in October half-term at the Scout Hut, whilst our Lenten lunches raised several hundreds of pounds for the Youth Café (and we enjoyed the soup the young people prepared for it!).

In addition, of course, individual churches continue to provide their own activities as a means of reaching out and serving the town. To give just a few examples: the Baptist Church hosts a monthly 'Lunch Bunch' for people eating on their own, the Methodist Church has a monthly board games and knitting group, and there are Toddlers groups. Many of the Churches also actively support HITS, the charity supporting the homeless and running a Food Bank for Teignbridge, and the proceeds from this year's Lenten Lunches will support HITS.

Of course, a lot of the contribution made by the Church in the community is less obvious, as Christians live out their daily lives in voluntary activity and in seeking to be good neighbours. As a representative of the Churches in the town I continue to be a part of the Chaplaincy at South Dartmoor Community College, in the course of which we spend time with up to 7 students on a Thursday morning, some of which come from Bovey Tracey/Heathfield.

Finally, we remain delighted to see our buildings used for community as well as church activities, believing that in making them available we express God's care and concern for all.

On behalf of the Churches, let me express the gratitude of the Churches to the people of Bovey Tracey and Heathfield for their ongoing support, and extend our invitation to them to join us anywhere and at any time!

Rev Kevin Hooke
Bovey Tracey Methodist Church
On behalf of the Churches

Report to Annual Town Meeting: Moorland Community Care Group: March 2020

Moorland Community Care operates across the geographical area covered by Bovey Tracey, Ashburton and Buckfastleigh. We work in the voluntary sector, which means that all the Trustees are volunteers. A considerable part of our work is through NHS contracts, namely the Wellbeing Programme and Home from Hospital. In the former we are contracted to work with vulnerable people who are referred to us for approximately 12 weeks, to enable them to improve their quality of life through gaining the confidence to pursue their interests and engage in social activities, thereby reducing their likelihood of needing medical services and interventions. Through the Home from Hospital service we see whether we can support people as they return home from local hospitals. With both these contracts we are partners with a number of other local providers, including, for example, Kingscare and Totnes Caring, the whole overseen by Teignbridge CVS. In the past year we have hit all our targets these programmes.

Alongside this, across our area we recruit, train and match local volunteers with people who are referred to us for friendship, support and some practical help, as well as organise activities and events for them. The relationship between our volunteers and 'clients' is not time-limited in this work, and we have restricted funds for our three towns so that people and organisations can donate to specific geographical areas if they choose.

In Bovey Tracey, the last year has been more difficult as in the summer of 2019 our longstanding volunteer coordinator, Ros Pugsley, resigned, and we had to cease our monthly activities until we could secure and train a replacement. This now has happened and we have begun to re-establish our social groups and activities (though we are currently monitoring the coronavirus situation). There have also been changes to the Trustee body, as we have seen the 'retirement' of David Risdon and Jim Ferguson as Chair and Secretary respectively, but the introduction of new Trustees.

We currently employ 4 part-time staff, Suzy who works in Ashburton and Buckfastleigh, Julia who is a part of our Wellbeing Programme team, Jayne who is has a particular brief around End of Life and dementia care, and Sarah who is our new volunteer and activities coordinator in Bovey Tracey. During the coming months we intend to take on a part-time business administrator, to free up the time of both the Trustees and also our staff members, so that they can concentrate their time on their core work with people. In the course of the coming year we look forward also to integrating our work with the new social prescribers in our local surgeries.

We are deeply grateful for many people: our Trustees for their commitment, our staff for their enthusiasm, professional and care for the people they serve, our team of volunteers for their contribution to the wellbeing of our local residents, and to those people and organisations who support our work, not least our Town Council.

BOVEY TRACEY EXHIBITION FOUNDATION
Registered Charity no 306653
Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019

2018		2019
	INCOME	
2,054.48	Dividends received from the Charities Fund	2,095.30
0.75	Lloyds Bank Interest	0.74
<u>2,055.23</u>	Gross Income for the year	<u>2,096.04</u>
	EXPENDITURE	
50	Secretary's Honorarium	50.00
10	Auditor's Honorarium	10.00
39.98	Sundry expenses	39.48
<u>1,955.25</u>	Net income for the year	<u>1,996.56</u>
2,125.00	Grants to applicants £14@ £120	1,680.00
- 169.75	Deficit 2018/ Surplus 2019	316.56

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

2018		2019
	Accumulative Fund	
5,580.59	Balance brought forward	5,410.84
-169.75	Plus surplus	316.56
<u>5,410.84</u>		<u>5,727.40</u>
	Represented by:	
4,123.00	COIF - 4123 Income shares at cost	4,123.00
11.36	Lloyds Bank Instant Access Account	11.88
1,276.48	Business Account	1,592.52
<u>5,410.84</u>		<u>5,727.40</u>

Note: The market value of the 4123 Income shares at 31 December 2019 is £69,797 (£69,640)

Accountant's report

These accounts represent the state of affairs of the Exhibition Foundation at 31 December 2019.



Bickie Thompson

Date: 17 - 01 - 2020



BOVEY TRACEY HERITAGE TRUST REPORT TO ANNUAL
TOWN'S MEETING 25TH MARCH 2020

Bovey Tracey Heritage Trust is a registered charity (number 1063070) and its object is: *To advance the education of the public in the history of Bovey Tracey and the Dartmoor region in particular, by the provision of a study/exhibition centre.*

From 6th April 2019, the Heritage Centre will be open on weekdays from 10.00 to 4.00, and on Saturdays from 10.00 - 12.00. From April to October last year there were 2,215 visitors, including 354 children. Opening times during the summer months are entirely dependent on the team of volunteers who give up their time each week to welcome visitors to the Centre and keep the place looking clean and tidy.

As we begin a new decade, our exhibition focus will be on Bovey Tracey 100 years ago. The Trust would like to hear from anyone with family history stories or photographs from the 1920s. 2020 will also see the 200th anniversary of the opening of the granite tramway from Haytor quarry to the Stover Canal and we look forward to working with Dartmoor National Park Authority to plan a celebration of this unique feature of our landscape. *The Bovey Tracey Talking Project*, managed by Ian Barclay will be launched this April. Visitors will be able to listen to short clips on a variety of topics from our archives, making some of our oral history recordings more accessible to visitors. Work is ongoing to capture new memories.

Membership of the Trust has remained stable over the past 12 months and this is a greatly appreciated source of support. The number of active volunteers is increasing and we now regularly have a stall at Town events, with the aim of promoting the work of the Trust and attracting more local involvement. We have provided work experience placements and support for three students over the past year. A team of volunteers has worked throughout the winter closure to progress with the inventory and cataloguing of the collection. Further donations of material, including several boxes from the Bovey Players and the Mother's Union, means there is an increasingly urgent need for additional storage space if we are to continue to collect and maintain the town archives. The Trust's programme of events began in February and five more talks and two summer events are planned for 2020.

I would like to thank our two Town Council representatives for their support and attendance at our meetings. I would also like to thank anyone who has supported the Heritage Centre in any way over the past 12 months and hope you will continue to value and celebrate the success of the town museum.

Viv Styles
Chair of Bovey Tracey Heritage Trust

Bovey Tracey Residents' Association

The Bovey Tracey Residents' Association has been active in the Bovey Tracey area for a number of years. Its objectives are to represent residents' views to our local Town Council and to act when necessary to assist residents with any problems that they may have. In this context we are closely allied to our local branch of the Neighbourhood Watch Organisation whose primary objective is to assist those who live in the area to recognise and deal with instances of local crime.

The Residents' Association does not have any members as such and is open to anyone who resides or works in the Bovey Tracey area who would like to be informed about local events in the area or who has any problem that they think may be solved by a wider audience.

Members of the Association committee regularly attend Town Council meetings and are available to bring matters to the attention of our Council from anyone who would like a third party to represent their views to the Council. In addition to conversing with Council members the Association prepares an article for regular publication in the bi-monthly Cottage Magazine.

The Association plans to have a public meeting at least twice a year or even more frequently if there are matters that require immediate discussion. There has been a longer period recently between meetings as residents have not contacted us about any matters that would require group decisions but in the meantime problems have been dealt with on an individual basis.

The current concerns for residents are mainly the provision of, for example, medical and educational services in the light of all the new properties being constructed in the area. Current residents are concerned that in the near future there will be a large number of new residents in the area without immediate increased facilities for them and their families and also for the increased population in and around the town.

If you have a problem and you think that the Residents' Association could be of assistance please telephone the Chairman, Paul Beecher on 01626 835491.

BOVEY TRACEY TOWN COUNCIL (ANNUAL TOWN MEETING)

BOVEY TRACEY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I am Les Calder, the Lead Coordinator for the town of Bovey Tracey. I am also a Committee Member of the Residents Association which, under its umbrella, takes responsibility for the Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) for the town. As volunteers, I have Paul Beecher also of the Residents Association, as my deputy.

Fortunately, serious crime in our town is not high for the area, but never the less there is a need for observant NHW Coordinators in any town in Devon. There is petty crime and vandalism and the police and public need our help. We have currently approx 30 volunteers who give up some of their time to help keep crime down and look out for their neighbours when required. I feel we are observant and not nosey as some might believe. However, only about a third of our area is covered, so more are needed please, as I always say.

A little bit of NHW history. Previously in Teignbridge there was a NHW forum (mostly Newton Abbot) but this folded in July 2017 (lack of constructive volunteers) and since then NHW has taken a rather back seat when support at Teignmouth Police Station also faded away. Around that time it was therefore felt that the best way forward, in view of these little problems, would be for Bovey to try and operate on its own, so this is what we did but still looking for support when required from the HQ of NHW. This has worked to a degree although the Devon And Cornwall Community Watch Association (DaCCWA), nationally funded and our admin/ supplier back up, have failed to respond on several occasions.

However, late last year Teignbridge Community Watch was formed in Newton Abbot by 2 willing volunteers who, quite rightly it would seem, wished to run this on a more informal friendly basis and would act as a go-between between any coordinators and the police support, re-kindled at Teignmouth Police Station once again. They intend to issue Newsletters from time to time and have 2-3 meetings per year and welcome any Teignbridge based coordinators to these meetings.

I, on behalf of Bovey Tracey, attended their inaugural meeting only a couple of weeks ago and felt it achieved its purpose of a less formal but interesting and informative occasion where all could share their views and similar problems re NHW. Having been in communication with and since the main principal Area Coordinator of this set up, Roy Stephenson, he is more than happy for Bovey Tracey NHW to continue as a separate group of coordinators but link with this Teignbridge group as and when required. Roy and his associate, Dave Leggett, have access for a few hours each Tuesday in Teignmouth Police Station for telephone and E mail communication and will issue Newsletters/ Alerts and obtain NHW street signs (£10 each) as and when requested. I will also hold a few to assist in Bovey.

In this way, NHW Coordinators in our town can either continue to approach me for Bovey Tracey NHW (tel; 01626 830266, E mail landmcalder@btinternet.com) or to Teignbridge Community Watch (tel; 01626 326610, E mail NHW.Teignbridge@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

Now, it is over to you. If you have a street with no NHW signs on view or no known coordinator please consider helping. Once enlisted and approved (only one form) you can really run this yourself in your own time. I am happy to give advice/information for those interested.

LES CALDER, BOVEY TRACEY NHW (Tel 01626 830266)

Report for Annual Town Meeting March 2020

BOVEY TRACEY INFORMATION CENTRE

The Bovey Tracey Information Trust is a private trust set up to provide an information service to visitors and residents. Run entirely by volunteers, the Information Centre in Station Road Car Park is open seven days a week from end March to end October, and on most Saturdays for the remainder of the year. The Trust has a Board of six trustees, who work closely with a small group of co-ordinators to manage the centre.

Key services we provide are:

- Responding to visitor and email enquiries about local attractions and accommodation
- Providing directions and information about the town and locality to visitors and residents
- Provision of public transport information and timetables
- Display of posters and website information about local events
- Sale of maps, tourist books on local walks, cycle routes, and places of interest
- Sale of cards, small stationary items and souvenirs
- Supporting local accommodation providers through a regularly updated list of vacancies

Funds to support our activities are raised through donations, grants, paid for accommodation advertising and sales of goods. We receive a small annual grant of £220 from Teignbridge District Council. In the financial year 2018/19 our income was £5,207 and expenditure £8,332. The deficit of £3,125 was covered by our reserves and fundraising.

Most years we turn over around £3,400 and finish with a small surplus of a few hundred pounds. However last year, and indeed this current year, we have incurred rent on a temporary portacabin as a base for our activities whilst the new community building is being built. Delays on the build therefore, together with moving costs are severely denting our resources. We have had some success in fundraising to support ongoing costs and are very grateful to the Samuel Croker Almshouse charity and Councillor Sally Morgan for their support. We are now fundraising to support the fit out of the new building where we will be sharing space with the library.

Annual Update – 2018-19

It has been another busy twelve months as we have continued to provide support and assistance to the residents of the Bovey Parish, helping them develop their ideas for the benefit of everyone who lives here.

DIGITAL SCREENS

There are lots of activities happening in the Town, but it can be both difficult to find out what's happening (particularly for those not connected to the internet) and there are very few places to promote activities without resorting to flyposting on lampposts and railings.

Our first Digital Screen was fitted in the window of the Bovey Youth Café in November. Our second is in Café 3 Sixty and our third screen will be in the new Community Hub. We are currently looking for new locations in the Parish which have high footfall. Organisations in Bovey, Brimley or Heathfield can book space to promote an event or activity on the screens by contacting: screens@boveyfutures.coop.

PLASTIC FREE BOVEY

Plastic Free Bovey organised a Litter-pick on 12 May 2019. Supported by residents of all ages, including several of our Town Councillors and their families, over 12 bags of litter was collected and sorted into what could be recycled. Bovey Futures was able to help by promoting the event on our social media and inviting everyone on the Bovey Futures database to go along. We were also able to act as the 'host organisation' for Plastic Free Bovey when they successfully bid for Craft Festival funding.

Plastic Free Bovey is now part of the Bovey Heathfield Climate Emergency Group and resides with Bovey Town Council. This followed the decision by the Town Council to declare a Climate and Environmental Emergency.

BOVEY TRACEY HOSPITAL SITE

One of the things Bovey Futures is keen to do is look for ways for the community to buy land and buildings in the town, where these can be used for the benefit of the residents, and financially sustainable. During 2018, the Bovey Hospital came up for sale. We secured a grant from Locality to pay for a structural survey and this was completed in May 2019. We looked at a range of business ideas for the site, including as a health and wellbeing facility, with some rooms used by health professionals, such as carers and physiotherapists, and others for a community gym. It became clear that the building was not suitable for this. The other suggestion was that it be used as a walkers' and cyclists' hostel. Locality agreed to undertake a feasibility study for us, paid for by themselves.

Unfortunately, the NHS Trust entered detailed discussions with a private sector developer, and it was clear that we would not be able to match the proposed price.

Nevertheless, the exercise is a good example of how Bovey Futures can help to research ideas for community land purchase and development. We are committed to doing similar work in future, when opportunities arise, and we are able to secure funding. We note that shops in high street are now being converted to private homes, which is unfortunate. We would be keen to ensure at least one shop moves into community ownership.

Proud2Bhere – Bovey Flag project

We have been proud to support the brilliant local artist **Bridget Arnold** in keeping the wonderful summer flag display going. In 2019 we secured from the Craft Festival to help towards the cost of erecting the flags in the Town.

In 2019 Bridget decided to directly manage and bid for funding for the Flag Project herself. We continue to support Bridget as she seeks to engage more of the community by running workshops for local groups and organisations to deliver smaller flags that can be put up and take down more easily. This new direction aims to give the Flags a bigger impact within the Town, using them to **create a sense of place** and to celebrate the wonderful events that take place here and building on the South West in Bloom awards