

NEWSLETTER



A NEW TOWN COUNCIL FOR HONITON

It won't have slipped your notice that you have a new Town Council. That may not excite you too much, but you will be pleased to know there is a fresh feel about this latest administration. In the local elections held on 4th May a total of 7 candidates who have never held public office in Honiton before were voted on to the Council, along with 11 candidates who have previous experience of working for you.

All those new Councillors have put themselves forward because they want to see Honiton thrive, and they have come to the Council with ideas about what they believe the town needs, projects that they would like to see happen over the next 4 years, after which, of course, the next set of local elections will be held. Now clearly not all those ideas can be pursued because the Council has a limited budget and limited resources, but over the next couple of months we will be going through a process of identifying what all the individual Councillors, both old and new, would like to be included as objectives. Those proposition's will be considered by the whole group, and we will come up with a list of what we believe to be achievable.





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But that is not the end of the process. What we then want to do is to come to you, our electorate, and find out which of those items are priorities for you; and not only that, but also to determine what other things you would like the Council to be doing. Clearly, we cannot make promises about including your particular idea(s), but they will be considered and included if we think they have merit and can be inserted into the programme of work. We will announce more details about how this consultation will happen over the next couple of months.

And that is the indicator for a second piece of good news. We have decided that we will issue regular updates about what we want to achieve and our progress in pursuing our work programme. For too long you have voted your Councillors into post and for the next four years heard little or nothing about what they are doing for you: that is about to change.

As from now we will be issuing regular bulletins, in plain language that is easy to understand, on a quarterly basis; we hope these will be taken up by one of our local publications, as well as being published on our website, Facebook and through leaflets at certain local outlets, such as the library.





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Clearly, they will not contain a huge amount of detail, but if you want to know more about any particular issue you can always either contact one of your Ward Councillors or check our website where all the agendas and minutes of our various meetings, together with relevant documents, are uploaded.

And before we close this first communication may i remind you that the Council holds regular surgeries at the market where you can talk to Councillors directly, ask questions and let them know what you would like to see the Council doing.

Of course, you can contact your local Councillors at any time, as their details, and the Committees on which they sit, can be found on our website, on our notice boards around the town and at our offices in the Beehive. If you still have problems making contact, you can always ring our office on 01404 42957 (10am-1pm) and we will pass on your details

Cllr H Hurford

Chairman Honiton Town Council



