

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING FOR TETBURY**  
**Held at the Dolphins Hall, New Church Street, Tetbury on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7pm**

Mayor welcomed all Councillors and residents to the Annual Town Meeting.

**1. Approval of Minutes of last Annual Town Meeting:**

The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were approved as a correct record.

**2. Reports from the Town Council and other town organisations (refer to the May edition of the Tetbury Advertiser) with Q&A:**

Mayors Report – Cllr A Pearce

Following a successful grant application with Gloucestershire County Council, the Town Council have been able to employ a member of staff who is able to offer advice to residents in need and signposting to the appropriate services. One of the successful events that have taken place through this grant funding is the Friendship Café which takes place every Thursday 10am-noon at the Dolphins Hall, this provides an intergenerational service.

Following the lifting of the pandemic lockdowns, I was able to visit many shop owners and wishing them well for the future.

One of my final engagements has been the Pride of Tetbury Inspirational Awards presenting certificates to members of the community who provide much needed services for the town.

Finance and Scrutiny Committee

We are pleased to announce that the Highfield development allotments have been signed over to Tetbury Town Council, currently purchasing sheds and toolboxes before these are allocated.

Grants approved in 2021-22

Tetbury Bowls Club - £1,000 to assist with the clubhouse extension – match funding with CDC crowdfunding.

Tetbury Cricket Club - £1,000 to assist with the regenerating of the cricket nets – match funding with CDC crowdfunding.

TAYCT - £10,000 to assist with the youth provision.

Planning Committee

Tetbury Town Council are only consultees to all planning applications received by CDC. Over the past year the town has witnessed new and completed developments without the infrastructure to support these developments such as road structure.

Heritage and Regeneration Committee

Supported the renovation of the Northfield Road telephone box to hold a defibrillator and the Charlton Road telephone box has become a community book exchange.

The committee initiated the Cookspool project to enhance the wildlife within this area. The successful Queens beacon event took place in June.

Health, Wellbeing and Youth Committee

We have successfully launched the community fridge – an initiative supported by local volunteers and the Co-op. Thanks to Jesse Smith who kindly donated the fridge and freezer following their recent shop refurbishment. This initiative is to stop food waste in our community and is open to all.

Visitor Information Centre

At the start of the summer the VIC was refreshed making maps and books more accessible. Sales of maps and walks have increased every month. We welcomed a new member of the team (Sue Leyfield)

and Matthew has kept the Instagram and Facebook pages current and highlighting local businesses and events around the town.

#### Tetbury Police Museum and Courtroom

Following the pandemic, we have opened the Museum two days a week (Wednesday and Friday) where friendly volunteers are on hand to greet visitors and are on hand to answer any questions and give them a guided tour.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Woodworx and the grant from Historic England, the restored Victorian staircase was completed and open to the public.

#### Highways Working Party

Tetbury Town Council are still awaiting the works to be carried out by GCC following the Traffic Regulation Order which was approved a few years ago. GCC have fixed the 2 speed signs on Wiltshire Bridge and Bath Road. Members of the team have been trained by the Police to carry out speed watch checks within the town.

#### Climate Strategy Working Group

The Council has begun to tackle climate change issues by composting of grass cutting and leaves, introduction of wildflower verges. A review of all planning applications to ensure they take into account strategies to reduce a buildings carbon footprint. Greening Tetbury are valuable members of this working group.

#### Health, Wellbeing and Youth Working Group

Dementia Café is due to be launched within the National Dementia week in May, this has been achieved through the hard work of representatives from Upton Mill Care Home and Kingsley House. A representative from Cotswold District Council attends the working groups which enables us to share vital information with the schools and other organisations.

#### Police Annual Report

During 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021-31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 there were 254 crimes reported.

Tetbury Neighbourhood Policing Team can be contacted by telephoning the non-emergency number 101 or emailing [101@gloucestershire.police.uk](mailto:101@gloucestershire.police.uk). Information can be passed via Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111. Have advised that a Police Point will be taking place every 3 weeks which will be held in the Library.

#### Cotswold District Council (CDC)

##### *District Councillor Nikki Ind*

Elected as Vice-Chair at the Annual Meeting. Have supported grant funding applications Tetbury Rail Lands Trust for their work extending access for all from Larkhill to the Trouble House and for two new defibrillators to be installed in Tetbury, these will be installed on Northfield Road and the Town Council building.

##### *District Councillor Richard Norris*

Having recognised the need for cyclists to leave their bicycles in a safe place have obtained grant funding for bicycle racks to be placed in the town centre. Completed a Car Parking report which has been passed to GCC, CDC and the Town Council. Disappointed that CDC have removed the 'free after 3pm' parking in their car parks.

#### Gloucestershire County Council (GCC)

GCC have agreed a proposed £520.2million budget for 2022/2023. Spending plans include an extra £100 million for roads, £150 million injection into school buildings with a multi-million investment in our market towns and high streets.

New Picket Harp Allotments Association

A programme of replacing the sheds has commenced with support from Tetbury Town Council via S106 allocated funding. This programme will allow for a set number of sheds to be replaced each year as they deteriorate.

**3. Questions from Residents and Motions for discussions:**

Concerns were raised regarding the waiting times for ambulances, in some circumstances it is quicker to take someone to the Accident & Emergency Department if possible.

Requested the Leader of Cotswold District Council visits Tetbury to hold a public meeting to discuss leisure facilities within the town and the potential new Doctors surgery being built on Worwell Farm. It was requested that residents write to the Clinical Commission regarding the proposed Doctors surgery to show their support with this project.

Requested a more user-friendly budget report from Tetbury Town Council.

Meeting closed 8.20pm

Chair ..... Dated .....