

## **Town & Community report to the Annual Town Meeting 2018**

The Town & Community (T&C) Committee has responsibility for all aspects affecting the Town and its residents. There are several ad hoc working groups and sub committees which report to it.

The sub committees are:

**Traffic Advisory**  
**Transport Strategy**  
**Townlands Steering group**  
**Events**

Ad hoc working groups:

**Bus group**  
**Waste group**

The committee has responsibility for:

**Annual licences**  
**Moorings**  
**Street Furniture**  
**Street Cleaning**  
**Events**  
**CCTV/Police**  
**Tourism**  
**HTC owned buildings and assets**  
**Car parks**  
**Twinning**  
**Markets**  
**Festivals**

The committee makes recommendations to Full Council regarding policy on strategic matters relating to the above.

This year has seen the Town Council take responsibility for services which would otherwise have been lost.

**The bus working group** has ensured that our bus services have continued to operate through the Town Council subsidising them. It has been looking at tenders for new environmentally friendly buses which will operate longer hours and for ways of encouraging more people to take the bus which will allow this service to be sustainable.

**The waste group** has looked at keeping our streets free of commercial and domestic waste. Restricting the hours in which commercial waste can be put out on the streets and monitoring fly tipping. Liaising with retailers and their different waste collection services.

**Transport Strategy** has been looking into implementing initiatives to address air quality, for example:

Car club, cycle routes, 20mph zone in the Town Centre, planted street troughs.

**Townlands Steering group** continues to update the committee on Townlands hospital.

The police provide regular updates to T&C, which are very informative. Inspector Mark Harling retired this last year and we wish him well for the future.

In January we welcomed Police Commissioner Anthony Stansfield to give a presentation to T&C followed by questions by members and the public.

We have several ongoing projects on progress - A new sound, vision and light system for the Town Hall. Street furniture refurbishment, new street signage, noticeboards, converting BT phone boxes into a library and Tourism information kiosk, reinstating the Mermaid statue at Red Lion lawn.

We are revitalising the markets in the town and trialling new markets in marketplace and within the Town Hall which will offer quality, artisan products and a shopping experience to complement our retail sector.

Throughout the year we welcome back our popular festivals and new initiatives - The Literary Festival, The May Fayre which was successfully re-introduced last year and we will be celebrating the Royal Weddings, Henley Heroes awards, Happy Henley and a Beacon lighting tribute on the 11th November.

This is just a synopsis of Town & Community which as with all the Standing committees is a public meeting with opportunity to speak on any matter on the agenda during public participation.

Thank you to our committee administrator Nicci Taylor, Town Clerk Janet Wheeler, Town Manager Helen Barnett, Events organiser Paula Price-Davies, committee members and members of the working groups for their significant contribution throughout the year.

Cllr. Lorraine Hillier  
Chair, Town & Community