

## **General Manager's Overview** **MONTHLY REPORT MARCH/APRIL 26**

### ***Project Updates***

#### Guildhall Gateway Centre Complex:

- A meeting has been arranged with WHS to discuss the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary project where a WHS Immersive interactive dome is being housed in the Town Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> August.
- Following on from the site meeting held relating to the rectification of 5 defective resin parking bays in Guildhall car-park it is hoped that the work will be completed by June 26.
- Following a pre-application planning meeting it has been agreed that the installation of lead along the string-course of the Guildhall courtroom front elevation would be prudent to mitigate ongoing issues relating to failure to the internal walls lime plaster, as this rectification would be consistent with approved works elsewhere on the building.

#### Multi-use Wheeled Sports Area:

- The Council have commissioned a geotechnical consultant to undertake contamination, soakaway and strength/loadbearing tests to the soil and this will be undertaken in May, assisted by the Depot. A progress meeting with stakeholders was held on 10<sup>th</sup> April and it was explained the crowdfunder would be launched shortly. The Council are also liaising with the Youth Café regarding a community project to install seating within the skatepark vicinity.

#### Abbey Remains Project:

- All architectural survey works relating to Betsy Gimbals Tower and Stillhouse have been completed with the final draft of the tender documents being reviewed by Historic England. It is intended that the tender for the appointment of the principal contractor will be posted on Contract Finder on 24<sup>th</sup> April with a return date, midday 29<sup>th</sup> May, due diligence scheduled the following week.
- The Council and partners have had two separate meetings recently with Historic England pertaining to management of the grant process and around permissions for archaeological excavations at Betsy Gimbals Tower and Abbey Cloisters.

### ***Operational Update***

- A pre-application planning meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> April with the WDBC Conservation Officer to discuss options to mitigate ongoing issues with water ingress and dry rot within Tavistock Museum. An approach has been established and a planning application will be submitted shortly pertaining external

enveloping works, internal structural works and internal works to minimise the impact of dry rot (building and mechanical). A meeting has been scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> April to explore options around applying for a Museum Estate and Development Fund grant to assist with funding the above anticipated short to medium term works.

- Regarding compliance, all due EPCs have now been completed and all departments have had a COSHH review.
- I would like to pass on my thanks to all the Council staff who supported the Dartmoor Marathon held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April, showing flexibility, adaptability and calmness, especially pertaining to traffic management and stewarding.
- Following notification from WDBC around process, Tavistock Town Council will not consider utilising the bus station for 2026 Goose Fair. WDBC have arranged a teams meeting for 24<sup>th</sup> April to inform the Town Council on their revised enhanced control measures relating to town fairs.
- Clearance/reinstatement works will not start until June regarding MOC conversion for community space and therefore there should be consideration to extending existing licence arrangements. Delays have occurred due to reprioritisation of work programmes.
- Following confirmation that WDBC have allocated £40,000 capital match funding towards improving the Guildhall Toilets, legal discussions continue regarding the transfer of the asset, where Tavistock Town Council are seeking the necessary assurances around what was previously agreed as well as requesting appropriate supporting documentation that would be expected to accompany such a transfer.

Yours Sincerely



Wayne R. C. Southall MBA (Open) BEng (Hons) Dip NEBOSH  
General Manager