

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN HALL & EVENTS AND WORKS MANAGEMENT REPORT**

1. Works Department

Property Maintenance

The rental property on Market Road which is now vacant requires internal redecoration and building repairs which the Works Manager will outsource to an external contractor once the quotes have been received.

Cemetery Lodge is near completion with the new carpets now fitted. Once all three quotations are received, the kitchen re fit will be commissioned, completing the property refurb / maintenance.

The Town Hall still has ongoing water ingress concerns specific to the Mayors Parlor and Office of which the General Manager is currently investigating.

The internal floodlights in the Town Hall are no longer working and so will be replaced with LED spotlights in May.

Ground Maintenance

The Works Manager is still awaiting a response from DCC in regards to Bannawell Play Park and the much-needed repair works to the culvert.

Staff

The Works Manager has recruited a temporary agency member of staff to help alleviate the pressure over the summer period with the grass cutting schedule. The Works Department currently has one member of staff signed off on long term absence.

In May, one member of staff will be attending the Five-Day Chainsaw course, and two new permanent members of staff are booked on for the Chapter 8 Street works training.

Events & Community Working Partnerships

The Meadows will host the following events and fundraisers;

- The Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention Run – Sunday 15th May
- David Rowland Funfair – Wednesday 18th – Sunday 22nd May
- Tavistock Lions Fun Day 10th July

The Town Council have been commissioned to install and water the town's hanging baskets once again this year. The baskets, including the new installations on Plymouth Road are scheduled to be erected week commencing 16th May.

Working in partnership with Tavistock Lions the town bunting will be put up week commencing 23rd May. This has been scheduled earlier than in previous years to coincide

with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. The Council's bunting in the market perimeter was erected slightly earlier in April.

Working alongside Tavistock Community Gardeners, as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to climate change and promoting biodiversity, the Canal Bank area is scheduled to be planted with Crab Apple trees, of different species, therefore increasing the flowering season for pollination. The trees planted are part of the Council's pledge to the Platinum Jubilee campaign, the Queens Green Canopy. Alongside this, under all of the trees, shrubs will be planted, chosen for such aspects as nitrogen fixing, comparable to the planned planting scheme with 4th Tavistock Brownies and Meadowlands, as an extension to the Blue Campaign.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Ceremony.

The Town Council invite the local community to join them on Thursday 2nd June for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon ceremony to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 70th year as Monarch and Head of the Commonwealth. Tavistock will join communities across the Commonwealth where more than 1,500 beacons will be lit, to celebrate another unique milestone of Her Majesty the Queen, one which no previous monarch has achieved before. The ceremony which will be held on "The Pimple", will start at approximately 9.15pm, a Pipe Major from the Plymouth Pipe and Drum Band will play the specially-written 'Diu Regnare' ('Long to Reign') at approx. 9.35pm. with the beacon being lit at 9.45pm.

The Works Manager has organised the planting of seven semi mature trees in the Meadows as part of the Council's commitment to the Queens Green Canopy. The trees which include; Dawn Redwood, Ginkgo, English Oak, Silver Birch and Evergreen Magnolia were planted early May. The Mayor has been approached to ask for his time for an official unveiling of the flagship tree, the English Oak where a plaque will be installed.

Working in partnership with Tavistock BID, the Town Council agreed to a £5,000 grant (cash and in kind combined) to BID to support the town's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Funding has also been achieved from the Art Council's Let's Create Jubilee Fund and the European Regional Development Fund. The festivities include:

Thursday 2nd June – Jubilee Gala Day throughout town featuring the Jubilee 'River of Hope' school Pageant, passing through the town with a rolling road closure from 11am-12noon, the day continues with nostalgia zones including: 1950's Beach Zone, 1960's Carnaby Street Zone, Kids traditional games, a Tea Dance in the Town Hall, as well as Cream Teas and music on Bedford Square.

Friday 3rd June & Saturday 4th June – Music and entertainment in the town centre.

On Sunday 5th June, the Robey Trust Steam Fair will host their annual event in the Bedford Car Park and the Tavistock Lions are hosting a Picnic in the Park.

Further information can be obtained from the respective groups.

Goose Fair

The General Manager and Works Manager hosted the first operational stakeholder meeting 26th April. Stakeholder engagement was positive, and members of the consultative group pledged their commitment to this year's event. Unfortunately, WDBC were unable to attend the meeting, the Works Manager is currently awaiting a response to hold a separate meeting with them to discuss this year's arrangements.

2. Town Hall, Butchers' Hall and Events

With effect from week commencing 23rd May, the Works Manager will no longer be also managing the Town Hall and Butchers' Hall area of activity, starting the Works Manager role in its entirety. A full handover will be provided to the General Manager and Market Reeve. The Works Manager would like to thank the team for all of their hard work over the years, and in particular express her sincere gratitude to the Councillors who were involved in the development of Butchers' Hall as well as the longstanding traders and hirers who have helped build the venue's reputation and become the success it is.

**REBECCA ROWE
WORKS MANAGER
MAY 2022**