

Bundle Annual Town Meeting (Electors) 19 March 2024

Agenda attachments

FRONT SHEET - Annual Town Meeting - 19 March 2024

- 1 Apologies
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
- 2 Interests
To receive Declarations of Interest and Dispensations awarded in respect of items on the agenda.
- 3 Report from the Mayor of Newquay
*To receive the Annual Report from the Mayor of Newquay
(Report to follow if not attached)*
Mayors Report for Annual Town Meeting 2023-24
- 4 Electors Forum
*To raise and discuss any questions on Council business or matters which impact the parish of Newquay.
Please Note
Matters discussed are for information only.
If a question cannot be answered at the meeting, a Questions and Answers paper will be placed on the Town Council website asap after the meeting.
Any decisions made shall be by majority vote. However, they are not binding on the Town Council, they do provide a steer on a particular matter.
Electioneering is not permissible.*
- 5 Reports from Town Council Committee Chairs for 2023-24 Civic Year
(Reports to follow if not attached)
C&T Report for Annual Town Meeting 2023-24
E&F Report for Annual Town meeting report 2023-2024
PL Report for Annual Town Meeting 2023-4 V3 (1)
G&R Report for Annual Town Meeting 2023-24
- 6 Close of Formal Meeting
- 7 Newquay Town Council Award Ceremony
To present the Newquay Town Council Mayor's Awards.



Newquay Town Council
Municipal Offices, Marcus Hill
Newquay TR7 1AF

01637 878 388
office@newquay.gov.uk
www.newquay.gov.uk

NewquayCouncil

CorporateService

Chief Executive & Town Clerk - Andrew Curtis

PA to Chief Executive: Laura Spark
laura@newquay.gov.uk | 01637 520522

Tuesday 05 March 2024

Meeting: Annual Town Meeting
Date of Meeting: Tuesday 19 March 2024
Subject: Formal Meeting Agenda

The **Annual Town Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 6pm** to be chaired by the Mayor of Newquay, **Councillor Margaret North**, at **St Michael's Church, St Michaels Road, Newquay** to transact the business contained in the attached agenda and associated papers.

Local Government electors for Newquay are entitled to ask questions on items on the agenda and will be entitled to vote at the meeting. The meeting is also open to the general public.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret North

Councillor Margaret North
Mayor of Newquay



Good evening fellow councillors, council staff and residents of Newquay gathered here this evening.

As Mayor may I welcome and thank you all for attending.

The Annual General Meeting is the arena for me and the chairs of committees to inform you of what we have done over the last 12 months. The aim is to afford residents the ability to ask questions, we may not have all the answers but will ensure your question is answered in a timely way.

As Chair of Council together with my fellow councillors we endeavour to address the challenges that we face as a town. We all know Newquay is an exceptional place, a vibrant town boasting stunning beaches and coastline coupled with a rich heritage of success, firstly as a fishing port then as a busy trading hub during the industrial mining era and latterly as a major tourist destination.

We should and I believe we are proud, in the knowledge that our town welcomes a million visitors annually a number unsurpassed by any other town. This popularity comes at a cost, the downside being that it leaves our infrastructure looking worn and tired year on year.

As a Council we need to ensure that we continue to work on gaining endorsement from the wider public and continue to develop schedules of work, establishing our priorities, as we strive to improve and maintain our public spaces and services. There is a lot of discussion

and debate that takes place to ensure we deliver these services in a cost-effective way.

As the Mayor I have responsibility to act appropriately as Newquay's first citizen. I work tirelessly to be an exemplary and passionate ambassador for Newquay and its residents.

I endeavour to facilitate, promote, and encourage the many local organisations and initiatives at benefiting our town and its diverse communities.

As the Mayor with fellow councillors our work is to ensure Newquay is a town we are proud to live and work in and we need to sustain Newquay's future as a growth area for creating work and opportunities for our future generations.

The largest project this year has been our addition to the Olympic Skatepark of a nursery area for the younger children, I won't steal any of the Chairs thunder as they will go into more detail in regard to the skatepark.

The Killacourt units are all fully occupied and continue to give start up businesses the opportunity to try a new venture by starting their own business.

Please remember myself and councillors are a little bit like the iceberg analogy, we sit just above the waterline calm and serene but underneath is all the work going on that as residents you do not see, it must never be underestimated the amount of time and effort that we all give voluntarily to this great town.

I would like to thank our Clerk Andy Curtis and all his team too many to name for commitment and

professionalism in running the Town Council. For his continued support and advice over the last 12 months when there has been some difficult issues in which we have had to navigate together.

Thank you Andy and staff.

Thanks to my fellow councillors we may not always agree and that's not a bad thing healthy debate and professionalism is key to the business we undertake. We must never forget we are the residents voice.

I'll now pass you on to the Committee Chairs who will have a more detailed report.

Community and Tourism Committee Report

Good evening, Madam Mayor, fellow councillors, Ladies & gentleman. It is my pleasure to present the report of the community & tourism committee.

One of the first events of the civic year was the coronation of H.M the King. We had a large TV screen erected on the Killacourt and it was a fantastic turnout. During this event we also had three applicants for the post of Town Crier and of these, Simon Armstrong-Jones was selected. During his first year, he has made numerous appearances and is doing a wonderful job. The previous 20 years saw David Bradshaw in post, I wish to thank him in his post dedicated service.

We held numerous summer events on the Killacourt, all of which were well attended.

We held the Christmas lights switch on where entertainment and stalls were present unlike the previous year. the weather was much better, and events occurred as planned with 2 stages, one in front of the council offices and another at the bandstand. Stalls were situated in the marque on the Killacourt and the public turnout was excellent.

The lantern parade took place. The parade and stalls were organised by Mark Warren of BID and all events are overseen by Events Co-Ordinator, Melissa Hallam. Not only does she work hard organising everything but also during events making sure all goes to plan. Thank you, Melissa!

Tourist Information Centre

The information centre continues to be very busy, with good footfall to the office. They provide excellent town maps and a large quantity of goods and literature appertaining to Newquay.

The TIC won Gold awards for last year and therefore not able to enter this year. Thank you, Susan Deakin, for all their hard work and effort throughout the year.

Library

The Library continues to be the focal point of the town. It is still available for people to use as a warm place, numerous community events are regularly held in the library. Councillor Thomson has organised a lovely garden area at the rear of the library where people can go and sit. My thanks to the team working there and the manager Jo Carter.

CCTV

Our excellent CCTV service based at Newquay Police station covers both Newquay an St Austell. The team enjoys success in both towns and have greatly assisted the police. Their diligence has resulted in arrests and detections during the past year. My thanks to all the staff and Charity Horton for all their work.

In conclusion I would like to thanks my Vice Chair, Councillor Liz Wright and all members of the Community and Tourism committee for everything they do. I would also like to thanks Town clerk Andy Curtis, deputy Town Clerk Joe Piwecki and all members of staff that ensure everything runs smoothly.

Dave Cheney

Chair of Community & Tourism

Annual Town meeting report from the Chair of the Environment and Services Committee 2024. Cllr Andy Hannan

This year has been probably the busiest I have witnessed, and the Committee has faced several challenges with enthusiasm and a lot of hard work.

My thanks go out to all who have supported me, in my role as Chair, during the past 12 months. A special thanks must go to my Vice Chair, Cllr Drew Creek, who despite holding the position of Deputy Mayor, has been fully committed to supporting me throughout the year.

The Facilities Team.

Our Service manager, Dan Tuttle, has settled into his role nicely and is competently supervising his team of operatives, challenged with looking after the largest number of toilets in the County whilst continuously to improving the quality of the facilities and service they offer.

Once again recruitment has been a major issue this year, stretching the service to its limits on occasion. Once more, they have managed to provide a full comprehensive service without interruption, a major achievement and well done to all the team.

We still operate more public toilets than anywhere else in the County, and it is our intention to continue for as long as our budget and resources allow.

Although not always popular, we still see charging as a way of offsetting the expense of providing the service, and we have evidence that it keeps the levels of vandalism to a minimum.

The switch over to contactless charging has been problematic but we are still committed to rolling this out as soon as possible, following our successful trial in Fore street.

The current lack of railway station toilet provision is still a major cause for concern, especially as we have now received a sizeable contribution from the Board Masters Foundation. I have met with Council officers and contractors last week and we have given them permission to get the final works done and have the toilets open for this summer season.

I am sure that Dan, our service manager, will be focussing on keeping our toilet facilities at their absolute best ready for the busy season ahead and I thank him for his continuous hard work and support.

Further afield, we have provided toilet facilities up at Concrete Waves, much to the relief of the frequent users of the site.

We have recently carried out a full public consultation regarding our toilet provision and we will be working to put into action any recommendations following the analysis of the results.

Open Spaces and the Environment Team.

Our Environment team is responsible for an ever-growing list of Newquay Town Council assets, most of which are listed below.

The Marcus Hill Council offices grounds, including the library area.

The Killa Court.

Concrete Waves Skatepark.

The Mount Wise building.

The Atlantic Road car park and Playground.

Treloggan Green Playground.

Mount Wise Allotments.

The Trencreek Allotments.

The Gannel carpark.

The old Gannel Boatyard.

Various small, grassed areas and Town Centre planters.

The Town Centre and Chester Road hanging baskets.

Priory Woods

The above assets are tendered to by the Environment Services Manager, Joe Ashton, and his team, who now have a comprehensive schedule of works, making sure that the open spaces in Newquay look at their best for our residents, and to welcome our visitors this coming season.

They also provide support for various local groups, including the Newquay in Bloom Partnership, including assisting with some of the heavy lifting and clearing away the green waste they inevitably produce.

Our efforts will concentrate on the Killa Court, as it is the centre of our Town and under constant scrutiny. It also receives a great deal of wear and tear during the season. We intend to build on the highly successful wildflower planting done for the Queen's Jubilee celebration and look forward to receiving the long-awaited Surf Statue, provided by the Keough Foundation.

Phase one of the Trencreek Allotments is now complete and we have our own green waste recycling area, producing compost on future Town projects. This has resulted in a major cost savings and provides a useful resource. There are now 2 people tending to their allotments on a regular basis having been on a waiting list for some time.

Phase two is well underway, and we are beginning to see the full potential of this site.

We estimate that it will be able to support many more allotment plots for use by our residents.

This year we will be planting approximately 110 hanging baskets throughout the Town

centre, part funded by Newquay BID. The plants are ordered, and the initial assessment of the hanging positions is underway. We have also removed several old and rusting redundant post from the Town centre.

Our newly acquired Atlantic Road carpark still offers the lowest cost parking in our town and will bring in a welcome income stream to the Council and allowing us to maintain the adjacent play area to a high standard.

Overall, the team have a challenging year ahead, and I am confident that my committee will continue to support Joe and his team in their efforts to keep our Town looking at its best.

On behalf of the Committee, I thank Joe and his team for their efforts and look forward to working with them in the future.

Enforcement Service.

Our open spaces and footpaths need to be monitored, especially when it comes to dog mess and, unfortunately, we are still trying to fill the roles left by our previous enforcement officers. The recruitment task is ongoing, and I am hopeful that we will fill these vital roles before the coming holiday season.

Mount Wise building.

We continue to have full occupancy of the commercial element of the project, but, unfortunately, issues with the fire escape provision is limiting the number of people that can use the ground floor of the facility.

We are in the process of rectifying this to enable us to open the whole building for the benefit and use of Newquay residents and community groups.

We will also be carrying out a full commercial review of the building, along with our other income generating assets later this year.

Our Environment team continue to use the basement and rear of the facility as their base, bringing an overall saving to the Council and placing them near to the centre of the Town in which they operate.

Concrete Waves Skatepark.

Regular users of our fantastic Concrete waves will now be witnessing the building of a new nursery park for up-and-coming young skaters and BMX riders. This will allow them to build on their skills before venturing onto the main skatepark area. This has been a long-term project, and we must recognise the major contribution from the Board masters Foundation, along with the dedicated work of Mavericks, the company that built the original park and are delivering this major extension.

Christmas Lighting.

Every year we aim to improve and build upon the Town's Christmas lights display last Christmas we decided to bring in a professional company to provide our Christmas light display throughout the Town. This provides the opportunity to reduce costs whilst ensuring a fantastic display that can be modified each year to meet the expectations of our residents and visitors. We have retained our original lights with a view to seeing if other Villages or Towns can use them, whilst some were used at the Trenance cottages to brighten up that area of the park.

Town centre Bunting.

We are intending to provide bunting throughout the Town during the holiday season.

Youth Projects

This committee is currently not actively working on any specific project but remains committed to Youth support within the Town.

Homeless support.

We are committed to supporting local groups engaged in provision for the Homeless, and we are prepared to help tackle this common issue whenever approached.

Finally, many thanks must go to our Town Clerk, Andy, our Deputy Town Clerk Joe, our Service Managers, Council officers, our private contractors, and of course my fellow volunteer Town Councillors, who put in an immense amount of their time with the common goal of making our Town a pleasant and vibrant place to live, work and visit.

Cllr Andy Hannan

Chair of the Environment and Services Committee.

Committee members.

Cllr A Hannan

Cllr D Creek

Cllr M North

Cllr O Monk

Cllr L Gardner

Cllr L Wright

Cllr Slade

Planning & Licensing Committee: Annual Town Meeting Report 2023/4

A typically busy year for the Planning Committee with meetings every other week (fortunately Christmas was in the off week) which included what we call 'blue moon' months where we have three meetings in a month – last August and this March. I continue to be so grateful to the members of the Committee, and to our two substitutes, for ensuring the meetings are quorate through all extremes of weather and occasional illness.

And many thanks to Duncan McLeod and the Corporate Services team for keeping the show on the road.

In addition to meetings, the Committee has three working parties reporting to it, with members from across the Council taking part of which the following two are active

- Newquay Neighbourhood Plan – in the view of the working party, while there is always opportunity to polish wording, there is nothing significant that requires a major update of the plan. Particularly as we anticipate significant changes arising from the Levelling Up Act and the proposed rewrite of the Cornwall Local Plan
- Parking Working Party – TROs, Car Park charges and other parking issues. We commented at every opportunity but sadly not much notice was taken by Cornwall Council

For the year 2023-24 Committee have so far held 26 public meetings and hosted two presentations from Developers, as well as being generous to Developers in our public questions session – all of which have been open for the public to attend or view online. We welcome attendance at our meetings by members of the public both those in support or objecting to applications.

We are getting better with the mikes and welcome the online broadcasting of our meetings. We hear we are getting a following.

During the year 2023-24, so far, the Planning & Licensing Committee have been consulted by the Local Planning Authority (Cornwall Council) on 203 occasions, with applications ranging from the formalisation of an already established use, to larger schemes which could literally change the face of Newquay.

Of the 202 consultations considered, the Committee has responded as follows:

SUPPORTED	RAISED NO OBJECTION (where we request more conditions or reassurances)	OBJECTED
49 (circa 24.%)	75 (circa 27%)	79 (circa 39%)

Under Planning Law, **the Five-Day Protocol** is usually required because the Planning Officer has either:

- disagreed with our decision or
- because amendments have been made to an application following the comments made by ourselves, members of the public and other consultees.

Five Day Protocols are usually dealt with via email due to the short timescales involved. This year the Local Planning Authority have asked the Planning Committee to reconsider their decision on 27 separate occasions under the Five-Day Protocol process. The Committee's responses:

Agreed with the Officer	Agreed to Disagree	Disagreed with the Officer
10 (circa 37.%)	14 (circa 52%)	3 (circa 11%) (Including the Hotel Bristol)

Cornwall Council Central Sub-Area Planning Committee:

A quiet year for Newquay at the CC Planning Committee – but there are two major issues where liaison with Cornwall Council has been disappointing:

- Hotel Bristol/Narrowcliff. Cornwall Council have ignored our requests for review at the CC Central Sub-Area planning committee, instead having, after over a 6 month delay since the Town Council was consulted, made the decision to approve behind closed doors on March 8th. As I write, the Town Council is reviewing the prospects of a Judicial Review of the refusal to take the application to Committee; we remain convinced that with the clear breach of the NNP policies and no identifiable benefits that would not have occurred with an application that respected the development plan, the Committee would have supported our objection. We are taking legal advice and will act on that advice; there is no intention to take any action that would put the Council at risk.
- Whipsiderry Cliffs – we are told by Cornwall Council that there is no evidence that the works they approved on the cliff face was the cause of the disastrous falls on the cliffs at Whipsiderry that have taken the line of the cliff back beyond the worst case scenario anticipated for 120 years time. It is with real regret I have to report that Cornwall Council have refused to meet with the Town Council to discuss the obvious issues but we continue to push for a meeting. We do not wish to take independent action but it appears we may have no choice.

The Planning Inspectorate

The Planning Inspectorate deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England.

Since the 1st of April 2023 there have been four instances where Cornwall Council's decision to refuse a Newquay planning application has resulted in an appeal being lodged with the Planning Inspectorate. In these instances, the Town Council has submitted further representation, restating the case against the application. Three of these appeals have since been dismissed by the Inspector – the remaining one of these (relating to The Atlantic Hotel) is still to be determined.

Licensing Act 2003:

Not as frequent as planning applications, the Committee also considers licensing applications made under the Licensing Act 2003 – such applications typically seek permission for the retail supply of alcohol, the performance of regulated entertainment (live and recorded music), films and the provision of late-night refreshment. In cases where the committee considers the granting of such a permission may harm the town, a representation is made to the Licensing Authority (Cornwall Council) on behalf of the Town Council. Wherever possible we work hard with Applicants, CC Licensing and the Civilian Police Licensing Officer to ensure the retail supply of alcohol is delivered responsibly within the town.

This year the Committee deliberated on 14 applications made under the Licensing Act 2003. In response we have submitted representations on behalf of the Town Council on 4 occasions.

Joanna Kenny

12 March 2024

Governance & Resources Committee Chair Report

It was my pleasure to chair the Governance and resources committee this year with a team of committed and passionate fellow volunteer councillors.

This committee oversees the strategic direction of Newquay Town Council whilst scrutinising the practices of the Town Council. It is also responsible for projecting and overseeing the financial position of the council as well as its effectiveness in delivery.

Over the past 12 months Newquay Town Council has seen number of its costs and projects run over budget due largely to factors outside of the Town Councils control and continued challenging national picture with the legacy of catastrophic inflation with ramifications still continuing. To secure the future of the Town Councils services including the much loved and well used Library, Tourist Information centre, Public Toilets, Environment team who manage the green spaces, the essential and gold standard CCTV service, keeping the town one of the safest places to live in the country, we had to make some difficult decisions around next year's financial position. After months of work on this and with all Councillors and staff having the opportunity to engage and contribute through the process, we have set a budget increasing the weekly precept on average by £1.23 per week for a band D household. If as a council we are to avoid future increases we must ensure as a Town Council we sweat the assets we currently have to work for the taxpayers of Newquay and not devolve costly estate and services without a plan for them to be self funding, I have been clear on this point over the past 12 months and have seen some improvement but much more is needed.

This year we also began a strategic review of the structure of the town council to ensure efficiency and continued delivery for our town. This includes how we manage our resource, our committees and the effectiveness of the Town Council as a whole. Staffing at Newquay Town Council has increased by 1 full time equivalent over the past 12 months supporting the town council staff and ensuring we maximise on available grant funding in the future. Grant funding projects is a way to finance investment projects without the need to burden taxpayers of financial investment at such a challenging time. I want to thank all the staff at Newquay Town Council for their tireless work and commitment to the town over the past 12 months.

Over the past 12 months Cllrs Wright and Thomson and I have had a particular focus on the younger generation of Newquay residents. Young people have too often been forgotten by the Town Council but I am proud to see this being a key focus for this year and the years ahead. With the reintroduction of the Youth grant, devolution of the Youth Centre in short order and the development of the skatepark, Newquay Town Council is really committed to the younger generation.

Grass roots sports is an area which has also seen underinvestment and pressures from all sides in Newquay over the past few years. We have been pleased to have been able to support Newquay Cricket club this year along with investment in Newquay AFC Football club and Skateboarding both with the Skatepark and the Concrete Chaos event last summer. We also have exciting plans to further invest in grass roots sporting here in Newquay during 2024/25 more details should be available soon.

I am confident that at a time when Councils big and small are facing excerstention financial threat, the work of this Committee during the past 12 months secures Newquay's future as one of the greatest places to live and work in the country.

Cllr Drew Creek

Chair of G&R

Deputy mayor of Newquay