



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

**Town Hall
Bideford
Devon
EX39 2HS**

Telephone:
Bideford (01237) 428938

Mr Paul Swan
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

To: Members of the Council

Thursday 12th September 2024

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of Bideford Town Council in the Town Hall on **Thursday 19 September 2024 at 6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business.

In accordance with The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 members of the public are welcome to attend. There is a legal right to film/record/photograph/report public meetings.

Paul Swan
Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. To accept apologies and reasons for absence.
2. To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and note the requests for dispensation received by the Clerk prior to the meeting. Encl.
3. Public participation session of 15 minutes duration on items submitted prior to the meeting by Bideford residents, which fall within the scope of the Council's activities.
 - a) Zen Waters
4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 August 2024 as a correct record. Encl.
5. To receive the verbal report from the Police on issues within the parish.
6. To receive the verbal report and presentation from DS Electrical on options for the Bridge Lighting Repair and resolve upon an option. Encl. To Follow

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 7. | Accounts - To approve the payments listed. | Encl. To Follow |
| 8. | To receive the report from the County Councillor on issues within the parish. | Cllr Mrs Hellyer |
| 9. | To receive such communications as the Town Mayor / Town Clerk may wish to lay before the Council. | |
| 10. | Market Management Committee Meeting – to approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2024. | Encl. To Follow |
| 11. | Staffing, Finance & General Purposes Committee- to approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2024. | Encl. |
| 12. | Planning Committee – | |
| | a. to approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 28 August 2024. | Encl. |
| | b. to approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2024. | Encl. To Follow |
| 13. | Tourism Committee - to approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2024.
(All items are recommendations). | Encl. To Follow |
| 14. | Decarbonisation and Environment Committee - to approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 22 August 2024.
(All items are recommendations). | Encl. |
| 15. | Twining | |
| | a.Councillor Mrs. L Hellyer notice of motion. | Encl.-PIF |
| | To Investigate the possibility of Bideford, Devon twinning with Biddeford USA. | |
| | To receive a verbal report and presentation form former Councillor Andy Powell on the proposal to twin Bideford with Biddeford USA and consider and resolve upon the matter. | Encl. |
| | b.To receive a request from the Town Council of Castiglione dei Pepoli, Italy on the proposal to twin the two Towns and consider and resolve upon the matter. | Encl. |
| 16. | Notice of motion -Councillor J Gordan | Encl.-PIF |
| | To make council meetings transparent to the public I propose that they should be live streamed to the public and kept as a matter of record until the minutes of the meeting have been approved as an official record of the meeting. | |
| 17. | Torrige District Council – To receive an update on Torrige District Council activities by one of the Councillors. | |

18. To receive an update on Bridge Trust activities by one of the Trustees.

A moment of contemplation will be said by Robin Pirrie from St Mary's Church, in the Council Chamber at 6.20 pm, prior to the start of the meeting. Councillors and Members of the Public are invited to participate if they so wish.

Date of the next meeting – Thursday 31 October 2024

Declaration of Interests at meetings

- Where a matter relates to an interest in list A, the member shall not participate in a discussion or vote on the matter. He /she only need declare it if it is not already noted on the register of interests.
- Where the matter is in list A, but is a sensitive interest, the member shall not participate in a discussion or vote; the member shall disclose that there is an interest but not the nature of it.
- Where a matter relates to an interest on list B the member shall not vote and may only speak as a member of the public.
- A member only has to declare an interest in list B if it is not already on the register of interests.
- If the interest is in list B and is sensitive in nature and not already registered then the member shall disclose the interest but not the nature of it.
- Where a matter relates to the financial interest of a friend, relative or close associate (other than in list A) the member shall disclose the interest and not vote. He or she may speak but only as a member of the public.

List A:

- 1 **Employment, office, trade or vocation** – carried on for profit by member or spouse or civil partner.
- 2 **Sponsorship** – any payments for the previous 12 months, other than by the Council, to assist in Council duties
- 3 **Contracts** – any current contracts between the Council and the member or his/ her spouse or civil partner or a company the member is a director or partner of.
4. **Land** – any beneficial interest in land within the area of the Council by member, spouse or civil partner.
- 5 **Licenses** - any license, alone or with others, by spouse, civil partner or member to occupy land in area of Council.
- 6 **Corporate Tenancies** - any tenancy where the Council is the landlord and the member, spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest in the tenant.
7. **Securities** – a beneficial interest is held in a body that has land or business in the area of the Council by the member, spouse or civil partner that either exceeds £25,000 or the total share capital is in excess of one hundredth of the of the total shares issued.

List B:

Any interests which relate to or is likely to affect:

1. Any body where the member has general control or management and was appointed by the Council.
2. Any body that the member is in a position of control or management and either:
 - (a) exercises functions of a public nature;
 - (b) is for charitable purposes; or
 - (c) has the purpose of influencing public opinion or policy (including political parties and trade unions)
3. Any gifts or hospitality that the member has received by virtue of his or her office in excess of £50.



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held in the Town Hall, Bideford on

Thursday 8 August 2024 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: North Ward: Councillor D Bushby
Councillor J Gordon
Councillor K Hind
Councillor D McGeough

South Ward: Councillor S Inch
Councillor Ms R Clarke
Councillor P Lawrence

West Ward: Councillor A T Inch
Councillor M Taylor

East Ward: Councillor J Craigie
Councillor Mrs J Gubb
Councillor Mrs L Hellyer
Councillor J A McKenzie

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Paul Swan (Town Clerk)
Mr R D Coombes (Deputy Town Clerk)
1 x Member of the Public

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors C Hawkins (West Ward – personal) and J Hellyer (East Ward – personal).

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Mrs Gubb declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 17. (Member, Bideford Bridge Trust.).

44. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A representative of Jurassic Fibre introduced himself and his organisation. He spoke on the roll out of full fibre broadband (in the South West), “the copper switch off,” (connection of

homes and offices in the UK to their local telephone exchange) and the importance of addressing one's needs to their respective telecom / broadband provider.

(Councillor Craigie joined the Meeting.)

Points raised included the provision of a map indicating where Jurassic are established and the difficulties presented where new housing estates have broadband installations that are intrinsically tied to the original developer / organisation.

45. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 June 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 9, Against: 0, Abstention: 4)

46. **ACCOUNTS**

To approve the payments listed.

It was proposed by Councillor McKenzie, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the List of Payments be approved.

(Vote – For: 13, Against: 0)

47. **DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL (COUNCILLOR) REPORT**

Members had sight of a report provided by Councillor Mrs Hellyer.

Councillor T Inch questioned the West Ward County Councillor's attendance.

Councillor Hind invited Members to forward any concerns to himself (for him to forward).

48. **COMMUNICATION BROUGHT FORWARD ON THE DIRECTION OF THE MAYOR / TOWN CLERK**

The Mayor will host an ITV documentary team on Tuesday receiving them in the Town Hall from whence she will escort them through the Market Complex and the Town.

The Town Clerk advised:

- a. The Caddsdawn development project is progressing very well. The steel frame was in place, the cladding will be installed next week finishing on 19 August 2024.
- b. The Ford Rock ground works have been completed; the seeded area will remain fenced for three weeks. He suggested that there should be an official opening; a statement highlighting the work of the Town Council for the betterment of the Community. He invited Members to forward their thoughts / ideas to him.
- c. The Mayor's Civic Church Service will be held at St Mary's on 22 September 2024 at 15.00. (Town Hall will be open from 14.00, Members to be robed and ready to leave by 14.40.)

49. **MARKET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 June 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

- b. **Recommendation: Minute Number 33.b. – Signing of the Lease Rescheduling.**

Members discussed the Recommendation to reschedule the Signing of the Lease to 14 December 2024 unless a future booking provides the opportunity for the Civic Event to be held on 7 December 2024.

It was proposed by Councillor McKenzie, seconded by Councillor Morgan and

RESOLVED: That the Signing of the Lease Ceremony is held on Saturday, 14 December 2024.

(Vote – For 13, Against: 0).

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 August 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

50. **STAFFING, FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 July 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

51. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

- a. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 July 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

- b. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 August 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

52. **TOURISM COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 August 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 13, Against: 0)

Councillor Mrs Gubb advised Members that the Chudleigh Fort Picnic will be held on 1 September 2024; Members are welcome to attend / participate.

53. **DECARBONISATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

It was noted that the make-up of the Ward members was incorrect; the Clerk will action.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 July 2024 were approved and adopted.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

54. **TOWN PULSE SMART HUBS**

Members had received information explaining the Pulse Smart Hub – “a modern-day piece of street furniture that supports the health and vitality of the communities we serve. The Pulse Smart Hub is free all-year round to the user, local stakeholders and taxpayer.”

The Town Clerk provided a synopsis, noting that it was the early stages, with points including:

- The business behind the Pulse Smart Hub is a not for profit Community interest Company.
- The Newton Abbot Town Clerk declared, “there was no downside.”
- Intended fifteen installations across the Town, East-the-Water and Bideford College.
- Free Wi Fi / telephone conversation / charging.
- Direct link to the Police.
 - CCTV operates when activated by user.
- Defibrillators (fifteen).
- Maintained by the Company.
- No cost.
- The Company oversee the whole Planning process.
- TDC engaged, many advantages, no downsides.

Members raised points that included:

- Exciting opportunity.
- Installation provides revenue stream for the Company through advertising (Council will have five per cent of advertising space to promote Council initiatives / Events).
- Commitment / long term to the facility; what would happen if the Company folded?

It was proposed by Councillor T Inch, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk continues to liaise with the organisation.

(Vote – For: 13, Against: 0)

55. **TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL REQUEST FOR MATCH FUNDING – “PLAYZONE” AT POLLYFIELD SITE**

Members had sight of a letter from TDC requesting match funding support of £34,375.

The Clerk advised that there had been no preamble to the receipt of the letter and confirmed that the Council had £10,000.00 earmarked for play equipment. He noted, also that the Council were one of five sites throughout Torridge.

Discussion followed including:

- Council committed to Caddsdwn facility can only offer £10,000.00.

- The Playzone would be an asset to the Townspeople.
- Reduce grant funding limit to free up monies in the new financial year.
- Bridge Trust had been approached and turned down the opportunity citing lack of information (free facility / charge for use?) and future costs.
- TDC, who have reserves and further financial resources, should look to other funding support.
- Potential for the Council to explore funding providing that that the facility is free to all of Bideford.

Councillor Mrs Gubb understood that the facility would be fenced in and that there would be a booking system through the Shamwicksire Rovers AFC / Pollyfield Community Centre. She agreed that there wasn't sufficient information at this stage.

Further discussion including the on going maintenance (provision); the surface requires a great deal of labour intensive cleaning /attention. Whilst the facility has fantastic potential, the surface will have a limited lifespan. Who will be responsible for the capital funding, charges and maintenance costs?

Councillor S Inch confirmed that the management was most important part. The equipment will need to be overseen / policed; there will be damage to the surface (cigarette burns).

It was proposed by Councillor Hind, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the item is deferred awaiting further information.

(Vote – For: 12, Against: 1)

56. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submission by Councillor Mrs L Hellyer.

“That Bideford Town Council amends standing orders with regard to the notice period needed for substitution. Councillors would no longer need to give four days clear notice, not including Sundays and Bank holidays. Instead, Councillors would be able to appoint a substitute up to, and including, the day of the relevant meeting, as long as they had notified the Clerk and the relevant Chair of the committee prior to the start of the meeting.”

Councillor Lawrence seconded the Motion.

Councillor McKenzie questioned whether the item should be considered within six months of adopted changes to the SOs.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that a resolution could not be reversed within six months except by a notice supported by nine councillors.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs L Hellyer, seconded

RESOLVED: That the Motion is supported.

(Vote – For: 11, Against: 1, Abstention: 1)

57. **TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL – UPDATE**

Councillor Bushby advised:

- a. Operational Services Centre will be considered at the September Plans Committee. The proposal has been prepared so that construction can proceed in the autumn. The proposal includes a fourth maintenance bay that can be used by the Blue Light services for vehicle maintenance.
- b. The Old Library and Town Hall currently costing the proposed alteration and essential maintenance required to improve the building and create a fourth fitness and wellbeing venue for Active Torridge.
- c. Levelling Up Partnership (TDC) have written to the new Minister seeking an update on the Partnership.

TDC has adopted three documents that will shape the future of the District: the North Devon and Torridge Economic Strategy, Torridge Place Story and the Maritime Growth and Vision all describe the ambition for the area and what efforts will be concentrated on to deliver.

- d. Bideford Quay Study consultancy group engaged to consider the potential for the Quay whilst retaining commercial port / car parking.
- e. Brunswick Wharf revised planning consent was granted in July.
- f. Car Parking usage and revenue across the District remains above expectation.
- g. Housing Workshop to be held next week by TDC members.
- h. Ford Rock thanks to the Town Council for doing such a good job of tidying up Ford Rock and making the gateway to the Town more attractive.

Points raised included re-siting of the Harbour Master's Office and the future of the Quay Fountains.

58. **BRIDGE TRUST**

Councillor Mrs Gubb briefed Members on the income, expenditure, charitable donations and grants figures.

48. **REPRISE COMMUNICATION BROUGHT FORWARD ON THE DIRECTION OF THE MAYOR**

Councillor Bushy referred the Mayor to her engagement with ITV expressing his reservations in terms of the motivation behind "A Day in the Life" of a Town Mayor. His concerns centred on the integrity of the Office, noting the polarising effect of her inaugural address to the Council and Carnival speech (when Deputy Mayor) and what could be misconstrued as a vehicle for her own personal agenda.

The Mayor agreed that the Television Company was interested in her personally. She insisted she had performed her role as a Councillor and Mayor of Bideford with the utmost respect for the Office, and to the best of her ability. The opportunity was presented at short notice and would be of benefit to the Town and the wider Community; other Members concurred.

Referring to her inaugural speech she declared that her chosen Charity, Transilience, provided vital support and empowerment to the trans youth in our society and spoke of her commitment and work in the area.

Both Councillors S and T Inch agreed with Councillor Bushby, stating that had the initiative been put before the Council they would have voted against the coverage.

The business of the meeting having been concluded the Mayor thanked the members for their attendance at the meeting which concluded at 7.37 pm.

Signature of Town Mayor: Date:

DRAFT

BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL - Accounts for approval at the Town Council Meeting - 8 August 2024

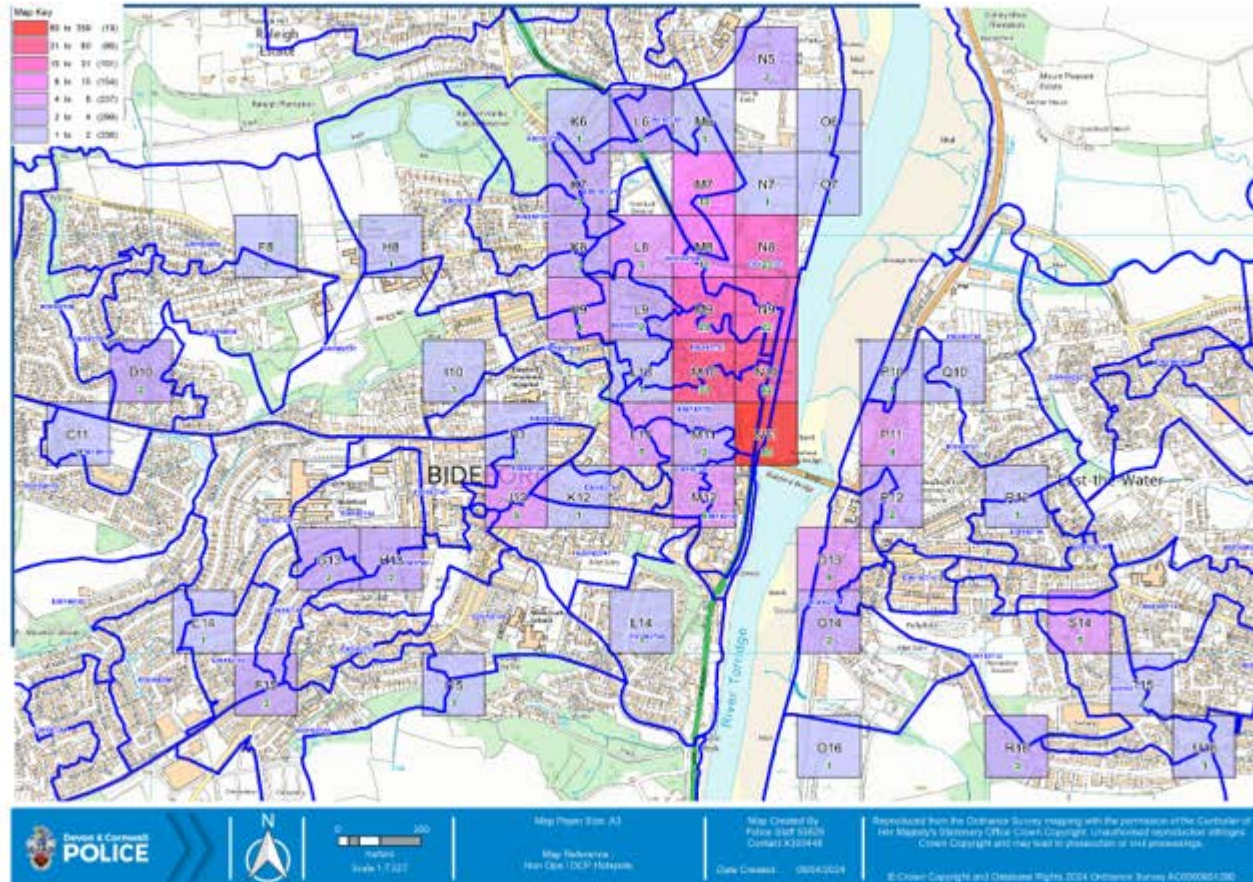
Number (All) ▾

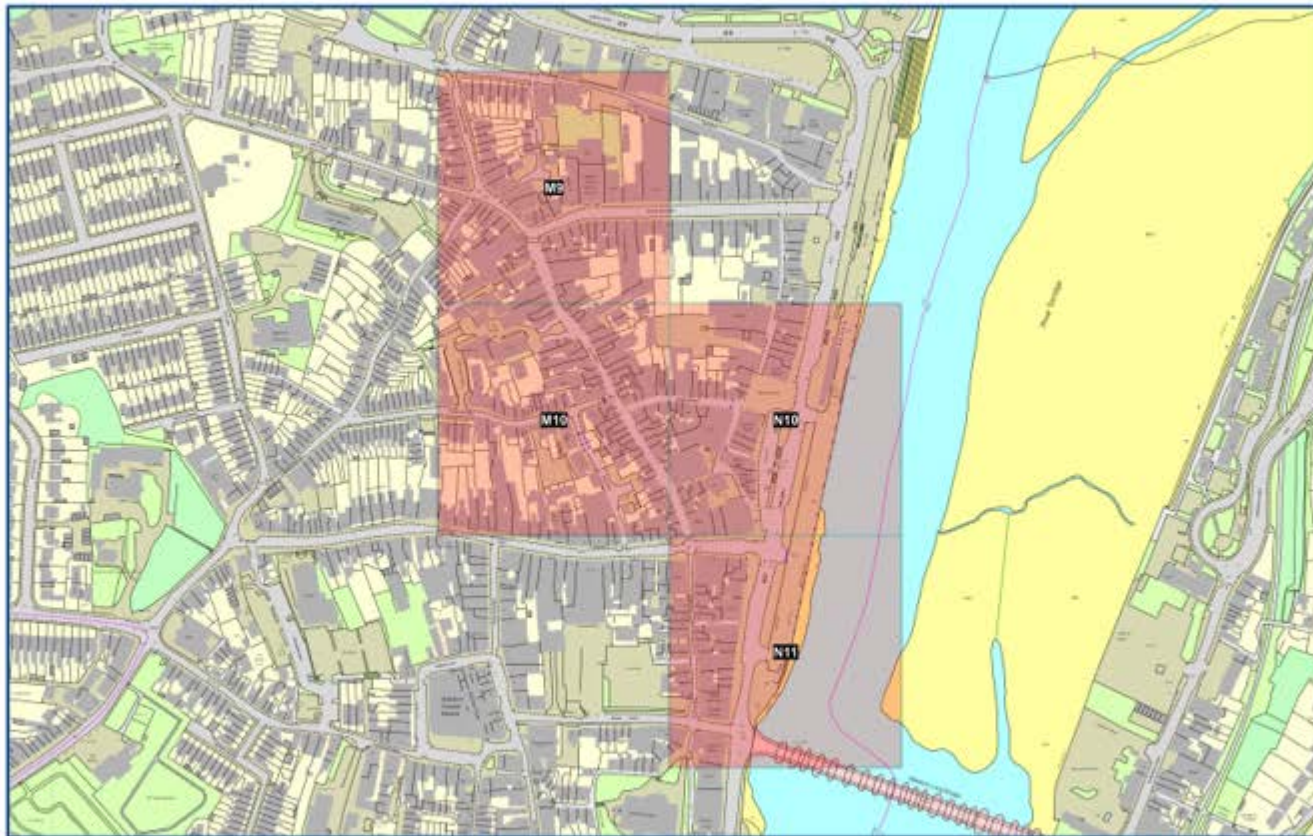
Date Entered	PV	Description	Extended Description	Net	VAT	Gross
24/7/2024	(blank)	Brunel Engraving Co Ltd	Brass Commemorative Bench Plaque	42.44	8.50	50.94
			Additional Plaque detail	30.00	6.00	36.00
	BSTC15	Amazon - Boston Seeds	Fast Growing Grass Seed	67.99		67.99
	BSTC15	CHSW	Donation in lieu of portrait pictures	200.00		200.00
25/07/2024	BSTC15	Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
26/7/2024	(blank)	RGB	Maintenance Items	373.26	74.65	447.91
		Trainline	Refund Travel Tickets	-127.80		-127.80
	BSTC15	Jewson	Maintenance Items	207.13	41.42	248.55
		Clarity Copiers	Meter Copy Charge	90.95	18.19	109.14
		SWEMS	BGT - Organsing and advertising	697.62		697.62
		BTCP-Little Green Town Project	Mature Fraxinus "excelsior" Altena Tree	-660.00		-660.00
30/7/2024	(blank)	Amazon	Construction Sight Warning Signs	29.93	6.00	35.93
		BJ's Value House	Maintenance Items	8.33	1.66	9.99
	BSTC15	Tamar Trading	Maintenance Items	307.24	61.46	368.70
	BSTC15	Lyds	Service Charges	44.22		44.22
31/07/2024	BSTC15	Amazon	Picture Frames	64.09	12.84	76.93
		SW Communications	Line / Broadband provision	52.69	10.54	63.23
		Lineal Software Ltd	Microsoft 365 License	145.58	29.12	174.70
		Mr T Bartlett	Plant Hire and Operation - Ford Rock	894.00		894.00
		Mr P Bevan	BGT - sound	350.00		350.00
1/8/2024	(blank)	Clarity Copiers	Meter Copy Charge	71.62	14.32	85.94
		Mow-It	Maintenance Items	105.85	21.17	127.02
		Pat Williams Ltd	Maintenance Items	14.83	2.97	17.80
		TDC	Legal Fees - Licence to occupy land	105.00	21.00	126.00
		Red Elephant Group	D-Day 3 x security provision	204.00	40.80	244.80
	BSTC16	Mimic Signs	Supply / fit taxi rank shelter sign	80.00	16.00	96.00
		D S Electrical	Unit 13 Daddon Court	600.00		600.00
		Lineal	Engineer - remote labour	42.50	8.50	51.00
		TDC - 128	T Hall Offices rent	313.72	62.74	376.46
		TDC - 127	T Hall Offices Service Charge	230.42	46.08	276.50
		Market recharge	TC staff	-3,482.36		-3,482.36
		Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
5/8/2024	(blank)	EDF	Decorative Lighting, Bideford Quay	369.88	73.98	443.86
6/8/2024	(blank)	Staff salaries inc Pension / HMRC	PAYE/NI/SALARY	28,150.68		28,150.68
		Ancient and Honourable Guild of Town Criers	Membership 2024 - 2025	30.00		30.00
2/8/2024	(blank)	Motor Parts Direct	Maintenance Items	7.57	1.51	9.08
		Allstar	Fuel	347.46	69.48	416.94
		Zurich Municipal	Insurance / Inspection Contract	4,372.70	55.00	4,427.70
7/8/2024	BSTC16	Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
		C+R Construction SW Ltd	Caddsdwn Unit	50,000.00	10,000.00	60,000.00
Grand Total				85,493.94	10,926.41	96,420.35

Bank Balances at 8/8/2024 - Current Account £ 36,668.73
 Bank Balances at 8/8/2024 - Deposit Account £ 379,306.70

Tier 2 - Bideford

Agenda Item 5





Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.



Map Paper Size A3
Map Scale: 1:20,000

Map Created By
Police Staff 6476 CL476

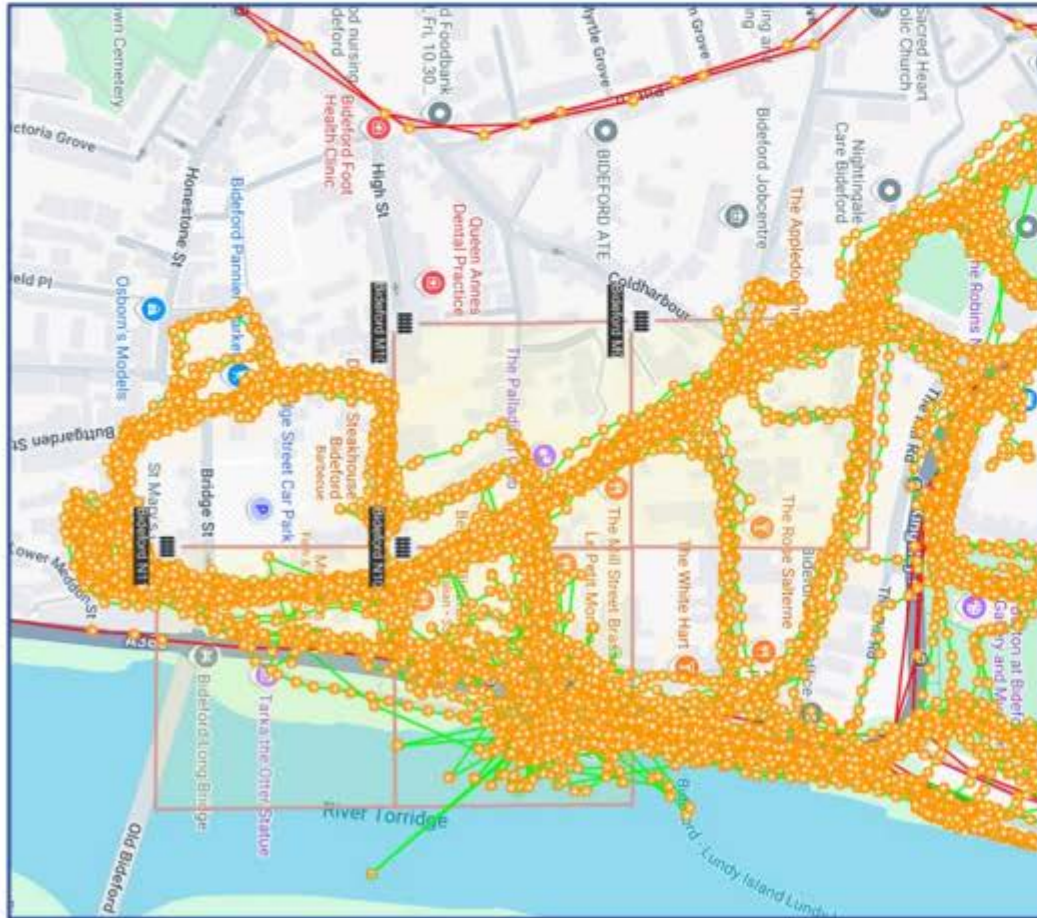


Date Created: 04/07/2024

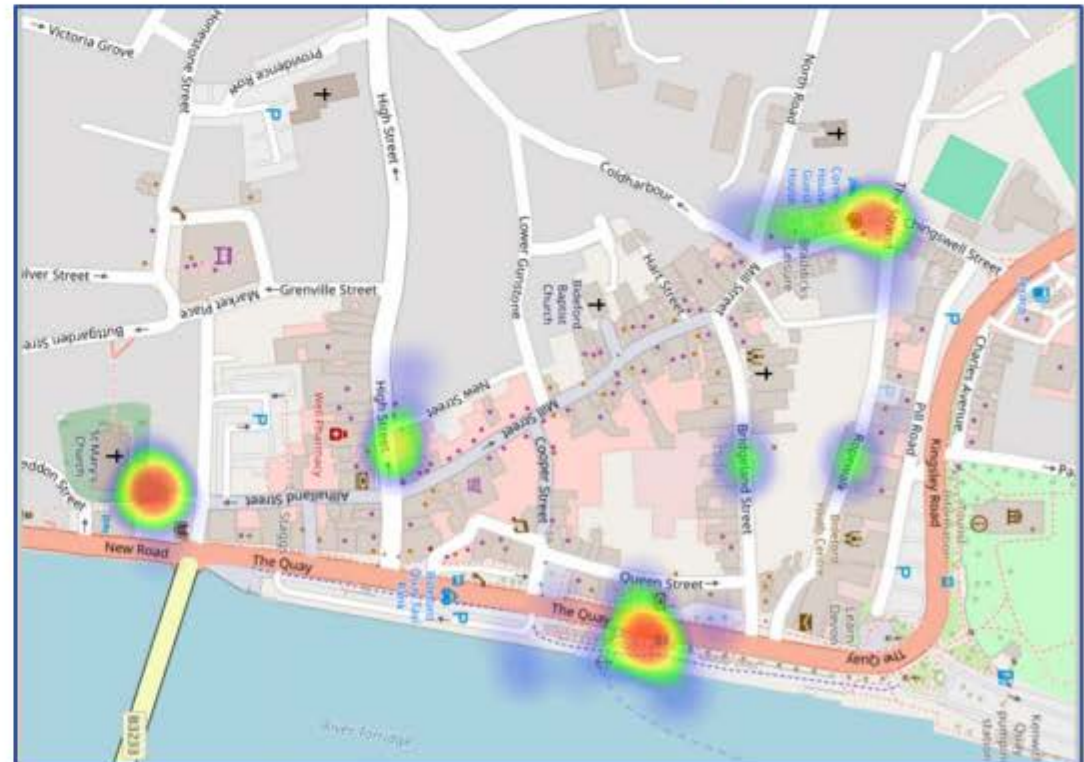
© Crown Copyright and Database Rights 2021 Ordnance Survey 100022024

Street Marshall Patrols. GPS Tracking & Heatmap.

Bideford 09/07/24 – 31/07/24

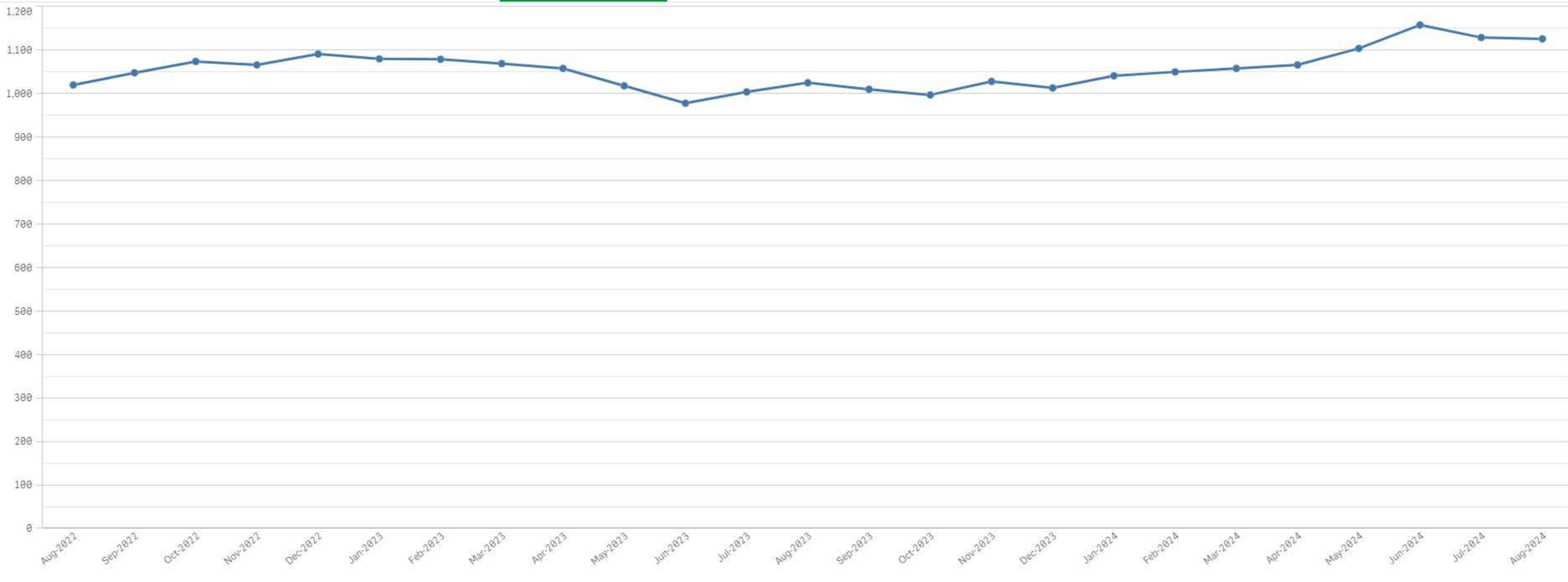


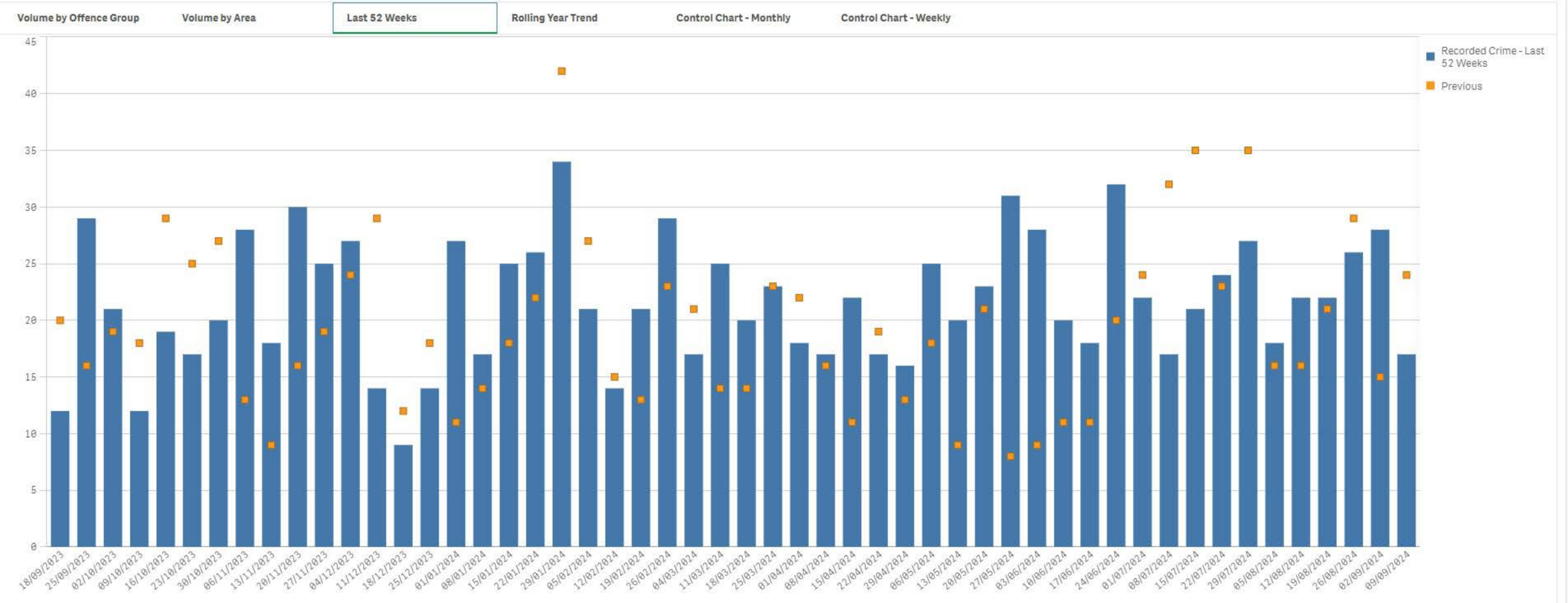
Grid Hotspot	Total Time Spent in Hotspot (Rolling Month) 11/08/2024 – 11/09/2024
M9	07:54:02
M10	00:30:20
N10	12:40:20
N11	10:22:51
Total Time	31:27:33
Average Time	00:23:01



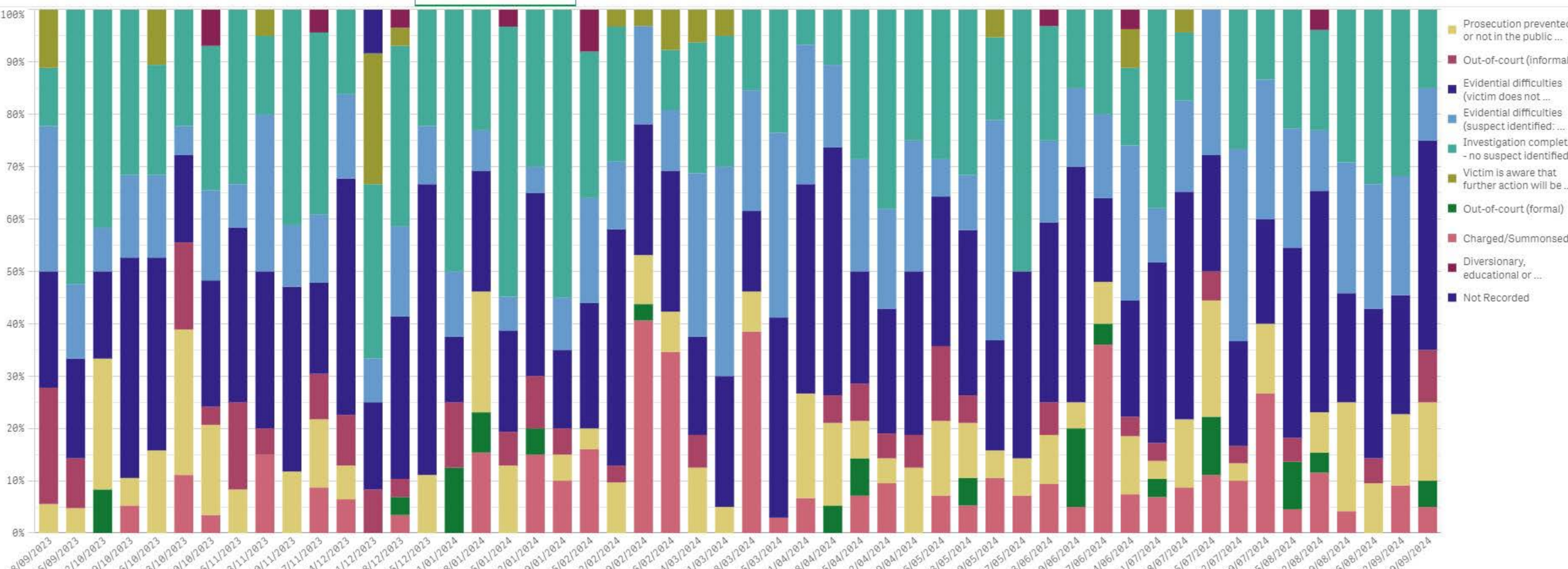
Point 2 – Community Engagement Hub

[News Article - Devon & Cornwall Police \(devon-cornwall.police.uk\)](https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/news-article)





Volume by Offence Group	Volume by Area	Last 52 Weeks	Rolling Year Trend	Control Chart - Monthly	Control Chart - Weekly	
Offences	🔍	12 months to 17/09	% Change	Last 28 Days	% Change	Last 7 Days
Totals		1,131	12.1%	91	2.2%	18
Violence with Injury		167	20.1%	15	36.4%	3
Violence without Injury		215	36.1%	16	-27.3%	7
Stalking and Harassment		128	18.5%	12	9.1%	1
Death or Serious Injury caused by Unlawful Driving		0	-	0	-	0
Rape		17	88.9%	1	-	0
Other Sexual Offences		35	16.7%	2	-60.0%	1
Robbery		7	16.7%	1	0.0%	0
Burglary - Residential		12	-20.0%	0	-100.0%	0
Burglary - Business and Community		9	-79.5%	0	-100.0%	0
Vehicle Offences		27	-42.6%	0	-100.0%	0
Theft from the Person		8	100.0%	1	-	0
Bicycle Theft		3	50.0%	0	-	0
Shoplifting		125	4.2%	18	260.0%	2
Other Theft		75	-2.6%	3	0.0%	0
Arson		3	200.0%	1	-	0
Criminal Damage		138	34.0%	11	22.2%	3
Public Order Offences		95	25.0%	4	-20.0%	0
Possession of Weapons		15	0.0%	4	100.0%	1
Trafficking of Drugs		10	11.1%	0	-	0
Possession of Drugs		25	0.0%	0	-100.0%	0
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society		17	-19.0%	2	-33.3%	0



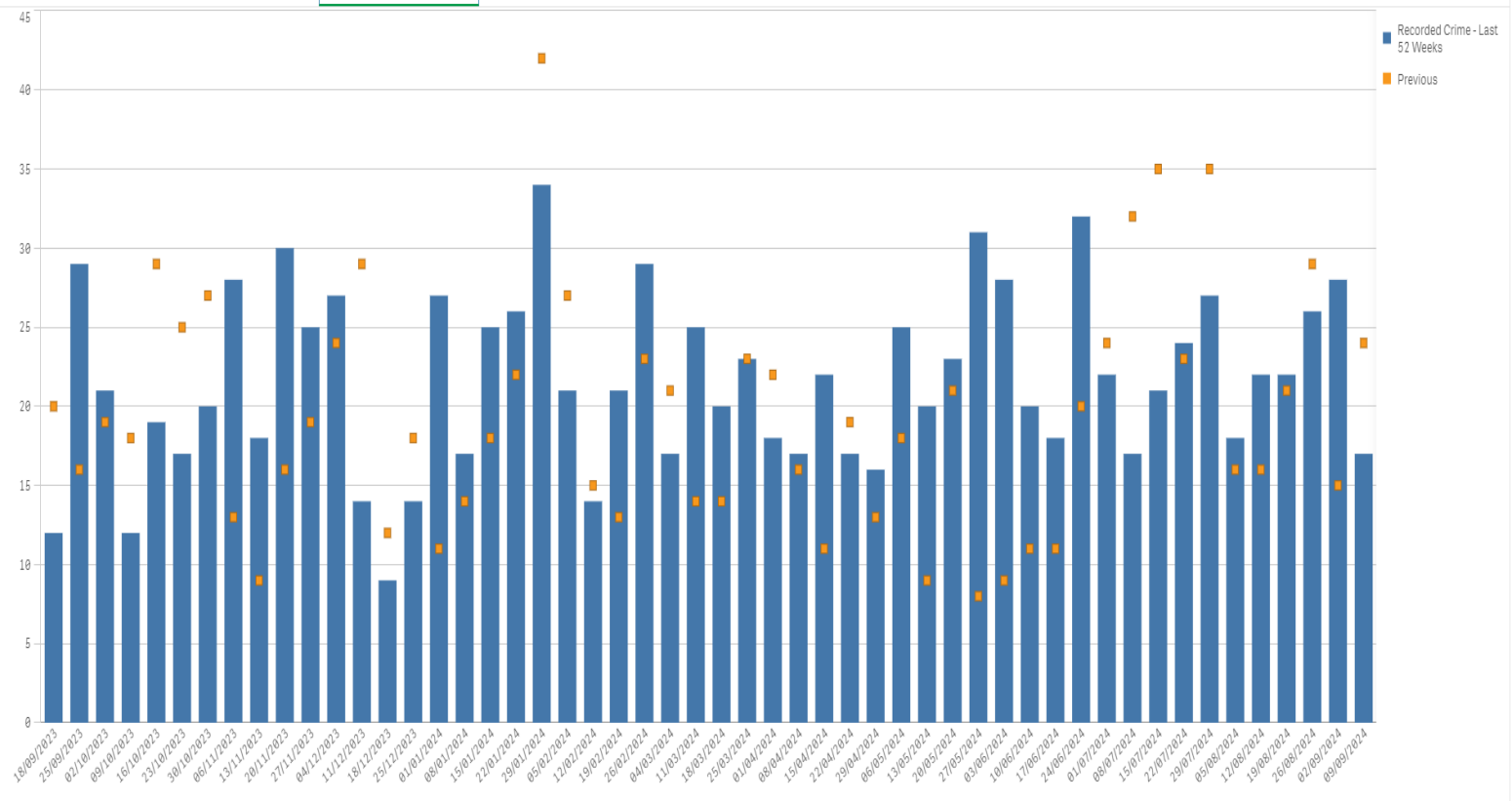
- Prosecution prevented or not in the public ...
- Out-of-court (informal)
- Evidential difficulties (victim does not ...)
- Evidential difficulties (suspect identified: ...)
- Investigation complete - no suspect identified
- Victim is aware that further action will be ...
- Out-of-court (formal)
- Charged/Summonsed
- Diversionary, educational or ...
- Not Recorded

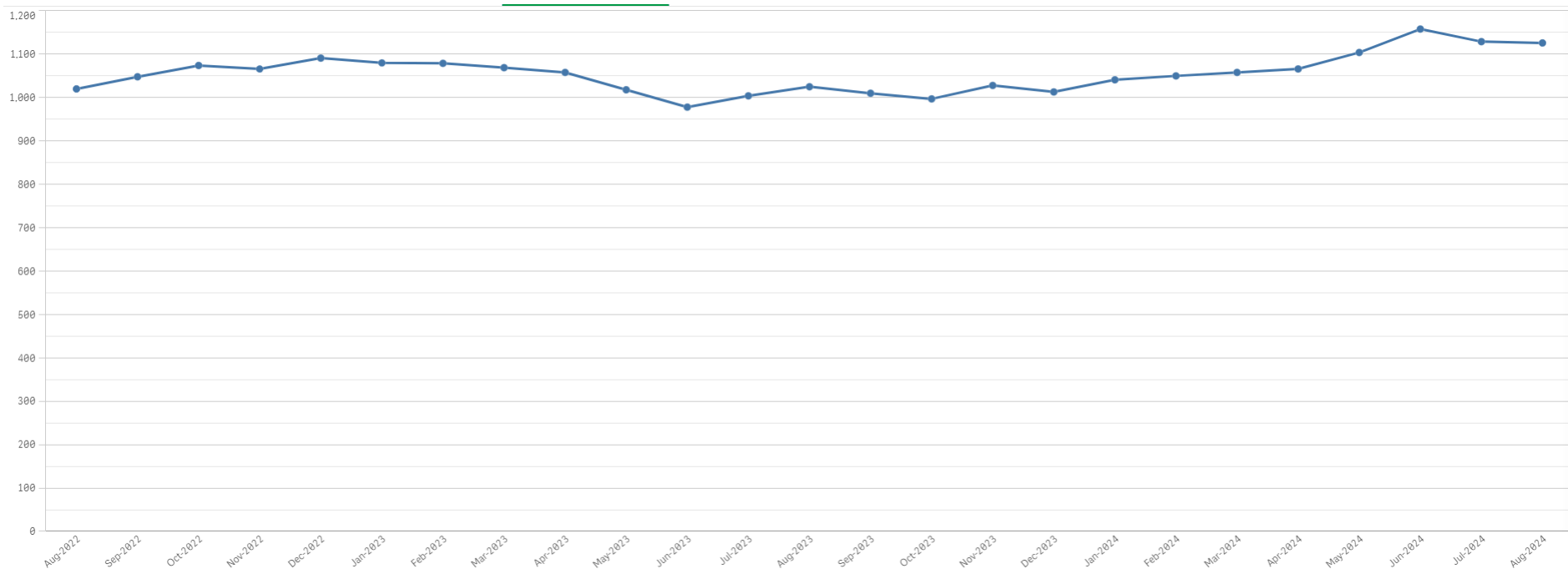
Point 4. – Stats – Online Home Form

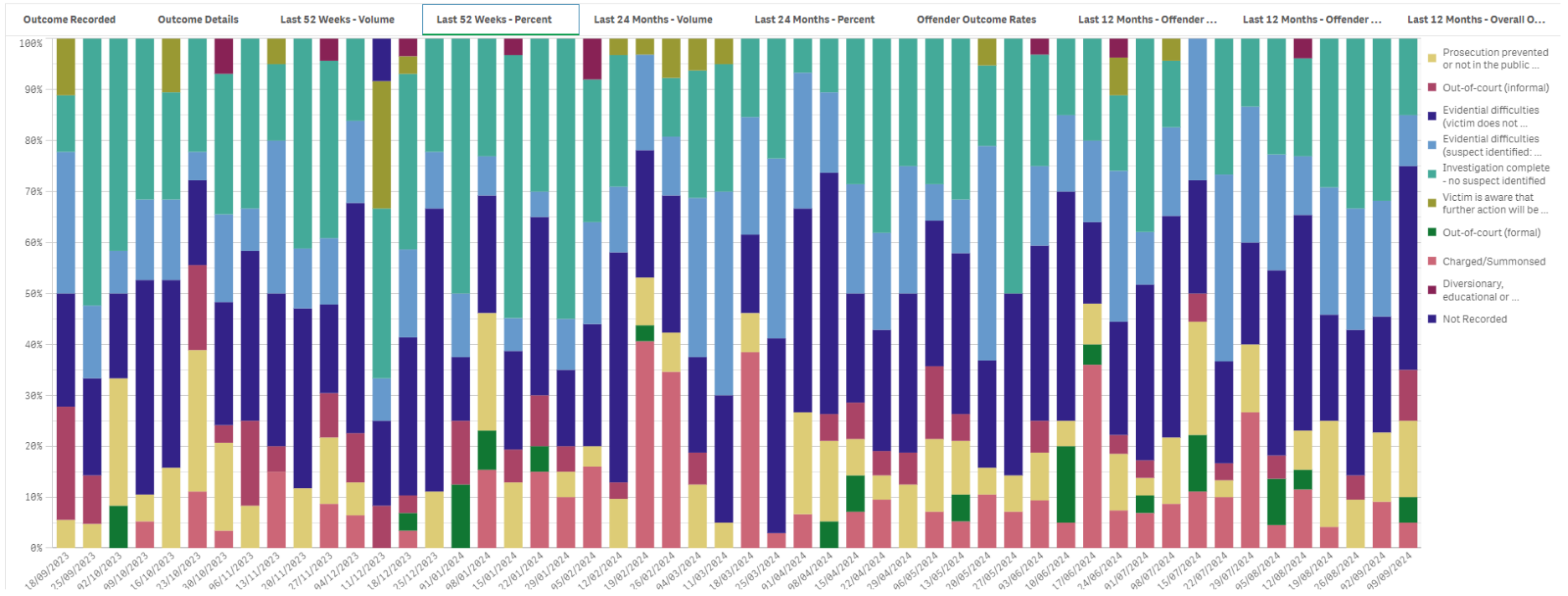
[Bideford West | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

Volume by Offence Group	Volume by Area	Last 52 Weeks	Rolling Year Trend	Control Chart - Monthly	Control Chart - Weekly	
Offences	Q	12 months to 17/09	% Change	Last 28 Days	% Change	Last 7 Days
Totals		1,131	12.1%	91	2.2%	18
Violence with Injury		167	20.1%	15	36.4%	3
Violence without Injury		215	36.1%	16	-27.3%	7
Stalking and Harassment		128	18.5%	12	9.1%	1
Death or Serious Injury caused by Unlawful Driving		0	-	0	-	0
Rape		17	88.9%	1	-	0
Other Sexual Offences		35	16.7%	2	-60.0%	1
Robbery		7	16.7%	1	0.0%	0
Burglary - Residential		12	-20.0%	0	-100.0%	0
Burglary - Business and Community		9	-79.5%	0	-100.0%	0
Vehicle Offences		27	-42.6%	0	-100.0%	0
Theft from the Person		8	100.0%	1	-	0
Bicycle Theft		3	50.0%	0	-	0
Shoplifting		125	4.2%	18	260.0%	2
Other Theft		75	-2.6%	3	0.0%	0
Arson		3	200.0%	1	-	0
Criminal Damage		138	34.0%	11	22.2%	3
Public Order Offences		95	25.0%	4	-20.0%	0
Possession of Weapons		15	0.0%	4	100.0%	1
Trafficking of Drugs		10	11.1%	0	-	0
Possession of Drugs		25	0.0%	0	-100.0%	0
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society		17	-19.0%	2	-33.3%	0

Volume by Offence Group Volume by Area **Last 52 Weeks** Rolling Year Trend Control Chart - Monthly Control Chart - Weekly







Report for Bideford Town Council from County Cllr Linda Hellyer

September 2024

I don't have a great deal of news as there are no meetings during the August recess. Now we are in September meetings have started again. It was full council on September 5th. A motion was passed to write to central government to ask them to reconsider cutting the winter fuel allowance to pensioners who are not in receipt of pension credit.

There has been a recent flurry of patching work in the area. Hopefully, a long-standing problem on the Pill where water pooled outside the shops and apartments has been dealt with by the road being reprofiled. Manteo Way has been surface dressed.

I was able to use £800 of my Locality fund to refurbish a listed fingerpost out at Gammaton Cross, and the town Rangers very kindly carried out the work.

You will be aware that the council is having to keep a very tight rein on the budget to keep to the balanced budget. As far as DCC finances are concerned, you will know the national Budget is scheduled for Wednesday 30 October 2024, and the multi-year spending review will conclude next spring.

The Government says it will use the spending review to improve how different tiers of Government work together and this will include consolidating funding streams for local authorities into the Local Government Finance Settlement and rolling out integrated settlements for further Combined Authorities that can show exemplary management of public money.

Our own bid for a [Combined County Authority](#) (CCA) with Torbay fell foul of the early General Election and both DCC and Torbay council are still in detailed discussions with the Government about how or whether we can proceed. In view of the Government's commitment to devolution, the leader of DCC, James McInnes, is talking to the leaders of Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall about the issue. The multi-year spending review will be critical to the future of local services, and we now have an opportunity to make it clear to our Devon MPs that we need greater certainty over our finances and highlight the need for central Government to fund the pay award for local government. Cllr McInnes is raising this with our Devon MPs.

Adult social care: -

The Government has also announced that it will not proceed with the adult social care charging reforms. The [County Councils Network](#) (CCN) estimated that the cost of the proposed reforms would be £30 billion in the decade after they were

introduced. We await the Government's plans for what it means by a National Care Service (NCS) - our key message is that it must be sufficiently funded in the long term.

So, there is now an opportunity to work with Government on other key reform agendas such as the recruitment and retention crisis in the care workforce and ensuring our day-to-day care services are sustainably funded and reformed in the long run. I believe I have told you before that more than 50% of the budget is spent on adult social care for people of working age. If you click on the link above, you will see that this is an issue for many other local authorities.

Most routine matters can be reported online. If you google Devon County council, report a problem a page will come up with icons e.g. potholes, drains, street lighting, overgrown vegetation etc. Just click on the appropriate link and follow the simple instructions.

Alternatively, you can telephone the customer service desk.

0345 155 1015

I am always happy for residents to contact me.

Linda.hellyer@devon.gov.uk

Telephone 07828758360

An aerial photograph of Bideford, North Devon, showing a river flowing through the town. A bridge with several arches spans the river. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a hazy sky. A large, modern, curved glass building is prominent on the right side of the image.

-pulse

Bideford, north Devon
September 2024

“Pulse Smart Hub is the smartest of street furniture. A network of beautifully designed and engineered hubs that digitally enable their environment and deliver next generation connectivity. Tailored to meet the specific needs of their locality, they promote the vitality of towns and cities, well-being of residents and are free of charge for both user and taxpayer.”

Patrick Fisher, CEO



Keeping People
Connected



Smart City platform



Saving lives

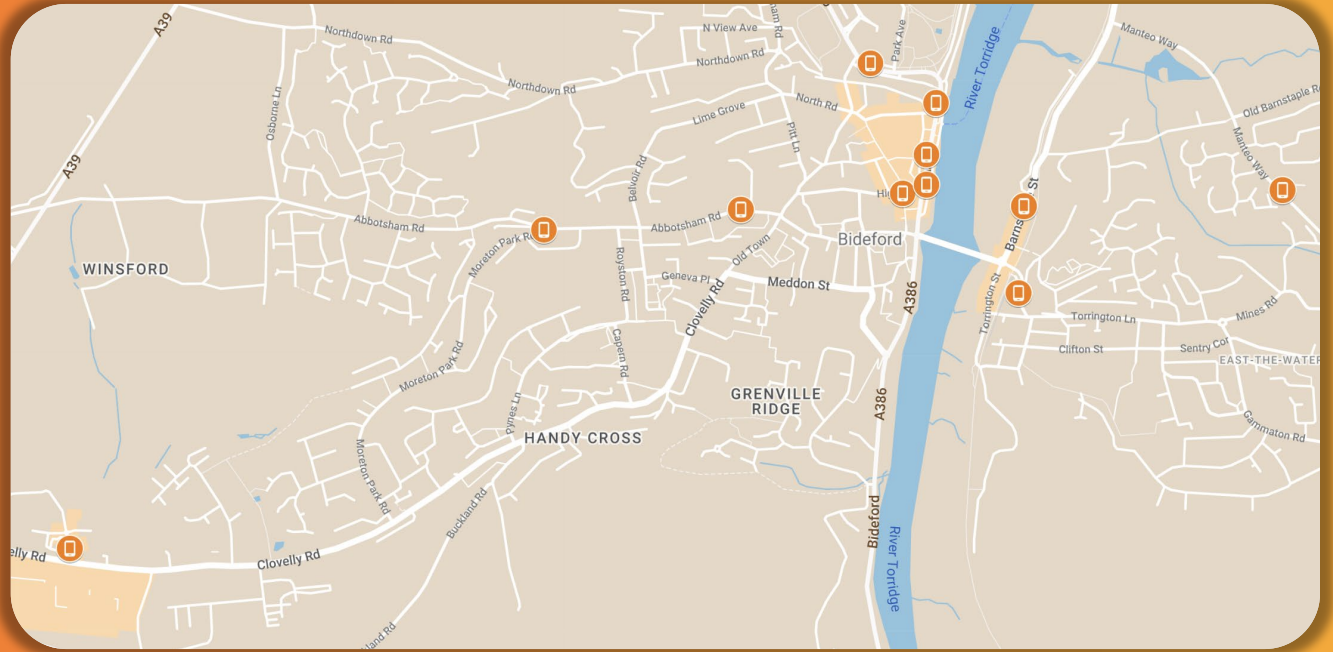


Sharing information

Sites Overview

This plan illustrates potential locations for the Smart Hubs across the town:

1. Atlantic Park
2. Barnstaple Car Park
3. Bideford College
4. Community Hospital
5. High St
6. Jubilee Square
7. Kingsley Road
8. Post Office
9. Railway Heritage Centre
10. Tesco, Manteo Way
11. The Quay Car Park



Sites can be viewed in more detail via the interactive map [here](#)

Town Centre (magnified)





publi

Security Public
Access Defibrillator
Found here and in

Wi-Fi, mobile phone, and heart rate icons

Blue directional sign with arrows and text

Purple banner with text: HEAR THE SOUND OF THE CITY THAT'S...
...THE SOUND OF...
...THE SOUND OF...

Purple banner with text: THE SOUND OF THE CITY THAT'S...
...THE SOUND OF...
...THE SOUND OF...



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Market Management Committee

held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall on,

Thursday 12 September 2024 at 6.34 pm

PRESENT:	North Ward:	Councillor D Bushby Councillor K Hind
	East Ward:	Councillor Mrs J Gubb Councillor J Hellyer Councillor Mrs L Hellyer
	South Ward	Councillor Ms R Clarke (Chairman)
	West Ward	Councillor C Hawkins
	Market Complex	Mrs K Austin Mr P Jeffers
IN ATTENDANCE:		Mr R Coombes (Deputy Town Clerk)

38. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

39. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest.

40. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION OF 15 MINUTES DURATION**

None.

41. **MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Hellyer and seconded by Councillor Hind, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 August 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 7, Abstention: 1, Against: 1)

42. **ACCOUNTS**

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Clarke and seconded by Councillor Mrs Hellyer, and

RESOLVED: That the lists of payments for 12 September 2024 be approved.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

43. **CHAIRMAN’S / MARKET ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

The Clerk reminded Members of the unprecedented time where Butcher’s Row Units had remained vacant.

Members had previously floated the idea of “pop up,” shops as a means of occupying the Units providing a greater visitor experience.

Mrs Austin confirmed that she and the Clerk had spoken to a lady who was keen to obtain a short tenancy, offering “an Emporium,” locally sourced / handmade bags, jewellery, floral prints.

Members expressed agreement, in principle, but stated that any “shortened” / “pop up” tenancy would have to be on the same terms as that enjoyed by the current tenants the rent and commitment to hours honoured etc.

Councillor Bushby warned against any form of sub letting (contrary to the agreement) indicating that should more than one person be operating from the Unit then their responsibility and commitment would be shared i.e. any “collective,” would be required to sign a joint tenancy agreement.

44. **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

Members considered the Draft Social Media Policy document.

The purpose was re-visited, limitations, rights and legislative implications were discussed.

In terms of tenant issues / matters it was felt important that they know and are encouraged to approach Council officers / Committee Members and that any cause or complaint is addressed. Open criticism can damage the reputation of tenants and the wider Market Complex.

Having reduced the document to one succinct sentence members were in agreement that the line should be incorporated into the Market Tenancy Agreements whereupon the Tenants would acquiesce.

It was proposed by Councillor J Hellyer, seconded and seconded by Councillor L Hellyer

RESOLVED: To incorporate into the Market Tenancy Agreement(s): “Market Tenants and Council officers should not bring the Market (stakeholders) / Town Council into disrepute, including through content posted in a personal capacity.”

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

45. **MARKET HALL**

- a. Real Ideas (original proposal). Members reviewed the original proposal.
- b. Real Ideas (summary to date). Members reflected that the identified items were readily recognisable.

Mrs Austin had been approached by Real Ideas who would be re-visiting the Town and Market.

Members reflected upon the cost of the initiative.

Councillors Bushby and Hind spoke about potential improvements to the Hall indicating a desire to revisit the southern glass doors with a view to providing a wider more accessible entrance allowing for vehicles to enter.

Councillor Bushby requested that arrangements be made for a Dormakaba Engineer to re-visit the Market and quotation for automated swing doors.

- c. Ambient Music – Butcher’s Row.

Members discussed the opportunity to introduce background subscription music into Butcher’s Row through either the use of independent speakers or, alternatively, extending the current Market Hall facility.

It was proposed by Councillor Bushby, seconded by Councillor Hawking and

RESOLVED: That a background subscription music package and a pair of speakers / cabling (iaw Woolacotts quotations) be obtained.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

46. **TENANT / TRADER REPRESENTATIVE**

To receive reports/requests:

- a. Mr Jeffers noted that the traffic sign directing road users to the Pannier Market along Grenville Street was pointing to the floor.
- b. Members noted and applauded the Butcher’s Row tenant for advertising the vacant shop units offer having accrued “thirty six shares,” eliciting four enquiries in one day.

Councillor Bushby requested that a standard wording be drafted and sent to each Committee member to share. Mrs Austin volunteered to script the wording.

- c. Mrs Austin questioned the availability of the Office / Shop Unit 28 and defined Market Hall areas for smaller “seminar” / “workshop” events.

The Chairman agreed to meet Mrs Austin, with the Clerk on site in the forthcoming week.

- d. Concern was raised that an advertisement on “the Voice” radio was promoting

markets at the Market Hall.

47. **PART II (CLOSED SESSION)**

The Chairman thanked the Market Tenants for their attendance and contributions.

Proposed by Councillor Hawkins, seconded and

RESOLVED: To exclude members of the public and the press to progress matters of a confidential nature under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960 and Local Government Act 1972, ss 100 and 102.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

48. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

There was no report.

49. **TENANT / TRADER**

a. Terminations / Applications.

The Clerk confirmed that 18 Butcher’s Row Shop Unit had been vacated but left spotless and to a very high standard by the outgoing tenants.

Members confirmed their desire to offer “short term,” “pop up” tenancies but strictly adhering to the same terms as all Butcher’s Row / Market Shop Tenants.

It was proposed by Councillor Bushby, seconded by Councillor Hawkins and

RESOLVED:

- i. To offer short term / pop up tenancies under the same terms as all Butcher’s Row / Market Shop tenants.**
- ii. Ms Haywood be offered a short term tenancy for 18, Butcher’s Row Shop Unit.**

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

b. Tenant matters.

The Clerk confirmed receipt of payment in lieu of rental arrears.

Members considered a claim for damages.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Hellyer, seconded by Councillor Bushby and

RESOLVED:

That a full and final settlement of the claim be made to the claimant and the Clerk continues to pursue the Council’s insurers, to cover the loss.

(Vote: For: 7, Against: 0)

The business of the meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 8.10 pm.

Signature of Town Mayor: Date:

Signature of Chairman: Date:

DRAFT

BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL - Accounts for approval at the Market Management Committee Meeting - 12 September 2024

Number (All) ▾

Row	Date Entered	PV	Description	Extended Description	Net	VAT	Gross
1	06/08/2024	(blank)	RGB	Maintenance Items	83.37	16.68	100.05
2	08/08/2024	BSPM14	Triangle	Broadband / line	61.33	12.27	73.60
3		BSPM13	Vodafone	Phone charges	26.49	5.30	31.79
4	15/08/2024	(blank)	Tamar Trading	Maintenance Items	144.38	28.89	173.27
5		BSPM13	EDF (995)	Electricity	195.38	9.77	205.15
6	16/08/2024	(blank)	Bideford Cobblers and Keys	Key cutting	48.00		48.00
7	02/09/2024	(blank)	Vodafone	Phone charges	26.49	5.30	31.79
8	03/09/2024	BSPM13	Braddicks Furnishers Ltd	Flooring 50% payment	385.00	77.00	462.00
9	04/09/2024	(blank)	Nicholsons	Hygiene Items	160.38	32.08	192.46
10			SWW	Water / sewerage charges	106.03		106.03
11	09/09/2024	(blank)	Triangle	Broadband / line	61.66	12.33	73.99
12	12/09/2024	(blank)	Dormakaba	Maint contract renewal	364.00	72.80	436.80
13	02/08/2024	BSPM14	Morrisons	Hygiene Items	32.00	6.40	38.40
14	20/08/2024	(blank)	ScrewFix	Maintenance Items	14.97	2.99	17.96
15	22/08/2024	BSPM13	Ashton Electrical	Electrical repair	97.47	19.49	116.96
16			Braddicks Furnishers Ltd	Flooring 50% payment	385.00	77.00	462.00
17	28/08/2024	BSPM14	EDF (985)	Gas	7.25	0.36	7.61
18	30/08/2024	BSPM14	Llyds	Service Charges	33.70		33.70
19			Coastal Recycling	Waste removal	133.03		133.03
20			Devon Balustrad	Laminated glass window door	460.00		460.00
21	02/09/2024	BSPM15	TV Licence	(blank)	13.25		13.25
22			Mkt recharge	TC staff costs	3,482.36		3,482.36
23	Grand Total				6,321.54	378.66	6,700.20

Bank Balances at	12/09/2024	- Current Account	£	5,736.19
Bank Balances at	12/09/2024	- Deposit Account	£	44,813.11



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Staffing, Finance & General Purposes Committee

held in the Town Hall on

Thursday 5 September 2024 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT:	North Ward:	Councillor D Bushby (Chairman)
	South Ward	Councillor Ms R Clarke Councillor P J Lawrence Councillor S Inch
	East Ward:	Councillor Mrs J Gubb Councillor Mr J Hellyer (Substitute) Councillor J McKenzie
	West Ward	
IN ATTENDANCE:		Mr P Swan (Town Clerk)

24. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Mrs L Hellyer – East Ward, Personal.

25. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None.

26. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION OF 15 MINUTES DURATION**

There was one member of the public present.

27. **MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor Mc Kenzie and seconded by Councillor Ms R Clarke, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 July 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 5, Against: 0, Abstention: 2)

28. **CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

- a. Ford Rock Update - The Town Clerk reviewed the financial results in the agenda pack for the recently completed Ford Rock Project.

The Councillors noted what an excellent job had been done by the Town Rangers on the site and within the budget.

- b. Town Ranger Depot New Build – The Town Clerk updated the Councillors on the financial position of the new building.

The Councillors noted they were pleased with the rapid progress the build was making.

29. **ACCOUNTS**

a) **Payment List**

Councillor Lawrence questioned what the payment to CTA Training was and the Town Clerk explained this was for the Town Rangers Chapter 8 licence renewal.

It was proposed by Councillor Bushby and seconded by Councillor S Inch, and

RESOLVED: That the lists of payments for 5 September 2024 be approved.

(Vote – For: 6 , Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

b) **External Audit**

It was proposed by Councillor Lawrence and seconded by Councillor Ms. R Clarke, and

RESOLVED: That the External Audit Report FY 24 be approved.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

c) **Internal Audit**

It was proposed by Councillor Lawrence and seconded by Councillor Bushby, and

RESOLVED: That the Internal Audit Report Quarter 1 FY 24 be approved.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0)

30. **PAPERLESS AGENDAS AND MINUTES**

Councillors considered the transition to a paperless system and the benefits of doing this in terms of environmental carbon emission reductions as well as cost savings.

It was proposed by Councillor Mc Kenzie and seconded by Councillor Ms. R Clarke, and

RESOLVED: That The S, F, & GP Committee Recommend to all full Town Council that Bideford Town Council Meetings be conducted without the use of paper.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0, Abstention: 0)

31. **MANOR COURT PRESENTMENTS UPDATE**

The Town Clerk updated the councillors on the progress of actioning the 2024 presentments.

Councillor Hellyer remarked on the relevance of some of the presentments as Bideford Town Council has no control over the outcome.

Councillor Inch explained that this was a democratic process that had to be considered by the jurors of the court and therefore we are some what limited in saying what would make it onto the list.

32. **REMEMBERANCE BUFFET**

The Councillors considered the requirement for a post Remembrance Service buffet

It was proposed by Councillor Bushby seconded by Councillor Ms. R Clarke, and

RESOLVED: That a buffet should be provided following the event at a cost of no more than £500.

(Vote – For: 7, Against: 0, , Abstention: 0)

33. **TOWN RANGERS TASKS UPDATE.**

The Town Clarke also gave an update on the amount of time that the Town Rangers were engaged in removing the Extinction Rebellion Fly Posters that had appeared around Bideford and Barnstaple.

The Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 18:50.

Signature of Town Mayor: Date:

Signature of Chairman: Date:



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL - Accounts for approval at the SF&GP Meeting - 5 September 2024

Number (All) ▾

Date Entered	PV	Description	Extended Description	Net	VAT	Gross
9/8/2024	(blank)	EDF (CADCOEDA)	Bridge Floodlighting	65.04	3.25	68.29
15/8/2024	(blank)	Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
		Tamar	Maintenance Items	258.61	38.63	297.24
		Dymarke Precision Engineering Ltd	Maintenance Items	150.00	30.00	180.00
		PKF	Annual Governance & Accountability Re	1,680.00	336.00	2,016.00
		Apple.com.uk	2 x IPAD	1,993.32	398.68	2,392.00
		DVLA Vehicl Tax	Toyota	335.00		335.00
14/8/2024	(blank)	Mr P Heath	Pollyfield - Deposit return	25.00		25.00
16/8/2024	(blank)	Llyds	Charges	64.00		64.00
			re-credit	-5.93		-5.93
		Evans Transport Ltd	Maintenance Items	148.40	29.68	178.08
		Safety Signs 4 Less	Maintenance Items	62.92	12.58	75.50
		Garlands	Stationery	7.99		7.99
		SQ BTC	Transaction	0.01		0.01
		John Taylor Fastener	Maintenance Items	6.83	1.37	8.20
19/8/2024	(blank)	Mimick Signs	Banners x 2	106.00	21.20	127.20
			Oval graphics x 50	25.00	5.00	30.00
		RGB	Maintenance Items	138.87	27.78	166.65
		SW Communications	Line / Broadband provision	57.68	11.54	69.22
		Crafty Needles	Mayoral case maintenance	50.64		50.64
22/8/2024	(blank)	Amazon	Refreshments - Local Clerks Meeting	12.99		12.99
		Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
		Futurform	Picnic tbles x 3 (Vic Park (H&S) replac	820.00	164.00	984.00
			Picnic tbles x 3 (Ford Rock)	613.00	122.60	735.60
		BSTC17	14A Christmas Lights	8.56	1.71	10.27
23/8/2024	(blank)	CTA Centre	3 x streetwrks trming / assmnt + Crtficti	1,269.00	225.00	1,494.00
		Robeda	Iroko timber - Chanters Road Bench sla	165.57	33.11	198.68
28/8/2024	(blank)	North Devon Hog Roast	Chudleigh Fort Picnic 50% remaining b	825.00		825.00
		A Touch of Class	Picture frame	163.00		163.00
		R Clarke	Refund mayoral costs	436.35	34.35	470.70
		DCC Locality Fund	Ford Rock trees	-800.00		-800.00
29/8/2024	(blank)	Mow-It	Maintenance Items	32.08	6.42	38.50
		TDC	Chudleigh For Picnic - Land Licence	45.83	9.17	55.00
		Minxy's Sweets	Sweet Cones x 100 for Chudleigh Picnic	100.00		100.00
30/8/2024	(blank)	Llyds	Service Charge	34.26		34.26
		Cobblers and Keys	Keys	18.00		18.00
		R Walker	Pollyfield - Deposit return	25.00		25.00
		RBL Poppy Appeal	Wreaths x 4	91.67	18.33	110.00
2/9/2024	(blank)	Allstar	Fuel	454.74	90.94	545.68
		D S Electrical	Unit 13 Daddon Court	600.00		600.00
		Lineal Software Ltd	Microsoft 365 License	145.58	29.12	174.70
		Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
		BSTC16	T Hall Offices rent	313.72	62.74	376.46
		BSTC19	T Hall Offices Service Charge	230.42	46.08	276.50
		TDC - 128	TC staff	-3,482.36		-3,482.36
		TDC - 127	Broadband services / closure 1-21 Mar	134.10	26.82	160.92
		Market recharge	Meter Copy Charge	80.34	16.07	96.41
		BT Business	Charges	32.00		32.00
3/9/2024	(blank)	Clarity Copiers	re-credit	-3.39		-3.39
		Llyds				
Grand Total				8,647.24	2,024.65	10,671.89

Bank Balances at 9/3/2024 - Current Account
 Bank Balances at 9/3/2024 - Deposit Account

£ 22,960.11
 £ 350,000.00



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting

held in the Town Hall, Bideford on

Wednesday 28 August 2024 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT:

North Ward:	Councillor J Gordon
South Ward:	Councillor S Inch Councillor Ms R Clarke
East Ward:	Councillor J McKenzie Councillor Mrs L Hellyer (Chairman)
West Ward:	Councillor M Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Lesley Dixon-Chatfield – Town Clerk’s Asst.

37. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

38. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of Interest were received at this point in the meeting.

39. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

There were no public members present.

40. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 August 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 5, Against: 0, Abstentions: 1)

41. **TO RECEIVE PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 001/2024 – ABBOTSHAM PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO.1 REVOKED 24 JULY 2024 - CONSIDER AND SEND REPRESENTATION TO TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Councillor S Inch had arranged a site visit with the Developers to establish the proposed diversion following concerns raised at the previous Planning Committee meeting.

He assured members that the line of the path runs inside the buffer of trees.

Proposed by: Councillor S Inch and seconded by Councillor McKenzie and

RESOLVED: That the Public Diversion Order 002/2024 Abbotsham Public Footpath no.1 is approved on the grounds that the path runs inside the buffer of trees.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

42. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- a. Application No: 1/0641/2024/LBC. Alterations to shop front and ground floor. 67 - 68 High Street, Bideford, Devon, EX39 2AN. Applicant: Mr S Haywood (same address). Agent: Tree Tops Planning, Bideford. (Date received: 7 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor McKenzie, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is approved on the proviso that the Conservation Officer is satisfied with the proposed works.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

- b. Application No: 1/0640/2024/FUL. Alterations to shop front and ground floor. 67 - 68 High Street, Bideford, Devon, EX39 2AN. Applicant: Mr S Haywood (same address). Agent: Tree Tops Planning, Bideford. (Date received: 7 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor McKenzie, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is approved on the proviso that the Environmental Officer's comments are supported.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

- c. Application No: 1/0707/2024/PIP. Permission in Principle for residential development up to 5no. dwellings. Land At Grid Reference 247342 126074, Alverdiscott Road, East The Water, Devon. Applicant: Jozie Bannister, Devonshire Homes Ltd, Gotham House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6LT. Agent: None supplied. (Date received: 12 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor McKenzie, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is refused due to poor access and egress onto Alverdiscott Road. This Committee supports the Environmental Officer's assessment.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

- d. Application No: 1/0723/2024/FUL. Erection of side extension and alterations to existing dwelling. 109 Stucley Road, Bideford, Devon, EX39 3EJ. Applicant: Mr L Crouch (same address). Agent: RGP Architects Ltd, Barnstaple. (Date received: 13 August 2024).Mr P Milton, Trimstone Manor Hotel, West Down, Ilfracombe, EX34 8NR. Agent: Mr A Kingdon, Rockholm, Barnstaple, EX31 1 QD. (Date received: 26 July 2024).

Members noted that, if permitted, this property would be substantially increased in size and that the parking bay at the front could accommodate more cars.

Proposed by Councillor McKenzie, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is refused on the following grounds:

- **Over-development of the property**
- **Poor design and not in keeping with the area**
- **Additional traffic congestion on a road where there are issues with access**

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

- e. Application No: 1/0730/2024/FUL. Change of use to three flats and alterations (Re-submission of 1/0891/2022/FUL) (Variation of condition 9 of planning approval 1/0567/2023/FUL). Riverside Flats, Lower Meddon Street, Bideford, Devon. Applicant: Mr R Lester, Rowan Homes (SL), 2 Hampton Terrace, New Road, Bideford EX39 2HR. Agent: None supplied. (Date received: 16 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor S Inch, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is approved.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

- f. Application No: 1/0540/2024/ADV. Erection of a non-illuminated static hoarding (Amended Location). Land At Grid Reference 243002 126516, Abbotsham Road, Bideford, Devon. Applicant: Mr J Artingstall, Bloor Homes (Exeter), Horizon House, Guardian Road, Exeter EX1 3PD. Agent: None supplied. (Date received: 19 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor Gordon, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is refused for the following reason:

Although the applicant has amended the proposed site for the sign, members were concerned that it still poses a distraction to Highway users and would be inappropriate. They reiterated that a previous application from this company (1/0095/2014/ADV) was refused for this reason.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

- g. Application No: 1/0734/2024/FUL. Construction of parking bay to front of dwelling. 37 Lime Grove, Bideford, Devon, EX39 3JL. Applicant: Miss L Davey (same address). Agent: AB Landscape Design, Bideford. (Date received: 20 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Hellyer, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is approved.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

43. **PLANNING AUTHORITY UPDATE**

The Chairman gave an update on planning application decisions received from TDC.

The business of the Meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the Members for their attendance and the Meeting concluded at 7.05pm

Signature of Town Mayor: Date:

Signature of Chairman:..... Date:



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL - Accounts for approval at the SF&GP Meeting - 5 September 2024

Agend Item 7.

Number (All)

Row	Date Entered	PV	Description	Extended Description	Net	VAT	Gross
1	04/09/2024	(blank)	Amazon	Disposable wooden knives	6.66	1.33	7.99
2			Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
3	06/09/2024	(blank)	Amazon	Stationery	9.46	1.90	11.36
4				Charger Cables + Power bank - fast char	56.26	4.74	61.00
5			Merry Harriers	Maintenance Items	4,000.00	800.00	4,800.00
6				Rowan Trees x four	157.50	31.50	189.00
7			A Touch of Class	Picture frame	296.00		296.00
8	09/09/2024	(blank)	HMRC	PAYE/NI	5,459.01		5,459.01
9			EDF	Decorative Lighting, Bideford Quay	369.88	73.98	443.86
10			EDF (CADCOEDA)	Bridge Floodlighting	64.16	3.21	67.37
11			C+R Construction SW Ltd	Caddsdow Unit	67,000.00	13,400.00	80,400.00
12			Microsoft	License	123.60	24.72	148.32
13			Staff salaries inc Pension	SALARY	27,185.67		27,185.67
14	10/09/2024	(blank)	Blights	Fuel	38.21	7.64	45.85
15			Just Office	Stationery	24.95	4.99	29.94
16			Tamar	Maintenance Items	900.94	179.99	1,080.93
17			Earth Anchors	Seat x 2 + plaque	1,962.00	392.40	2,354.40
18	11/09/2024	(blank)	Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
19			Andrea Leiter	Swissmiss Catering	254.50		254.50
20	13/09/2024	(blank)	Taw Garages	Vehicle maintenance	111.59	22.32	133.91
21			Bideford Cobblers and Keys	Brass plaques with engraving	75.00		75.00
22			Robbie D Scaffolding	Scaffolding	280.00		280.00
23			Country Cottage Bakery	Refreshments - Torridge Clerks	20.70		20.70
24	16/09/2024	(blank)	RGB	Maintenance Items	160.00	32.00	192.00
25			EDF (D513)	14A Mill Street	37.69	1.88	39.57
26	19/09/2024	(blank)	Morrisons	Civic refreshments - 22 Sep 24	5.75	1.15	6.90
27			SW Communications	Line / Broadband provision	57.68	11.54	69.22
28			Acorn	Seasonal worker	370.80	74.16	444.96
29			S Goddard	Deposit refund - Tricks	25.00		25.00
30			D Dunckley	Chudleigh Fort - Face Painting	150.00		150.00
31	Grand Total				109,944.61	15,217.77	125,162.38
	Bank Balances at	19/09/2024	- Current Account	£	11,550.90		
	Bank Balances at	19/09/2024	- Deposit Account	£	350,301.33		



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting

held in the Town Hall, Bideford on

Wednesday 18 September 2024 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: North Ward: Councillor J Gordon
South Ward: Councillor S Inch
East Ward: Councillor J McKenzie
Councillor Mrs L Hellyer
West Ward: Councillor M Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Claire Parsons – Administration Assistant

44. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Ms R Clarke (South Ward) - Personal

45. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

46. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

47. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 August 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 5, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0)

48. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

a. **Application No: 1/0757/2024/COUPD. Prior notification for the change of use from commercial, business and service (Class E) to 1no. dwellinghouse (Class C3) (Schedule**

2, Part 3, Class MA). Braddicks Leisure Limited, 12 Chingswell Street, Bideford, EX39 2NF. Applicant: Mr R Braddick (same address). Agent: Mrs R Fearnley, Fearnley Lott Architects, Bideford. (Date received: 28 August 2024).

Proposed by Councillor J McKenzie, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the application is approved.

(Vote – For: 5, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0)

b. Application No: 1/0795/2024/DEM. Single storey timber framed judo outbuilding. Land Adjacent To Moreton House, Bideford, Devon. Applicant: Blueberry Estates, 5 The Quay, Bideford, EX39 2XX. Agent: OCR Architecture Ltd, Appledore. (Date received: 11 September 2024).

Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Hellyer, seconded and

RESOLVED: Members agreed to approve the application subject to the provision that the recommendations in the Ecology Report are followed.

(Vote – For: 5, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0)

49. **PLANNING AUTHORITY UPDATE**

The Chairman gave an update on planning application decisions received from TDC.

The business of the Meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the Members for their attendance and the Meeting concluded at 6.40 pm.

Signature of Town Mayor: Date:

Signature of Chairman:..... Date:



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Tourism Committee Meeting

held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall

Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: East Ward: Councillor Mrs J Gubb (Chairman)
South Ward: Councillor Ms R Clarke (Town Mayor)
North Ward: Councillor D Bushby
Councillor J Gordon
West Ward: Councillor P Lawrence
Councillor C Hawkins

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L Dixon-Chatfield, Town Clerk's Asst

029 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor K Hind (North Ward) – personal

030 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations were given at this point in the meeting.

031 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

There were no members of the public present.

032 **MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor Lawrence and seconded by Councillor Bushby that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th August 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For:5, Against: 0)

033 **TO DE-BRIEF ON CHUDLEIGH PICNIC.**

Members received the post event analysis and queried the Indirect/Direct Labour entry, asking what it was for and why it is included. They noted the comments that had been made in the analysis and agreed that the queue for the food was slow moving. They also noted that there were fewer stalls than last year.

The Chairman pointed out that the event was designed to be an afternoon where people could meet and relax, and the Councillors could mingle with everyone. She was cautious for it not to be on the scale of Bideford Fair.

Members agreed that the main point of the event was to bring the ETW community together and show that this Council provides for them as well as the West side of Bideford – the Chairman pointed out that there had been much criticism in the past of this happening.

Members discussed the food offering for next year and agreed that it would be good to provide something hot but that it was time for a change. After some discussion a BBQ was agreed, on a commercial scale. The Chairman and Councillor Bushby would make enquiries.

Overall members agreed that the event was relaxed and enjoyable, with the weather being kind. Members had a brief discussion on contingency plans should the weather be poor next year and considered purchasing or hiring a large gazebo but decided against the idea as bad weather will not encourage attendance.

034 **TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR VE DAY 80 BEACON LIGHTING (8TH MAY 2025).**

Members noted the ideas already put forward from the previous meeting and the Chairman called upon them for further ideas or expansion of those put forward regarding the venue. They discussed using the Pannier Market, as it is a Council venue, and making the evening about a Bring and Share supper with tables set up in a street party style. With a bar, food outlets, music and a dance floor, it was a strong contender although there would be costs involved ie hire of the Hall, costs for the Rangers to help with setting up, decorating and then re-setting the Hall.

Members then discussed the Pollyfield Centre and the hard work the volunteers had put in to make it a success. There had been some doubt over the charges and this was in the process of being resolved by the Chairman with the Pollyfield Committee. Members discussed which venue to use and were encouraged to make a decision as plans needed to be put in place as a matter of high importance.

The Chairman asked members if they were ready to vote on which venue to use.

Proposed by: Councillor Mrs Gubb, seconded by Councillor Lawrence and

RECOMMENDED: That the VE Day 80 Beacon Lighting is held at the Pollyfield Centre on 8th May 2025. Subject to costs being agreed.

(Vote: For: 4, Against: 2)

The Clerk advised members that there had been an update in the plans and that the event would include everyone singing “I vow to thee my country” at 9.30pm. She suggested

that perhaps Choirs could be introduced and she would be in contact with the St Mary's Church Choir leader who also leads the youth Choir, "The Treblemakers".

Members agreed that the Pipes and Drums be invited as well as the Town Band. The Clerk asked about further entertainment, as The Liberty Sisters had been pre-booked elsewhere immediately after D-Day 80. Councillor Bushby suggested Tamsin Ball, who had been involved in a previous Beacon Lighting. The Clerk agreed to contact Miss Ball.

035 **TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR OTHER EVENTS**

The Chairman asked for updates on the ideas put forward at the last meeting:

Tractor Run (2025) - Town Centre

Councillor Gordon suggested that this would need to be held nearer to Christmas but it was too late to organise for this year.

Councillor Bushby had a contact who has a vintage tractor – he would make enquiries. He pointed out that this would probably be less than a Farmer's event and more of a Collector's Event.

Members discussed a date and the start / finish. No road closure was necessary. There would be a prize for the Best decorated and lit tractor. Other categories could be introduced as plans progressed.

Members all agreed that this type of event, whilst spectacular, was not enough on its own and would need to be part of another event taking place in the Town Centre. Indeed, the participants would want it to be part of another event. Perhaps a Late Night Shopping evening which could, with the Tractor Run, encourage Traders to organise an event.

Jigsaw Puzzle Day/Event (2025) - Pannier Market

Councillor Lawrence advised that he has access to the contacts of the group who had organised the Torrington event. He would need to contact manufacturers of puzzles and a competition would be good for the fastest puzzler – sponsored by the manufacturer. Puzzlers would pay to enter and the takings be donated to the Mayor's Charity.

Councillor Lawrence suggested that the first Sunday in October would be a suitable time to hold the event. He would update the Committee further.

Cream Tea Festival (2025) - Pannier Market

Councillor Lawrence felt that this event should be expanded from Cream Tea Festival to Afternoon Tea and Cream Tea Festival, this would make a bigger and more interesting event. To be held the third weekend in May.

He would look at what had been organised before, when the event was cancelled due to Covid.

Toy Fair – Pannier Market

Councillor Lawrence had been speaking with the owner of Hadoken, a Games and Cosplay outlet in Market Place, who was keen to put on an event of this type. The third week of November had been discussed.

Railway Festival & Model Train Event

Councillor Bushby had spoken with one contact who has Model Railway interests and would speak with another in Bideford as well as Tim Steer of the Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance.

036 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman informed members that the next meeting would be Tuesday 29th October at 6.00pm.

The business of the meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance, and the meeting concluded at 6.55 pm.

Signature of Town Mayor:Date:

Signature of Chairman:Date:



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Decarbonisation and Environment Committee Meeting

held in the Council Chamber,
on Thursday 22 August 2024 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: East Ward: Councillor J McKenzie
Councillor J Gubb

North Ward: Councillor J Gordon (Chairman)
Councillor K Hind

South Ward Councillor R Clarke

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Swan (Town Clerk)

9. **ELECTION OF A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Clarke was proposed by Councillor McKenzie and seconded by Councillor Gubb.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Clarke is appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the coming year.

(Vote: For: 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0)

10. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor J Craigie

11. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

12. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD**

No members of the public present.

13. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2th July 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor Gubb and seconded by Councillor Hind.

(Vote: For: 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0)

14. **WILD SEEDING**

To discuss and resolve upon making a recommendation to full council to allocate some spaces to wild seeding.

Councillor Gordon explained the benefits of not cutting areas which will reduce Co2 emissions from rotting grass and increases in bio-diversity.

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Gubb and

RESOLVED: That the rewilding of the proposed site be actioned where possible.

(Vote – For 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0).

15. **CARBON AUDIT**

To discuss and resolve upon making a recommendation to full council to inquire into having a carbon audit carried out on BTC operations.

Councillor Clarke explained she could not support the audit as the cost was too prohibitive and funding this year was not available and we were already doing as much as possible operationally with the purchase of the electric tools.

Councillor Hinds suggested reviewing Torridge District Councils recent audit and select the relevant items applicable to the Town Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor McKenzie and

RESOLVED: That the audit was not procured but the creation of an internal action plan would be undertaken by Councillor Gordon.

(Vote – For 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0).

16. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be held on 3 October 2024.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their attendance and support. He concluded the Meeting at 18:47.

Signature of Town Mayor:..... Date:.....

Signature of Chairman:..... Date:.....

Notice of Motion / Project Initiation Form – Bideford Town Council

Project Initiator and Lead:	Cllr LINDA HECKYCE	Date: 11/09/24	
Project Description	To investigate the possibility of Bideford, Devon being twinned with Biddeford, USA.		
Benefits	Possible increased tourism from the USA. Possible exchange visits. Closer links with historical background both places share.		
Financial Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of the word 'Biddeford' to be added to the gateway signs to our town. - Costs, if any, of a charter. 		
Officer resource required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - officer time to look into costs. - officer time to write to the town council in Biddeford USA - officer time arranging with DEC for the gateway-sign to be changed 		
Risks and issues	Costs may be prohibitive?		
Action List	Yes / No	Name of person to complete action	Observations:
Planning Permission	No		
Owners Consent	No		
Consultation Required	No		

Please continue on separate sheet if necessary

Bideford & Biddeford

Another connection to America pre-dating the
Pilgrim Fathers

The History

- Richard Vines from Bideford, set up a trading post on the River Saco in 1616. He returned and the settlement became permanent in 1617 – three years before the ‘Mayflower’ set sail.
- In 1653 the town was ‘incorporated’ (created a council to run its affairs) as Saco (“Say-co”) after the river it sat upon.
- 1680 to 1716 several ships arrived with settlers from Bideford
- 1718 Name changed to ‘Biddeford’ (*phonetic spelling of Bideford - Change said to have been influenced by influx of settlers.*)
- 1762 As town expanded opposite side of Saco river settled and named ‘Saco’. (Now a separate council).
- WWII – Military presence 1941-45

Parallels

- Biddeford is the major settlement, while Saco, the younger settlement is on the opposite bank. They are linked by a bridge.
- The Saco river was responsible for the town's early prosperity.
- Yachting and water sports are popular. There is a safe natural harbour at the mouth of the estuary.
- The estuary is marshalled either side by popular beaches
- Biddeford is a dormitory town to the city of Portland.
- Has a rail link to Boston and Portland several miles distant.

More Parallels

- Biddeford was once a major Textile producer but last factory closed 2009. City is now 're-inventing' itself by focusing on small 'internet' based businesses. There is also a significant 'Arts and Crafts' movement and developing tourism driven by nearby beaches and watercraft.
- Biddeford has a municipal park – centre of most city events.
- Population – 22,000 (Biddeford 20,000 – 2021)
- Biddeford – 29.5% single person occupancy (Biddeford 31.6%)
- Biddeford – 14% live below poverty line (Biddeford 20%)

Political Arrangement

- **Mayor Martin “Marty” Grohman – Independent ‘Non-affiliated’**
- Votes only in ‘ties’, signs the cheques, runs the show, ‘calls’ extra meetings if required, ‘First Citizen’
- Walks a fine line politically although Southern Maine is strongly Democrat (*‘Liberal’ by UK Standards*) as opposed to Republican (*Ultra Conservative by UK standards*)
- **Ten Councillors – Approximately 60% Democrat / 40% Republican**
- Culturally more conservative/formal than Manteo

Objective (Request to Council)

- Formally twinning with Biddeford, (as we did with Manteo,) would acknowledge and cement another important part of this town's historic links with America.
- There have been three recorded visits by Biddeford (USA) council representatives to Biddeford since the 1920's. So far as I know, we have never reciprocated except through a long connection via Rotary International. Biddeford appear keen to formalise twinning.
- Biddeford open to an exchange of ideas, develop links (possibly arts and crafts, tourism, etc), and perhaps learn from each other (given the parallels).

The Cost

- Four (Five?) 'twinned with Biddeford, USA' panels to add to existing town entry road signs
- A Charter (with seal)
- Someone to deliver it
- Plus anything else the council wants to do

From: Elena Stefanini <elenaesse83@gmail.com>

Sent: 04 September 2024 19:01

To: Paul Swan

Cc: angelapoppelsdorff51@gmail.com; sindaco@comune.castiglioneideipepoli.bo.it

Subject: Twinning with Italian town Castiglione dei Pepoli

Good evening Mr. Swan,

Following your conversation with my mother Angela Poppelsdorff from Italy this morning, I am forwarding you further details about the town which would be delighted to establish a twin partnership with Bideford.

My name is Elena Stefanini, I am Angela's daughter and I collaborate with the local council as for foreign relations and twinnings.

As already explained in a couple of emails I have written to your municipality over the summer, we would be very pleased to establish a twinning with Bideford, as we share a part of our history, which is pride and memory of Castiglione dei Pepoli. As you might already know, the Gothic line ran through the area around Castiglione at the end of World war II, and my grandfather, an ambulance driver in the British Army, was serving here. He met my grandmother, who is Italian, right here in this town. Bideford is the town where my grandfather Leonard H. Poppelsdorff came from. He and my grandmother fell in love and moved back to Bideford together after the end of the war. Bideford is also the place where my mother and my uncle were brought up.

My grandfather wrote a book about the whole story, which is quite fascinating. The title is Say your prayers Dear by Leonard H. Poppelsdorff. I am attaching a photo of the book cover to this email.

The mentioned exchange would consist of finding connections and activities which could be shared by the two towns, together with the opportunity to visit both countries and mutually get enriched by the sharing of cultures and different views.

Castiglione dei Pepoli, of which I am attaching a few snaps, lies on the hills between the beautiful cities of Bologna and Florence (30mins off both cities). It is a small pretty historical town dating back to the Renaissance, of which time it still boasts the buildings in the centre of town: this is the place where the Catholic Church and the so-called Granducato di Toscana fought for their land possessions between the regions of Emilia, of which Bologna is the main city, and Tuscany. It counts about 6000 inhabitants in winter, and many more from the spring, over the summer and well into the autumn, as it is located in a very convenient place, away from the crowds and yet so easily reachable from the cities: this makes it an appealing summer resort for many people, with its chestnut woods and 3 lakes in the immediate surrounding area.

Despite its size, Castiglione is one of the biggest centres in the Tuscan-Emilian Apennines: it hosts all school grades (the staff of the mentioned institutions, together with its pupils, would be delighted to establish a relation with their English peers and their families), two popular trekking paths (Via degli Dei and Via della Lana e della Seta) covering some of the most beautiful towns in the area and ending up in Bologna, Prato or Florence; a choir, several gyms (martial arts, yoga, pilates...), a hospital, a ballet school, a dance hall, a music school, a cinema, a theatre, several sport associations, a trekking association, a little art gallery and much more.

Castiglione is already twinned with the town of Nogent Sur Marn, in France, and delegations from both towns have already repeatedly visited their partners.

We are really looking forward to meeting up and to sharing with you because there really is so much to share.

Regards

Elena

SAY YOUR PRAYERS
DEAR



Leonard H. Poppelsdorff













Project Initiator and Lead:	Jack Gordan	Date:	30 th August 2023
Project Description	To make council meetings transparent to the public I propose that they should be live streamed to the public and kept as a matter of record until the minutes of the meeting have been approved as an official record of the meeting.		
Benefits	<p>This will both improve public access with residents who can not attend meetings for whatever reason being able to watch, as well as provide better transparency with the council in line with the Nolan Principles.</p> <p>It has the added benefit of officers being able to review the minutes when compiling the minutes to improve quality.</p> <p>Helps transition the council into much needed modernisation to help meet public expectataions</p>		
Financial Implications	<p>Meeting Owl £1500</p> <p>Meeting Owl 3 - 360 Degree, 1080p HD Video Conference Camera (owllabs.co.uk)</p>		
Officer resource required:	Yes-minimal		
Risks and issues	Negative publicity from poor behaviour.		
Action List	Yes / No	Name of person to complete action	Observations:
Planning Permission	No		
Owners Consent	No		
Consultation Required	No		

Please continue on separate sheet if necessary



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Tourism Committee Meeting

held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall

Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: East Ward: Councillor Mrs J Gubb (Chairman)
South Ward: Councillor Ms R Clarke (Town Mayor)
North Ward: Councillor D Bushby
Councillor J Gordon
West Ward: Councillor P Lawrence
Councillor C Hawkins

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L Dixon-Chatfield, Town Clerk's Asst

029 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor K Hind (North Ward) – personal

030 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations were given at this point in the meeting.

031 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

There were no members of the public present.

032 **MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor Lawrence and seconded by Councillor Bushby that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th August 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For:5, Against: 0)

033 **TO DE-BRIEF ON CHUDLEIGH PICNIC.**

Members received the post event analysis and queried the Indirect/Direct Labour entry, asking what it was for and why it is included. They noted the comments that had been made in the analysis and agreed that the queue for the food was slow moving. They also noted that there were fewer stalls than last year.

The Chairman pointed out that the event was designed to be an afternoon where people could meet and relax, and the Councillors could mingle with everyone. She was cautious for it not to be on the scale of Bideford Fair.

Members agreed that the main point of the event was to bring the ETW community together and show that this Council provides for them as well as the West side of Bideford – the Chairman pointed out that there had been much criticism in the past of this happening.

Members discussed the food offering for next year and agreed that it would be good to provide something hot but that it was time for a change. After some discussion a BBQ was agreed, on a commercial scale. The Chairman and Councillor Bushby would make enquiries.

Overall members agreed that the event was relaxed and enjoyable, with the weather being kind. Members had a brief discussion on contingency plans should the weather be poor next year and considered purchasing or hiring a large gazebo but decided against the idea as bad weather will not encourage attendance.

034 **TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR VE DAY 80 BEACON LIGHTING (8TH MAY 2025).**

Members noted the ideas already put forward from the previous meeting and the Chairman called upon them for further ideas or expansion of those put forward regarding the venue. They discussed using the Pannier Market, as it is a Council venue, and making the evening about a Bring and Share supper with tables set up in a street party style. With a bar, food outlets, music and a dance floor, it was a strong contender although there would be costs involved ie hire of the Hall, costs for the Rangers to help with setting up, decorating and then re-setting the Hall.

Members then discussed the Pollyfield Centre and the hard work the volunteers had put in to make it a success. There had been some doubt over the charges and this was in the process of being resolved by the Chairman with the Pollyfield Committee. Members discussed which venue to use and were encouraged to make a decision as plans needed to be put in place as a matter of high importance.

The Chairman asked members if they were ready to vote on which venue to use.

Proposed by: Councillor Mrs Gubb, seconded by Councillor Lawrence and

RECOMMENDED: That the VE Day 80 Beacon Lighting is held at the Pollyfield Centre on 8th May 2025. Subject to costs being agreed.

(Vote: For: 4, Against: 2)

The Clerk advised members that there had been an update in the plans and that the event would include everyone singing “I vow to thee my country” at 9.30pm. She suggested

that perhaps Choirs could be introduced and she would be in contact with the St Mary's Church Choir leader who also leads the youth Choir, "The Treblemakers".

Members agreed that the Pipes and Drums be invited as well as the Town Band. The Clerk asked about further entertainment, as The Liberty Sisters had been pre-booked elsewhere immediately after D-Day 80. Councillor Bushby suggested Tamsin Ball, who had been involved in a previous Beacon Lighting. The Clerk agreed to contact Miss Ball.

035 **TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR OTHER EVENTS**

The Chairman asked for updates on the ideas put forward at the last meeting:

Tractor Run (2025) - Town Centre

Councillor Gordon suggested that this would need to be held nearer to Christmas but it was too late to organise for this year.

Councillor Bushby had a contact who has a vintage tractor – he would make enquiries. He pointed out that this would probably be less than a Farmer's event and more of a Collector's Event.

Members discussed a date and the start / finish. No road closure was necessary. There would be a prize for the Best decorated and lit tractor. Other categories could be introduced as plans progressed.

Members all agreed that this type of event, whilst spectacular, was not enough on its own and would need to be part of another event taking place in the Town Centre. Indeed, the participants would want it to be part of another event. Perhaps a Late Night Shopping evening which could, with the Tractor Run, encourage Traders to organise an event.

Jigsaw Puzzle Day/Event (2025) - Pannier Market

Councillor Lawrence advised that he has access to the contacts of the group who had organised the Torrington event. He would need to contact manufacturers of puzzles and a competition would be good for the fastest puzzler – sponsored by the manufacturer. Puzzlers would pay to enter and the takings be donated to the Mayor's Charity.

Councillor Lawrence suggested that the first Sunday in October would be a suitable time to hold the event. He would update the Committee further.

Cream Tea Festival (2025) - Pannier Market

Councillor Lawrence felt that this event should be expanded from Cream Tea Festival to Afternoon Tea and Cream Tea Festival, this would make a bigger and more interesting event. To be held the third weekend in May.

He would look at what had been organised before, when the event was cancelled due to Covid.

Toy Fair – Pannier Market

Councillor Lawrence had been speaking with the owner of Hadoken, a Games and Cosplay outlet in Market Place, who was keen to put on an event of this type. The third week of November had been discussed.

Railway Festival & Model Train Event

Councillor Bushby had spoken with one contact who has Model Railway interests and would speak with another in Bideford as well as Tim Steer of the Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance.

036 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman informed members that the next meeting would be Tuesday 29th October at 6.00pm.

The business of the meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance, and the meeting concluded at 6.55 pm.

Signature of Town Mayor:Date:

Signature of Chairman:Date: