

ANNUAL REPORT



BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

2011/12



Contents

Barnstaple Town Councillors	Page 2
Council Staff	Page 3
Mayor's Report	Page 4-7
Cemetery & Grounds Maintenance Committee Report	Page 8-9
Finance & General Purposes Committee Report	Page 10-11
Environment Committee Report	Page 12-13
Planning & Transportation Committee Report	Page 14-15
Heritage Centre Committee Report	Page 16-17
Staff Committee Report	Page 18-19
Community Development Committee Report	Page 20
Youth Council Report	Page 21
Financial Statements	Page 22-23
Ward Budget Grants	Page 24-26
Councillors' Allowances	Page 27
Council Assets & Areas of Responsibility	Page 28

Barnstaple Town Councillors

2

MAYOR

Cllr. I Roome,

Telephone: 01271 326706

DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr. Mrs L Brown

Telephone: 01271 328184

CENTRAL TOWN WARD

Cllr. A Bradford,

Tel: 01271 328461

Cllr. S Harvey,

Tel: 07817 084812

Cllr. R Hawes,

Tel: 07888 729660

Cllr. Miss M Watkin,

Tel: 07597 176105

Cllr. Mrs J Wilsher,

Tel: 01271 374899

FORCHES &

WHIDDON VALLEY WARD

Cllr. Mrs J M Carter,

Tel: 01271 328564

Cllr. Mrs S Haywood,

Tel: 01271 375121

Cllr. Mrs J L Hunt,

Tel: 01271 850423

Cllr. Mrs V A Monk,

Tel: 01271 372802

LONGBRIDGE WARD

Cllr. M Rundel,

Tel: 01271 372818

NEWPORT WARD

Cllr. Mrs S Bush,

Tel: 07915 030553

Cllr. J Carter,

Tel: 01271 328564

Cllr. R A Knight,

Tel: 01271 371732

Cllr. J Mathews,

Tel: 01271 375757

Cllr. J Williams,

Tel: 07413 276736

PILTON WARD

Cllr. Mrs E Davies,

Tel: 01271 343904

Cllr. Mrs V A Elkins,

Tel: 01271 345206

Cllr. I Roome,

Tel: 01271 326706

Cllr. B Vernon,

Tel: 01271 342634

YEO VALLEY WARD

Cllr. Mrs C Brennan,

Tel: 01271 326138

Cllr. Mrs L Brown,

Tel: 01271 328184

Cllr. Miss C Upcott,

Tel: 01271 859366

Cllr. S Upcott,

Tel: 01271 324764.

Cllr. A Windsor,

Tel: 01271 328272

Council Staff

3

TOWN CLERK

Mrs A Jenkins

Tel: 01271 373311

FINANCE OFFICER

Mr G White

Tel: 01271 373311

CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER

Mrs C Parsons

Tel: 01271 373311

SENIOR CLERK CEMETERY & ALLOTMENTS MANAGER AND CLERK TO YOUTH COUNCIL.

Mrs V Woodhouse

Tel: 01271 373311

TRUST & GRANTS OFFICER AND PLANNING CLERK

Miss N Lewis

Tel: 01271 373311

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Mrs K Graddock

Tel: 01271 373311

ADMINISTRATION

Mrs W Hoggart

Tel: 01271 373311

DESIGN MANAGER & WEBSITE

Mrs J Parker

Tel: 01271 373003

ST ANNE'S CHAPEL MANAGER

Mr P Doel

Tel: 01271 373311

CASTLE CENTRE MANAGER

Mrs R Newcombe

Tel: 01271 323576

HERITAGE CENTRE MANAGER

Mrs D Holton

Tel: 01271 373003

HERITAGE CENTRE ASSISTANT

Mrs S Howson

Tel: 01271 373003

PROPERTY SERVICES MANAGER

Mr I Parker

Tel: 01271 373311

PROPERTY SERVICES ASSISTANT

Mr R Burns

Tel: 01271 373311

OUTDOOR MAINTENANCE OPERATIVE

Mr F Grimwood

Tel: 01271 373311

HEAD SEXTON

Mr K Sluman

Tel: 01271 375137

DEPUTY SEXTON

Mr B Manser

Tel: 01271 375137

CLEANER

Mrs J Metcalf

The Mayor's Report

4

I have been highly honoured to have been your Mayor since 2010.

The past year has continued to be extremely hectic with myself and the Mayoress attending many events including presentations, concerts and sporting events, community events and business meetings. The insight we have gained on what makes our local communities glue together in the face of tough economic times has been enlightening.

The strong Barnstaple community has showed how it looks after its years of heritage and this was highlighted during the Carnival in September. Organisations joined forces to save the traditional carnival and the entertainment was able to continue. A fine example of how the fabric of community spirit should thrive.

The Mayor's year has continued to have an international flavour, with visits from our friends from Susa Italy, Germany and India. The Mayoress and I also visited our twin town of Susa. This link has existed since 2001, but more formally since 2008 when the official twinning document was signed. It was an honour to show a delegation

from Italy, which included the Mayor of Susa, our wonderful town and surrounding North Devon coast. Thanks to Pilton Community College for hosting the delegation and showing the educational aspects of our secondary schools.



*The Mayor of Barnstaple
Councillor Ian Roome.*



*The Mayor of Susa
attending the opening
of Barnstaple Fair.*

The Palio in the Park with visitors from Susa who gave performances with Drums and Flag Waving, Archery and Tug-of-War.



I took great delight in presenting a Mayoral Certificate of Excellence to Mrs Anna Giaconne for her sterling work promoting educational links between our two countries. Many of our children from Barnstaple have been visiting Susa and our very own Francis Bell from Newport School was also given recognition by the Mayor of Susa.

The strategic vision of our council continues to be flexible, reacting to the ever increasing legislation passed down to our tier of government. One such example is the Localism Bill, which was introduced in December 2010 and received Royal Assent on 16 November 2011. The Act sets out plans it says will give communities and local government greater powers and freedom from Whitehall. The Government estimates that many of the measures will come into effect in 2012. There are five key measures in the Localism Act intended to decentralise power locally which includes:

- Community Rights
- Neighbourhood planning
- Housing
- General power of competence
- Empowering cities and other local areas

The practicalities of implementing this Act will be a challenge on the resources of our council and I am sure that robust systems will be embraced by our staff and councillors to make every aspect a positive one for Barnstaple.

continued

6

Our town has historic military connections and on the 17th November 2011 we hosted the RMB Chivenor Homecoming Parade which was attended by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. I reminded Prince Philip that he last came to Barnstaple with Her Majesty The Queen in 1956. It was a real honour to welcome back the safe return of our local servicemen and women. Being ex-military myself, it was a highlight to present the campaign medals to our service personnel alongside HRH he Duke of Edinburgh.



HRH The Duke of Edinburgh took the salute at Barnstaple's Homecoming Parade on 17th November 2011.

The parade celebrated the safe return of the Commando Logistic Regiment Royal Marines from Afghanistan.

Photos by Tom Teegan



7

The Mayoress and I would like to thank all those who have helped us this year to raise over £9,000 towards the North Devon Chemotherapy Appeal. This will provide a much needed cancer care facility here in Barnstaple.



I would like pay a special tribute to the Mayoress, Linda Lewis. Without her I would not have been able to function to the best of my abilities. The dedication and commitment that she has shown whilst being the Mayoress is truly outstanding. She has represented the town of Barnstaple with pride and in a way that makes me very proud of her.

Barnstaple Town Council is made up of 24 elected councillors and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of them for giving their time to benefit our local population and making our town such a wonderful place to live.

The staff of Barnstaple Town Council work very hard to ensure that we remain a Quality Council and I would like to say thank you for their professionalism.

Councillor Ian Roome, Mayor of Barnstaple.

Cemetery & Grounds Maintenance Committee

8

CEMETERY

The 5 year plan we had in place, to make big improvements within the Cemetery, has been put on hold, pending discussions with North Devon Council. Basic maintenance, grass cutting etc. is, of course, still continuing and the cemetery remains well cared for.

Memorial Testing

This continues on rotation. Unfortunately the plan to reinstate some of the failed memorials, which we hoped to have started this year, is one of the tasks we have had to put on hold.

Cross

The distinctive cross saved from the old Marist Convent has a new position looking over the whole of our cemetery. Well done Mavis Eastaugh for rescuing it, and Kevin Sluman for installing it.

Security

No major incidents this year.

Summer Club and Local Schools

All remain involved with the planting of flowers, for which we are very grateful.



*The old Marist Convent Cross
at the cemetery.*



ALLOTMENTS

Fair View

This site continues to improve. We are hoping to install drainage on four of our waterlogged sites which we hope will help resolve the problem.

Higher Raleigh

There have been a few security problems but more fencing has been erected so hopefully this will help. The steps in the bank have caused a few issues so at the moment the gate has been locked. We need to find out who the steps belong to and then we will bring the issues back to committee.

Sunny Bank

There have only been a few issues which have all been addressed. However the “disappearance” of a bank has been a mystery. We are hopefully going to replace it with either fencing or a natural bank. Costings and advice are being sought. At the moment a temporary barrier has been erected.

Bryant’s Field

No major problems, but we would still like to improve some aspects for example the paths between plots.

Presentation Evening

This event, held in the Mayor’s Parlour, always remains a very pleasant evening. Plots are judged and prizes are awarded by the Mayor. Well done to all the prize winners.

Braunton Road Land

The Forest School has really taken shape over the last year. It looks very exciting and hopefully the schools will start to use it in the next term.

THANKS

I would like to say thank you to our Committee Clerk, Victoria Woodhouse, for her hard work. Also Head Sexton Kevin Sluman, Deputy Sexton Ben Manser, Property Services Manager Ian Parker, Property Services Assistant Robert Burns and all the Committee Members.

Your support has been very much appreciated.

Councillor Mrs Valerie Elkins, Chairman.

Finance & General Purposes Committee Report

○ The Finance and General Purposes Committee while overseeing the Council budget and Council procedures also has the duty of ensuring that community engagement continues to take place.

We ensure that the civic ceremonies relating to the Council take place and these include the Mayor Making Ceremony and the Annual Fair Proclamation

As a Council we are continuing to hold our Council Surgeries in the Pannier Market. These take place on the first Saturday of the month, and already the dates have been finalised for 2012. Throughout the year many of your Town Councillors will be found at the Council stand where they will be happy to talk to you about any concerns or issues that you might have while giving you information about Town Council services. The surgeries are one of the ways in which we want to communicate with local residents and to learn at first hand any concerns or problems that you are experiencing.

A Council newsletter is sent out quarterly giving the local residents an idea of what is happening in the Council, but also gives a list of all town Councillors on the back. We are proud of the Council website where all aspects of the Council can be found and details of how to contact your local Councillor.

www.barnstapletowncouncil.co.uk

Last year reaccreditation was given and we continue to remain a Quality Council. As a Quality Council we ensure that our high standards are maintained by both Councillors and staff, this is to ensure that you receive the best service that we can offer. A new reception at Barum House was completed in December giving the reception a more professional outlook.

We have continued to carry out our training audit and our training programme for Councillors and members of staff and this is still a major investment, the most important course for Councillors was training in the “power of well-being”.

This is a statutory power which enables a local council to spend money on anything which improves or enhances the social, economic or environmental well-being of the town, but in order to be eligible to use it Councillors had to undergo training, as did the Town Clerk. The Council had to meet other criteria including members having stood for election and having a community engagement strategy in place.

Once we had met all the criteria, the Council was able to adopt the power in March 2010 and it has been of benefit throughout the Council.

We hope this new power will enable us to help the community even more.

As well as making sure that the Council obtains best value for money when spending funds, the Committee has continued to ensure that any reserve funds are earning money. We continually review our investment account which was showing an incredibly poor interest return and we therefore switched the funds into a new account with a better rate of interest but with the same level of investment security.

Once again in addition to the annual grants awards which support many of our local organisations and groups, each year Town Councillors are given a small grant budget of £250 which they have used to support local projects and organisations.

Looking forward, and in addition to providing the Councils existing services, the precept will fund projects including making the part time Outdoor Maintenance Person position into a full time position. He will continue to make repairs and do small works around the town.

Barnstaple Town Council is the registered Trustees of Rock Park and the Rock Park Lodge. We have carried out repairs to the Rock Park Lodge and at this time a local community group is using it for their own purposes.

Further discussion has been taking place with North Devon Council about aspects of the town and we are looking at taking on further services for the benefit of the town and its residents.

Once again it has been a good year and we have continued to work closely with other councils and outside bodies to ensure that Barnstaple continues to be lovely place to live and visit.

One final note, at the Annual Grants evening this year we again supported local groups and charities and we have given grants that will enable those groups and charities to continue with the valuable work they provide to the residents of Barnstaple.

As Chairman I have been supported by the Town Clerk and the Finance Officer, the Council support staff and by an excellent committee who I have enjoyed working with.

I would like to thank all the Council staff and my fellow Councillors for their support.

Councillor Steve Upcott, Chairman.

Environment Committee Report

12

A new Committee Clerk, a Committee bolstered by fresh new energised faces - and a new Chair, ably assisted by a new vice-chair, soon to be Mayor. Could have been a recipe for disaster - but no! It has been another very successful year, tirelessly active led by full agendas at our quorate monthly meetings, all of which have engendered lively open discussion on the whole gamut of environmental issues, from the micro- (cigarette butts and changing our light bulbs) to the macro- (flooding of Barnstaple's low-lying areas due to Climate Change).

The highlight of the Environment Committee's year remains our triumphant 'Tidy Up Our Town' week in June - but two further events are queuing up to take the crown Read on.

Last years' 'TUOT' was a super success - again! 18 programmed events, 650 volunteers taking part, 170 bags of rubbish collected - and a HUGE amount of good will generated. The Saturday 'celebration' on the Square with stalls and events to bring the week to an end was great fun, with the Junk Band beating out the rhythms with local primary school kids. Congratulations to the Wisemans, our trusty volunteer parish-path wardens, for being chosen as our first 'Eco-Citizens of the Year' - and of course to everyone who took part.



*Above
The 2011 "Tidy Up Our Town"
Launch in the Guildhall.*

*Left
Wren Music lead pupils from
Pilton Bluecoat School in a Junk
Band performance at the Big
Bash on the Square.*

13

During the year, our meetings addressed a myriad issues: negotiating the plans to switch off street lights in and around the town; installing new benches; in partnership with Town Centre Management, having a good look at litter bins with a view to replacing and augmenting; initiating a whole series of town 'walkabouts' with Ward Councillors and town and district council officers, identifying areas in need of attention; updating audits for those areas in need of tlc; negotiating with DDC and NDC for Grit Bins, salt-mix and, very exciting, delivery of our very own 'snowmobiles' - so far, it hasn't snowed, true - but we were ready!

We set up a meeting with NDC environment portfolio holder, Cllr Rodney Cann and bombarded him with a gruelling Q&A session; and we instigated a series of ongoing 'in-house' energy-efficiency measures for all our properties, not just to save us a lot of money in the long term - but also to set the best example to other Councils and other municipal bodies.

In October, after months of preparation, the Environment Committee sponsored our first 'Wellbeing Day' in the Pannier Market. We knew the idea was a good one but it was really a shot in the dark but, in our opinion, an exemplary initiative from a Quality Council to reach out and 'give something back' to the community. It was, to be modest, an unqualified success: 50 stalls attended the event and the feed-back from the participants was wholly positive, despite some seriously embarrassing Zumba dancing by people who should've known better - no names. Will we do it again? Most certainly.

We are now busy of course preparing for 2012's 'TUOT' event and also planning another first, which has already 'sold out' - an 'Environment School' at the Castle Centre on 28th April - but that report will have to wait until next year's publication. No Chairman's report would be complete without the following thanks: to the Committee, for their positive contributions & their pro-active energies; to our superb Committee Clerk, Mrs Graddock; and to the indefatigable Mr Fred Grimwood, whose dedication to the town's environment has already achieved legendary status.

Councillor Ricki Knight, Chairman.

Planning & Transportation Committee Report

14

After being an existing member of the Planning and Transportation Committee, I took over as Chairman of this Committee following the May 2011 elections. The Committee is made up of 9 members, 2 of which were newly elected to the Council for the first time.

It has been a busy year for the Committee, with approximately 230 plans received for consideration, and on average 12 applications per meeting.

The applications we received can vary from specially drawn plans with photographs to hand drawn plans. The Committee's views and recommendations are forwarded to North Devon Council (occasionally the County Council on their own applications) where the Planning Officers or Committee take the view expressed into consideration along with those received from other consultees.

Over the year the Committee has received and considered a variety of applications from 2 major supermarket developments, to domestic extensions, to the installation of solar panels, to works to trees under a Tree Preservation Order.

The Committee have been active in identifying particular highway or planning concerns that required reporting to relevant authorities for actioning, such as, potholes, damaged footpaths, or hedge/bushes that are encroaching on public footpath/highways. In particular this year they have lobbied DCC regarding a weight and height restriction for vehicles along Butchers Row, due to the continual damage that occurs along this road, and brought up the continual issue regarding parking within Mermaid Walk.

The Committee has been involved in several consultations with various authorities this year – NDC Local Development Framework Growth Strategy workshop, DCC amendments to Boutport Street, DCC Minerals Core Strategy Plan, and the Tarka Railways Franchise. In the forthcoming year the Committee is looking forward to engaging with NDC on the proposed Queen/Bear Street development.

During 2011/2012 the Committee has hosted another two successful Planning Schools, with 50 Parish/Town Councillors from all over North Devon attending. The topics discussed were as follows – Listed Building Consent, Tree Preservation Orders, Permitted Development, The Localism Act, Local Development Frameworks, Community Infrastructure Levy, and the future. This was also a good opportunity to strengthen our good relationship with the Planning team at NDC. My thanks are extended to the NDC Planning Officers for their continual support with the Planning Schools.

Over the year the Committee has joined forces with the Environment Committee to visit sites of interest – In the summer of 2011 we went to see the Fullabrook Wind Farm and also visited the Forches Regeneration Project, this was just after the first residents had moved out, to see for ourselves what changes are going to happen.

The rest of the year looks as if it will be just as busy, and the Committee is hoping to revisit Forches Regeneration Project site, now the demolition phase is nearly complete, and will keep updated as the project progresses.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Committee Clerk, Miss Natasha Lewis, for liaising with the Planning Officer prior to meetings, so we get a full picture when discussing the plans, and also for keeping myself as the Chairman on track during my first year.

Councillor Mrs Lesley Brown, Chairman.



*Barnstaple Town
Councillors visit the
Fullabrook Wind Farm
development.*

Heritage Centre

We have had another hugely successful year at the Heritage Centre, thanks to the staff and volunteers, who have been out and about in the North Devon area making people aware of the centre.

The coach tours have increased rapidly and are now one of our major sources of visitors. New signposts, put in place by BID, have also helped direct more visitors to the Centre, so many thanks to them.

The Town Tours have gone from strength to strength and we now have more volunteer tour guides trained to enable these to run more often.

Our Christmas exhibition was fantastic this year, and we received some excellent comments from visitors.

The world of Social Media has been a huge part of our advertising strategy this year and our Tweets have often been re-tweeted around the world. This has generated so much interest about the centre and the history of Barnstaple and has also helped to increase the sales in our online shop.

During February and March we have been running a 2 for 1 visitor offer, and this has brought in more visitors than ever during what is commonly a very difficult time of year for any attraction.

As usual, my thanks go to Denise, Julie, Sue and all the volunteers who have achieved fantastic results.

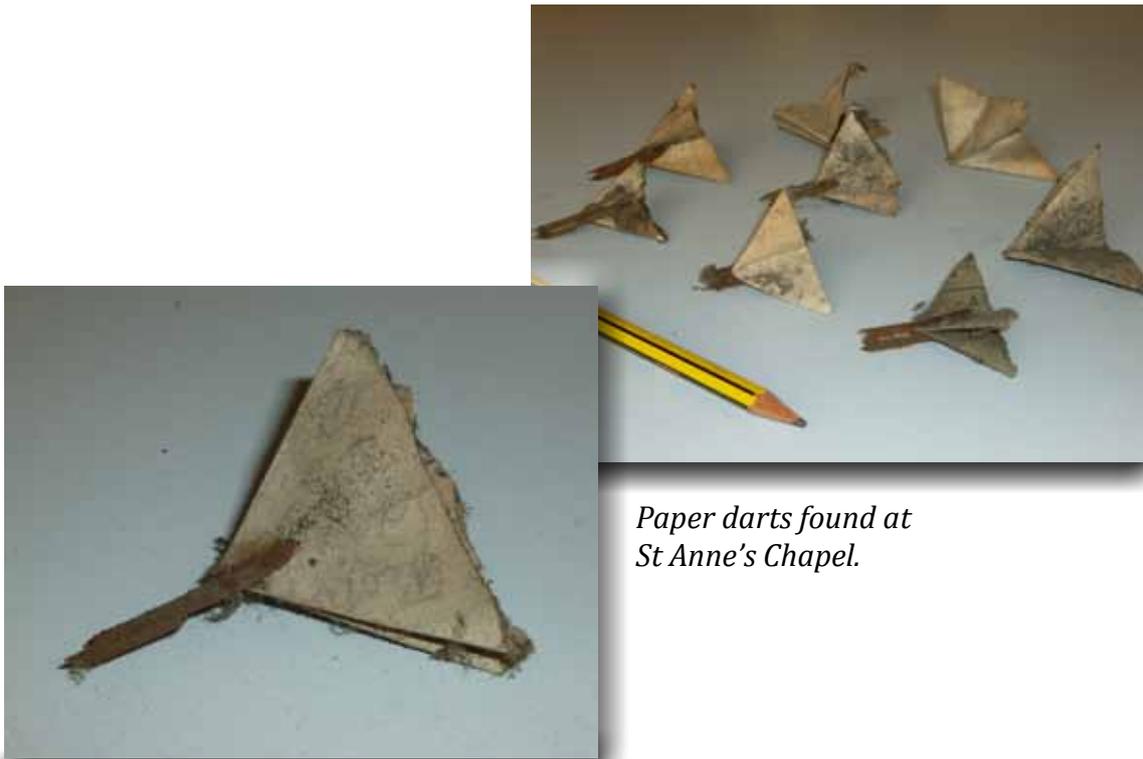
St Anne's Chapel

In September we finally got the fantastic news that our Heritage Lottery bid for St Anne's had been successful and that work could finally begin!

In January we appointed Peter Doel as our new St Anne's Manager. Peter has a fascinating background in archaeology and is so enthusiastic about the project. We also awarded Pearce Construction the tender for all of the restoration.

The scaffolding went up inside about a week later, in late January, and the finds began! So far we have discovered old slate pencils and pieces of paper with Latin practice on them between the floorboards. In the eaves the St Anne's Squadron was found when Peter discovered 16 darts. These are folded paper with pen nibs which,

it is assumed, some naughty school children threw onto the beams. This find has been mentioned in national newspapers and local television and will form part of the display when the Chapel reopens later in the year.



*Paper darts found at
St Anne's Chapel.*

Back down to earth and the restoration continues. We have many groups and clubs that have already shown an interest in using St Anne's when it reopens and we already have three art displays booked in for Gallery showings.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Natasha Lewis for her work on the Lottery bid and to all the staff who have helped this project take off. I would also like to thank Jim Gardner of David Wilson Partnership (architect) and Lynne Brookes of Gates Safety Partnership (CDM) for their invaluable work on the project.

My thanks also to Claire Parsons, Committee Clerk and to the Town Clerk for all their work, both at St Anne's and the Heritage Centre, over the past 12 months.

Councillor Miss Catherine Upcott, Chairman

Staff Committee Report

18

Once again, I wish to report that I am very proud of the Town Council staff who perform their duties in a professional and dedicated manner, thus enabling councillors to deliver projects for the local community.

This year we have been very successful in obtaining a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and have been able to recruit a new member of staff to oversee the renovation and community involvement of St Anne's Chapel. I welcome Mr Peter Doel who was our chosen candidate to the role of St Anne's Chapel Manager. Early signs are very encouraging and I am sure he will deliver a successful project.

It is important to mention that the town council staff are very professional and committed to their particular role. Many staff members going above and beyond the call of duty to help deliver an exemplary service to our community. The staff are true ambassadors and I want to say thank you to each and every one of them. The leadership skills our Town Clerk, Mrs Anne Jenkins, is just fantastic. Anne is the driving force in making sure our projects and policies are delivered effectively. She is an inspirational leader and makes sure the council operates within government legislation.

Our volunteers deserve special praise. They help our staff deliver a robust service to the members of our town. The town's visitors often report to me how wonderful our volunteers are. Thank you for giving your precious time to help others in our community. You are all truly amazing in what you do for the town of Barnstaple.

I am happy to report that Ellis Whittam Consultants remain the Town Council's appointed HR advisors. This resource ensures that the Town Council remains at the forefront of all the latest legislative changes. Our staff and volunteer procedures are governed and reviewed by our committee.

Following the departure of our Senior Clerk in April 2011 to take up her first Parish Clerkship, the roles and responsibilities of staff were changed, with Mrs Woodhouse becoming our Senior Clerk and assuming responsibility for the Cemetery & Grounds Maintenance Committee and Youth Council, Mrs Graddock taking responsibility for Community Development and Environment Committees, and Miss Lewis taking responsibility for Planning Committee, Rock Park Trust and grant applications. Mrs Parsons continues as Corporate Services Manager as well as managing the Mayor's diary and civic events.

We welcomed Mrs Hoggart as the new Administration/Receptionist and recruited Mr Grimwood as the Town Council's part-time Outdoor Maintenance Person – a new scheme introduced by the Town Council to help provide a cleaner and more



attractive environment. The scheme has been so successful and well received by the community that we are able to make it a full time role as from April 2012.

Mr Parker and Mr Burns continue to ensure that all our property is maintained to a high standard, whilst Mrs Newcombe and Mrs Holton manage the Castle Centre and Heritage Centre respectively in their usual efficient style. During the year we said goodbye to Robert Brain, one of our Mace-bearers who has given the Town Council many years of service in his ceremonial role. Robert decided it was time for him to take life a little easier, and we wish him good health and happiness in his retirement.

We have a number of staff who are studying various training courses to enable them to perform their roles to the highest level. Within the past year one member of staff has achieved a Foundation Degree in Community Governance and is going on to study for her Honours Degree, whilst another member of staff has been undertaking financial training and has passed Level II AAT, going on later this year to Level III. Other staff have attended Health and Safety training, First Aid training, and Planning and Environment schools, and our Design Manager has received Adobe InDesign training which has further enhanced the quality of our in-house publications and the Town Council's website. Investment in the future of our staff is ensuring we retain and offer the best services to our town and ensuring we deliver the best possible up to date governance procedures.

I would like to thank the staff committee members Lesley Brown, Sue Haywood, Arthur Windsor, John Mathews and my Vice Chairman, Adam Bradford. They all ensure that we are an effective team delivering best standards to our staff and volunteers.

Mayor, Councillor Ian Roome, Chairman.

Community Development Committee Report

20

In the past year we have looked at reducing the overall expenditure of the committee while still keeping its good performance record of previous years.

We have continued to look at ways of communicating with the public, the work of committees and the Town Council by adding several new notice boards sited to its six wards throughout the town. The sites are at Pilton, (Pilton Park), Rock Park, Gorwell Community Office, St George's Road (The Co-op), and we are presently installing one on Sunflower Road. This work will be carrying on through the next year, so if you know of a suitable site let us know.

We have looked at reducing rent in some of our properties as, in this challenging time, we are trying to help those organisations that may need a helping hand, e.g. the Allotment Association.

A new and exciting project for the Committee is the launch of Read Easy in Barnstaple. This is an adult literacy scheme which aims to give vital one to one tuition for adults of all ages, enabling them to gain reading and writing skills and improve their prospects for employment and development. The Town Council has given Read Easy a grant towards the start up costs of this scheme, and the Community Development Committee was delighted to be able to offer Town Council property as accommodation for the teaching sessions. We will be supporting two sessions a week at our offices in Barum House, and, if we are able to offer more at a later date, we will do so.

The committee has also looked at upgrading Council policies governing the use of Town Council properties to make them more understandable and not using abbreviations that may not be understood by anyone not in the Council.

As chairman I would like to thank the committee clerk, Mrs Kate Graddock for her hard work and professionalism in this her first year as Clerk.

I would also like to thank my deputy chairman Mrs Val Monk for her support and the committee for their attendance and input this last year.

Councillor Mrs Sue Haywood, Chairman

Youth Council Committee Report

2 |

Barnstaple Youth Council has, once again, had another highly productive year and is continuing to give young people a voice in the town. Members from the Youth Council have continued to be involved and support local organisations such as LOGO which is part of LINK Devon, a scrutiny group for the health service, and the Barnstaple Carnival Committee.

The Youth Council's Community Day which promoted youth organisations and young local talent was a success and the Youth Council hopes to build on its success in the coming year with Youth Fest which it hopes will be bigger and better with more youth organisations attending such as Devon Youth Services, Young Devon, Children's Summer Club, and young local acts including The Confused and Sam Dowden.

The Youth Council also held a Quiz and Curry night which raised money for the Devon Air Ambulance, and it has been heavily involved in projects such as Mrs Recycle workshops and bunting workshops for Tidy Up Our Town.

The Youth Council is currently investigating the current needs of young people within the community, and is hoping to work towards improving areas identified in the forthcoming year.

The Barnstaple Youth Council would like to thank the community, Barnstaple Town Council and local organisations for their continued support.

Senior Clerk Victoria Woodhouse, Clerk to Barnstaple Youth Council.

Below: Members of the Youth Council attend a workshop run by Mrs Recycle.



Above: The Youth Council make bunting for Tidy Up Our Town's Big Bash

Financial Statements

22

BALANCE SHEET March 2012

Unaudited

Fixed Assets

Investment Properties (Non-op)	442,500.00	
Operational Assets	977,500.01	
Community Assets - Buildings	138,000.00	
Community Assets - Other	1,522,600.00	
Plant & Machinery	29,471.00	
		3,110,071.01

Current Assets

Stock	7,069.16	
Debtors	6,168.05	
Cash & Bank	498,641.68	
VAT Control	11,702.91	
		523,581.80

Current Liabilities

Short Term Creditors	33,844.90	
Other Creditors	39.20	
VAT Control	0.00	33,884.10

Current Assets less Current Liabilities: 489,697.70

Total Assets less Current Liabilities: 3,599,768.71

Long Term Liabilities

Long Term Creditors	234,500.00	
		234,500.00

Total Assets less Total Liabilities 3,365,268.71

Capital & Reserves

Reserves	3,301,364.91	
P & L Account	63,903.80	
		3,365,268.71

PROFIT and LOSS Account*Unaudited***Income**

Precept	517,150.00	
Investment Properties	86,306.45	
Open Spaces	10,914.75	
Culture & Heritage	43,006.10	
Interest & Investment Income	6,331.13	
Cemetery	81,840.00	
Others	2,700.00	
		748,248.43

Expenditure

Central Services to the Public	33,284.62	
Democratic Representation & Management	15,037.18	
Corporate Management	18,277.52	
Recreation & Sport	6,865.23	
Open Spaces	(10,681.53)	
Culture & Heritage	88,466.93	
Cemetery	67,517.61	
Individual Environmental Projects	6,450.00	
Administration	370,389.94	
Rock Park Trust	88,737.13	
		684,344.63

Net Profit/(Loss):

63,903.80

Ward Budget Grants

24

Recipient	Date	2011-12	2012-13	Councillor
		£4,495.00	£725.00	
See Hear Centre	Jul-11	125.00		Cllr Bradford
Pilton Festival	Jul-11	25.00		Cllr Bradford
ND Theatres Trust - Exeter Inn dig	Oct-11	100.00		Cllr Bradford
Thrill the World	Aug-11	20.00		Cllr Brennan
Frankmarsh & Gorwell - Garden	Feb-12	100.00		Cllr Brennan
Thrill the World	Feb-12	30.00		Cllr Brennan
Childrens' Summer Club	Feb-12	100.00		Cllr Brennan
Green & Pleasant Land	Mar-12		20.00	Cllr Brennan
ND Theatres Trust - Exeter Inn dig	Oct-11	50.00		Cllr Brown
Frankmarsh & Gorwell - lantern	Oct-11	200.00		Cllr Brown
Fanshen	Mar-12		100.00	Cllr Brown
Families in Grief	Dec-11	150.00		Cllr Bush
Chemotherapy Appeal	Mar-12	250.00		Cllr Carter
Pilton Festival	Jul-11	50.00		Cllr Davies
Chemotherapy Appeal	Nov-11	50.00		Cllr Davies
Pilton College	Dec-11	75.00		Cllr Davies
Pilton House	Mar-12		130.00	Cllr Davies
Fanshen	Mar-12		20.00	Cllr Davies
Green & Pleasant Land	Mar-12		20.00	Cllr Davies
Pilton Festival	Jul-11	40.00		Cllr Elkins

Recipient	Date	2011-12	2012-13	Councillor
		£4,495.00	£725.00	
Pilton Gig Club	Jul-11	100.00		Cllr Elkins
Pilton College	Jan-12	110.00		Cllr Elkins
Zephyr Residents Assoc.	Jan-11	150.00		Cllr Harvey
Ashleigh Road Residents Assoc.	Jul-11	100.00		Cllr Harvey
Pilton Cricket Club	Apr-11		75.00	Cllr Hawes
Green Man Day	Aug-11		30.00	Cllr Hawes
ND Theatres Trust - Exeter Inn dig	Oct-11		50.00	Cllr Hawes
Fanshen	Mar-12		30.00	Cllr Hawes
Forches Community Assoc.	Jun-11	50.00		Cllr Haywood
Pilton Festival	Jul-11	25.00		Cllr Haywood
Forches Busy Bee Club	Dec-12	50.00		Cllr Haywood
Forches Over 50 Club	Dec-11	60.00		Cllr Haywood
Fanshen	Mar-12	30.00		Cllr Knight
Freedom Centre	Mar-12	220.00		Cllr Knight
Elephant Day	Mar-12	50.00		Cllr Mathews
Hughes Avenue Residents	Mar-12	100.00		Cllr Mathews
NYE Charity Event Committee	Apr-12		100.00	Cllr Miss Upcott
Easy Read Barnstaple	Apr-12		50.00	Cllr Miss Upcott
Frankmarsh & Gorwell Residents Assoc.	Apr-12		100.00	Cllr Miss Upcott

continued

Recipient	Date	2011-12	2012-13	Councillor
		£4,495.00	£725.00	
Chemotherapy Appeal	Mar-12	250.00		Cllr Monk
Forches Community Assoc.	Mar-12	100.00		Cllr Mrs Carter
Chemotherapy Appeal	Mar-12	150.00		Cllr Mrs Carter
Barnstaple Fringe	Nov-11	200.00		Cllr Roome
Pilton College	Dec-11	50.00		Cllr Roome
Fanshen	Mar-12	20.00		Cllr Rundle
Pilton Festival	Jul-11	25.00		Cllr Upcott
Pilton Bluecoats	Jan-12	100.00		Cllr Upcott
Fanshen	Mar-12	20.00		Cllr Upcott
Pilton College	Dec-11	250.00		Cllr Vernon
Pilton Festival	Jul-11	20.00		Cllr Watkin
ND Theatres Trust - Exeter Inn dig	Nov-11	150.00		Cllr Watkin
Step by Step	Mar-12	100.00		Cllr Williams
Chemotherapy Appeal	Mar-12	150.00		Cllr Williams
North Devon Womans' Aid	Mar-12	100.00		Cllr Wilsher
Chemotherapy Appeal	Mar-12	100.00		Cllr Wilsher
Fanshen	Mar-12	30.00		Cllr Wilsher
Elephant Day	Mar-12	20.00		Cllr Wilsher
Worth It Project	Jul-11	250.00		Cllr Windsor

Councillors' Allowances 2011 – 2012

27

Each councillor is able to claim £500 basic parish allowance per annum (Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003). The following payments were made in 2011-2012.

Cllr. A Bradford	0.00	Cllr. R A Knight	0.00
Cllr. Mrs C Brennan	500.00	Cllr. J Mathews	0.00
Cllr. Mrs L Brown	0.00	Cllr. Mrs V A Monk	0.00
Cllr. Mrs S Bush	0.00	Cllr. I Roome	500.00
Cllr. J Carter	0.00	Cllr. M Rundel	0.00
Cllr. Mrs J Carter	0.00	Cllr. Miss C Upcott	500.00
Cllr. Mrs E Davies	500.00	Cllr. S Upcott	500.00
Cllr. Mrs V A Elkins	500.00	Cllr. B Vernon	500.00
Cllr. S Harvey	500.00	Cllr. Miss M Watkin	500.00
Cllr. R Hawes	500.00	Cllr. J Williams	0.00
Cllr. Mrs S Haywood	0.00	Cllr. Mrs J Wilsher	0.00
Cllr. Mrs J L Hunt	500.00	Cllr. A Windsor	500.00
		TOTAL	6000.00

Council Assets & Areas of Responsibility

28

The Guildhall	Butchers Row, Barnstaple.
St Anne's Chapel	Paternoster Row, Barnstaple.
Barum House	The Square, Barnstaple.
The Castle Centre	25, Castle Street, Barnstaple.
The Albert Clock	The Square, Barnstaple.
Bryant's Field Allotments	Bear Street, Barnstaple.
Sunnybank Allotments	Barbican Road, Barnstaple.
Higher Raleigh Allotments	Higher Raleigh Road, Barnstaple.
Fairview Allotments	Pathfield Lawn, Barnstaple.
Rock Park	New Road, Barnstaple. (Partnership with NDC)
Rock Park Lodge	Ladies' Mile, Barnstaple.
Bear Street Cemetery	Bear Street, Barnstaple. (Agency with NDC)
Heritage Centre	The Strand, Barnstaple. (Building Leased from NDC)



BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

BARUM HOUSE, THE SQUARE,
BARNSTAPLE, EX32 8LS.

Telephone: 01271 373311

email: admin@barnstapletowncouncil.co.uk

website: www.barnstapletowncouncil.co.uk



**BARNSTAPLE
TOWN COUNCIL**