

Chairman's Annual Report 2021

Councillors

- Les Waller resigned early in the year with Charlotte Greenough co-opted in Nov. 21
- Kris Moore joined the Council in 2021 but has now resigned with co-option about to take place to fill the one current vacancy.
- Lead Councillors apptd in May 21 to research and report on topics.
- Various Working Groups met or have been established throughout the year to advise Council e.g. Cem, Loch Neaton, Museum, Emergency Planning.

Staff

- PEPSO taken on p/t by WTC from April 2021, taking those directly employed by the TC to 7
- Town Operative retired with new Town Operative apptd March 2022

Events - programme able to resume after Covid

- Open Gardens and Yard Sale Day in June
- Yard Sales again in Autumn
- Remembrance Sunday parade led by TC
- Fireworks Evening
- Festive Market

Open Day at Bridle Road also held in August to promote the newly installed Pump Track.

Premises

- Wayland Hall Building Survey commissioned and identified works are being undertaken.
- £25000 donation allocated Museum4Watton to help fund refurbishment to the Chamber (CH to report)
- Audio equipment installed pre-Covid but with new web-cam fitted live streaming of Town Council meetings is once again being successfully undertaken.

General

- Market and Middle Street: under the MTI programme, Breckland Council has commissioned Norfolk County Council to do a full technical appraisal and detailed design of new alternative solutions for pedestrianisation of Middle

Street. TC is supportive of the market with the continued provision of gazebos for traders.

- Allotments- water provided at Thetford Road allotments.
- Neighbourhood Plan – consultation stage ended April 8th.
- Church Walk – 3 new benches installed.
- Armed Forces Covenant Pledge adopted in Oct.
- Continuing to work closely with WASFAG (LW to report on donations given).

Moving Forward:

- Continued discussion with BDC re. Future Breckland Town Delivery Plan.
- Parish Partnership applications for a trod along the Thetford Road and lighting in the bus shelters have been approved. Application for a second SAM 2 speed sign also progressing. Delivery of these projects will be in 22/23.
- Report on Walsingham Gates commissioned but still awaited. New TO has been cleaning but gates need some repair prior to painting.
- Ongoing legal issues for 22/23 re. land ownership and registration. Agreement signed with St. Mary's re. ownership of the Churchyard and Cem. Officers Mess site believed to be nearer to hand over!
- 22/23 – planned projects to replace litter bins and planters in the High Street and to install Heritage Boards.
- Clock Tower quintennial report commissioned - ongoing investigation re. access to wind the clock.