



NEW QUAY TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2020/2021

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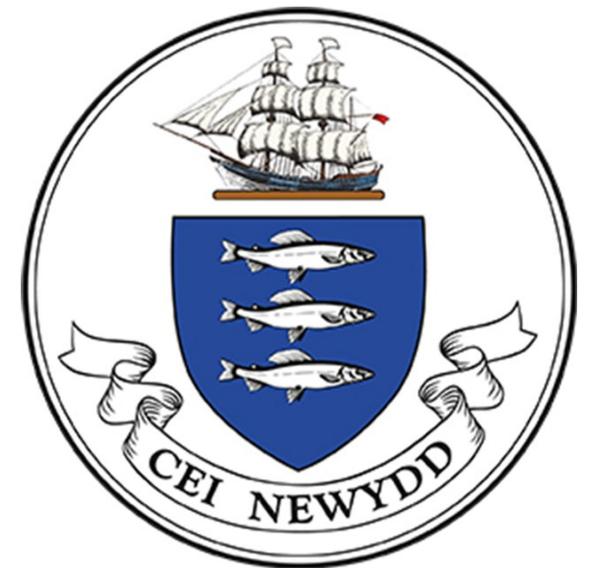


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Foreword by the Chair of the Committee

I am pleased to present the first annual report of New Quay Town Council. It provides an overview of its work of the Council during the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

Councillor Gill Hopley
2021/22 Mayor of New Quay Town Council



Roles and Functions of New Quay Town Council

The Council's Role

Work done by the Community Council

The 1972 Local Government Act states that every part of Wales is in a community. In England , the term "Parish Councils" is still used but in Wales, however, the legal and constitutional term for these units of local government administration is termed " Community Councils"

The Community Council represents the lowest tier of local government and is closest to the public as regards meeting local needs. The Council has several statutory rights and duties.

What is the Council structure?

A list of your local councillors is provided on the next page. The Town Council has 10 Councillors who do not represent any political party. They are elected every 4 years. A part time Clerk/Financial Officer is employed to handle all arrangements for meetings and preparing an agenda to deal with the records and financial and administrative matters linked to implementing the Council's work. Contractors are also employed to carry out specialist work such as repair and maintenance i.e. grass cutting, maintain the footpaths and so on.

The Town Council makes observations on planning applications before they are decided upon by Ceredigion County Council. They provide funding for events, clubs and services in the town. The Council appoints members to sit on the School Governing bodies.

Roles and Functions of New Quay Town Council

How does the Council work?

Any work done by the Council will be implemented following decisions taken at open meetings. Any work is paid for with public money which the Council receives through raising a precept which is part of the Council Tax set by Ceredigion County Council.

What is the Council's precept?

In 2020/21 the Council's precept is set at £16,072.64 The precept is raised to finance the Town Council's responsibilities including the Skateboard Park, Maesypwll Woodland, street furniture and a number of footpaths in the area.

The precept works out at £21.36 per property (Band D).

Can the public attend the meetings?

By all means. You are welcome to attend our meetings as listeners only – and we would encourage that. Members of the public are not entitled to take part in Council discussions or give their opinion during the meeting – there may however be exceptional circumstances where the chairperson is allowed to call for a contribution from the public and for them to make a statement. Council meetings are held monthly, except for August, and are usually held on the last Monday of each month at New Quay Memorial Hall.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is a legal obligation as stated by the Local Government Act 1972. The annual meetings has to be held in the month of May. Council decides on the date. The first item on the Agenda must be the election of the Chairman of the Community Council for the next twelve months

Roles and Functions of New Quay Town Council

Election

To be elected as a Councillor a member must be qualified under the law , be a British Citizen and must have attained the age of 21.

The applicant must also be-

a local government elector

has, during the whole twelve months preceding that day, occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the same area

principal, or only place of work, during twelve months before election, has been in that area.

resided during the whole of twelve months in that area, or within three miles of that area



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Membership of the Council 2020/2021

New Quay Town Council has 10 Councillors

Council Members (05/05/17-Local Government elections May 2022)

- ◇ Councillor Gill Hopley (Chair) 2020/21
- ◇ Councillor Jennifer Davies
- ◇ Councillor Julian Evans
- ◇ Councillor Steve Hartley
- ◇ Councillor Peter Hopley
- ◇ Councillor Dan Potter
- ◇ Councillor Marc Rees
- ◇ Councillor Brett Stones
- ◇ Councillor Huw Williams
- ◇ Councillor Liz Ryder (Co-opted 01/11/21- Local Government elections May 2022)

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The Council's Work in 2021/2022

1. Dog signage

At their meeting held in May 2021, it was agreed that the no dog fouling signs would be erected. Due to the number of dogs on the main beach that were prohibited as from the 1st of May, it was agreed that signage would be purchased together with a possibility of a banner on the way down to the beach. The signs from the second quote would be purchased. At the June meeting, it was agreed that due to the number of dogs on the main beach that were prohibited as from the 1st of May, it was agreed that two pavement signs would be purchased with a rigid panel holder.

It was reported in the July meeting, that the no dog fouling signs had be erected, however, dog fouling remained a major issue. Also, dogs especially early morning were seen on the main beach. It was agreed that the warden be contacted.

2. Dog prohibition on main beach

Following a request by the Council regarding the prohibition of dogs on the main beach, an email had been received from CCC regarding prohibiting dogs on the main beach all year. Due to the pandemic , officers were unable to assist currently with this request.

3. Planning Applications

Planning Applications are considered at every meeting and comments are sent to the Planning Service accordingly.

4. Speeding on New Road

Concerns were again raised by Members regarding speeding on New Road, and the police had been contacted.

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The Council's Work in 2021/2022

5. Skateboard Park

Work had been completed to replace a damage post in the park together with major repair following the Annual Inspection of the park.

6. Traffic Issues

Emails sent to Ceredigion County Council regarding motorist parking on right angles on Towyn Road

7. Public conveniences

Several emails had been sent requesting the opening of the public conveniences by the Watersports centre. It was reported in the July meeting that the public conveniences by the watersports centre had been opened. Their opening had been welcomed and they were being cleaned to a high standard.

8. Emptying of bins

Lengthy discussions were held in the July meeting regarding the emptying of bins. The County Council had offered more bins, however, it was noted that they were emptied twice a day at 8am and 2pm.

Members were of the opinion that the bins should also be emptied at 6pm. This view would be conveyed to CCC. It was reported at the November meeting that the bins again had been a major issue over the summer period and the boxes used by the chip shops continued to block the bins, and therefore the larger bins would be requested. It was also noted that the bins that were on top of the slip down to the Wildlife centre were not secured to the railings.

9. Local Government and Elections Act 2021

The Clerk updated Members at the July meeting on the elements of the Act that were relevant to the Town and Community Councils. It was agreed to further investigate the equipment required; and the costs to accommodate hybrid meetings.

10. Harbour Manager

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The Council's Work in 2021/2022

10. Harbour Manager

An invite was sent to the Harbour Manager at the November meeting to attend Town Council meeting to address issues raised regarding the harbour. Councillor J Davies had requested that that harbour and surrounding area be discussed. She conveyed her disappointment on the untidiness and cleanliness of both with issues of weeds, brambles, broken equipment, broken shower on sandy slip, empty sheds with no effort of issuing their leases, lamp post broken by the watersports centre etc. It was also unclear the role of the Harbour Manager and Harbourmaster to deal with these issues. It was agreed that Councillor Davies would provide a full list of issues that were required to be addressed to Councillor Potter to forward to the Clic service. All Members agreed and supported the comments of Councillor J Davies.

11. New Quay Town Council sign

A new New Quay Town Council sign had been purchased and erected at the rear of the Memorial Hall.

12. Meeting between representatives of the County Council and Town and Community Councils – 22 November 2021

Councillor D Potter attended on behalf of New Quay Town Council.

13. New Library located in New Quay Memorial Hall

Consideration was given to the request to continue to pay for the electricity of the library in the hall. Members agreed to this request, which would be approximately £30.00 per month.

14. Lest We Forget Flag and New Quay Town Council Flag

A Lest We Forget flag was erected for Remembrance Sunday and it was agreed that a new New Quay Town Council Flag would be purchased and erected.

15. Christmas Tree erected in Uplands Square

The Town Council had arranged and paid for the Christmas Tree in Uplands Square.(in front of the old library)

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The Council's Work in 2021/2022

16. Bollards erected

Issues regarding the bollards had been discussed at several meetings and emails of concern had been sent to Ceredigion County Council. At the January meeting, it was reported that the bollards had been removed at uplands square, however, the bollards would remain at the bottom of the Town by the old Wellington.

17. Culvert on Traeth y Dolau

A number of emails had been sent to the County Council regarding the culvert that had collapsed on Traeth y Dolau. In response, Ceredigion County Council had stated that this culvert was on private land and the responsibility of that owner.

18. Financial Donations (Section 137)

The following financial donations had been agreed: -

1. The electricity for the new library
2. Buffalo boards for New Quay Community Primary School
3. New Quay Fireworks licence
4. New Quay Flowers – Summer 2021
5. British Legion
6. Rent for New Quay Museum
7. Annual Donation to the New Quay Memorial Hall Committee
8. Noahs Ark
9. Aberaearon Swimming Pool

19. New Quay Museum

New Quay Town Council continued to pay for the rent for the museum. At the February meeting , concerns were raised on the excessive cost of the business rates and rent for the museum. An email had been sent from the Clerk, however, no response to date.

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Future Priorities

The priority areas the New Quay Town Council to consider in 2021/22

Installing the new Hybrid system in Council Chamber

Painting of benches

Replacing of benches

Signage project

Improvements to Skateboard Park

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Future Priorities

The priority areas the New Quay Town Council to consider in 2021/22

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Painting of benches

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Signage project

Improvements to Skateboard Park

Free Wifi in the Town

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Attending New Quay Town Council / Contact us

The Council is keen to see Members of the public attend New Quay Town Council

With the exception of confidential items, all business is held in public.

All of the public agenda papers are published online 3 working days in advance of the meeting

Contact us

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