

Newent Town Council
Strategic Plan 2023-2028

Adopted by Council 24.10.22

Red - Not Completed: Amber- In Progress: Green – Completed:

The Strategic Plan outlines the current and future plans of the Town Council for **2023-2028**

| 1 Create a dynamic, vibrant, participatory community | | | | | | |
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| Ref No | Objective | Timescale | Responsible Committee/ Clerk | Resourcing/ Budget allocation | Current Status | Comments |
| 1a | Research into facilitating residents' community groups | On-going | Communities | Cllr community engagement | | Notifying community of council actions |
| 1b | Engage with and support local organisations and individuals | On-going | Planning & Environment Communities | | | |
| 1c | Support local organisations by providing grants | On-going | Full Council | Annual funding allocated in budget | | Grants process available March and September each year. |
| 1d | Support Uniformed Service/Armed Forces event | On-going | Mayor & Deputy Mayor | £500 annual budget to support events | | Mayor re-affirmed the Armed Forces Covenant for Newent – April 2022 |
| 2 Ensure an innovative and supportive Town Council | | | | | | |
| Ref No | Objective | Timescale | Responsible Committee | Resourcing/Budget allocation | Current Status | Comments |
| 2a | Administer deed of variation grant applications on behalf of GCC | TBC | Town Clerk | TBC | | |
| 2b | Support youth-based activities | On-going | Cllrs Mrs Selwyn, Mrs Wadley and Mrs Gooch | Cllr & Staff time | | Grants available March/September each year |
| 2c | Continue to raise the Council visibility – e.g. noticeboard in Library, Facebook, website etc | On-going | Town Clerk | Staff time; Cllr input | | Newent Library have commented that a council noticeboard cannot be situated in the library. |

Updated current date 24.10.22

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| | | | | | | Social media - Facebook and website being used to promote council activities. Instagram account created July 2022 |
| 2d | Mayor's Civic Events to be organised throughout the year | On-going | Mayor | Budget allocated; Mayor and staff time | | Working with partner agencies on Civic events: promoted via social media |
| 2e | To ensure all statutory policies are written, approved and in place and reviewed annually | On-going | Town Clerk | | | Policies being provide to Council and Committee on a regular basis, and updated accordingly |
| 2f | Provide councillor and staff training as required | On-going | Town Clerk | Budget allocated: | | Update reports on training activities and opportunities provided to Finance & Staffing Committee & Full Council. Linked to councillor and staff development On-line training via GAPTC links provide |
| 2g | Produce advertising material to promote Newent as a destination including updated town maps | On-going | Cllrs Mr Tinson & Mrs Howley | | | |
| 2h | Ensure website is complying with The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 and produce accessibility statement | On-going | Town Clerk | | | Website updated from (GAPTC) Internal Auditor Report; accessibility updated by web provider (Spoton) |
| 3 | Ensure a sustainable economy for Newent | | | | | |
| Ref No | Objective | Timescale | Responsible Committee | Resourcing/ Budget allocation | Current Status | Comments |
| 3a | Research and implement improvements to the Market Square | On-going | Regeneration | | | Public Work Loan Board funding agreed with Dept. Levelling Up – June 2022 |
| 3b | To review parking restrictions within the town and investigate coach and lorry parking | On-going | Full Council | | | |

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| 3c | Progress development of the Neighbourhood Development Plan | On-going | Planning & Environment Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group | Unspent Locality Grant returned. New grant application awaiting quote for consultant fees. NB - Locality grant of £10K available for NDPs, and possibility of more for technical support | | Expect to start writing policies later this year following delayed completion of surveys. Current GRCC advisor has moved job, Awaiting new appointment Regular reports and approved minutes from NDP monthly meetings to be presented to P & E committee & Full Council |
| 3d | To erect town Christmas lights and organise switch on event | On-going | Communities | £5000 available for Christmas lights | | Working Group to be developed – tbc |
| 3e | Review all town planting requirements to ensure the town has an attractive floral display and extend Council involvement as necessary | On-going | Communities & Town Clerk | Cllrs decide on the floral arrangements with staff team | | Spring/summer planting 2022 completed |
| 3f | Encourage the community to undertake organised town events | On-going | Communities | | | |
| 3g | Organise events on behalf of the council | On-going | Communities | | | Events identified-plans need to be implemented |
| 3h | Erect bunting for 5 weeks each summer to enhance the summer look/feel of the town | On-going | Communities | | | |
| 3i | Develop Tourist Information Hub in Library | On-going | Full Council | | | Newent Library have commented that a dedicated 'Newent Town Tourist Information Hub' space in the library is not feasible |
| 3j | Work with District Council to locate areas for siting of motorhomes to stay overnight (Lewell St Car Park being a possible site for motorhomes) | On-going | Full Council | Cllr time | | FODDC have not agreed to siting of motorhomes on their land. Other options to be considered |

| 4 Preserve and enhance the natural environment | | | | | | |
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| Ref No | Objective | Timescale | Responsible Committee | Resourcing/ Budget allocation | Current Status | Comments |
| 4a | Implement recommendations from the 5 year tree survey (years 2-5) | 2023-2025 | Planning & Environment | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | Planning underway regarding tree surveys |
| 4b | Implementation of the agreed Climate Emergency Policy & Strategy | On-going | Planning & Environment | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | Full Council adopted Climate Plan: Monitored via Planning & environment and reports to Full Council |
| 4c | Organise bi-annual Litter Pick events | On-going | Cllr Mrs S Marcovecchio | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 4d | Enhance wildlife areas at various locations in the town | On-going | Full Council | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5 Manage and enhance Council's assets for future use | | | | | | |
| 5a | Maintain current accessible council offices | On-going | Full Council | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5b | Implement programme of repairs to Market House | On-going | Regeneration | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5c | Maintain the Arboretum car park | On-going | Town Clerk | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5d | Oversee Projects The Lodge – restoration project The Improvements to Cemetery gateway area | On-going | Regeneration | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5e | Oversee the cemetery extension | On-going | Town Clerk | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5f | Monitor and provide upgrading of CCTV in the town with links to Waterwells, to include ANPR | On-going | Regeneration | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |

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| 5g | Review of long-term improvements at the Lakeside area | On-going | Full Council | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5h | Pursue grant funding for installation of electric car charging points in Library Car Park | On-going | Regeneration | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5i | Promote friends of Newent Cemetery | On-going | Full Council | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5j | Agree programme for upgrading play areas | On-going | Communities | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | Suggest enhancing not simply upgrading play areas. Recommend visit to Abbeydale play area behind the Community Centre near Morrison's. Seek external funding |
| 5k | To provide a community facility building at the Recreation Ground | On-going | Regeneration | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5l | Progress Gateway feature for the Lake | On-going | Cllrs Mrs C Howley & Mrs Marcovecchio | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |
| 5m | Computerise cemetery records | On-going | Town Clerk | Staff time; Cllr time: budget allocation | | |