



TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN 2019-22

Tewkesbury Town Council serves a population of approximately 10,000 people and is comprised of 16 Councillors who are elected (or co-opted at a later point) to a four-year term, representing the wards of Newtown (3 Councillors), Town with Mitton (6 Councillors), Priors Park (6 Councillors) and Mythe (1 Councillor).

This Plan states the Council's Vision for the Town, explains the structure of the Council itself and its main aims which it hopes to achieve over the next three years.

The Plan was formulated by a working group of Councillors and then approved at the meeting of the Full Council on 10th December 2018. The Plan is intended to be modified as the need arises and will in any case be subject to a formal annual review by the Council.

Vision

The Council's Vision for the Town of Tewkesbury is that it will be a prosperous and welcoming town in which tourism will continue to thrive. It will be a vibrant community in which the various groups and voluntary organisations will play their part individually and cooperatively to make the town a better place. The Council will take a leading role in supporting and enabling a strong sense of community. The distinctive, historic built and natural environments will be cherished, protected and enhanced. Residents and visitors will feel safe, and traffic will be managed to minimise its impact. The town will be recognised for its architecture, distinctive riverside setting, and its many community events.

Council Structure

The Council serves the community and seeks to represent all elements within it. It owns and manages a number of community assets, including but not limited to buildings, playparks and moorings. It makes decisions at Council meetings whether this be at Full Council or by Committees to which many of its functions have been delegated:

<u>Finance Committee</u>	Oversees the management of all financial matters, to include risk assessments, ensures audit requirements are met.
<u>Planning Committee</u>	Considers and responds to planning applications, highways schemes and consultations from Government, County and Borough/District Councils
<u>Buildings & Moorings</u>	Oversees management of key community buildings, and moorings
<u>Environment & Amenities Committee</u>	Oversees the management of the play areas, public conveniences, youth provision, street furniture and CCTV
<u>Severn Ham Committee</u>	Oversees the management of the Severn Ham



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Oversees staffing matters

Staffing Committee

Additionally, task/finish or working groups may be formed as required, by either the Full Council or by a Committee.

Each Committee takes account of its responsibilities, objectives and projects when preparing its budget for submission to Full Council in November (during which consideration may be given to financial requirements over two to three financial years) . The knowledge and experience of Councillors is key to this process and the needs and wishes of the community are translated into identified responsibilities and projects through the budgeting process.

Methodology

It is not the purpose of this document to restate the wide ranging and significant responsibilities of the Town Council (as detailed in the Committees' terms of reference), but to identify the main (longer term) aims of the Council as expressed at the working group meeting and approved by Full Council (see Appendix A).

Aims

The main aims identified by the working rroup are as follows:

1. Maintain and protect the distinctive historic character of the town
2. Maintain and protect the green and blue environment of the town
3. Investigate options for traffic management, active travel and connectivity to villages
4. Build community cohesion and raise profile of Town Council
5. Strengthen partnership working particularly with the Borough Council
6. Reinvigorate work on Neighbourhood Plan and bring to a successful conclusion

Action Plan

The Action Plan for implementation of the above aims is contained in Appendix B, together with a financial forecast.