

MAYOR'S REPORT  
COUNCILLOR ARMAND TOMS  
19th FEBRURY, 2018

#### NEW COUNCILLOR

I welcome our new co-opted Councillor Viv Sullivan to our Council, she is away for this meeting but I am sure she will be an asset to the Council. She has already emailed me with questions and I look forward to working with her.

#### HEALTH AND CARE

This is one of two subjects on this report that I will be writing to the local provider to gain help and support. You will know that the local surgery is under pressure and there is difficulty in recruiting GP's. To add to this there is no full time NHS Dentist in the town although our local private Dentist does do some NHS residents. Having had several people contact me over availability of a Dentist, I believe this is something we as a Town Council need to put pressure on the authorities to resolve.

#### LOOE ACADEMY SCHOOL

I attended the Looe Academy School production of High School Musical. This was a wonderful performance with high quality acting and singing by pupils of all age groups. It was a credit to the children, the staff involved and the school. In the audience were many families and friends of the pupils performing and speaking to them afterwards there was a lot of pride in how well this production was. Sorry to say if you missed it but I am delighted to have attended.

#### DARBY AND JOAN

Last Friday Rayna and I attended the 55th Anniversary meal with the Darby and Joan meal at the Rivercroft Hotel, This group keep many people active in the community and meet regularly in the Social Club. They go on trips and enjoy themselves getting out and about. If anyone would like to join this active group the information can be found on the Town Council Website.

#### MEETING WITH POLICE

This below is an email that I sent to you recently and although I received two responses I feel that the Council should make a strong representation for extra officers in our area. I am asking for you all to sign a letter to the Chief Constable, the Police and Crime Commissioner and Sheryl Murray to show our concerns with the current levels of policing in the town.

Dear Councillors, I met with Superintendent Ian Drummond-Smith over the issues of the policing of the town and the impact to this community. Having highlighted the poor response times and the increase in crime and Anti Social behaviour in the town he was responsive to our concerns. The outcome of this is below with details of the previous and current police commitment to Looe and the SE Cornwall area

In 2010 the local policing team was

1. Neighbourhood Team Leader (Sergeant) x 1
2. Patrol Police Constables x 10
3. Neighbourhood beat manager x 1
4. PCSOs x3

Since then there have been

1. 20% cut in government grant
2. A £1.8m cut in the rural policing grant
3. The D and C Police had a low precept and therefore the limited increase have impacted more.

By 2017 the D and C Police have saved £60.2 m and cut police numbers by 600 and civilian staff by 400 so a total of 1000 less employees. The current staffing levels are

1. Neighbourhood Team Leader (Sergeant) x 1 but shared with Liskeard, Torpoint and Saltash
2. Patrol Police Constables x 5
3. Neighbourhood Beat Manager x 1
4. PCSOs x 2

Currently there are two local officers off on maternity leave and both will be back soon.

So you can see that the reduction is nearly half of that in 2010

Yet this year up to 2022 the police need to save a further £9.2m

If agreed the extra £12 per year on the precept (based on band D) will provide

115 additional officers

20 Tri-Service officers

50 Statement Takers (letting police officers to comit more time on the beat)

40 Investigators

A new area custody centre at Bodmin

The distribution of these extra resources have not yet been allocated but the superintendent is fighting for more for our area. Some of the increases in the crime levels are down to the new reporting system but not all. We can if we so wish buy in officer time for the town but this is at a cost to the town and that would need careful consideration.

I believe that a letter to the Chief Constable, the Police and Crime Commissioner and to our local MP Sheryll Murray asking for more Police and resources in the town might be the best way forward. Your thoughts appreciated.