

Mayor's Address to Town Meeting - May 2022

I believe in collaboration. I think we are stronger when we work in unison. To do this we have to understand others motivations, needs and their approach.

I therefore will endeavour to meet with all the organisations and groups in the town to listen and understand their aspirations for their group and the town.

It's also important our officers feel supported and valued so regular engagement with them is essential. We could not do our job without their expertise and support.

I think we need to do better as a town council in explaining what we do, and it's a lot.

I therefore would like to hold regular drop

In surgeries. I hope that fellow councillors can join in. I was inspired to do this because of the neighbourhood development plan information days Cllr Lundy and myself undertook. They were very useful in ironing out misinformation and explaining the rationale of policies.

Further to this I would like to connect directly with our residents and explore the possibility of a residents newsletter straight into peoples homes to give up to date news of the councils work and items of interest to residents. Not everyone is in social media.

I want to involve young people to sense check the councils decisions so want to revitalise our connection to the schools but also invite a slightly older young person as an advisor to me as Mayor. Ultimately young people are the future of our town, they should be listened to. The NDP outlines the lack of youth facilities for example, this needs addressing urgently.

As a former chair of Looe Chamber of Commerce I want to cultivate a business forum. The move to the library in west Looe was necessary to protect the library from closure but we have become slightly disconnected from businesses. I want to address this as its important there is a strong business voice in the the town.

I want to ensure we do the basics well. Keeping our town clean and cared for. I've always said Looe should have the best loos!

Finally I want the Town council, with partners, to work together to support our residents, to expand the community fund, community meals, community cupboard and our support for our Ukrainian hosts and guests. I dear Things are going to get tougher with the cost of living crisis so we have to be here for Looe - all of Looe.

Cllr Edwina Hannaford

