

Mayors Annual Report 2017/18

Councillor Frank Connor-Hughes

It's been an interesting year of learning for me, and I have had immense pleasure in attending many events on behalf of the Town as well as beginning to understand the way in which our town council has been working.

Donations have been given primarily to support local organisations and I thank them all for their very hard work and wish them greater success in 2018.

During my year of office the Whitland Town Councillors have arranged the following:

The precept has been raised slightly to help with increasing costs incoming to the WTC

Bryngwennlian park has been adopted by WTC and saved from the cuts from CCC.

The Public Toilets were painted to keep standards high, CCTV has been fitted to hopefully squash vandalism and theft and we are happy that they continue to be open 24 hours.

The Town Council bilingual website continues to promote the Town and include Town Council agendas / meeting minutes and provide links to organisations, clubs, services and business.

The Heritage Boards that support visitors and link them to the town and it's local business along with historical information are being upgraded and should be completed in 2018

WTC voted to purchase our own Christmas lights and with local people and firms have saved our town a large sum of money which shall be reinvested into the future years festivities.

The Police have held public meetings to discuss the policing and crime rates throughout the year.

We have held a 'first step' Place Plan meeting which gave the public the chance to discuss and put forward ideas for the collation to be put forward for the new LDP.

The reforming of the Chamber of Trade has sparked new interest in the towns businesses and has great support and direct links to work with WTC.

The newly formed Whitland Town Council Facebook page is popular and highlights valuable information, local events and with the addition of a few quizzes it keeps the public returning. It also gives overviews of local business, which assists with reaching a wider audience. See Facebook page "Whitland Town Council".

Mr John Lewis continues to work with the Town Council and ensures the Town looks its best. Town seating is painted, minor repairs are ongoing that are not undertaken by the County Council, bollards painted, road signs cleaned, and flowers beds are tended. There have been additions to seating being made available in town.

The area of the Pocket Parc is well maintained to keep the area in good order for residents and visitors.

Work with Dyffryn Taf pupils on Community Projects with our liaison being Councillor Tanya Croston-Evans is continuing and hopes to be further fruitful in 2018

Parc Dr Owen trustees are working closer with WTC and with co-operated events shall encourage more use of the Parc for all ages in the future. More residents and visitors may then visit the Town Centre as a result.

Many thanks to business owners and residents for supporting the events held throughout the year. The Christmas event was a bigger success this year and we shall continue to build upon this.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of the councillors who have helped this year in education of myself and support to the visions being brought to the council, I am sure this shall continue into the future as the council grows with strength and courage in performing for the best Whitland.

Finally, I wish the incoming Mayor the very best for the next year and I am sure it will be a very good one for Whitland.

Councillor Frank Connor-Hughes