

# BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Sue Clarke (Chair), Erin Kohler-Ockmore, John Bailey, Ron Fox, David Patrick, Sylvee Phillips, Kathy Taylor, and Judith Hart (Town Clerk).

**Apologies:** Cllr Huw Cox.

No apologies received from Cllr Darren Greep

**In attendance:** 1 member of the public

**Press:** None

## **22/01. Introduction and Welcome to the Town Meeting:**

Councillor Sue Clarke welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **22/02. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021:**

Minutes signed by Cllr Clarke.

## **22/03. Presentation by representatives of Participate Arts:**

Apologies due to illness

## **22/04. A review of Town activities during the year and a look ahead to the future by Councillor Sue Clarke, Mayor of Buckfastleigh**

Cllr Clarke read out her report which had been circulated to Members and will be published on the Town Council website.

## **22/05. Questions and comments from the public:**

A member of the public raised difficulties regarding the lack of public transport in the town and the need for an evening service for young people.

Cllr Patrick: We have a large scout group and could have a second group if more adult volunteers can be recruited. There is a variety of youth activities in the town including 2 youth clubs.

Cllr Clarke: We have lobbied for more bus services, but funding has been reduced so there are fewer services. Devon County Council have received government funding to look at rural transport, but we are not aware that this will increase bus services.

Member of public: We need to look after young people as they are the future.

It was agreed that any transport initiative needs to be viable, affordable with local drivers who would have to be volunteers e.g. the Bob the Bus service in Totnes has been very successful but it does have a team of 38 drivers.

Cllr Clarke: Some communities have a dial a lift scheme. The taxi which provided support during Covid was a very successful initiative for both Ashburton and Buckfastleigh.

Cllr Phillips: The new Buckfast Abbey development may look at providing community transport for their residents and this should be incorporated into the planning application s106 agreement.

Member of public agreed to look at the feasibility of community transport further and also raised the damage to pavements outside 1-3 Barn Park which was allegedly caused by the contractors who built the new bungalows. The Clerk confirmed that this should be reported to Teign Housing who engaged the contractor.

Meeting closed at 7.32 pm.