



BUCKFASTLEIGH MATTERS MEETING

3rd April 2019 - KEY MESSAGES

- 1. Councillor Janet Jones retirement** – The Council thanked Janet for her years of dedicated service to the Town Council and parish and we were pleased to present a gift and flowers on behalf of the Councillors and staff.
- 2. Barn Park Gas Explosion** – The community, Teign Housing and the Town Council reacted quickly to the recent gas explosion and our thanks goes to all who have helped, offered practical and emotional support and donated funds to the appeal set up by David Patrick, the volunteer coordinator for the Council's **Volunteer Emergency Response Team (VERT)**. Funds will be used to provide additional support to those who have been affected and the decision for any money not used will be made by the Buckfastleigh Residents Association.
- 3. New Meeting Structure** – The Chair explained that the previous traditional meeting structure did not provide enough opportunity for discussion and participation from Councillors and the public. It is hoped that the new meetings – **Buckfastleigh Matters, Council Matters** and **Town Council** with revised delegated powers will encourage a wider membership and interest.
- 4. Buckfastleigh Traders Meeting** – A second Traders Meeting has been arranged for **Thursday 11th April at 7.00pm in the Town Hall** which will include representation from Teignbridge District Council to look at a promotional marketing campaign for the town and the feasibility of hosting a themed monthly market during the summer months. All traders are encouraged to attend.
- 5. Climate Emergency Motion** – Following approval to pledge support to making the Town Council carbon neutral by 2030, volunteers have now come forward to create a **Citizens Assembly** with the first meeting to be held in late spring.
- 6. School Cuts** – Following the sudden announcement to parents that a significant number of staff redundancies will be made across the **South Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust**, it was unanimously agreed to send a letter to the Trust to express our concerns as to why, how and when this decision was made?

Full minutes will be available on the website after the next Buckfastleigh Matters Meeting.