



CREDITON TOWN COUNCIL

2024

JANUARY UPDATE

NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The year ended with Christmas lights shining in the darkness all along the length of our town. It was a pleasure to welcome so many people to the square at the end of November to see them switched on, then illuminating the bustle in the High Street and carols in the square in December and still brightening the buildings until twelfth night in January.



In the rather gloomy days that follow, when the lights are back in their boxes and warm spring sunshine seems a long way off, it can feel as if there's nothing much going on and nothing to look forward to. But behind the scenes things are happening. The town council is working with other organisations on events and opportunities in 2024 for people of all ages in Credition, including D-Day 80th Anniversary commemorations, the summer Food Festival and St Boniface Day celebrations.



It's important that we work with our district council, too, to make the most of any investment that comes our way. We will continue discussions with them on projects that benefit the town. We are publicising the consultation on the district council's Credition Masterplan in January (see back page) and will be keen to hear your views. We are committed to ensuring that Newcombes Meadow continues to have a paddling pool, currently maintained by the district, and easily accessible toilets while making best use of existing facilities.

Over the years, the town council has gradually added to the formally planted floral decorations around the town. Quite a lot of these are now being planted and maintained by volunteers. Other small pockets of land have been taken on by community groups, some recently, some several years ago, transforming previously unloved corners into colourful, blooming patches buzzing with life. Many of them entered the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood competition (see page 3) and were highly scored. They really do make a huge difference to our neighbourhoods. We are grateful for all their work and look forward to being impressed again as the seasons change.



There will be a lot to do in 2024 so look out for events and projects around town. Meanwhile, I send everyone living, visiting and working in Credition my very best wishes for the New Year.



COMMUNITY BUDGETING WORKSHOPS SUMMARY

Thank you to those of you who attended our Community Budget Workshops held throughout November. Whilst the number of attendees was low, we appreciated the opportunity to present our budget requirements and what we spend money on and why, and to chat about various other issues affecting Crediton.

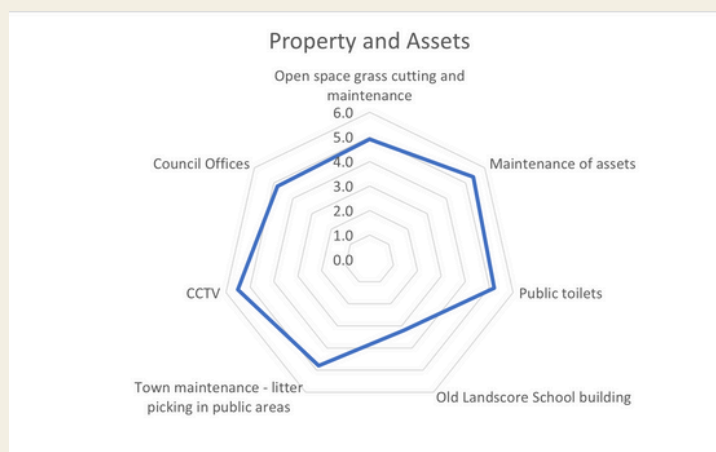


In these times of financial challenges and ever increasing pressure on local authority budgets, tough choices must and are being made. It is more crucial than ever to work collaboratively with Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council where possible, to ensure that our community's needs are met, and that our shared resources are allocated wisely and effectively. It is important to remember that town and parish councils are not subject to the same limitations when increasing their council tax requirement. Town/parish councils, as a whole, are finding that they are taking on additional services that were once delivered by other tiers of local authority in order to safeguard them.

The workshops centred around how we spend our budget, what services we deliver to Crediton and what services people think are important. We asked those present to use radar graphs to plot the importance of each service, and the average findings can be seen below (a mark of '0' represents no importance and '6' is high importance).

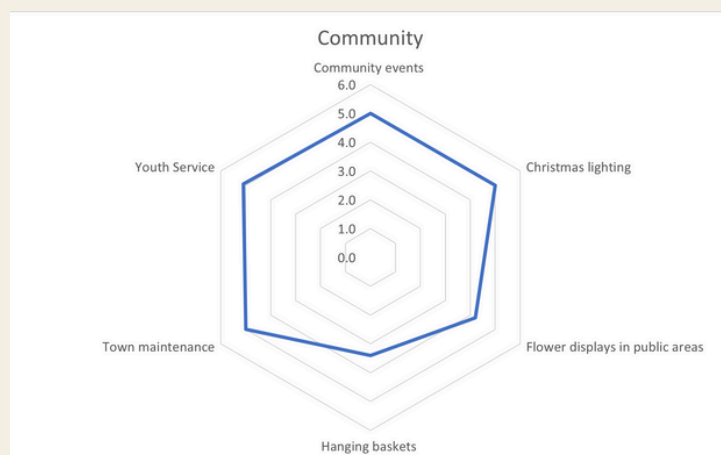
Property and Assets

This graph relates to the delivery of services we already provide relating to buildings and areas the town council owns (Old Landscore School, Peoples Park, Upper Deck & the provision of CCTV).



Community

This graph relates to the provision of services we provide to our community which enhance the lives of those who live here.



New Services

This graph relates to the possible reduction of services delivered by Mid Devon District Council. They have advised that these service areas are likely to be reduced or removed and could be passed to the town council for future provision.



Crediton Town Council will use the findings from the Community Budgeting Workshops to inform the setting of the 2024/25 budget and precept. A decision on the level of precept required will be made at its Full Council meeting on Tuesday 16 January 2024.

CHRISTMAS IN CREDITON 2023

And just like that, Christmas in Crediton is done for another year! We have been absolutely overwhelmed by the wonderful messages and photos from everyone who came along on the day. There was such a festive atmosphere and it felt amazing to see our town enjoying all of the hard work. A huge thank you to all of you that came out to support the event and of course our wonderful team:

Our Sponsors



V.E. Barker Jewellers
Springfield Emporium
Pippins Pre-School & Nursery
Crediton Masonic Lodge
Grape & Grain



Christmas in Crediton Sub-Committee
Jack and Crediton Arts Centre
Alan Quick & Crediton Courier
Crediton town councillors and staff

All marshals and stewards
Crediton Lions volunteers
Morrisons volunteers
Kevin Payne
Jo Ward
Ian Rogers
Roger Lee
Roger Pennington
Mike Gibson
Stu Wight
Charlotte Turner

Cate Davey
Hannah Zorlu
Landscape Primary School
Haywards Primary School
Crediton Guides, Scouts,
Cubs & Beavers
Crediton Youth Club
Crediton Rugby Club
Crediton Fire Service
High Street Traders
R&G Barber Shop
Crediton Coffee Company
Buskers
and of course...
Father Christmas!



IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPETITION

This year, 6 community groups in Crediton were awarded with certificates from the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Competition, all awarded Level 4: Thriving or Level 5: Outstanding. The entries are assessed against the following criteria: horticulture, environment and community. The aim of the competition is to encourage the greening-up of the town with community-led projects being at the heart of this.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED...

Almost any outdoor space being cared for by the Crediton community can qualify for It's Your Neighbourhood. Whether it's an existing community garden or a small area of disused land that's been given a makeover, the most important part is that it is a community project. If you're interested in entering the 2024 competition, please contact Emma Anderson, Deputy Clerk by email deputy@crediton.gov.uk.



Left column top down: Crediton Boniface Rotary Club, Sustainable Crediton Pollinator Group and St Lawrence Green Group.
Right column top down: Crediton Age Concern, Crediton Lions Club and Crediton Library Community Garden.

IRIS TURNS 100!

A special invitation was sent to the Mayor of Crediton, Cllr Liz Brookes-Hocking to celebrate Mrs Iris Northcott's 100th birthday in Crediton. The afternoon was full of celebration with family and friends including a special 100 birthday cake. Not forgetting the prestigious birthday card from King Charles & Queen Camilla.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY

SAT
06

FARMERS MARKET
Crediton Town Square
10.00 - 13.00

TUES
16

MEETING OF CREDITON TOWN COUNCIL
Old Landscore School, Greenway
19.00

WED
17

CREDITON MASTERPLAN CONSULTATION
Boniface Centre, Church Lane
15.00 - 19.00

SAT
20

FARMERS MARKET
Crediton Town Square
10.00 - 13.00

MON
22

CELEBRATION OF YOUTH
Lords Meadow Leisure Centre
16.00 - 18.00

FEBRUARY

SAT
03

FARMERS MARKET
Crediton Town Square
10.00 - 13.00

THUR
08

DEFIBRILLATOR AWARENESS SESSION
Old Landscore School, Greenway
19.00

SAT
17

FARMERS MARKET
Crediton Town Square
10.00 - 13.00

SAT
24

SUSTAINABLE CREDITON'S ANNUAL SEED SHARE
Boniface Centre, Church Lane
11.00 - 14.00



/creditontowncouncil



@creditontowncouncil

Crediton Town Councillors - Boniface Ward

Jim Cairney	jcairney@crediton.gov.uk	01363 773490
John Downes	jdownes@crediton.gov.uk	01363 774267
Joyce Harris	jharris@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775221
Stephen Huxtable	shuxtable@crediton.gov.uk	07875 886550
Natalia Letch	nletch@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775739
Paul Perriman	pperriman@crediton.gov.uk	07442 161917

Crediton Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward

Liz Brookes-Hocking (Mayor & Chairman)	lbrookes-hocking@crediton.gov.uk	01363 774562
Rachel Backhouse	rbackhouse@crediton.gov.uk	07889 680434
Guy Cochran (Deputy)	gcochran@crediton.gov.uk	07891 898487
Giles Fawssett	gfawssett@crediton.gov.uk	07484 878681
Frank Letch	fletch@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775739
Georgina Stone	gstone@crediton.gov.uk	07821 945167

Rachel Avery (Town Clerk)

Tel: 01363 773717 Council Offices, The Bungalow, 8 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT Enquiries: reception@crediton.gov.uk

District & County Councillors

John Downes (District)	01363 774267
Jim Cairney (District)	01363 773490
Frank Letch (District & County)	01363 775739
Guy Cochran (District)	07891 898487

Useful Contacts

Mid Devon District Council	01884 255255	www.middevon.gov.uk
Devon County Council	0845 155 1015	www.devon.gov.uk
Crediton Library	01363 772578	
More on our website: www.crediton.gov.uk/useful-contacts		