

TOWN TEAM – Report to Annual Parishioner Meeting 2023

In the last 12 months, Town Team has been very active. As a group comprising Town and Cornwall Councillors and members from the Chamber of Commerce and Community Enterprises, it has proved a success for common thinking between the public and private sectors.

The permanent speaker system installed in Fore Street proved very useful during the Jubilee celebrations and the Christmas Festival/lead up to Christmas. There are one or two issues still outstanding before the system can be used more regularly to entertain shoppers.

We were successful in securing a grant under the Vitality Fund which will be used by consultants to assess how we can create 'a new green realm to form the retail heart of the town'. Through a lengthy process consultants have now been appointed and the process of data interrogation and public consultation is starting. The work will take 6 months to prepare conceptual designs and feasibility study.

Our latest addition to Fore Street is the Brunel Bench which is near the pedestrian crossing half way up Fore Street. Having secured funding through S.106 monies Thrussells were commissioned to design and construct the bench which weighs 320 kg (6¼ cwt) and is made of steel, copper with stainless steel fixings. The sculptors are Bodmin based and all materials were sourced from Cornish based suppliers but had to be taken into Devon for galvanising (there are no galvanisers in Cornwall). Feedback from shoppers has been very positive. We are now looking to place an information board nearby with some information on Brunel and the bridge. We are also looking at other seating opportunities as we realise that, at 360 m long and an incline of 1 in 15, Fore Street is difficult for some people to traverse the length and opportunities to sit down would be useful and encourage people to dwell longer.

Other matters we have been considering are the creation of a town guide and the possibility of more trees to give some shade on hot summers days.

Peter Ryland

ACTING CHAIRMAN