

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2020/21

The actions marked with an * indicate actions that had been expected to be completed in 2019/20, and actions marked with a # are new and specific to 2020/21.

Priority Code: High, Medium, Low

Action	Objective	Budget	Timescale
* Update the Welcome to Hexham signs	These are faded and some information is out of date.	2020/21 £3000 (reference 7170)	Quotes requested in March 2020
* All Councillors to attend at least one training session	The Council's Training Policy notes, as a voluntary organisation, the Council values the time given by its Councillors to their community. The policy is aimed at maximising the rewards from that time by ensuring that Councillors understand and enjoy the role they undertake in their community and are properly equipped for it.	2020/21 £2000 (reference 6080)	
# Work with NCC and stakeholders in the town to develop a plan to regenerate the primary shopping area based on heritage led regeneration. Specific HTC actions to be defined.	The aim is to revitalise the central shopping area of the town and diversify possibilities using High Street Heritage Action Zone and NCC funding.	£20000 in 2020/21 budget	Four year programme starting in Spring 2020
# Simplify burial fees	These are unnecessarily complex and repetitive.	N/A	To be considered by the P&I Committee in August
# Work towards Quality status	The Council gained the Foundation Award in October 2018. The Quality Award requires a Council to demonstrate it is at the forefront of best practice by achieving an excellent standard in community governance, community leadership and performance management.	N/A	

# Have the Cemetery gates and external doors, etc repainted	This is also part of the management plan submitted for the retention of the Green Flag Award.	From 2020/21 £12000 (reference 7380)	
# Consider some sort of marketing strategy relating to the Cemetery/ consultation with Hexham residents	This is also part of the management plan submitted for the retention of the Green Flag Award.	N/A	
# Research possible additional allotment sites	This is justified by the waiting list and is also part of the Hexham Neighbourhood Plan.	N/A	
# Progress the Sustainability Action Plan	Following the Sustainability Policy adopted in September 2019, this action plan must be progressed and regularly reviewed.	2020/21 £3000 (reference tba)	
# Consider the future need to develop the Cemetery	Consider any further action following the groundwater risk assessment carried out in 2019.	N/A	
# Update the Town Plan to 2025		2020/21 £5000 (plus carry forward to be agreed)	
# Plan to mark the Market Place 800 th anniversary in 2022			
# Consider the 2021 Festival of Britain			
# Consider the arrival of Hadrian anniversary in 2022			
Retain the Green Flag Award for the Cemetery	The Cemetery was awarded this for 2018/19 and retained it in 2019/20. The aim now is to continue to promote it as well managed and maintained.	From 2020/21 £10000 (reference 5100)	Entry submitted in January 2020.
# Further review the Hex-Press/ Council newsletter	Improvement needed in format and nature of Hex-press. The method of circulation also needs to be reviewed.	2019/20 £1200 (reference 7840)	Discussions with HCP in 2020/21.

Facilitate a Hexham Food & Drink Festival	To consider funding this as a precursor to the possibility of regular Produced in Northumberland markets.	2019/20 Up to £5000 (reference 5130)	To be held in September 2020.
Arrange Remembrancetide events in support of the RBL commemoration events	These are annual events.	2020/2021 £2500 (reference 7800)	Start planning in July.
Arrange a new type of Christmas Lights Switch-On event in cooperation with other stakeholders in the town to develop a more ambitious event	This is an annual event to promote community engagement.	2020/2021 £500 (reference 7065)	Start planning in June/ July.
Maintain Council links with Hexham in Bloom by having a Council representative on the committee	Support where possible. Examine the possibility of a new input from the Council.	2020/2021 £300 (reference 7850) NB Grant Aid of £1000 awarded for 2020/21	
Monitor and lobby Northumberland County Council regarding car parking facilities in Hexham	Present/expected loss of 500 long-term parking spaces in Hexham. Northumberland County Council need to provide 500 spaces asap. HTC actively engaged.		On-going
Support tourism	Make full use of the dedicated tourism budget.	2020/2021 £10000 (reference 6096)	
Promote the Council's Grant Aid scheme	14 applications were received in 2019 for 2020/21 (one long-term grant had been awarded in 2017).	2020/2021 £14100 (reference 6050), £40000 (reference 6062) and £27000 (reference 6064)	

Address public toilet provision in Hexham	The Town Council pays for the Sele toilets to remain open in winter.	2020/21 £2000 (reference 5120)	
---	--	--------------------------------------	--