



Heanor & Loscoe Town Council

**Annual Report
2016/17**

This report lists the principal activities conducted by the Town Council, a breakdown of the Council's accounts, issues within the Town and a list of current Town Councillors – we hope you find it both helpful and informative.

Detailed below, in alphabetical order, are the principal activities conducted by the Town Council during the financial year 2016/17.

Allotments

The Council maintain three allotment sites situated at Roper Avenue Marlpool, Woodend Loscoe and Glue Lane Loscoe. All sites are currently tenanted.

Applications for an allotment plot are made direct to the individual Allotment Association – details are available on our website or from the Town Council office.

Audit Reports

An Internal Auditor audits the Town Council's financial affairs every six months, with an annual audit carried out by the Audit Commission.

Internal Audit reports for the 2016-17 financial year stated that: -

'The result of the audit was very satisfactory and the financial affairs of the council are administered in an efficient and effective manner'.

The Audit Commission's report for 2015-16 accounts stated that: -

'On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.'

Christmas Lights

The Town Council fund Christmas Lighting on and around Heanor Market, at Loscoe Baptist Church and Red River Local Nature Reserve. Christmas lighting includes Ray Street and extends down to High Street to Tesco Island. Additional lights and a 'Nativity' display were added to the Loscoe lights. Christmas trees were sited in Heanor and Loscoe.

Many thanks to Harlite Installation Ltd who erect and dismantle our lights and provide the Loscoe tree.

Dog Bags

The Town Council provide Free Doggy Bags to residents of Heanor and Loscoe.

Events

In addition to the Annual Christmas 'Switch On' and May Day events the Town Council also funded and organised an additional Christmas Lights Switch On event for Loscoe residents, two brass band concerts in Heanor Memorial Park, a Town Mayor's Charity Tea Dance and our increasingly popular Pantomime - this year was Cinderella.

Please check out our website for this year's calendar of events.

May Day Event

The year's annual May Day event took the form of a 'Family Fun Day'. The event was officially opened by Town Mayor Councillor Mrs Heather Longdon. Free entertainment was provided in many forms:- magic and comedy shows, Punch and Judy shows, circus workshop, face painters, stilt walkers, inflatable slides, castles, crèche area, penalty shoot-out and candy floss stalls. There were free performances from a number of local bands, an outside bar and catering was provided.

Unfortunately the weather was not on our side, it was a dull and drizzly day, but it didn't seem to dampen the enjoyment of everyone that came along to support the event.

Outdoor Gym

Heanor and Loscoe Town Council are responsible for the Outdoor Gym equipment sited to the rear of Wilmot Street Centre.

Parish Signs/Floral Displays

Parish signs have been erected at the Parish boundaries. Floral displays are sited at each Parish Boundary and the Town Hall.

Red River Nature Reserve

The Town Council continue the Service Level Agreement with Groundwork Cresswell, Ashfield and Mansfield for maintenance of the Red River Nature Reserve. The Service Level Agreement is very successful and if you have not already done so, then perhaps you should take yourself along and visit the site which lies adjacent to St. Luke's Church, Loscoe. A wildflower garden was opened in April 2015 and there are plans to create a circular walk through the reserve. Anyone interested in joining the Friends of Red River? – Please contact the Town Council office for details.

Representation

The Town Council nominated representatives to Outside Bodies as below

3p Mobile Youth Unit Advisory Group – B Gratton

Amber Valley Access – R Iliffe

Charles Hill CIC – K Hill

Eastern Wards Regeneration Group – K Hill, P Jones

Friends of Red River – A Longdon, Mrs H Longdon

Heanor Salcare – Miss H Stirland

Heanor Regeneration Board – K Hill

Poppy Appeal and Commemorative Sub Committee – B Flint

Section 137

The Town Council can only act if it has the specific legal power to do so, with the exception of Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act which gives it the power to spend money provided such expenditure is beneficial to all or some of the community of Heanor and Loscoe. Grant aid application forms can be obtained from the Town Office and applications are reviewed at the July and December meetings.

Town Council Properties

The Town Council have three properties, the Town Hall, The Old Fire Station and The Wilmot Street Centre. All of which have rooms of varying sizes which are available to hire - details available on our website or from the Town Council office.

The Old Fire Station

The Old Fire Station is currently the base for the provision of the NHS Phlebotomy service

Website

The Town Council website address is

www.heanorandloscoetowncouncil.co.uk

Winding Wheels

Half-pit winding wheels are in situ at High Street, Loscoe and Church Street, Heanor. These wheels have been placed as a lasting tribute to the sacrifice of local miners in helping the area develop and in recognition of the mining community.

Town Council Meetings

Heanor & Loscoe Town Council meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month, with the exception of the Annual Town and Annual Town Council meeting

which is held on the second Thursday in May. The meetings are scheduled for a 7.00pm start and are held in the Council Chamber, Heanor Town Hall.

Financial Statement

The Town Council year-end accounts for 2016/17 have been finalised. Below is a breakdown of these accounts.

Income & Expenditure Account 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

£	£
Cash book balance b/f	243,975.42
Add income (detailed below)	218,723.20
Less expenditure (detailed below)	172,149.70
	290,548.92

Income	152976.00
Precept	1524.00
Council Tax Support Grant	17,731.25
Town Hall Lettings	4,030.00
Town Hall Rents	1,743.00
Events/Environment	12,294.00
Fire Station Lettings	16,990.00
Wilmot Street Lettings	915.47
Miscellaneous	218,203.72

Expenditure	15,133.93
Administration	29,977.17
Town Hall	28,456.75
Environment	65,511.02
Salaries & Wages	2,000.00
Town Mayor's Allowance	7,474.72
Fire Station	11,756.90
Heanor Welfare Centre	1,550.00
Section 137	163,860.49

Mayor's Report by Councillor Mrs Heather Longdon

Once again we arrive at the Annual Town meeting. I've had a very rewarding year, both Alan, my consort, and myself have been delighted with the community spirit in Heanor and Loscoe, shown by its many charities and organisations. We attended the turf turning at the new Heanor Memorial Hospital site, soon to be completed, the opening of the new Library facilities, which now includes a memorial plaque dedicated to former Mayor Bob Janes, in recognition of his contribution to library services. I attended the Annual Mundy C of E Agricultural Horticultural show to present a shield donated by the Council in memory of Claude Hancock. We attended the opening of the newly built Florence Shipley home opened by her daughter.

We attended the annual Brass Band Concert in the Memorial park, the weather was kind to us as we listened to a very good brass band and picnicked away the afternoon. We have attended and enjoyed all the local Mayor's and Borough Civic Services, Charity and Christmas events in Amber Valley. Our pantomime at Wilmot Street was, as usual, very well attended and remains one of our biggest successes.

At Christmas we hopefully have started a new tradition of Christmas Carols and songs at St Luke's Church Loscoe and lighting of the advent illuminations outside the church, bringing Loscoe into the Christmas lights celebrations that Heanor has always enjoyed since the start of the Town Council.

Heanor's annual Christmas Celebration took place the following day, we had a new format for this event but closed with the usual spectacular fireworks finale. One of our last appointments was the presentation event at Heanor Town Football Club for their newly formed football academy, from foundation upwards and also the presentation the following evening for the senior sides. It was very heart-warming to be able to handout these awards particularly to the two girls teams, who are just as enthusiastic as the boys.

The final event of the Town Councils year was the May Day event which began rather slowly in slightly dull conditions, but as the weather improved it turned into a very well attended event with everybody enjoying the climbing tower, balancing on some very strange bicycles, petting animals and circus skills all rounded off by Mr Ballooney. The Mayor's Charity will once again be CLAPA, the total amount raised has not yet been finalised however the Council will be informed of the exact amount in the near future.

Finally I would like to thank Laura and her staff for all their help once again this year she continues to exceed all our expectations. I wish the incoming Mayor all the good luck in their new role, and hope they enjoy representing the Town as much as I have enjoyed having the honour of serving the community in which I was born.



CONTACT DETAILS FOR HEANOR AND LOSCOE TOWN COUNCIL

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Derbyshire

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www.heanorandloscoetowncouncil.co.uk

Town Clerk - Mrs Laura West

Town Councillors - Details available from Town Council office and website

Member of Parliament - Nigel J. Mills - Details available from Town Council office and website