

Malton Town Council Annual Report 2023/24

Your Town, Your Council



MALTON TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

1. Mayors Introduction



Pictured above from left to right, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Lindsay Burr, Mayor, Cllr Ian Conlan.
Below St Michaels Church



I am deeply impressed and grateful by how our councillors, staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly this year and as part of a team to make Malton a better place to be. Lindsay Burr MBE Deputy Mayor and our North Yorkshire Cllr has been excellent in her presence at official duties and in day to day assistance and deputising as needed at meetings.

The Clerk and Deputy Clerk have worked fantastically well as a team across a huge range of duties from answering the phone, efficiently preparing for Council meetings, applying for grants, taking a hands on approach to making Malton look great through Malton in Bloom, lighting and street furniture, and a host of other behind the scenes jobs too numerous to mention. The Cemetery Manager has been highly complimented by residents on how he has gone above and beyond in his duties. We are delighted and excited to announce that we are about to employ new member of staff as Malton first Town Ranger taking on work which was previously done by contractors. This will ensure that we can constantly improve and maintain the high standards of Street Maintenance and Malton in Bloom creations that we and our residents have come to expect and appreciate.

I hope you have been excited to see the lights be extended along Yorkersgate which has really brightened up this part of town with all the shimmering and changing colours. Our CCTV information systems have been updated to help residents feel safe, to deter crime, and help catch criminals when crime does occur. I am also delighted to report back that Councillors have been working together for over 3 years now regarding the Rainbow Lane Play area project upgrade. We will be shortly commencing work on a pump track for the Rainbow Lane Play Area, which will be a huge asset for children in our community.

We continue to engage with North Yorkshire Council to find ways to make our community's roads safer, including increasing the number of locations to deploy vehicle activated signs and increasing the area covered by 20mph speed limits, which our Council has voted to support.

I was pleased that residents joined us to create new wildflower areas on Middlecave Road, as part of plans to increase the amount of biodiversity around Malton with areas that are mown less frequently to encourage more wildlife in areas the Council manages.

Community engagement has continued with our Clerks and Councillors meeting residents most months at the monthly Saturday food markets in our Town Council gazebo. However, Cllr Lindsay Burr MBE and I have wanted to explore even better ways for us to have a clear physical and accessible presence in our community for residents to use.

We are so excited to let you know about a marvellous opportunity that has arisen and we want to be making the right decisions to invest in a property (no more high rents) to create a Community Hub in the heart of our town. This move was supported unanimously by Town Councillors and also supported by residents in our public consultation. Our new centrally located community hub with level ground floor access will give us a clearly visible presence and enable fuller engagement with our residents. Our fantastic new Community Hub is anticipated to open in summer 2024.

Also imminent is the final completion of the Malton and Norton Neighbourhood Plan and my particular thanks to Cllr Stephen Pritchard the current chair of the committee, whose skill, dedication and hard work has enabled, together with our Clerks and Planning Consultation, enabled it to get to the stage of being signed off by Malton & Norton Town Councils for a public vote in a referendum.

And finally have been invited as Mayor to represent the Council at a number of events including celebrating the Iron Age Shield Exhibition at Malton Museum, The Lions OAP Annual Dinner, Brake Van Launch of Yorkshire Wolds Railway at Fimber, Remembrance Sunday Service, Pantomime Dick Wittington, and Ryedale Youth Theatre's The Wizard of Oz.

2. Managing Streets, Public Spaces and Council Assets

The Town Council has only limited powers to manage and protect public spaces, however, it continues to fund the town CCTV cameras which are monitored 24 hours a day by Scarborough Borough Council. Malton has a number of Tidy Group volunteers who meet once a month to litter pick and keep our town looking clean. The town greatly appreciates the efforts of the Tidy Group.

Rainbow Lane Play Area will be enhanced with a state of the art pump track due to be installed in summer 2024.



3. The Neighbourhood Plan

Malton Town Council and Norton on Derwent Town Council have produced a Neighbourhood Development Plan. The plan contains a vision for the parishes along with a set of objectives, planning policies and proposals and non-planning community actions to achieve the vision. The planning policies within the plan seek to protect the character and meet the needs of the parishes, with policies guiding new development, notably for traffic, transport and travel, community facilities and services, housing and economic development, as well as protection and enhancement policies relating to the green environment (including Local Green Spaces) and the built environment (including the towns' 3 conservation areas).

The plan is complete and has been the subject of an inspection by an independent examiner which, as of March 2024, is just concluding. The plan will now proceed to a local referendum. If the plan receives a majority vote, North Yorkshire Council will adopt the plan and then become part of the statutory development plan – the Local Plan – for the area. Any planning applications submitted within the boundary will be determined in accordance with this plan. We are expecting adoption of the plan late Summer 2024.

4. Malton In Bloom

For the most part, and thankfully, it would seem that normal life has resumed. Our country is still dogged by economic uncertainty, though it is good to see though that new independent and local retailers have opened up, including the reinvigoration of some of the restaurant and drinking establishments. We love the diversity of the commercial businesses that make up our trading environment. We are told on many occasion, the planting around the town helps boost the local economy and visitor numbers.

We are also pleased to announce that this year we will be entering the inaugural Yorkshire in Bloom Golden Rose Awards 2024, we will be judged on planting choice and layouts, cleanliness, and quality of street furniture etc.

As spring approaches fast, we are looking forward to rolling out our floral stock once again for this year. Our purpose-built timber baskets, which fit better to the railings around the Market Place, have been installed three years now and are a great success. We are looking at improving the perennial planting in the Market Place bed triangles as well as the perennials at the Castlegate bed are ready for an overhaul. We are currently trying to push a few doors which might lead to a large project for the pipeline.

The sensory garden project at Broughton Rise enters its second year. Apart from ongoing maintenance to the lavender maze, the pathway, mushroom seats are now installed together with the Shepherdess and Collie Dog. We will be running a naming competition sometime in the future.

Biodiversity and wilding are at the forefront of many conversations we have. We already have a wonderful large swathe of grass in the cemetery which we leave wild all year long. We are looking at introducing pockets of floral colour and self-seeding pollinators to bolster the butterfly and bee populations. We have rolled out two wildflower beds on Middlecave Road near the School.

The flowers give so much pleasure to so many, and provide another reason to be proud of this town. If you are interested in donating or volunteering with Malton in Bloom contact Tim at deputy.clerk@malton-tc.gov.uk

5. New Office and Community Hub

An opportunity has arisen for your Town Council to stop renting and instead invest in an office, in excellent order which would be used as the new Town Council office and community hub that would belong to the people of Malton and would deliver substantial savings over the long term.

The current offices are not accessible to all residents but has been the home of the Town Council for five years now, it has served us well for staff and Councillors but is on the second floor of the building, and therefore, accessibility for members of the public to meet staff and councillors is not suitable.

The office needs to be highly visible and accessible by as many people as possible. The Market Place area is the commercial centre of Malton and the most visited area by both residents and visitors. Due to the merger of Ryedale District Council to North Yorkshire Council we will be required to offer more support to our residents.



It has always been the Council's long term vision to purchase a secure base. Councillors feel that purchasing 1 Newgate, Malton (pictured above) rather than renting offers better long-term value to the taxpayer. This valuable asset will be owned by the community. We want our new central office to be an accessible drop in centre.

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Jason Aldrich



Martin Brampton



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The Council continue to support community groups and charities through its small grants programme. The groups/organisations below received funding in the last financial year. If you would like your organisation to be added to the funding distribution list, please contact the Clerk. Email: clerk@malton-tc.gov.uk

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Malton Primary Academy
Malton & Norton Musical Theatre
Old Malton St Marys FC
Malton White Star Band

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Our staff team works hard to ensure the delivery of council decisions, looking after administration, Council assets and Malton In Bloom

Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Gail Cook



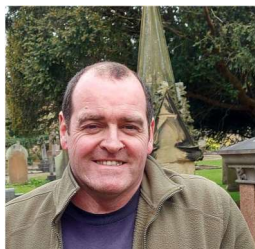
Deputy Town Clerk

Tim Hicks



Cemetery Manager

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Malton Town Council
The Wesley Centre
10-12 Saville Street
Malton
North Yorkshire
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Telephone: 01653 609888
Clerk Email: clerk@malton-tc.gov.uk
Deputy Clerk Email: deputy.clerk@malton-tc.gov.uk
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Annual Report

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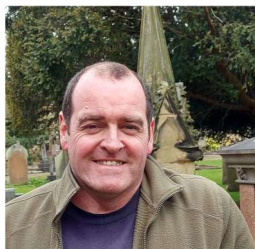
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