**Town Council AGM Report for 2010-11**

**May 10th 2011**

I am pleased to report that the Town Council has had a successful year. On going projects such as Island park play area and the Allotments have proven a great achievement and success for the Town, Island Park has seen a few minor teething problems but these have been resolved successfully with hard work and dedication to the by Councillor Gary Bush.

The Allotments have also been a “growing” success with the first year of cultivation producing bumper yields.

We now have 13 successful plots and the last of the major purchases have now been for filled with the purchase of a Polly tunnel, Equipment shed and a Rotavator, this will now bring the Councils commitment to purchase items for this project to an end.

The Council had a legal commitment to provide Allotments for the Town; the project has now been handed over to The Hatherleigh Allotment Association who will now be responsible for the Daily running of the Allotments with the Town Council taking a back seat, and acting as a monitoring body.

The new Council run Grave yard has now been completed with pathways now in place and the area ready for Burials. We just need to resolve the issue of permissive right of way with the PCC.

The Council have funned several projects in the pass year and given grants and donations to several local organisations in the Town, Two monument in the Town have been restored, The war memorial in the Church and the Morris Monument on the moor have had restoration work done so future generations can benefit from this work.

All the work has been done by local tradesmen and thanks to two individuals who gave there Time and materials for free.

The Council has seen a greater demand on its resources over the past year due to funding cuts from local government we anticipate that this could be a trend for a while until the economy improves.

Parking has been a big issue over the past twelve months and the Council are actively exploring ways to help elevate this problem we have ask local resident on numerous occasions to act responsibly when parking. We have had a consultation with West Devon Highways on advice into stopping parking in the Pinch spots in the Town and a proposal was put forward to the Council but due to West Devon Highways having a reduced Budget this year this idea has had to be abandoned for now.

We are at present looking into the feasibility of turning the car parking into a free parking area we are at present talking to West Devon borough Council on the cost involved in running the car park and what part West Devon will still take in funding the site, if this proves to be viable we will have a public consultation on this to see residents in the Town want this to happen.

I would just like to thank Councillor Dennis Bater for all his hard work on West Devon Council over the past 20 years and congratulate him on his many achievements, and hope he stays on the Town council for many years to come.

Thank-you, also to Madeline Taylor and Malcolm Jacobs for all their hard work and commitment over the past years while serving on the Town Council.

I would just like to finish by saying it has been a privilege and honour working with everyone on the Council over the past year, and thank everyone for your hard work and commitment over the past twelve months

Thank –you

Graham Alford

**Hatherleigh Town Mayor / Chairman to Hatherleigh Town Council**