

## **Hatherleigh Town Council – Our Environment Focus**

In environment related terms the Town Council owns and therefore responsible for the upkeep of Island Park and the new Cemetery behind the church.

It also owns Millennium Corner and the 2 flower beds bottom of South St.

The Council pays for a garden maintenance service of these areas and for a litter picker in Island Park. A street caretaker role has recently been created.

It is responsible for a 99 year lease on the community allotment field at Madewell.

Councillors act as representatives on other Hatherleigh committees which are considered necessary or of interest to council business.

Currently councillors sit on: Allotment Association, Community Centre, Sportsfield.

It is duty bound to have 3 representatives on the Moor Management Committee.

One organisation we are particularly keen to support is OkeRail. This is a group campaigning for the reinstatement of the Northern Rail Line. In conjunction with this we are members of Connect Bude, another rail improvement lobby group.

It also supports by way of an annual donation Okehampton Community Transport.

The Council is part of the Devon County Parish P3 Scheme and we have a councillor keen on monitoring local footpaths.

It also took advantage of Devon County Council offer of free bicycle racks and has installed several outside the Coop and in Millennium Corner.

The Council is a statutory consultee on planning applications and we consider and comment if necessary on aspects of an application we have environmental concerns with, ie tree root damage, swift/bat boxes, permeable driveways.

The continuation of the Tuesday market has been a key focus and we endeavour to monitor and liaise with the developer and market manager thru the development project.

The Town Council website has a 'Help & Links' page with sections aimed at providing useful environmental and public transport information.

We are open to any ideas/suggestions to improve our local environment to enhance our biodiversity and reduce our carbon footprint.