

AGENDA ITEM 8i

General Manager's Overview **MONTHLY REPORT MARCH/APRIL 25** **Council Project based Summary**

Guildhall Refurbishment

Project update:

- Works to the flood defence arrangements for the Guildhall are nearing completion, a contractual omission has been agreed with regards to electronic door furniture and RM Builders are taking over the obligation to arrange for repairs to the flexi-step lift.
- Regular meetings have been held with regard to developing an event for the VE Day Celebrations on 8th May 25 in partnership with Tavistock BID and others with the final schedule being issued after a focus group meeting planned for 16th April 25.
- A Heritage Alliance meeting was held on 19th March.
- Repairs to the BMS have been commissioned for the Guildhall heating system primarily relating to outdoor sensors and main entrance air curtain.
- Etched glass safety stickers have been installed on the main entrance automatic sliding doors and a new sign has been installed on the entrance desk advertising that the Guildhall Gateway Interpretation Centre is free of charge.
- Guildhall free talks scheduled this month and next include, 17th April Dartmoor Prison, 25th murder of PC Potter, 8th May RAF Harrowbeer and 23rd May History of ten tours.
- On 22nd May the Robing Room is booked for the Dementia Memory Café day.

Guildhall toilets provision

Project update:

- Standing item, no change from previous. Next steps when the requested information is received will include a wider discussion around the future of public welfare provision as a whole for Tavistock.

Museum Structural Works

Project update:

- Recently window repairs (including pinning mouldings) have been carried out and additional repointing to the museum frontage around the tower section has been completed.
- Between Tavistock Museum/TTC funding opportunities are being explored in relation to applying for grants, including enveloping repairs and improving internal heating systems.

- Whilst exploring such funding opportunities, a strategy is being developed to address further dry rot and settlement issues.
- **Operational Update**
 - Abbey Remains Project: Unfortunately, the Abbey Remains Group were unsuccessful with their recent grant application to NLHF. Your Officers have discussed the matter with NLHF and have been advised a re-submission would be encouraged if identified unsecured funding (e.g. £200,000 hypothecated to Historic England) was secured. A lengthy discussion with Historic England has been undertaken post the above news, and an approach has been agreed re: submitting the grant application to Historic England, focussing on repair works to Betsy Grimbals Tower only, total project costs £250,000 including professional fees, with the aim to submit the application by week commencing 21st April, determination date up to 2 months. If successful, a resubmission to NLHF will follow. Dependent on funding success, capital improvement works are scheduled to start in early 26.
 - Multi-use wheeled sports area: Following the Special Council Meeting held on 1st April 25, a pre-start meeting has been arranged with the preferred tenderer, Tavi Skate and the Council for 16th April.
 - The Commercial and Community Service Improvement Plan 25/26 will be submitted to Budget and policy on 13th May for consideration.
 - From a compliance perspective, arising from the pot hole register inspections, a programme of works has been completed, IRO £5,000 for resurfacing works/pot hole repairs. The next inspection is scheduled for May/June 25.
 - Works to Abbey Walk and Market Rd retaining walls have been completed with protective fencing now removed.

Yours Sincerely



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General Manager