

Investing in Shepton's Future 2020-2024

Projects and Initiatives Realised to Date

People:

Introduced a Civic Award and Honorary Citizen Award for the first time.
Provided grant funding to local organisations providing cultural events, artistic workshops and entertainment for the town. Including an emergency fund for a Covid-response book service for children and young readers.
Continued support for YMCA and fostered a Shepton-based forum for discussing youth activities.
Streamlined process by defining a yearly schedule for grant applications and meetings. Updated the policy to clarify terms and eligibility.
Councillors attended Community Connector training.
Ran a Friends of Collett Park Users' Group

Placemaking

Commissioned audit of town centre signage and general appearance as part of town signage project.
Signed off on £115K investment in town centre appearance (resurfacing) with new infrastructure such as electrical sockets and cycle racks.
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group continuing its work and nearing completion
Agreement in principle to fund a heritage trail in partnership with local history and conservation society.
Successfully agreed terms for five-year funding agreement to retain the library in its current position and increase its opening hours from 1 st April 2021
Commissioned an art installation with artworks created by local artists using recycled or natural materials in partnership with the Somerset Wildlife Trust and the Art Bank.

Protected Environment

Collaborating with MDC on the Pathways project to improve multi-user paths connected to Shepton Mallet.
Commissioned Collett Park biodiversity study which will form the basis of an updated action plan for Collett Park developed with IdVerde.
Agreed in principle to fund the Pollinator Project with Somerset Wildlife Trust (unfortunately they were unsuccessful in their wider bid for funding).
Recycling bins introduced in the Town Council offices
Collett Park was once again awarded the Green Flag award.
Held successful public meeting with Wessex Water to relay public's concerns and agree process to report and log flooding incidents in future.

Play

Introduced cycle racks and a water fountain in Collett Park to make it easier and safer for users to access the park.
Received funding to complete the extension of the BMX track.

Promotion

Ran the Shepton Mallet Innovator Awards 2020 to promote local businesses.
Produced a desk-top review of current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in terms of tourism in Shepton Mallet.
Ongoing and active participation in the new Mendip Strategic Tourism Group and partnership with work with other Mendip towns.
Ongoing Town Council representation and support to the Chamber of Commerce.
Developed new Town Council branding working with local designers to reflect identity and values of the Town Council.
Published the Town Plan and circulated to all major stakeholders in and around the town.