

46th Annual Town Meeting

To be signed at the next meeting 2020

Minutes of the 46th Town Meeting held in the Council House, 44 Old Street, Clevedon, 7.30pm, Wednesday 25th March 2019.

Present

Cllr J. West – Chairman of Clevedon Town Council Presiding

Town Councillors G. Hill, J. Middleton, B. Hatch, J. Geldart, G. Watkins, C. Francis-Pester, S. Hale, B. Cherokoff, S. Moores, C. Blades

Town Clerk – Ms P Heath PSLCC,
Local Government Electors x 17

Apologies for non-attendance had been given by Cllr J. Norton-Sealey (illness), Cllr L. Little (family commitments), Cllr L. Fone (family commitments)

TM 19/1 MINUTES OF THE 45th TOWN MEETING

Proposed and seconded that the minutes of the 45th Annual Town Meeting held on 25th April 2019 are a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

TM 19/2 ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.

19.2.1 Chairman's Report; Cllr J. West presented her report as circulated prior to the meeting, and thanked members of the Council and public for their support.

19.2.2 Allotment Chairman's report; Cllr Middleton presented the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

19.2.3 Finance & General Policy Committee Chairman's report; Cllr Hill presented the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

19.2.4 Planning Committee Chairman; Cllr Hill presented the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

19.2.5 Property Committee Chairman; Cllr J. Geldart presented the report as circulated prior to the meeting. Commenting on the Town and the maintenance of visible areas of the town.

19.2.6 Town Events and Amenities Committee Chairman; Cllr Francis-Pester presented the report as circulated prior to the meeting, thanking all those who worked on the Christmas Lights. And the presence and assistance in querying issues at North Somerset Council by the Parish Liaison Officer

19.2.7 Transport & Highways Committee Chairman; Cllr Watkins presented the report as circulated prior to the meeting, commenting on the work done by the Committee to improve safety for pedestrians.

In response to a question raised on the reports it was confirmed that the Town Council had been opposed to the removal of the traffic lights at Mill Cross/ Southern Way junction, this had been conveyed to NSC, but no response received.

In response to a question raised on the reports it was explained that the NSC Traffic wardens are scheduled to work in Clevedon, that the Town Council has received a breakdown of the hours in the town, and the number of tickets issued. The misuse of the disabled bay by Nat West Bank will be highlighted to the traffic wardens for future visits.

Proposed seconded and **AGREED** to accept the Chairman's & Committee reports.

TM 19/3 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Town Clerk presented the circulated audited annual accounts to 31st March 2018, proposed, seconded and **AGREED** by the meeting to accept the financial report.

TM19/4 PRESENTATION FROM RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS.

The recipients of annual small grants are requested as part of their grant to attend the Annual Town Meeting and report on the funds they receive and how they were used.

Clevedon Air Cadets £500 Did not attend.

Clevedon Community Resilience £150

Marilyn Edwards one of the Community Resilience team co-ordinators explained how the Community Resilience team works and explained the equipment purchased by team with the grant money.

Clevedon Cricket Club Youth Section £500

Andy Ford explained that the money was used to purchase a bowling machine designed for use by junior players. The Youth section of the Cricket Club now have over 150 ranging from 9- to 15-year-olds boys and girls and aiming this year to work with physically and mentally disabled youngsters.

Clevedon Light Opera Club £150

Nigel Berkley explained that the money had been put towards a new mobile PA System that is used to support the performers in rehearsals, giving a greater flexibility, and enable the group to perform more complex pieces.

Clevedon Men Shed £500 did not attend.

Clevedon United Junior FC £250

Royston Ridge explained that the club now had over 400 children attending and playing football. The grant money had been used towards the extensive internal repairs required to the club house. The success of the club was shown in Jack Butland who became the youngest ever Goalkeeper for England.

In response to a question Mr Ridge confirmed that a solution to the parking issues had been proposed but residents objected.

Daylight Plus Club £250

Eileen Cole explained about the work of the Daylight Plus Club and the impact this had on partially and blind residents being able to meet regularly and share advice, support, and assistance. The grant money is used to pay towards the rent of the meeting rooms.

Golden Oldies Charity £150

Emma Shearman explained about the charity and their patron Sir Cliff Richards, and how the group work with those isolated, and lonely, elderly individuals to meet and interact on a regular basis. The grant from the Town Council helps to pay for the rent of the rooms.

Land Yeo Friends £200

Geoff Harrison explained the background of the Land Yeo Friends and how they work with the Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Board, and riparian owners to maintain the Land Yeo river. The grant from the Town Council was used to purchase a new power washer and towards the revenue costs. The Land Yeo Friends are currently completing the project to create the two rivers walk around Clevedon.

West of England MS Therapy Centre £200 did not attend.

Wellspring Counselling Ltd £500

Sarah Reece explained the background to Wellspring Counselling and how this forms part of the provision by the NHS in this area for mental health support. The service provides professional, affordable help for all age groups. They work with schools and youth groups to provide an early intervention scheme within the schools. 90% of their clients are referred by the GP service. Many of the clients, are on low income, and/or benefits. The charges are on a sliding scale depending on what the client can afford with bursary system to help those at the bottom of the scale. The grant for the Town Council goes towards the revenue costs of the service.

TM 19/5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTOR PARTICIPATION

ELECTRIC CARS

Mr Shaw questioned the increasing use and promotion of Electric Cars which he claimed is not a cost and low carbon alternative. The increase pollution from the Electricity stations out ways the reduced carbon emissions. The Council were requested to promote and improve the public transport system to eliminate the need for cars.

It was explained that Clevedon Town Council had been in discussion with First Bus to improve the public transport provision, but any adjustments need to be commercially viable. It was explained that the advertisements mentioned were in "Somerset Life" which was not in the control of the Town Council, as this was a North Somerset Council publication. Mr Shaw was advised that he could attend a North Somerset Council meeting and address the Councillors there about the reduction of Electric Cars, he had been informed in the past by a District Councillor that this was not possible.

BLOCKED DRAINS

Mrs Hurley queried what was happening concerning the blocked drains, and issue she raised at the last Council meeting. It was explained that the list given to the Council had been passed to the area officer; The Town Clerk would chase to get a clearance date. It was explained that the Town Council had requested the schedule and details of the road sweeper and gully clearance teams.

The meeting closed at 8.51 pm.

CHAIRMAN DATE

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
Cllr David Shopland

Due to Covid-19 the past year has been one of trial and tribulation to the Nation as a whole and has resulted in the curtailment and adaption of many of the Town Council's normal workings and activities.

Throughout these trying times both Councillors and the Staff are to be congratulated for the way in which they have coped with the many problems that have faced them and that together with the addition of six new Councillors bodes well for the future.

Clevedon and its Town Council is in good fettle and looks forward to the resumption of 'services as normal', as soon as possible, when it will again be able to fully work and serve the residents of Clevedon to the best of its ability.

Cllr D. W Shopland
Chairman of Clevedon Town Council.
April 2021

REPORT OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
CHAIRMAN CLLR RICHARD WESTWOOD

The Allotments Committee

This past year has obviously been very much affected by the pandemic, and I would like to begin by giving everyone associated with the allotments a big pat on the back, for, by and large, making the most of the opportunity for constructive and healthy leisure that the allotments embody. This was very evident to me during the visits I have made to each of the sites during the past year. In particular I congratulate all three of the Clevedon Town Council clerks, Paula, Sue, and Cathy for their unfailing good humour and efficiency in supporting the allotments.

In the Autumn of last year, following a survey of the allotment sites by myself and John Forbes (now Cllr Forbes) it became clear that all of the sites had maintenance issues that needed addressing, some fairly urgently. Without going into detail, all of which is available in the minutes of the Allotments Cttee, the issues can be summarised as involving, 'taps, tanks, and boundary walls/ fences'.

At the February meeting of the Cttee a programme of works/ actions was agreed upon, and I am very pleased to be able to report that our (socially distanced, of course!) volunteer work parties have made considerable progress at Westbourne Avenue, Moor Lane and Church Hill. Particular thanks to, Steve Murtagh, Janet Pilsworth, Colin Robinson and Andy Stephens.

CLLR RICHARD WESTWOOD
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE
April 2021

REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN CLLR HANNAH YOUNG

The Finance and General Policy Committee (F&GP) continues to oversee Council income and spending and ensure that the Council is managing money properly and securing best value for local residents.

In setting its financial plan this year the Council was mindful of the many extra local tax demands that have fallen to residents in recent years including the new social care precept and above-inflation rises in policing precept, as well as the debt many are facing as a result of Covid.

This year the Committee led 'Community Conversations' – a process of engagement with local community organisations, businesses and residents to understand the financial and social impact of this year's rapid changes on the town and to inform priorities for Town Council finance and policy. Through this concerns were raised about the potential loss of access to face-to-face services for people in the town. A key outcome was partnership interest in creating a community hub location where several community support organisations could be accessed together.

We maintained the Town Council precept with no increase by reviewing all expenditure, reducing the budget for administration costs – those of running our offices – and by paying off the loan that enabled us to take on Clevedon Public Toilets when the service was cut by North Somerset Council. The toilets will continue to be part of our core service for therefore cost us less.

During the year we awarded grants to voluntary and community groups working to support local residents particularly through the difficulties faced as a result of Covid. These included an emergency grant to Clevedon Aid and small grants to Great Western Air Ambulance, Home Start North Somerset, Wellspring Counselling and continued grant support to Nailsea & Community District Transport. We also increased our regular allocation to the YMCA and provided a small grant to Clevedon United Junior Football Club to help to address the specific needs of young people. In line with our commitment to environmental protection within the town we also gave support to the Friends of the Land Yeo and the Toad and Newt Patrol.

The Committee welcomed presentations from The Barn Youth and Community Centre and YMCA, which each receive one of the Council's regular large grants, as well as from Clevedon Aid.

The Committee has ensured effective management of the Trusts that the Council manages for the benefit of the people of Clevedon to ensure these remain solvent and provide best value to the community. This has meant taking on full management of Herbert Gardens under the 1906 Open Spaces Act and clarifying arrangements for the Village Hall enabling the Council (as corporate trustee) to agree sale of this building, which required significant and expensive repair, for reinvestment of the funds to a similar purpose or organisation in the town. The committee has also initiated work to explore options for community-led housing in Clevedon through a Community Land Trust.

Through its Staffing sub-committee, the Committee also oversees the work of the Council staff and office. I am very grateful for the hard work and commitment of the Clerk and her team who have worked hard this year to support the community through the pandemic, open facilities such as the seafront tennis courts as soon as possible, and welcome a number of new Councillors.

CLLR. HANNAH YOUNG
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE
April 2021

REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON – CLLR ANGELA EVERITT

As chair of the planning committee since May 2019, I have pleasure in presenting this annual report, for the year 2020-21. This report, following on from the previous Annual Report, is for the period 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2021.

I take this opportunity to thank Sue Howard, our committed and conscientious deputy town clerk who ensures that the work of the planning committee is undertaken efficiently and effectively; to Cllr Nikki Barton, my vice chair and to all committee members for taking their responsibilities seriously. Particular thanks to Councillor Graham Hill for stepping in to chair the Zoom meeting I was unable to access. And I extend my thanks for the first time to Brian Chislett who, in July 2019, voluntarily applied to act as our Tree Warden. His advice when we consider applications for tree works to be carried out is much appreciated.

I have also valued the interest in planning demonstrated by those members of the public who visit our meetings and write to us about planning applications. Finally, my thanks to all Clevedon's District Councillors for valuable contributions to our considerations of planning applications and consultations.

The planning committee has conducted business on a total of 19 occasions during the period covered by this report: through email communication between members of the committee for the March 2020 and April 2020 meetings prior to the implementation of online meeting arrangements; and all subsequent meetings have been conducted by Zoom, complying with Government advice and Covid 19 legislation. In addition to the regular monthly meetings, five special meetings have been called to consider: in May 2020, the resubmission of the planning application for the proposed development at Stafford Garage, 1 Woodlands Road; also in May, the planning application for building a single storey school for 3 to 19 year olds with profound and multiple learning difficulties on land adjacent to Brookfield Walk; also in May, the presentation from Wessex Investors 'Investing in Clevedon Town Centre'; in September, the planning application to reconfigure and extend retail provision at B&M Bargains with a gym, senior living accommodation and changes to the car park and landscaping; and in February 2021, amended plans for the B&M development. Planning Committee members also held a discussion meeting in October 2020 to consider their response to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government White Paper 'Planning for our Future'. From the beginning of March 2020 to the end of March 2021, the Planning Committee has considered a total of 173 planning applications, including resubmissions and amendments, and 55 applications for tree works. The Committee continues to recognise the Town Council's climate emergency resolution in advising residents that any trees felled be replaced with other trees.

During this time, the planning committee has engaged in a number of consultations: the first two stages of the North Somerset Local Plan 2038, Challenges, and Choices; the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultations on a range of proposed changes to the current planning system, on the White Paper 'Planning for our Future', and on Transparency and Competition proposals with respect to land control.

The year ended with the planning committee making a recommendation, adopted unanimously by the Town Council, that a Placemaking strategy for Clevedon Town Centre be pursued with North Somerset Council involving community consultation.

**Cllr ANGELA EVERITT
CHAIRPERSON, PLANNING COMMITTEE
APRIL 2021**

**REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN - CLLR JUDITH WEST**

Covid 19 As with other Organisations we have had to adapt to using Zoom for all our Meetings including Full Council. We have now passed the first year of doing this and are hopeful that we can look forward to meetings being held at the Council Offices.

Many thanks to members of this committee for their input at the meetings as also to our Deputy Clerk for her continued support.

The Town Council is responsible for the following:

As Owners: The Council Offices and Cottage at 44 Old Street. 6 Allotment sites, Triangle Clock, land between Highdale Road/Highdale Avenue and land at Brookfield Walk known as the Millennium Orchard.

We have completed some repairs to the Council Offices and the cottage over this last year due to Health & Safety, compliance with Covid-19 regulations, and some to wear and tear.

As Trustees: Village Hall, Herbert Gardens, The Barn. The Council continues to monitor the trees in Herbert Gardens and will be looking at and acting on reports received to ensure their safety. The Village Hall is now vacant, and the Trustees are now seeking a valuation with the intention of selling this building as it is no longer able to support the trusts aims.

On lease: land on the Seafront including the Skate & Wheel Park together with the Tennis Courts and Multi Use Games Area, further along the sea front the Millennium Monument. The council also leases the toilets in Station Road and Elton Road.

We are working the Skate Park Project who are committed to source funding for a revamped/rebuilt skatepark and a new pump track. We are pleased to support all the facilities on the seafront are well used.

CLLR JUDITH WEST
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, PROPERTY COMMITTEE
April 2021

REPORT OF THE TOWN EVENTS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN – CLLR. CARL FRANCIS-PESTER

The Town Events and Amenities Committee (TEA) looks after the amenities in the town which are owned or managed by the Town Council. It is also responsible for co-ordinating Council-run events and appointing councillors to serve on bodies outside the Council, in which the Council has an interest. Understandably, during the past year, events have been curtailed due to COVID-19 regulations and those organisations which have continued to meet have tended to do so online.

In liaison with North Somerset council and representative from neighbouring town councils, TEA has overseen the upgrade to the Town's CCTV system, supplying new digital cameras providing much higher quality images to support Police crime prevention and public safety initiatives. The Town also has a share in a mobile camera which can be moved between towns and trouble spots as necessary. This project has been delivered to the agreed specification and within budget.

The Committee has been working with North Somerset Tennis Academy (NSTA) to facilitate the use of the tennis courts on the seafront for regular tuition as well as use by the public. A formal service level agreement is now in place between NSTA and the Council, which is reviewed regularly to ensure it is clear which courts are in use on which days for organised tuition and which are available to the public. Should demands change, the SLA can be revised.

Over the past year TEA committee members became more and more concerned that our dog bin emptying contractor was failing to meet his obligations, causing bins to overflow, smell and look unsightly. Following a recent contract tendering exercise, a new contractor has been appointed and the Council has taken the opportunity to put in a number of new bins and re-position one or two of the existing ones.

In addition to its regular activities, the TEA Committee has gratefully supported Clevedon Community Gardeners as they have undertaken planting and maintenance work, particularly at Pier Copse. Work is in hand with the 'Rock It' group to put the COVID-19 cobra snack – made from printed pebbles – in the flower beds at the bandstand. This will serve as a small permanent reminder of activities ongoing in the Town during the pandemic.

At its committee meetings TEA members continue to hold North Somerset Council to account for repairs required to areas of streets and open spaces overgrown foliage around the Town, so that Clevedon remains attractive to residents and visitors alike.

As always, thanks are due to all members of the Committee for their support throughout a strange and often difficult year, as well and Sue, our committee clerk and Paula and Cathy at the Town Council offices.

**CLLR. CARL FRANCIS-PESTER
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, TOWN EVENTS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE
April 2021**

REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CLLR NIKKI BARTON

It has been my privilege to serve as the Chair of Clevedon Town T&H Committee. I would like to thank the committee members for their support, diligence and hard work throughout this Covid stricken year. They have worked in a professional and dedicated manner for the benefit of Clevedon. In addition I would also like to thank our Clevedon Town Council (CTC) office team - Town Clerk Paula Heath, Deputy-Town Clerk Sue Howard and Officer Cathy Boundy for the efficient and helpful support they continue to provide.

During the Covid year, the Councillors and officers have had to respond quickly to fast-moving and complicated situations including the emergence of numerous road changes, bollarding and the loss of parking space. Our Council priorities changed to meet the demands of social distancing and periods of lockdown. The Office team and Councillors have been active in dealing with new consultations and directives. Clevedon, like many other towns in North Somerset became part of the Clean Air and Active Travel programme with its additional government funding earmarked to reduce the number of vehicles in order to lower traffic emissions and to introduce new cycle-ways and enhanced walkways to enable easier access to our green open spaces.

There have been several proposals this year which have taken place on the future improvement of our town. These schemes include our Town Centre development, the Triangle, Hill Road and The Beach traffic programme, the Greenspaces consultation, the rejection of the introduction of parking charges and the withdrawal of Rural Roads TRO scheme on the outskirts of Clevedon which is pending further review.

Finally, as we move post-Covid into a period of regeneration we need to formulate a strategic review of our town and its future.

CTC will continue to work with North Somerset Council (NSC), town developers and planners, the business community, local groups and our residents to ensure we all have a say on the future of our town. Most importantly, consultation of local opinion is essential to achieve a joint plan we can all be proud of.

Headlines Items Extracted from Official Committee Meeting Minutes 2020/2021

February 2020

Council formally agreed to object to the parking review proposals -- Review NSC update on cycling, walking and bus network consultation -- Received proposals and costs of Highdale Road traffic calming scheme from NSC.

June 2020

Introduce and Support NSC, Covid social distancing measures for Clevedon, including Triangle area and adjoining roads. -- Rejected proposal by NSC to remove Hill Road parking to create 2m distance for additional footpaths. -- Resolved to support a holistic plan for traffic flow and management in the town -- Received NSC's proposals on the Great Western Road parking and traffic management. - Received NSC's report on implementation and issues arising from Clevedon Covid bollard scheme.

Chairman items for information -- Linden Road potholes, Southern Way 30mph speed restrictions and green matting on seafront, a Covid measure to enable people to walk on grassed area.

September 2020

Update from NSC planning team on the Hill Road and The Beach proposed development. -- Recorded priorities and concerns raised by T&H councillors on parking and traffic management and implementation of new one-way system along Beach Road and Hill Road.

November 2020

Review of waste services and street orderlies.-- Received NSC updated report on Parking review -- Received NSC footpath clearance programme.-- Received updated report on Traffic Flow Management Master Plan. Agreed development to commence later in the year.

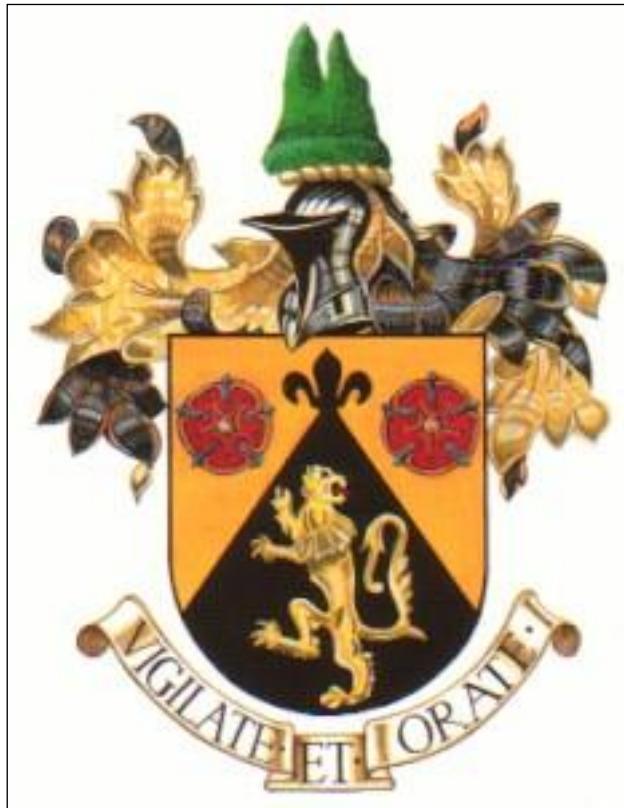
- Received update on Walton Road traffic scheme -- Received budget request for 2021/2022 - Noted that NSC received funding for quiet lanes initiatives. -- Highdale Road residents attended Zoom meeting and provided feedback in respect of NSC proposed traffic management scheme. Chairman items for information/action – drainage, overgrown hedges, pathways, Climate Emergency Group report, electric cycles.

January 2021

Update of Hill Road/The Beach one-way traffic systems first presented to Council Sept 2020 (funded by Govt Active Travel Fund).

-- Agreed Draft Travel Master Plan. Works include traffic flow, key cycle paths and electric vehicle strategy.-- Resolved to adopt the Cycleway/Footpath Survey and Work Plan funded by NSC and CTC. All councillors to assist in surveying their ward pathways.

CLLR NIKKI BARTON
TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE CHAIR
April 2021



CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1ST APRIL 2019 TO 31ST MARCH 2020

AND

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT
31ST MARCH 2020**

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2020

1	A list of all assets owned by Clevedon Town Council, or held in trust is recorded in the office.		
	<u>Land held on behalf of the people of Clevedon - nominal value.</u> Moor Lane Allotments Cemetery Allotments Millennium Orchard Land between Highdale Avenue and Highdale Road Highdale Avenue Allotments Victoria Road Allotments Church Hill Allotments Westbourne Allotments	£1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £8	
	<u>Property – per formal Valuation 25.03.2004</u> The School House & The Council Offices, 42/44 Old Street Clock Tower		£1,465,000
	<u>Street Fixture, Furniture and Memorials</u>		£279,775
	<u>Council Offices</u>		£12,091
	Total Assets allocated or assigned to Clevedon Town Council.		£1,756,874
	Land Held on Lease by the Town Council Skate & Wheel Park – to Oct 2032 Multi Use Games Area - to Oct 2032 Salthouse Fields Tennis Courts – to Oct 2032 The Chalet Toilets - to Oct 2112 Station Road Toilets – to Oct 2112		

2	<u>Cash at Bank</u>		
	Nat West – Current Account	£2728	
	Unity Trust – Current Account	£243344	
	Unity Trust – Allotments Accounts	£30164	
	Investment Accounts - CCLA	£220000	
	Investment Accounts – NS & I Allotments	£26008	
	Investment Accounts – Allotment Holding Deposits	£8358	
	Petty Cash & Pre-paid debit cards	£189	£530791
3	<u>Debtors</u>		
	Vat	£19103	
	Sales Day Books	£797	
	Sundry Debtors		
	Prepayments	£14485	£34385
4	<u>Creditors</u>		
	Purchase Day Books	£24437	
	PAYE/Pension	£5466	
	Sundry Creditors	£3315	£33218
5	<u>Trustee Reserve</u>		
	Clevedon Town Council act as trustees for Herbert Gardens and the Village Hall as under Public Trustees Rules 19.12 (as amended).		
	Debtor to Clevedon Town Council for underwriting expenditure	-£40401	
	Creditor to Clevedon town Council for underwrite expenditure	£50274	
	Cash held in Trust Bank Account	£44176	£54049
6	<u>Pensions</u>		
	Clevedon Town Council is a member of the Bath and North East Somerset Pension scheme as per Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 SO 1997/1612 (as amended).		