

FROME TOWN COUNCIL
making Frome a better place

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

Annual Report 2013 - 2014

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Introduction

We recognise the limited role of the Town Council but believe genuinely that the time is right for towns like Frome to have a greater influence over their own destiny. We believe that this Town Council can sow the seeds of long term change, and make key decisions which will enable Frome to be more resilient and better able to take advantage of the challenges that lie ahead.

The Council's "Strategy for Success" was created in 2011 and sets out our priorities. A copy of the Strategy can be found on our website - <http://www.frometowncouncil.gov.uk/publications-strategic-documents/> alongside a summary of progress to date and detailed actions which implement it.

Frome Town Council was formed in 1974 following the reorganisation of local government in England and has 17 Councillors representing 6 Wards.

Frome Town Council is the parish authority for the town of Frome and is the largest of the 52 parishes in the Mendip district. It is the third tier of local government working with County Council and the District Council.

Frome Town Council provides a community and business leadership role as well as many services to the people of Frome. It also promotes Frome as a destination for future businesses and visitors and represents the town with other national and statutory bodies. The Town Council acts as a consultee and lobbyist articulating and advancing the wishes and needs of the local community.

Each year the Town Council calculates the money it needs to raise to provide its services and any projects planned for the year ahead. Then it deducts the income which it expects to receive from fundraising and other income leaving a net amount that it needs to deliver those services and projects.

This sum, called the precept, is the amount it levies on Mendip District Council and which is collected as a proportion of the total Council Tax paid by Frome households. For the financial year 2013/2014 the precept was £991,618.

We welcome any views on this Annual Report and on the services provided by the Town Council. Members of the public are also very welcome to attend every Council meeting to ask questions, make comments and raise matters of local interest.

Please send any comments to the Town Clerk at 5 Palmer Street, Frome, BA11 1DS, or phone 01373 465757, or email to info@frometowncouncil.gov.uk

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Report from Cllr Mel Usher, Leader of the Council

The Council has gone from strength to strength, tackling new and exciting issues, consolidating existing services and increased air of professionalism.

We have grouped our work in the year ahead into five themes:

1. Boosting the identity and reputation of the town
2. Creating a thriving town centre
3. Self-Reliance, Frome increasingly looking after itself
4. Making the best use of open spaces
5. Democracy and Engagement

1. Boosting the identity and reputation of the town

The town's reputation is changing. We are now seen nationally, and even internationally, as a place that's buzzy, creative and exciting. That's due to the hard work of the people who live and work here but also because the Town Council had a plan based on; *"let's see how far we can increase media coverage and let's take communication more seriously."*

A small seed corn contribution from the government went a long way, leading to articles as far apart as The Lady, The Guardian, The New York Times and numerous travel blogs. Admittedly it's produced a lot of extraneous froth success 'the sixth coolest town in Britain' 'the hipsturbia capital of the UK' and one of the best towns in the country to live according to the Sunday Times in March.

Some residents are not keen on this kind of publicity and I can understand that, sometimes I too wonder whether I am living in the same place these journalists write about. The exposure does make a difference; though partly in how people view the town externally but also how we feel about it internally. Boosting the identity of, and pride in, the town counts on many fronts; investors opening new businesses, parents selecting schools, modernising property or even not dropping litter. We will continue to look for opportunities in the future to present the town optimistically.

2. Creating a thriving Town centre

Finishing the Cheese and Grain has been a big boost. Together with the trustees we have secured its future and brought new faces and investment into the town.

The markets are better and certainly the Independent Market once a month goes from strength to strength. We will work hard to mirror that success in the Wednesday and Saturday markets as well as the Farmers and Country Markets held during the week. We will continue to add more entertainment into the mix, that's what people want from their town centre experience.

Perhaps next year we will begin to see a resolution to the Saxonvale issue. The planning application by Frontier Estates was not up to standard and the Town Council voted against it. The Highways Authority at the County Council has also objected. Mendip have yet to make a decision. The tide has turned against large supermarkets and most are investing in smaller neighbourhood stores.

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We have renewed our commitment to the Town Centre by employing a Town Centre Regeneration Manager and putting aside a sum for completely revamping the area around Boyle Cross. In the Market Place, we have the plans, we have consulted, we have the money all we need to do now is move the processes forward.

Successful small towns will show that they are “different”; flaunting their own unique selling points. However they must be clean, green and safe. Town centres will be more pedestrian friendly allowing greater opportunities for strolling and enjoying the company of others. There will be a plethora of regular exciting events so that people are surprised and delighted. The growth of interesting local shops will continue to be popular; you don’t get that experience on the web. Popular towns will be welcoming with good signage and street furniture. As a town we should be brave enough to encourage more temporary buildings and pop up businesses through rapid decision making and minimising red tape.

3. Self-reliance – Frome looking after itself

A slow erosion of our employment base, including the manufacturing and public sector means we may risk becoming more of a dormitory town. One bright spot is a continued growth in small enterprises especially in the creative sector. Growth here would be faster if we find more suitable locations and we are working hard to.

Energy demand and its cost will continue to worry many people and we will look to increasing renewables, working with businesses and householders to reduce energy usage and to reduce their waste.

Following some extensive research we will be providing a roving youth worker to go to where young people are “hanging out” and helping the Youth Council to recommend a significant element of our spend next year. We have a Mayor for Young People and she and her Deputy are becoming rightly more challenging and the profile of their peers is getting higher and higher.

We will be working more closely with Frome College next year to launch an Apprentice Hub to ensure that local students who don’t want to go to University can stay in the town and learn new skills and ideally work here.

Finally we have money available, £80k for grants per annum for the voluntary sector. The Frome Development Community Interest Company also has £50k to distribute.

Parks and open spaces

2014 will see a significant step up in the amount of parkland looked after by the town. We will take over the Dippy from the District and we have already consulted with the local community. Plans are underway for the Victoria Park and the Mary Baily Playing Field, whilst Rodden Meadow will be expanded and made more accessible. We would love to take over the Showfield and manage it as a proper park which we can all be proud of.

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Democracy and Engagement

This is a central plank of this Council and we are exploring ever more local democracy, engaging local people to deliver the town they want.

Most meaningful engagement usually takes place at a local level on subjects residents feel passionately about. This Council will be a beacon of good practice and we will encourage our District and County partners to work with us to allow Frome to have a greater say in its own destiny.

Local Government as we have known it is dead. Few organisations can withstand the cuts faced by the County and District and expect to carry on as before. The 3 tier system of County, District and Parish/Town Councils has no future, it's top heavy, unwieldy and bureaucratic. The disturbance of a long standing system through the austerity measures is now leading to turf wars and disharmony. Cutting down on the number of Councils and having a truly local Council, something different and more influential than the current Town Council, in touch with local people helping them deliver what they want, is a model worth exploring. We have recently been told to stay away from highway issues as it's a County function, to keep out of planning issues because they belong to the District and that only County Councillors should help petitioners save a bus service because it's a County responsibility we will not! If there's a problem let's find a solution, and if people have a concern let's see what's the best way of helping them.

Voluntary Sector

The last year has seen a blossoming of new groups and a consolidation of older across the town. That's one of the things people like about living in Frome. A new body called Fair Frome has emerged and is intending to run a community food bank, to help extend the credit union and to be a campaigning voice. It's a recognition that poverty exists in all parts of the country and it won't necessarily get any better soon.

Frome Community Hub – “The Public’s Offices”

The Social Services are moving out of their Christchurch Street office and the County Council, after some chivvying by us, has offered the Town Council the opportunity to buy the building and use it as a community hub – a genuine office for the public not just local government. It's a big scheme and much will depend on what the County Council wants for the building, ideally it would be free that's how they inherited it on local government reorganisation, but it's a fantastic opportunity. We are in the very early stages of coming up with a plan of how to make best use of the space and we will be talking to local groups across the summer.

Lessons

I know of no other Town Council that is as involved in so many projects. Sometimes we bite off more than we can chew but I'd rather do that than be sitting around twiddling our thumbs. Finally can I thank all of the dedicated staff for their hard work, it's much appreciated, normally all they get are brickbats so let's recognise them.

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Report from the Mayor 2012-2013 - Cllr Dickon Moore

This year has been an exciting one for Frome and a pleasure to take part in as Mayor. The experience of carrying out this role has confirmed my belief that Frome is a thriving, creative and fun place that is full of wonderful people doing wonderful things.

I began the civic year attending events such as the St Johns Well Dressing and by visiting schools in the town. Before long Frome Festival was upon us, the highlight of the Frome calendar. The Mayoress, Maddy, and I attended as many events as possible and were incredibly impressed by the broad range of activities on offer this year.

In July I was lucky enough to visit the beautiful town of Rabka in Poland, one of Frome's twin towns. I'm pleased to say that our football team played very well and formed some great friendships too. I am still working on persuading the French to take up their national sport and cycle to Frome low-cost and low-carbon instead of driving or flying!

2013 drew to a close with two brilliant events: the Frome Carnival and the Christmas Extravaganza. Maddy and I decided to continue the tradition of doing something a bit wacky at the Carnival and completed the route on a tandem with a home-made flag in tow. Huge diversity was displayed in this year's entries and it was inspiring to see so much of Frome's creativity on show at once. Anyone who attended the Christmas Extravaganza will not be forgetting it anytime soon. It was an honour to meet and welcome back Jenson Button and to see him in full F1 action on the streets of Frome.

Christmas was one of the highlights of the year. Maddy and I have never sung so many carols or eaten so many mince pies in such a short space of time!

Congratulations to Oliver Morten, the winner of my Christmas card competition who drew a beautiful image of the Museum and North Parade. The care given by people in the town on Christmas day is incredibly heartening. We were particularly touched by the selfless work of the staff at Frome Hospital, and were so impressed that we decided to award two of the nurses with Civic Awards: Samantha Bull and Ruth Diligent. Civic Awards also went to: John Birkett-Smith for his dedication to the success of the Cheese & Grain, Richard Brindle for his philanthropy in the town through the Frome Development CIC and Fair Frome, and John Fuller for his services to sport in the town, which he has provided continuously through his life. These recipients have contributed enormously to the town and epitomise for me the power of community spirit that we have here.

Fundraising for my three chosen charities has been a big part of the role. I decided to choose the following three local organisations, all of whom do great work in the town:

- Friends of the River Frome, who promote and care for Frome's river corridor, working to make it clean, green and accessible to all.

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- Openstorytellers, who encourage social inclusion of people with learning and communication difficulties in the town through use of narrative and story.
- Frome Recreation and Open Ground Supporters, also known as FROGS, a group that support the protection and enjoyment of outdoor spaces in the town.

I decided to be a bit different in my fundraising methods, producing the 'Frome Tie', cycling from Frome to Chateau-Gontier (another of Frome's twin towns), holding the 'Made in Frome' Film Night and hosting hundreds of visitors at The Mayor's Garden Party. These activities have raised around £2000. I am glad to be able to support such worthwhile local causes and wish my three charities the best for the future.

I'm proud of the achievements of Frome Town Council since I became a Councillor in 2011, I am glad that we do things a bit differently here: transformation of the town into an F1 racetrack, Councillors getting out their jack-hammers to improve our streets and giving a 22-year old the opportunity to become Mayor aren't things that you would be likely to find in most towns. As I'm sure you know if you live here, Frome is wonderful place and I have hugely enjoyed finding out even more about the wonderful things that happen in our town.

Report from Cllr Toby Eliot, Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee

Frome Town Council's Internal Affairs Committee (IAC) oversees the running of the Council and all the standard projects and work that it undertakes. This doesn't mean that we do the same thing every year; quite the opposite. We're constantly looking for ways to improve what we do, be more efficient and offer better value to the residents of Frome. That's what underpins what we've done this year.

Staff

There was no major review of staffing this year but there were some tweaks. There was a feeling that our heavy focus on the town centre meant that other priorities had less staff time. Therefore we replaced one full-time Town Centre manager with a part-time Regeneration Manager and part-time Energy and Recycling Officer. This brings the number of specialists in the FTC team to six. Creating specialist roles means we have been able to attract talented, qualified individuals who can achieve more of what we want to see in our town.

We've also created an additional apprenticeship in the Planning team. As well as training another local young person we're also spreading the workload of dealing with the increase in large scale planning applications; understanding and explaining to the public and Councillors alike.

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Ethical decisions

Earlier in the year we adopted, an ethical decision making matrix that had been developed with local experts. The point of this was to insure that when the Council spent any significant money with other organisations that those organisations were ones all the people of Frome would be relatively happy with. Behind this is an understanding that not every decision should be based on cost.

In its first use the ethical decision matrix was applied to FTC's investment options. FTC holds a significant amount of money as reserves in order to spend on projects as the opportunity arises. Previously this money had been held in short to medium term investment in our bank. The ethical decision matrix allowed IAC to adopt a new investment strategy and to select investment opportunities that we believe to be more ethical.

Budget

As well as making changes to improve the way the Council is run the IAC has the responsibility of monitoring the budget. We have seen another successful year with serious investment in a number of areas across the town. At the same time the total amount held in reserve increased by £7,000. Over the last 12 months we've used allocated funds for;

- Improving the equipment available for town centre markets,
- Starting our project of creating a community hub,
- Enabling Jenson Button's visit to the Christmas Extravaganza,
- Developing Frome's Neighbourhood Plan,
- Building provision for young people including the start of Frome Apprenticeship Hub,
- Funding for the poverty alleviation organisation Fair Frome
- Providing litter bins.

Some of this spending was enabled by an additional grant received by FTC which partially compensated for the additional Council tax imposed by national government which was identified as Town Council Precept on Council tax bills.

Additional funds came from the relentless pursuit of Mendip District Council for money paid by builders when land has been developed (known as section 106 money). This often comes with conditions but is always to be used for the benefit of the community. In the last year the work of FTC released an additional £45,000 to be spent in the Town.

Overall the Council stuck very closely to its spending plan and full details can be found in the financial section of this report. We still hold money in reserve although most of it is allocated in 'Ear-marked reserves' to specific projects including the Community Hub and the Town Centre renovation.

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Report from Cllr Peter Macfadyen, Chair of External Affairs Committee

The External Affairs Committee covers everything which we support, rather than directly control. This structure gives us clarity and transparency. The ethos of Council is about supporting the community to help itself within a strategic framework – External Affairs exists to facilitate this process.

We do this in two ways.

Getting more people involved

For example, opening up meetings and increasing participation. We've often had 20 or 30 people at External Affairs meetings and invited members of community groups to speak at meetings. As Councillors we are not necessarily experts in anything, certainly not everything, and there is a vast pool of skills and experience in Frome. We've brought experts from the community in to tell us what to do on issues including open spaces and walking and cycling as well as holding detailed consultations on areas such as the Dippy, Rodden Meadow and Victoria park. These have taken a while, but we are now in a position to start enacting many of the wishes that have been expressed to us – again, working closely with community groups to implement the plans. This year has seen concerns raised at External Affairs around poverty in Frome, leading to intense activity with those in the know, and the formation and funding of a new independent charity (Fair Frome) to co-ordinate work.

This year saw the first Participate Frome week, where we trialled a range of ways of consulting with the people of Frome beyond just a clipboard. This was a great success – not least teaching us things we can take forward and adapt for future years. Much of the findings from the week will go towards working with Vision for Frome to update the Community Plan. The aim is to develop ways in which there is genuine consultation and participation throughout the year, rather than an election every four years and little in between.

Supporting community based organisations

This year we further strengthened partnerships with organisations like FROGS, and Friends of the River Frome. Despite how long it takes for permissions to be granted, the Friends have been steadily moving ahead with the Council to implement sections of the River Strategy. We've also worked to give greater autonomy to groups including the Allotment Association so that they can make decisions outside of Council constraints in meeting the needs of their members. A key area of work has been around community grant making. Frome gives far more money out in this way than most other Councils. We provided small grants of up to £300 and larger ones of up to £3,000 last year – with over £80,000 worth of grants made during the year. We have also made significant grants to two key public events – the Festival and the Carnival – providing strategic longer term support under 'economic development'. In addition to the grants we provide support through a dedicated Community Projects Officer who has consistently provided a very high quality service to help groups reach their potential. And to further enhance this

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vital area of our work, the Council have contracted a company to provide technical support with fundraising and to guide groups to available funding. This service has raised around eight times what it cost.

The External Affairs committee also oversees the Council's work on the Neighbourhood Plan. Which has been slower than we expected but in part this is because of the excellent feedback the draft report received and the need to incorporate this into the final version! The need for the Neighbourhood Plan grows by the day as Frome comes under increased pressure from the wrong types of development, so we hope it will reach a referendum in the near future.

Report from Cllr Graham Burgess, Chair of the Planning Sub Committee

The Planning sub-committee continues to meet every three weeks in order to mesh with MDC's planning cycle so that we see every planning application within the parish. We raise for discussion those applications judged to be important to the town and any others which Councillors or members of the public wish us to discuss.

This has, however, been in many ways an extraordinary year in planning terms. We have seen a large number of major schemes proposed during the past 12 months including Butler Tanner & Dennis, Saxonvale, T H White, the Police Station, Southfield Farm, Little Keyford and Packsaddle amongst others, predominantly for housing. This amounts to around 1000 applications for new houses in Frome. It is unprecedented and at about six times the previous average annual rate.

This upsurge coincides exactly with the National Planning Policy Framework's adoption in March 2013. It is a national phenomenon and has evidently been well-planned, beginning with successful legal challenges to numerous Local Plans, leaving the NPPF as the only defence against unrestricted development in many cases. The MDC Local Plan also fell victim to this. The NPPF document has been widely judged to be woolly and insubstantial, such that large developments which include no affordable housing, or developments outside established development limits are being routinely approved by planning officers for fear of losing on appeal. If all these houses are built, we will have almost fulfilled our twenty two year supply in only eight years, and will be left with an enduring legacy of poor-quality development-blight for many years to come.

Moreover, we have had several disappointments over the year, particularly where developers have had applications approved which are clearly against the spirit and letter of our emerging Neighbourhood Plan, especially with regard to amenity, urban design, affordability and preservation of employment land.

I hope that we can look forward to working once again within a reinstated and robust planning structure in the near future.

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Frome Town Councillors

The Town Council has 17 Councillors elected for a term of four years. The Civic year runs from May to April. The election of the Mayor, who is the Chair of the Council, and the Deputy Mayor, takes place at the Annual Town Council Meeting each May. These roles are filled by Councillors who have been nominated and voted for by their fellow Councillors. The Council also elects a Leader of the Council.

Councillors have to act within the ethical framework laid down by law and must sign a Code of Conduct. They have decided to remain unpaid, and currently do not receive any attendance allowance or payments for their duties, which they undertake on a purely voluntary basis. The Mayor receives a small allowance to cover the expenses of their public office.

The town is split into six areas, known as wards. These are:





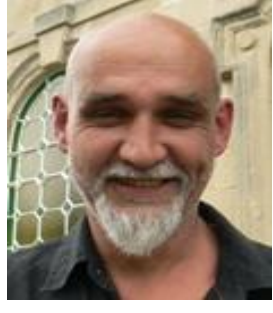
- College Ward
- Market Ward
- Berkley Down Ward
- Oakfield Ward
- Park Ward
- Keyford Ward

At March 2013 the Councillors representing each ward were as follows:

	Berkley Down Ward
	<p>Cllr Eve Berry 9 Whitestone Road, Frome, BA11 2DN 01373 467309 / 07973 816190 berrye@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Conservative</p>
	<p>Cllr Graham Burgess 22 Innox Hill, Frome, BA11 2LW 01373 464241 burgessg@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>


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	<p>Cllr Adrian Dobinson Rodden Cottage, Warminster Road, Frome, BA11 5LE 01373 462730 / 07542 003964 dobinsona@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Liberal Democrat</p>
College Ward	
	<p>Cllr Carole Bullen Flat 1 Montgomery Court, Frome, BA11 1QP 01373 465969 bullenc@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Conservative</p>
	<p>Adam Boyden 102 Rodden Road, Frome, BA11 2AL 07809 284817 boydena@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Liberal Democrat</p>
	<p>Cllr Nick White 23 Acacia Drive, Frome, BA11 2TS 01373 301899 / 07770 814812 whiten@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>
Keyford Ward	
	<p>Cllr Dave Anderson 20 Alexandra Road, Frome, BA11 1LU 07967 960298 andersond@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>

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	<p>Cllr Toby Eliot 10 Vallis Road, Frome, BA11 3BD 07954 166442 eliott@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>
	<p>Cllr Pippa Goldfinger 11 Keyford Gardens, Frome, BA11 1JY 07732 023311 goldfingerp@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>
<p>Market Ward</p>	
	<p>Cllr Tricia Golinski 25 Innox Hill, Frome, BA11 2LW 01373 474086 golinskit@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>
	<p>Cllr Dickon Moore 33 Vicarage Street, Frome, BA11 1PU 01373 473246 dickonm@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>

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	<p>Cllr Mel Usher The Old Presbytery, 2 West End Court, Frome, BA11 1ET 07766 742064 usherm@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>
<p>Oakfield Ward</p>	
	<p>Cllr Peter Macfadyen 85 Nunney Road, Frome, BA11 4LF 01373 466399 / 07794 593179 macfadyenp@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>
	<p>Cllr Helen Sprawson-White 14 Wallington Way, Frome, BA11 3NF 07713 565265 whiteh@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Liberal Democrat</p>
<p>Park Ward</p>	
	<p>Cllr Damon Hooton 169 Whatcombe Road, Frome, BA11 3AT 01373 301765 / 07850 681163 hootond@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Liberal Democrat</p>

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	<p>Cllr Claire Hudson 169 Whatcombe Road, Frome, BA11 3AT 01373 301765 HUDSONC@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Liberal Democrat</p>
	<p>Cllr Helen Starkie Ashbourne House, Marston Road, Frome, BA11 4DD 01373 465390 / 07799 338386 STARKIEH@frometowncouncil.gov.uk Independents for Frome</p>

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Town Council Staff at April 2014

Paul Wynne Town Clerk

Central services

Anna Francis	Energy and Recycling Officer (part time)
Jackie Wheeler	Responsible Finance Officer
Jane Llewellyn	Planning & Development Officer
Laura Poulton	Administration Officer
Lyndsey Haines	Finance and Administration Apprentice
Patrick Moss	Town Centre Regeneration Manager (part time)
Peter Wheelhouse	Economic Development and Regeneration Manager
Ruth Knagg	Community Projects Officer (maternity cover, part time)
Sarah Hobbs	Community Projects Officer (on maternity leave)
Tessa Hibbert	Community Projects Officer (maternity cover, part time)

Information centre in Frome Library

Hayley Barnsley	Customer Services Advisor (part time)
Teresa Cotterell	Customer Services Advisor (part time)
Tricia Mugridge	Customer Services Advisor (part time)

Outside services

Caroline Stevens	Outside Services Administration Officer (part time)
James Chalk	Outside Services Team (part time)
Kevin Matthews	Outside Services Team
Martin Bennett	Outside Services Team (part time)
Simon Woollen	Grounds and Properties Manager
Steve Applegate	Outside Services Team

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The council and its committees

The Council delegates some responsibilities to two standing committees and a planning sub-committee:

The Internal Affairs Committee's remit covers:

All aspects of Corporate Governance
The Council's "Strategy for Success" and all related strategy and policy documents including monitoring the Council's performance outcomes
The management, administration and provision of all service delivery areas including Corporate Services, Outside Services and Tourism Services
Civic matters and affairs
Personnel matters
Risk Management, Internal Control and Insurance
All aspects of the financial administration of the Council
Twinning matters
Standards of Conduct

The External Affairs Committee's remit covers:

Community grants
Economic development and town centre regeneration
Community engagement
Partnership working with community organisations and individuals
Representation with regard to the external services that affect the youth, elderly, unemployed and vulnerable citizens.
Consultation and representation in matters relating to planning, highways, car parking, traffic management, footpaths, bus shelters etc.
Consultation and representation in matters relating to public services such as community care, social care, health services; housing, transport education etc.

The Planning Sub Committee's remit covers:

Making representations to the Local Planning Authority on applications for planning permission received in Frome, including those related to trees, listed buildings and Conservation Areas.

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Frome Town Council Committee Members (at March 2014)

Internal Affairs Committee

Eve Berry
Toby Eliot (Chair)
Pippa Goldfinger
Damon Hooton
Claire Hudson
Peter Macfadyen
Helen Starkie
Mel Usher
Nick White

External Affairs Committee

Dave Anderson
Eve Berry
Graham Burgess
Adrian Dobinson
Tricia Golinski
Peter Macfadyen (Chair)
Dickon Moore
Helen Sprawson-White
Mel Usher

Planning Sub Committee

Carole Bullen
Graham Burgess (Chair)
Pippa Goldfinger
Tricia Golinski
Damon Hooton
Dickon Moore
Helen Sprawson-White

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Town council meetings

During the Civic year 2013-2014, the following numbers of meetings (including extraordinary meetings) were held:

Full Council
Internal Affairs Committee
External Affairs Committee
Planning Sub Committee

Councillors' Attendance at Meetings during the Civic Year 2013-2014

Councillor	Total Number of Meetings	Total Number of Meetings Attended	Total Number of Apologies Tendered
Cllr Dave Anderson	11	9	1
Cllr Eve Berry	11	6	5
Cllr Adam Boyden	2	1	1
Cllr Carole Bullen	22	12	10
Cllr Graham Burgess	28	19	9
Cllr Adrian Dobinson	11	6	2
Cllr Toby Eliot	11	10	1
Cllr Pippa Goldfinger	28	19	9
Cllr Tricia Golinski	28	27	1
Cllr Damon Hooton	28	17	9
Cllr Claire Hudson	11	6	5
Cllr Peter Macfadyen	16	14	2
Cllr Dickon Moore	28	20	7
Cllr Helen Sprawson-White	28	13	13
Cllr Helen Starkie	11	6	4
Cllr Mel Usher	17	12	5
Cllr Nick White	11	7	4

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

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Community Grants Awarded 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Name of Project/Reason for Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Frome Town Sports Football Club	Monies for the use of pitches at Badgers Hill Frome and Leigh on Mendip	£1,200.00
Frome Media Arts CIC working with FCC	Music For All	£3,000.00
Golden-Oldies Charity	Frome Singing Sessions	£300.00
Frome Country Market	Promotion of our market	£167.00
The Little Victory Ball	The Little Victory Ball? The Great War	£500.00
Frome Community Production CIC	Outside Broadcast Phase 2	£1,000.00
Frome Fascination Twirlers	European Championships 2013	£300.00
Frome Community Education	Join in and Enjoy	£1,500.00
Frome Breastfeeding Group	Weekly meetings for mums and babies	£300.00
Edventure Frome	Frome OASIS Project - Community Build of the new Hub in Welshmill	£1,000.00
Mendip Community Transport	Hospital Car Scheme	£500.00
Frome Carers Association	A trip out during the winter months	£300.00
Heads Up	Frome Outreach Group	£500.00
Mount Community Association	Transforming the Mount Play Area	£3000.00
Frome Community Gardens Group	Kemps Garden	£2,460.00
Fair Frome	Facilitation Training with Oliver Barclay Partnership	£300.00
Save Open Spaces	SOS Protection Brief	£2000.00
Jackdaws Music Education Trust	The Barber of Seville- OperaPLUS	£1000.00
Get Wet Set Frome	Get Wet Set Frome	£700.00
Frome Town Ladies FC	Training Courses and replacement training equipment	£265.00
Merlin Theatre	Supporting Core Costs	£3,000.00

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Frome Community Speedwatch	Frome Community Speedwatch	£300.00
Loop de Loop	The Loop de Loop Gallery	£2,990.00
Frome Town Ladies FC	New kit, new footballs, DVD camera, first aid kits, training courses	£300.00
Frome Rugby Football Club	Installation of energy efficient hot water/heating boilers and infared cistern valves to reduce water use	£1,500.00
Frome Society For Disabled Artists (SODA)	Token fees for professional tutoring	£200.00
Sustainable Frome (In collaboration with Vallis Veg)	Natural World Events at Vallis Veg	£200.00
Frome Canoe Club	Purchase and installation of Velux roof lights in a new community room	£1,000.00
Jackdaws Music Education Trust	Semel by Handel	£750.00
Foreground Projects Ltd	Useless Things/Idle Thoughts	£750.00
Sustainable Frome	Showing the Film 'Bag It'	£150.00
Frome & District Day Centre/Active Living	An active project before lunch etc.	£500.00
Frome Memorial Theatre Trust	Replacement of the Sound Desk	£1,900.00
Positive Action on Cancer	Frome Volunteer Development Programme	£1,000.00
Incredible Edible Frome	Community Growing (Spring 2013)	£300.00
Openstorytellers	All Join In - Inclusive Community	£2,990.00
The Toolshed	The Toolshed Gallery Programme 2013	£595.00
Frome Voices	The Armed Man - a Mass Peace	£2,410.00
Frome Collegians AFC	Twinning Association Football Competition	£250.00
Black Swan Arts	Young People's Open Arts Competition	£1,500.00
Friends of the River Frome	Little clearance from the river banks	£300.00
Positive Action on Cancer	Frome Cancer Counselling Service	£5,000.00
Warminster Decorative and Fine Arts Society	The White Horse DFAS	£150.00
Frome WI	2013 Speakers	£300.00

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

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Oasis Carnival Club	To connect our build shed to a mains electric supply	£500.00
Bath Cats and Dogs Home	Educating the Children of Frome about responsible pet ownership	£500.00
Frome Town Ladies FC	Respect Barrier/Water Container/New Team ages 7&8	£300.00
Vitalise	Breaks with care for people with disabilities in Frome	£170.00
Frome Town Sports Football Club	Monies for the use of pitches at Badgers Hill Frome and Leigh on Mendip	£1,200.00

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

making Frome a better place

Budget summary

	<u>Budget 13/14</u>		<u>Budget 14/15</u>	
	Agreed Budget	Actual YTD	Next Year Budget	Budget
<u>501 Democratic Management & Civic</u>				
4018 Meeting room hire	4,500	3,877	4,500	
4031 FTC Newsletter	3,500	697	0	
4048 Website	600	643	0	
4064 Donation to Mayor's Charity	0	1,000	0	
4301 Mayor's allowance	1,000	0	1,000	
4302 Outgoing Mayor's allowance	0	0	0	
4303 Cllr's allowances	500	368	500	
4312 Civic regalia	400	300	400	
4321 Election costs	5,000	6,674	5,000	
	<u>15,500</u>	<u>13,558</u>	<u>11,400</u>	
OverHead Expenditure				
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
Total Income				
501 Net Expenditure	15,500	13,558	11,400	
<u>502 Town Events</u>				
4070 Public entertainment	500	320	500	
4311 Civic functions	1,000	1,370	1,000	
4320 Town events	15,000	15,000	15,000	
4325 Christmas Extravaganza	6,000	68,672	6,000	

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Budget Detail - By Centre

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

	<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Next Year Budget</u>
4333 Christmas lights	16,500	20,138	16,500
OverHead Expenditure	39,000	105,500	39,000
1030 INCOME Sports Activities	300	0	0
1099 INCOME Misc	0	45,815	0
Total Income	300	45,815	0
502 Net Expenditure	38,700	59,685	39,000
503 Community Support			
4127 Youth Research Consultancy	0	16,409	0
4714 Youth Funding	0	0	0
4715 Twinning	3,000	895	3,000
4716 Arts Strategy	0	0	0
4717 Waste Management Partner	0	0	0
4718 Youth Council & Youth Support	32,000	11,998	20,000
4719 Sustainability Projects	15,000	217	20,000
4720 Partnership & Comm Dev & Grants	80,000	77,194	80,000
4723 Consultation & advice	0	0	5,000
4725 Fundraiser	10,000	10,000	0
4731 Police Community Support Offic	0	0	0
4750 CCTV funding	7,800	7,753	8,000

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	<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Next Year Budget</u>
4790 School crossing patrol	6,000	5,060	6,000
4906 CCTV Replacement Capital	2,500	0	2,500
OverHead Expenditure	156,300	129,526	144,500
1010 INCOME Grant Funding	0	2,000	0
1085 INCOME Youth Research Funding	0	24,027	0
1098 INCOME Donations received	0	0	0
1099 INCOME Misc	0	128	0
Total Income	0	26,155	0
503 Net Expenditure	156,300	103,371	144,500
504 Grounds & Property Maintenance			
4033 Community Open Spaces maint	20,000	19,231	43,150
4039 Floral supplies	5,000	4,465	5,000
4068 The Dippy	0	3,000	0
4400 Victoria Park	0	0	0
4410 Open Spaces Facilities	10,000	7,027	10,000
4470 Allotments	0	0	0
4475 Tickleberry Alley	5,000	0	0
4476 S106 Tickleberry Alley	0	9,300	0
4480 Murrhardt Gardens	0	0	0

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FROME TOWN COUNCIL

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	<u>Budget 13/14</u>	Actual YTD	<u>Budget 14/15</u>
	Agreed Budget	Actual YTD	Next Year Budget
4713 Community Enablement Fund	0	11,123	0
4908 Trees	10,000	8,398	10,000
4909 Community Tree Planting Scheme	20,000	465	0
OverHead Expenditure	70,000	63,010	68,150
1001 INCOME Rent received	3,500	1,620	2,500
1010 INCOME Grant Funding	0	3,000	0
1097 INCOME S106 receipts	0	9,642	0
1098 INCOME Donations received	0	291	0
Total Income	3,500	14,554	2,500
504 Net Expenditure	66,500	48,456	65,650
505 Capital & Land Aquisitions			
4130 Street Furniture & Signage	0	0	0
4490 Land acquisition	20,000	18,000	0
4902 Play equipment (Capital)	15,000	0	15,000
4910 Sports	2,500	0	0
4913 Litter/Grit bin/signs(Capital)	2,000	0	0
4925 Van (Capital)	1,500	0	1,500
9014 Land at Garsdale	0	0	0
OverHead Expenditure	41,000	18,000	16,500

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FROME TOWN COUNCIL

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Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Budget Detail - By Centre

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

	<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget 13/14</u>	<u>Budget 14/15</u>
1096 INCOME Public Works Loan Board	0	0		0
1097 INCOME S106 receipts	0	24,020		0
Total Income	<u>0</u>	<u>24,020</u>		<u>0</u>
505 Net Expenditure	41,000	-6,020		16,500
506 Town Centre				
4066 PWLB Interest repayments	29,090	28,188		29,520
4120 Economic Development & Mrlking	0	9,252		0
4121 Town Team	0	9,999		0
4122 Economic & Community Research	10,000	735		5,000
4125 Shared Space & Markets	15,000	15,130		15,000
4126 Youth & FE training	20,000	7,922		0
4128 Marketing	40,000	23,173		25,000
4129 Neighbourhd Plan Implimentation	10,000	33,060		20,000
4130 Street Furniture & Signage	0	1,182		0
4135 Town Cleaning & Improvements	0	6,863		0
4136 River Corridor	10,000	663		10,000
4140 Energy & Waste	0	500		0
OverHead Expenditure	<u>134,090</u>	<u>136,666</u>		<u>104,520</u>
1099 INCOME Misc	0	877		0
Total Income	<u>0</u>	<u>877</u>		<u>0</u>
506 Net Expenditure	134,090	135,790		104,520

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Budget Detail - By Centre

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

	<u>Budget 13/14</u>		<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget 14/15</u>	
	<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Next Year Budget</u>		<u>Next Year Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
507 Cheese & Grain					
4053 PwLB interest repayments	45,945		57,271	78,917	
4054 PwLB capital repayments	0		0	0	
4420 Cheese & Grain Property Maint	3,000		3,489	3,000	
4425 Cheese & Grain development	0		525,234	0	
4799 Cheese & Grain Funding	36,015		36,015	0	
	<u>84,960</u>		<u>622,009</u>	<u>81,917</u>	
OverHead Expenditure					
1010 INCOME Grant Funding	0		0	0	
1096 INCOME Public Works Loan Board	0		500,000	0	
	<u>0</u>		<u>500,000</u>	<u>0</u>	
Total Income					
507 Net Expenditure	84,960		122,009	81,917	
508 Accommodation					
4013 Information Centre	4,200		4,666	4,300	
4430 Town Office	12,500		13,922	15,000	
4435 Victoria Park Office	2,500		1,993	3,000	
	<u>19,200</u>		<u>20,581</u>	<u>22,300</u>	
OverHead Expenditure					
1001 INCOME Rent received	0		924	0	
	<u>0</u>		<u>924</u>	<u>0</u>	
Total Income					
508 Net Expenditure	19,200		19,658	22,300	

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Note : Annual Report 2013/14

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

	<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget 13/14</u>	<u>Budget 14/15</u>
509 Toilets				
4440 Toilets	5,000	605		5,000
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>605</u>		<u>5,000</u>
OverHead Expenditure				
509 Net Expenditure	5,000	605		5,000
801 Outside Services				
4001 Salaries & Wages	126,000	112,300		137,600
4006 Protective clothing incl H&S	500	615		650
4008 Training/Travel & Subsistence	1,000	1,042		2,000
4020 Heating & Power	0	0		0
4021 Telephone/b'band/equip hire	0	0		0
4029 Equipment & Vehicle Fuel	3,000	2,657		9,500
4038 Maint annual contracts	0	0		0
4040 Supplies & Consumables	1,600	1,520		2,200
4042 Equipment maint	3,000	3,183		0
4043 Vehicle costs	1,500	1,799		0
4901 Equipment replacement	6,600	0		6,600
	<u>143,200</u>	<u>123,116</u>		<u>158,550</u>
OverHead Expenditure				
1091 INCOME Insurance Claim	0	969		0

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FROME TOWN COUNCIL

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Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

		<u>Budget 13/14</u>		<u>Budget 14/15</u>	
		<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>		
		0	200	0	0
		0	1,169	0	0
1099	INCOME Misc	143,200	121,947	158,550	
	Total Income				
	801 Net Expenditure				
802	Central Services				
4001	Salaries & Wages	283,000	291,267	318,000	
4004	Agency staff	0	0	0	
4008	Training/Travel & Subsistence	7,850	5,797	7,850	
4009	Travel expenses & subsistence	0	0	0	
4010	Saleable stock	2,500	2,373	2,500	
4015	Town Guide printing	7,000	0	0	
4017	Apprenticeship research	0	5,180	0	
4021	Telephone/b'band/equip hire	9,000	9,313	11,500	
4022	Postage	0	0	0	
4023	Stationery/printing & postage	3,000	4,824	4,000	
4024	Subscriptions & advertising	5,200	4,899	5,200	
4025	Insurance & bank chgs	11,150	9,679	11,150	
4026	Office Equipment Hire	0	0	0	
4027	IT & equip replacement	7,000	7,989	17,000	
4030	Advertising incl R'cruitment	0	0	0	

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Budget Detail - By Centre

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

	<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget 13/14</u>	<u>Budget 14/15</u>
4051 Bank charges	0	0		0
4052 Fair Frome	0	20,451		0
4055 Audit fees - external	2,500	2,562		2,500
4056 Audit fees - internal	1,100	1,210		1,100
4058 Legal & professional fees	8,000	9,025		9,000
4062 Participation Week	0	7,202		0
4435 Victoria Park Office	0	0		0
4912 Town office equipment repla	0	0		0
	<u>347,300</u>	<u>381,770</u>		<u>389,800</u>
OverHead Expenditure				
1007 INCOME Grant Funding	0	117,028		0
1010 INCOME Grant Funding	1,000	0		0
1011 INCOME Info Centre shop sales	3,750	3,131		3,750
1018 INCOME Info Centre commission	3,000	3,105		3,000
1019 INCOME Town Guide adverts	2,000	0		0
1025 INCOME PV Income	6,500	6,806		6,800
1035 INCOME Fundraiser Incom	34,882	0		0
1052 INCOME Fair Frome	0	2,220		0
1080 INCOME Town Centre Rings	4,000	4,000		0
1090 INCOME Bank account interest	5,000	2,950		2,800
1099 INCOME Misc	0	290		0
	<u>60,132</u>	<u>139,529</u>		<u>16,350</u>
Total Income	287,168	242,242		373,450
802 Net Expenditure				

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Budget Detail - By Centre

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

		<u>Budget 13/14</u>		<u>Budget 14/15</u>
		<u>Agreed Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Next Year Budget</u>
803	<u>Frome Information Centre</u>			
4001	Salaries & Wages	0	0	0
4008	Training/Travel & Subsistence	0	0	0
4009	Travel expenses & subsistence	0	0	0
4021	Telephone/b'band/equip hire	0	0	0
4022	Postage	0	0	0
4023	Stationery/printing & postage	0	0	0
4030	Advertising incl R'cruitment	0	0	0
4051	Bank charges	0	0	0
4755	Info Centre stock	0	0	0
	OverHead Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
1011	INCOME Info Centre shop sales	0	0	0
1018	INCOME Info Centre commission	0	0	0
1019	INCOME Town Guide adverts	0	0	0
	Total Income	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
900	<u>Precept</u>			
1076	INCOME Precept	991,618	991,618	1,022,787
	Total Income	<u>991,618</u>	<u>991,618</u>	<u>1,022,787</u>
	803 Net Expenditure	-991,618	-991,618	-1,022,787
	900 Net Expenditure	-991,618	-991,618	-1,022,787

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Budget Detail - By Centre

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

	<u>Budget 13/14</u>		<u>Budget 14/15</u>	
	Agreed Budget	Actual YTD	Next Year Budget	Budget
901 Earmarked Reserves				
9001 Planning & Development	0	5,600	0	0
9002 TIC Development	0	165	0	0
9003 Elections	10,066	0	15,066	15,066
9004 Market Regeneration	20,980	11,500	9,480	9,480
9005 Victoria Park Workshop	0	0	0	0
9006 Sports	9,037	0	9,037	9,037
9008 Machinery & Vehicle	10,797	0	17,838	17,838
9010 Play Equipment	30,897	1,981	35,449	35,449
9011 Office Relocation	150,000	9,464	144,536	144,536
9012 Land Acquisitions	0	0	0	0
9013 Litter/grit bins/signs	835	835	0	0
9015 CCTV	2,500	0	5,000	5,000
9017 S106	13,501	0	13,501	13,501
9020 Town Centre Improvements	304,209	0	304,209	304,209
9021 The Dippy	0	0	17,000	17,000
9022 Fair Frome	0	0	36,000	36,000
9023 Youth & FE	0	0	50,000	50,000
9024 Youth Funding	0	0	17,000	17,000
9039 River Corridor	0	0	10,000	10,000
OverHead Expenditure	552,822	29,545	684,116	684,116

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Budget Detail - By Centre

Note: (-) Net Expenditure means Income is greater than Expenditure

Note : Annual Report 2013/14

	<u>Budget 13/14</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Next Year Budget</u>
1097 INCOME S106 receipts	0	0	0
Total Income	0	0	0
901 Net Expenditure	552,822	29,545	684,116
Total Budget Expenditure	1,608,372	1,643,886	1,725,753
Income	1,055,550	1,744,660	1,041,637
Net Expenditure	552,822	-100,774	684,116

