

So, at long last the summer holidays have started, and the weather's not been too bad, it's been lovely to see families and children in the parks having picnics and fun and games.

I said in my last month's column that I will try to explain how Saltash Town Council sets its Precept (the portion of your Council Tax that goes to Saltash Town Council for the incoming year).

Saltash Town Council starts its annual process of setting budgets for various committees and sub committees to pay for the services the Town Council delivers for you all. The process commences in August and ends December, in line with Cornwall Council's submission deadline date. Budget setting is a careful balance of affordability and what resources are available to deliver various services to a high standard.

Each committee and sub committee will review past budgets, identify and forecast revenue for the coming period, and assign amounts of spend on various projects.

The budget setting process will refer to the agreed six strategic priorities listed in the Town Council Business Plan together with the deliverables of the Plan to date, to be sure it meets the agreed aims and objectives in the year 2025-26.

In addition to the Precept, the Town Council generates income from other sources and is proactive in seeking relevant funding opportunities.

We encourage everyone to attend the Town Council budget setting committee and sub committee meetings and given enough time you can ask a question at most Town Council meetings. All Town Council meeting agendas, reports and minutes are available on the Town Council website for public scrutiny. If you have an interest, please have a look. You can also contact your Ward Councillor, you'll find contact details on our website, or feel free to give the Guildhall staff a call on 01752 844846 and they will be able to put you in touch with your elected representative.

I hope this has given you a small insight into how the Precept process comes together.

Meet your councillor sessions are held on the second Saturday of every month, outside Superdrug, we encourage everyone to come and speak to us, raise your concerns or ask a question. We are here to help where we can.

Good luck to all the young people in Saltash who will be getting their exam results in August, and those who will be getting ready to go to secondary education.

Enjoy your summer!

Warmest Regards

Councillor Julia Peggs
Mayor of Saltash 2024-25

Meet Your Councillor

Deputy Mayor Councillor Rachel Bullock – Essa Ward



I am enjoying my role as Deputy Mayor and have been invited to many events and met lots of lovely people along the way who support the community. I am fortunate enough to work alongside the Mayor Councillor Julia Peggs and enjoy working with her.

A bit about me: My family moved from Hemerdon, Devon to Saltash in 1977. I attended Longstone Infants, Saltash Junior School and Saltash Comprehensive. I have older twin sisters Nicola and Joanne and a younger sister Sarah, all of which still reside in Saltash with their families.

I live near the Town Centre and share my home with my husband Matthew, sons Sam and Jake and our three cats.

I worked for Plymouth City Council Revenues and Finance for 17 years. Most of this was in customer facing roles in the Council Tax and Housing Benefits Department, which helped me appreciate the diverse range of people living around us. I am a friendly, empathetic, down to earth person who is always happy to help anyone. I left Plymouth City Council after taking voluntary redundancy and now spend my time carrying out voluntary work in the town.

I am a volunteer at Community Enterprises and enjoy baking cakes in the Community Kitchen for their cafe. It is a challenge which I love as I have to try and create cakes from donated food. The courgette cake and rhubarb and ginger loaf were a success with the customers. I love history, especially the history of this fantastic town; I am a member of the Saltash Heritage committee. I enjoy my time stewarding in the museum, teaching visitors about all our local history we should be proud of.

During my time on the Town Council, I have become a member of many of the sub committees and working groups. I am currently the Chairman of the Station Property Sub Committee and part of the working groups which aim to improve the town centre and Waterside connectivity, some exciting projects to be working on.

In my spare time I enjoy walks in the country and days on the beach with the family, I also love running and enjoyed back marking the Saltash Half Marathon this year, the best half marathon in the country - in my opinion!

I am very passionate about our town, its history, its present and, most importantly, its future.