Tour of the website

Main components- bearing in mind that it is largely unpopulated at present.

- The aim was to create a new site that was modern looking and easy to operate at both the front and backend.
- To that end everything is accessible with one or two clicks at most.
- The framework is built on a 'Wordpress' platform and comes with continuing support when required.
- A familiar problem with older sites is that one enters data neatly behind the scenes, and on looking at the front end, things have moved around. This has been overcome by using a page builder plugin which keeps things in invisible boxes.
- Above the menu section is a 'Contact us' button for direct link to Council office and a Google map button.
- There are left and right sidebars which display the local weather forecast, latest news offerings and various direct contact buttons.
- The visitors section is separated from Council business after the first click, and a different set of contact buttons appear, relating to tourism and the health centre for an emergency.
- Where to park, eat and stay is covered in this section.
- There is an extensive section on clubs and groups and every group that wishes to be represented will be listed in the appropriate category. In addition those that wish can have a complete page to display their posters/fliers.
- To date there are over 70 pages on the site, to date, which are grouped together by Tags, to make access easier.
- Last but not least I have incorporated an online booking facility for room hire. This enables a hirer to select a room, date, and time from the relevant calendar and book instantly. An email is then sent automatically to the office and the new booking will show up on the reservations calendar. At the same time the hirer will get an email confirming the booking, and the slot will display 'booked' and will show up on the booking calendar, which prevents double booking. Recurring bookings would be marked as unavailable on the calendars.
- The office has the option of rejecting or cancelling bookings if it so wishes. Otherwise it is just a question of sending an invoice. It should be noted that this has not been tested and agreed with the Office staff as yet but the Clerk is certainly happy that we are at least exploring the possibility.
- I will need some volunteers to make some ghost bookings to ensure it works smoothly as it is difficult to test thoroughly from one computer.
- Cost I hear you ask. The 'Wordpress' business package is £250 per annum with support and I believe john has an idea for that. In addition there are two one off payment for modules used of around £50 each. VAT can be reclaimed of course.
- So the total is £350 for this year and £250 ongoing.

Report by Brian Picking   **January 2018**