
May Fair Working Group Report

Date of Meeting: Monday, 1st September 2025

2. Stallholder Fees

The group discussed stallholder fees and agreed that no increase is necessary at this time.

3. Date of the May Fair

It was agreed that the date of the May Fair will remain unchanged. The group will review this in future if necessary. May Fair will be held on **Saturday, 2nd May 2026**.

4. Feedback from Entertainment and Stallholders (May Fair 2025)

Feedback from the previous May Fair was generally positive. However, technical issues with Prosound were noted.

5. May Fair Programme Distribution

The group supported the idea of a 4-page pullout in *The Link* magazine. Although it will be slightly more expensive the benefits will be the following. This will include the pullout going to local shops.

If we were to go for the usual 20-page leaflet, this year the cost for printing and distribution is estimated to be £2,480. Adverts would raise an estimated £1,500. The cost to the May Fair budget would be £980.

For the 4-page pullout printing in the Link, we have been quoted £992.

Benefits of a smaller May Fair brochure:

- Distributed to 13,000 homes instead of 6,900.
 - Only a 4-page pullout rather than a 20-page book saving on paper.
 - Saving on time, resources and printing and distribution
 - Saving time on designing, selling, invoicing and chasing up payments.
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6. Entertainment Ideas for 2026

- Wow factor missing from last year's May Fair
- Not a good turnout for the fancy dress
- Parade was lacking

The working group would like to see the Majorettes at the May Fair next year and would like to discuss the fancy dress competition at the next meeting.

Working group would like Stilt Walking back to the May fair

May Fair Working Group Report

Date of Meeting: Friday, 3rd October 2025

1. Fancy Dress Competition

It was agreed that the competition should not be themed.

Cllr Sawyer noted a clash with Maypole dancing.

New prizes: wooden trophies for 1st and 2nd place, and free tickets to Exmoor Zoo.

2. Insurance

The working group also asked if we have insurance for wet weather.

The insurance would have to be a separate policy.

An email from the insurance company was read out which stated that insurance will only apply if the weather was deemed as a threat to life.

3. Dog Show at Bone Hill

The group agreed to proceed with the dog show and sponsor the “Best in Show” category.

May Fair Working Group Report

Date of Meeting: Friday, 7th November 2025

1. Entertainers

The following entertainers were recommended for booking, subject to approval at Full Council:

- **Bideford Youth Pipe Band** – Parade and 20-minute performance
- **Punch and Judy Show** – Two 30-minute performances
- **Bubbles the Pixie** – Parade, Two 30-minute performances, and two walkabouts
- **Torridge Elite Majorettes** – Parade and one 30-minute performance
- **Martial Arts Display** – One 30-minute performance
- **Superheroes** – Parade, Two 20-minute walkabouts, and two 20-minute superhero academy sessions (Characters: Captain America, Catwoman, Superman, Rogue)
- **Appledore Band** – One 45-minute performance in the Square
- **Exmoor Zoo** – all day.

2. Vendors

The following vendors were recommended for booking, subject to Full Council approval:

- Market Street Kitchen
- Pro Sound (service agreement and quote accepted)
- St John Ambulance
- Toilet Hire

3. Booking Confirmation

It was agreed to proceed with booking all entertainers and vendors listed in items 4 and 5 once approved by full council

4. Civic Lunch Venue

The group accepted Reverend Jules Harris's offer to use **St George's Chapel** for the Mayor's Civic Lunch.

It was also agreed to request a quote for teas, coffees, and cake.

5. Dog Show Location

Reverend Jules Harris offered her garden for the location of the dog show, the admin officer visited the site and felt it was inadequate due to trip hazards for members of the public.

The group agreed there was no need to relocate the dog show.

It was proposed to invite Reverend Jules to judge the "Best in Show" category.

6. Exmoor Zoo Tickets Update

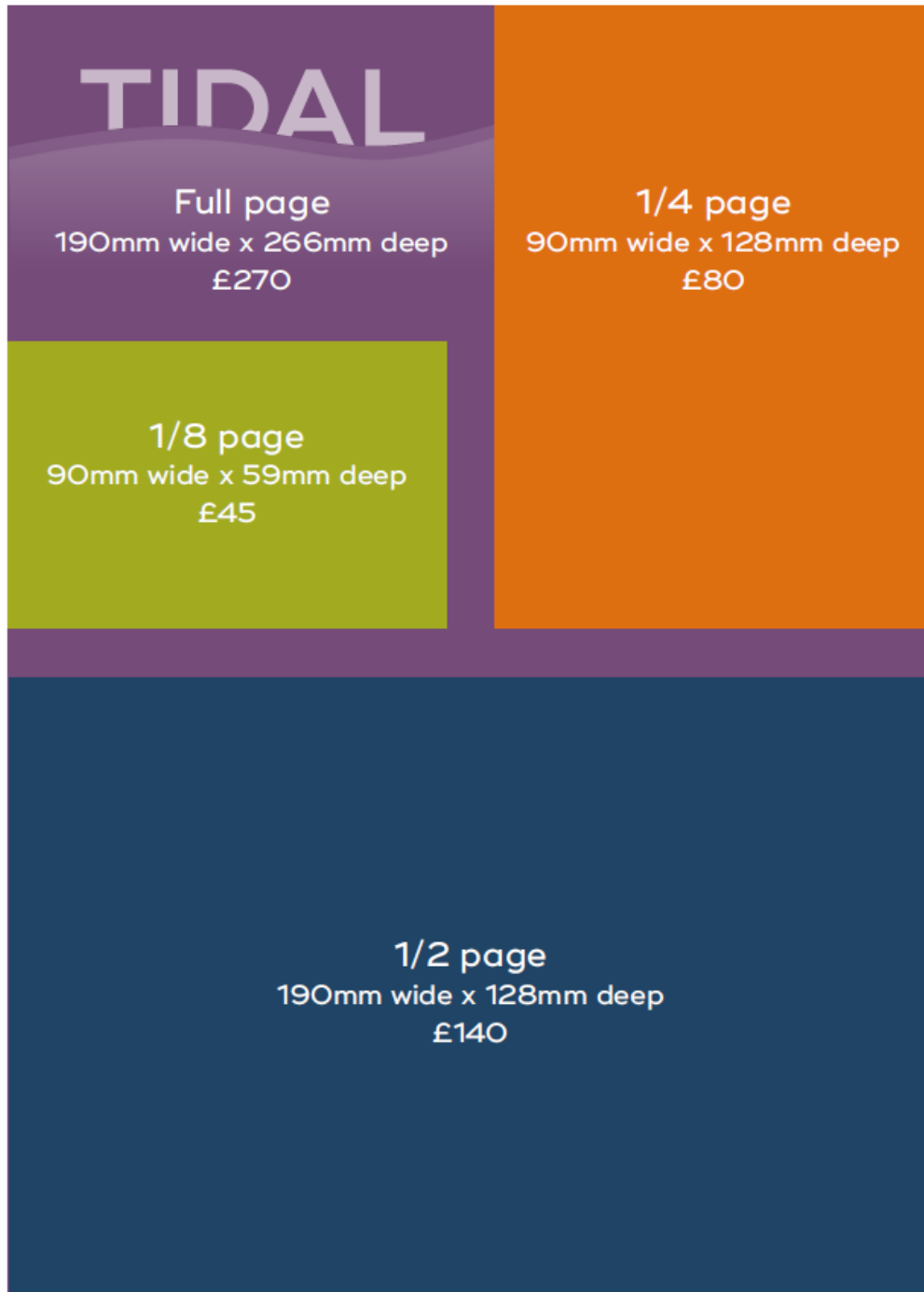
Exmoor Zoo confirmed they will supply the free tickets on the morning of the May Fair, allowing them to be used as prizes for the fancy dress competition.

List of income and expenditure (estimates and quotations)

	May Fair 2026		May Fair 2025	
	Expenditure	Income - estimated	Expenditure	Income
Freshspring Train rides	£ -		£ -	
Bideford Youth Pipe Band	£ 150.00		£ 150.00	
Punch and Judy	£ 260.00		£ 255.00	
Torridge Elite Majorettes	£ 100.00		£ -	
Exmoor Zoo	£ 253.50		£ 268.50	
Superheroes	£ 1,199.00		£ -	
Phoenix Morris	£ -		£ 75.00	
Appledore Band	£ 125.00		£ 125.00	
Bubbles The Pixie	£ 595.00		£ 550.00	
Dog Show at Bone Hill	£ 20.00		£ 20.00	
Toilet Hire	£ 288.00		£ 276.00	
St Johns Ambulance	£ 30.00		£ 275.00	
Prosound	£ 1,236.00		£ 1,236.00	
Program (print & distribution)	£ 992.00		£ 2,391.80	
Adverts Sold	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,530.00
Stall sold	£ -	£ 1,170.00	£ -	£ 1,170.00
Kings and Queens Costumes	£ 50.00		£ 50.00	
Trophies and Competitions	£ 50.00		£ 34.00	
Photographer	£ 70.00		£ 70.00	
Dignitaries' Lunch	£ 350.00		£ 333.80	
Deano's Diner	£ 200.00	£ 500.00	£ 164.80	£ 498.92
Bouncy Castle	£ -	£ 50.00		£ 50.00
Roundabout	£ -	£ 50.00		£ 50.00
Balloon Modelling	£ -	£ 15.00		£ 15.00
Mayfair Banners	£ -		£ -	£ -
Totals				
Cost to the council	£ 5,968.50		£ 6,274.90	
Estimated receipts		£ 1,785.00		£ 3,313.92
Overall Cost	£	4,183.50	£	2,960.98
Recommended additional expenditure:				
'Tidal' advert	£	270.00		
Banners	£	730.00		
Grand Total	£	5,183.50		
Budget	£	7,500.00	£	10,000.00
Estimated carry-forward	£	2,316.50		-
Staff Costs are estimated to be £1,750				

Advertising with the Tidal

Tidal is published 'seasonally' so the edition that will be on the shelves in May 2026 will be the Spring magazine, published on 1st March and runs through to the end of May. The costs of the various page sizes are below.



Stalls: Below is the list of stalls from 2025, we already have 35 booked for 2026 with both Northam Hall and the Methodist Church Fully Booked.

Community Centre	Outside	Methodist Church	Northam Hall
Textile costal pictures	Coffee	Previously loved fabrics	Novels, beach art and 3d painting
Bric a Brac	Face Painting	Pottery and Prints	Wildlife Items
History	Entertainer	Hair accessories	Handmade Candles
Food Stall	Hook a duck	Craft	Art and Craft
Fabric, Goods Jewellery (Vintage)	Ball in a bucket	Children's Books	Scarfs and Bags
Tombola	Steam rides	Painted Pebbles	Craft
Crafts and Arts	Charity Stall	Earrings and greetings cards	Books set in North Devon
Jewellery, Pictures	Recruitment		Vintage objects and fabric
Wood Turning	Promotional Stall		Plants
Craft	Hockings Ice cream		Knitted Items
Polymer Clay Jewellery	First Aid		Beaded Jewellery
Pyrography (wood craft)	RNLI Appledore		Devon Wildlife Trust
Craft	tombola		
	North Devon Craftivists		
	Games, Cakes etc		
	Hair Accessories		
	Car Display		
	Food		
	Recruitment		
	The Square Studio		
	Lucky dip, Tombola		
	Pick n Mix Sweets		
	Plants		
	Pizzas		