

## **NEW CIVIC MANAGER FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL**

Mrs. Joyce Lewis, the Town Council's long-serving Civic Manager is retiring at the end of August and the Council is pleased to announce that Ms. Elisa Adams has been appointed to take on the duties.

Cllr Elizabeth O'Keeffe, Mayor of Newbury, said, "We are very sad to lose Joyce after 27 years of wonderful service to the Council and the community of Newbury. We wish Joyce and her family many happy and healthy years of retirement. This is a key post for the Council and there was a lot of interest in the vacancy. We are very pleased that Elisa has agreed to become our new Civic Manager and we look forward to working with her to promote the Civic Office and the Mayor of Newbury".

Ms. Adams is originally from Northumberland but became acquainted with Newbury over the past 18 months since moving to the town. Since then she says that she has grown to love the friendly, community spirit of the town and has now made Newbury her home, saying, "I developed my interest in community and civic participation through my extracurricular experience at university where I worked on student fundraising and student-led events while completing my MA in Creative and Cultural Industries Management".

She continued, "I graduated with Distinction – my research focussed on creative labour and barriers to opportunities for youth communities and specialising in cultural event management.

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I then spent a year and a half at The University of York Students Union working as their Community Coordinator. The job involved providing support and assistance to student groups, as well as planning and implementing community focused civic events and campaigns. I enjoyed working with a diverse range of people in many different contexts, with local residents and the wider city of York.

I am very excited to be taking on the role of Civic Manager so early on in my professional career. This role is unique, and one where I can utilise my skills set and niche event experiences for the local community. I aim to deliver nothing less than my best for Newbury Town Council and the people of Newbury”.

Photograph: The Town Council’s new Civic Manager, Elisa Adams

## ENDS

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