



TownTalk

News and views from Bury St Edmunds Town Council

7 Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1UZ
☎ 01284 725111 ✉ info@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk
🌐 www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk



**BURY ST EDMUNDS
TOWN COUNCIL**

Autumn 2014

Savings Made

Council now occupies two ground floor rooms at the 7 Angel Hill building. The decision to stay in the building but to take an opportunity to downsize to save 50% of its occupational outgoings means that the Council's offices rightfully remain in the town centre.



Consequently it was able to assist the Borough Council by providing the venue for the Christmas Fayre control room this year.



Grit Bins

With winter coming all too soon we have already had a number of requests for further grit bins and these are being processed. The Council has set criteria to be met as to the need (in the vicinity of a hill, a bend etc. or other special circumstance) but the consent of the

land owner (be it Suffolk County Council or private owner) has to be forthcoming to enable a bin to be placed at any particular location and there have to be volunteer spreaders who come forward with the application.

If you think you have need of a grit bin and/or wish to volunteer as a spreader of grit please contact us using the details at the top of the page.

TOPPING UP – Important
Please visit your grit bins regularly to check the levels. When the grit level is getting low please telephone us to request a top up – please note that Suffolk County Council will not accept top up requests from individuals; such requests have to be made via the Town Council.

Grant Funding

The basic criterion for the award of grant funding is that the purpose for which the funding is requested must be of demonstrable local benefit to Bury St Edmunds residents. The grant funding application form can be downloaded from our website or requested by contacting the Clerk, using the contact details at the end of this newsletter. Small grants for community matters (under £250) can still be applied for.

Grants Awarded

The following grants have been awarded this year:

- The Athenaeum Club - towards the repair and cleaning of the telescope in the observatory at the Athenaeum and the possible installation of a camera to enable the images to be viewed in the lower rooms - £250;
- St Johns Ambulance - for the purchase of an Adult Airway Management Torso - £600;
- Bury St Edmunds Women's Aid Centre – for a one year pilot project to provide individual therapy sessions for child victims - £2000;
- Avenues East (formerly Optua) - for a fortnightly leisure club for the disabled - £858.25;
- Magna Carta 800 Committee - for a Magna Carta centenary commemoration stone - £2000.



Flying Fortress Sculpture for Moreton Hall Roundabout

The planned commemorative sculpture is intended to denote the 94th Bomb Group who were

stationed at Rougham Airfield from June 1943 to December 1945. The design is a representation of part of the fuselage and the tail section of a B17, a Flying Fortress bomber with the square A on the tail fin.



The sculpture which will be made of galvanised steel will feature a 'Dove of Peace' "soaring skyward within the tail".



The sculpture is planned to be in place by May 8th 2015, the 70th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) day when it is hoped that there will be a fly past at the unveiling. Support for this project, headed by Bury In Bloom in partnership with several other interested parties, has already been pledged by Bury St Edmunds Town Council, Rougham Tower Association, St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Taylor Wimpey.

We are now looking for further sponsorship from local businesses, councillors and, as interest has previously been shown by the public, we would like to invite anyone who wishes to do so, including those with a connection with the airfield, the chance to donate towards the project. To pledge your support please contact Melanie Lesser, Bury In Bloom Coordinator by phone on 01284 766955 or by email at melanie@buryinbloom.org.uk.

Armistice Day Remembrance

The Armistice Day Remembrance Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony took place at the War Memorial on Angel Hill at Tuesday 11 November 2014. This year, the centennial of the outbreak of World War 1 was well supported by the Townspeople young and old.

The 17th Bury St Edmunds Brownies made this very special wreath from Hamma beads:



St Edmund's Day Awards

Bury St Edmunds Town Council held its eighth St Edmund's Day Civic Awards celebration evening for 'Citizen of the Year' and 'Young Citizen of the Year' on Wednesday 19th November 2014. Many nominations were received for individuals who have made a significant voluntary contribution to the wellbeing of other residents of the Town (or in the case of the 'Young Citizen' someone who is an exceptional person or who is a carer) it is nice to know that there are many such dedicated people in Bury St Edmunds.

This year's joint winners of the 'Citizen of the Year' award Suzy Clifford and Ron Day are pictured below with Cllr Stefan Oliver, Chairman of Bury St Edmunds Town Council:



Suzy has used her personal experience to help others in a similar position. She has set up local support groups for the national organisation 'Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide' and is currently writing a book about her personal experience which will hopefully help others to come to terms with their loss.

Ron has been a hard working member of the Bury St Edmunds branch of the Royal British Legion for some 55 years. During this time he has played a large part in raising thousands of pounds for the Legion each year, particularly during the Annual Poppy appeal and has been involved in the Ceremonies of Remembrance at the various War Memorials in the Town.

This year's winner of the 'Young Citizen of the Year' award Laurence Chappel is pictured below with Cllr Stefan Oliver, Chairman of Bury St Edmunds Town Council:



Nominated by his Mum, Laurence is a model pupil who is an active member of several clubs including

cricket, basketball, badminton and guitar. Outside school he goes to Scouts, plays football for Bury Town and has just been chosen to play Badminton for Suffolk. He also helps his Mum with household chores.

On the same evening the Allotment competition prizes were presented. The winner of the 'Best Allotment Plot' was Colin St John Murphy and the winner of the 'Best Newcomer' was Christine Lock. The winners each received £40 of Thompson & Morgan vouchers and three 'St Edmund' rose bushes (donated by Cants of Colchester). Christine also received 10 packets of seeds (donated by Fothergill's). Pictured below from left to right are Mr Cole, Mr Diver, Mrs Cole and Mr St John Murphy:



Grateful thanks are extended to all of the sponsors and prize donators - Bury St Edmunds Mercury, Greene King plc, Tesco, Waitrose, Cants of Colchester Ltd, Glasswells Ltd, Marlows Home & Garden Centre, Mr Fothergill's Seeds, St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Thompson & Morgan and to St John Ambulance who provided first aid cover for the event.

St Edmund's Day – illumination of the Wolf Statue

Council paid for the low emission lighting works to illuminate the Wolf Statue on the Southgate Green roundabout which were switched on for the first time as part of the Christmas lights switch on which took place on the evening of St Edmund's Day (20th November).

Priors Estate Playground Refurbishment and Improvement Project

Council has agreed to contribute £10,000 towards the cost of refurbishment and improvement of the playground on the Priors estate; the project which is to cost around £150,000 is being undertaken by the Borough Council and is to be done next year.

Tourism

Following the closure of the Tourist Information Office on Angel Hill, the Council's offices became one of the tourism "satellites" in June this year. A limited supply of leaflets about places to visit and things to do and see in and around Bury St Edmunds are available along with additional information from Council's staff.

In addition Council has also contributed £3,000 to enable a Destination Management Plan for Bury St Edmunds to be commissioned, jointly with St Edmundsbury Borough Council and OurBuryStEdmunds, which will advise on the best long term strategy for tourism in the Town.

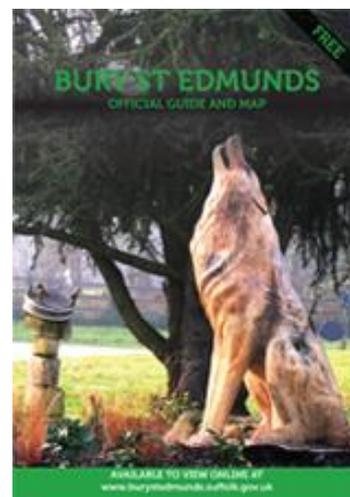
Official Town Guide

The fourth edition of the official town guide was produced for 2014. It contains much interesting information about the Town and businesses as well as an updated street map.

This is distributed through numerous outlets in the Town, businesses and public buildings and is also available from these offices.

An online version of the current guide can be accessed via the link below:

www.localauthoritypublishing.co.uk/flip_guides/burystedmundsguide/index.html



If you have any suggestions about additions or improvements please contact us using the details at the top of the page.

Financial Matters

In September Council received an unqualified audit opinion on its 'Annual Return' (a document it is required to complete at the end of each financial year once it has approved its year end accounts under the provisions of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011). This means that on the basis of its review the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters came to its attention which gave cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

Schedule of Meetings

All of the Council's meetings are open to the public and are held at the Town Council offices on Angel Hill. Notices and agendas are displayed a few days before the meeting on notice boards in the offices and Cornhill, on the Council's website (address shown at the top of page one of this newsletter) as well as in the library and at St Edmundsbury Borough Council's offices in Western Way, Bury St Edmunds.

The remaining meetings for the current Council year are:

14 January 2015

6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Finance Policy & Resources

28 January 2015

6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Full Town Council

11 February 2015

6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Finance Policy & Resources

25 February 2015

6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Full Town Council

11 March 2015

6:00 pm Staffing & Employment
6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Finance Policy & Resources

25 March 2015

6:30 pm Planning and Licensing
7:00 pm Full Town Council

15 April 2015

6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Finance Policy & Resources

29 April 2015

6:30 pm Planning & Licensing
7:00 pm Full Town Council

Councillors' contact details

All Town Councillors can be contacted via the telephone numbers shown (all numbers have 01284 as their dialling code unless specified otherwise) or by e-mail. Some have mobile or business telephone numbers as shown on our website which can be found at: www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk

Bury St Edmunds is split into nine wards which are shown alphabetically below:

Abbeygate ward

Paul Farmer 768777
Robert Everitt 769000

Eastgate ward

Peter Thompson 07810
868986

Minden ward

Quentin Cornish 750264
Jonathan Hartley 762467

Moreton Hall

Cliff Hind 706542
Patricia Warby 704138
Clive Springett 753120

Northgate ward

Alan Turner 489171

Risbygate ward

Frank Warby 704138
Richard O'Driscoll 706572

Southgate ward

Patrick Chung 761120
Nicola Ridgeway 723948

St Olaves ward

Bob Cockle 756249
Kevin Hind 706542

Westgate ward

Stefan Oliver 706172
Paul Simner 768202

Staff contact details

The members of staff are:

Town Clerk: Julia Dyball
Tel: 01284 757139
Email: Julia.dyball@burystedmunds.gov.uk

Assistant Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:
Sue Hindry
Tel: 01284 757157
Email: susan.hindry@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk

Allotments and Administrative Assistant: Gill Cook
Tel: 01284 757158
Email: gill.cook@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk

Keeping you informed

You can find information about the Town Council on the website, www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk.

We also appreciate that not everyone has access to, or wants to use, the internet. Everything that we provide online can be provided on request in hard copy. We welcome your suggestions, feedback and comments.

The website has a 'Community noticeboard' page. Let us know details of news and events in your community so that we can include them.

Follow us on Twitter at @bstetc



Healthwatch Suffolk is the local independent consumer champion created to gather and represent the views of the public. More information about its activities is available on its website at www.healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk.



The East Anglian Air Ambulance is a local charity running a 365-day helicopter emergency medical service covering Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk, funded entirely on donations. For more information or to read some fantastic stories from its local supporters visit its website at www.eaaa.org.uk.