

# TownTalk



## News and views from Bury St Edmunds Town Council

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BURY ST EDMUNDS  
TOWN COUNCIL

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### Town Clerk's introduction

This summer seems to have been dominated by the outdoors: accompanying our own judges at our allotments competition, meeting the Bury in Bloom and Britain in Bloom judges, and seeing all the superb vegetables and produce being grown, and the beautiful hanging baskets, window boxes and flower beds ranging over small areas and large. It certainly has been lovely to see and be involved with.

At a local government level projects seem to take a long time to come to fruition, so it is great to see that we are finally making progress in several areas: re-instating the St Edmunds Day awards; installing additional grit bins; moving towards achieving extra and much needed allotment plots, and achieving the re-accreditation of Quality Town Council.

### Allotments competition

This year the Council has again held its allotment competitions, with three categories: Best allotment plot, for which all Council allotment tenants are automatically entered; most environmentally friendly plot, for which nominations are required. This year a new category was introduced of best newcomer. This was awarded to the tenant who, in the view of staff, had taken on an allotment in the past year and achieved the most in that time.

The judges visited on 20 July and were very impressed with the overall standard, feeling it was better than last year, and commending the maximum use of the plots and the variety of produce grown. They would have liked

to have seen more entries for the environmentally friendly award as many plots were highlighted as having plants beneficial to insects, good systems in place for sustainability (especially in this time of drought) and good composting arrangements.



*(Picture courtesy of Bury Free Press)*

We are very grateful to the judges: (from left to right): Doreen Young, Caroline Holmes, Graham Turner, (Paula and Jen), John Bell and Cllr Stefan Oliver for giving up their time and being so generous with their suggestions for improvements. We also thank Marlow's, and Thompson and Morgan for their generosity in providing vouchers for the winners.

The shortlisted tenants were:

Best allotment plot:

Jim Bowden, Mrs Winter, Julie Nye, Mr Walden, Hayley Chant, Mr Carter, Mr Myatt, John and Alison Baines, Mr and Mrs Cole, Mr Browning and Ms Bennett.

Most environmentally friendly: Hayley Chant (winner) and Stephen Cooper.

Best newcomer: Colin Scarfe (winner) and Janice Morris.

The winner of the best allotment (for the second year running) was Jim Bowden.

We congratulate all the winners and are sure they will be an inspiration to all allotment holders.

### New Cotton Lane allotments site

The ecological surveys have now been completed on this site, and we are waiting for it to be cleared by the developer so that we can properly assess how many plots will be available, and how soon.

### Bury in Bloom

The Town Council was very pleased to be able to support Bury in Bloom with the purchase of flower trees in Abbeygate Street, and in Brentgovel Street. The judges were very impressed with the town and particularly with the amount of community involvement, and it was good to feel that the Town Council was involved, on a very small level, with these prestigious events.

### St Edmund's Day

This year the Council is pleased to have re-instated the awards for Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year.

Nomination forms were widely circulated to churches, community associations, residents groups, schools, community organisations.

Several nominations have been received and those shortlisted will be contacted shortly and invited to a presentation to be held on St Edmunds day, 20 November.

## Quality Town Status

The Town Council is delighted to announce that it has been re-accredited as a Quality Town Council. This was first achieved in December 2005, and has to be re-applied for every four years. Suffolk Association of Local Councils says:

“The Quality Council award is proof of hard work and commitment by members and staff to a standard of excellence in public service.



Reaccreditation is not an easy process as it involves a thorough compilation of substantive evidence under a revised scheme which concentrates far more on the community role, communications and progressiveness of the Council. Please pass on my warmest congratulations to your council”.

## Official Town Guide

The second edition of the official town guide was published this year, and includes much useful and interesting information about the town, as well as a map. This free publication is available from the Town Council offices, as well as the library, Tourist Information Centre, bus and train stations, many cafes, community centres and other outlets.

## Grit bins

New grit bins have now been delivered to the Town Council offices and those where the consultation process has been completed will be appearing on your streets over the next few weeks. We are visiting other sites that have been requested but if you know of a site which could do with a grit bin, please let us know and we will investigate. The criteria are that it must not be on an existing gritting route, and should be on a hill, or a particularly dangerous junction.

## Keeping you informed

You can find information about the Town Council on the website, [www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk).

But 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 suggestions, feedback and comments. Each month the website features a topic written by Councillors or staff.

## How to make contact

All Town Councillors can be contacted via the telephone numbers below (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 [www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk).

<sup>1</sup> Roy Bebbington	706981
<sup>2</sup> Keith Bird	763689
<sup>3</sup> Patrick Chung	761120
<sup>4</sup> Bob Cockle	756249
<sup>5</sup> James Dinsdale*	07940 536269
<sup>6</sup> Paul Farmer	768777
<sup>7</sup> Allan Jones	756415
<sup>8</sup> Christopher Turner*	07816 843778
<sup>9</sup> Edward Lockwood	711698 <sup>#</sup>
<sup>10</sup> Michele Lockwood	711698 <sup>#</sup>
<sup>11</sup> Stefan Oliver	706172
<sup>12</sup> David Nettleton	702212
<sup>13</sup> Richard Rout	767494
<sup>14</sup> Paul Simner	768202
<sup>15</sup> Clive Springett	753120
<sup>16</sup> Patricia Warby	704138
<sup>17</sup> Kevin Waterson	764804

<b>1, 15 and 16:</b>	Moreton Hall ward
<b>2 and 5:</b>	Westgate ward
<b>3 and 17:</b>	Minden ward
<b>4 and 10:</b>	St Olaves ward
<b>6 and 13:</b>	Abbeygate ward
<b>7 and 8:</b>	Southgate ward
<b>9:</b>	Northgate ward
<b>11:</b>	Eastgate ward
<b>12 and 14:</b>	Risbygate ward

<sup>#</sup>dial 01638 before this number

\* no code required

The members of staff are:

Town Clerk:

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Assistant Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer:

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Administrative Assistant:

Paula Gladwell

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## Schedule of Meetings

All meetings are open to the public and are held at the Town Council offices on Angel Hill. Notices and agendas are displayed on the notice boards at Cornhill, in the office, the library and at St Edmundsbury Borough Council offices a few days before the meeting.

The remaining meetings for the current year are:

### 13 October

Planning and Licensing 6.30

Finance, Policy & Resources 7.00

### 10 November

Planning and Licensing 6.30

Finance, Policy & Resources 7.00

### 24 November

Planning and Licensing 6.30

Full Town Council 7.00

### 8 December

Planning and Licensing 6.30

Finance, Policy & Resources 7.00

Staffing and Employment 8.00

### 15 December

Planning and Licensing 6.30

Precept Ratification Meeting 7.00

### 12 January 2011

Planning and Licensing 6.30

Finance, Policy & Resources 7.00