

# 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](mailto:info@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk) & [www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk)

BURY ST EDMUNDS  
TOWN COUNCIL

November 2012

### Introduction

This year has been a special one for celebrations; the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Torch relay, both marked by Town Council involvement. We then had the fantastic spectacle of the Olympics and Paralympics and were somehow entitled to feel included and proud of our Town and Country. The sun may have been lacking but the spirit somehow soared. People talk of the hope that there is a lasting legacy to these events, hopefully so in terms of a local legacy of the fun and enjoyment that Bury people had when they got together to party and celebrate. We should and will do more of it as we have a lot to celebrate in Bury St Edmunds.

### Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The Council jointly funded the celebratory '50s themed Jubilee Fete with St Edmundsbury Borough Council and with the benefit of a Locality Budget contribution from Suffolk County Councillor (and Borough and Town Councillor) Stefan Oliver. The family fete was organised by the Borough's Tourist Information Centre manager Sharon Fairweather who did a fantastic job. What fun was had and enjoyed in the Abbey Gardens from 12 noon to 5pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

The crowds thronged to watch and participate in traditional children's games, bonny baby and knobbly knees competitions and not least the very well supported and highly competitive races for mums and dads. Local businesses provided excellent and modestly priced

refreshments and overall it was a lovely afternoon enjoyed by all.



Bonny baby competition

### 2012 Olympics

Bury St Edmunds was lucky enough to have the torch bearers passing through and certainly celebrated the event along the whole route. Angel Hill was packed with an expectant crowd who were, before and after the torch bearer's procession, kept entertained by Morris dancers, Chinese Lion Dancers and a clown and juggler for good measure, provided by Bury St Edmunds Town Council.



Olympic Torch bearer on Angel Hill

### Grants Fund Available

The basic criterion for award is 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.

### Latest Grants Awarded

After due consideration the following have been awarded grants for their good causes benefitting residents of the Town:-

- Moreton Hall Youth Action Group for dance/fitness/sport
- Moreton Hall Residents Association for publicity to raise residents' awareness of its activities
- The Volunteer Centre for purchase of a lawnmower
- The Lark Stroke Club for an outing
- Mildenhall Road Estate Women's Community Group for their Christmas meal.

### Armistice Day Remembrance

The Council took part in a ceremony on Angel Hill on 9<sup>th</sup> November marked by members of the Royal British Legion and others in advance of Armistice Day, placing wreaths on the memorial trees and afterwards provided refreshments for those taking part.



(Photo: courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times)

### St Edmund's Day Awards

This year's St Edmund's Day Celebration took place at the Town Council's Offices on St Edmund's Day, Tuesday 20 November 2012.

Awards were presented for Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year and this year for the first time there was an award for the Best Residents Association. The evening also saw prizes in the Allotments competition for Best Allotment Plot and Best Newcomer Allotment Plot being awarded.

The winners were:

Citizen of the Year (jointly) Richard Mortlock nominated for his voluntary work for various clubs and associations including the Mildenhall Road Estate Residents' Association, the Bury Mini Club and the Mildenhall Estate Community Association which runs the Anselm Centre and charity fund raising and Valerie Legg nominated for her work with 'Church Walks Charities' raising funds for various good causes.



Richard Mortlock, Cllr Bob Cockle (Town Council Chairman) & Valerie Legg

Young Citizen of the Year (jointly) Jess Kemp and Jonathan Sharp



Jonathan Sharp, Cllr Bob Cockle (Town Council Chairman) & Jess Kemp

Jess, a year 13 pupil at King Edward VI organised a fundraising festival for Greenpeace and Oxfam, grew her leg and armpit hair for three months and had it dyed before enduring a painful wax removal to raise £300 for Cancer Research, went technology free for two weeks in aid of the Haiti Earthquake victims, is a peer mentor at middle schools and plans to raise money for children in India.

Jonathan was nominated by St Louis Catholic Middle school where he had

taken part in PTA DIY days, gardening and painting, had been a PE and playground monitor, ran a table tennis club for five years and is a member of St John's Ambulance.

The Mildenhall Road Estate Association was named Best Resident's Association for its work within the local community.

The 'Best Allotment Plot 2012' award went to Steve Ohlsen for the second year running, while John Hills was awarded second place and Julie Nye third place.

In the other category in the Allotments competition, 'Best Newcomer 2012', the award was won by Clifford May, while Janice Anderson was second and Jennifer Woods third.

### Allotments Meeting

There was a good attendance at the allotment holders' meeting on Thursday 12 July 2012 held at the Town Council Offices with tenants from Vinefields, Sicklesmere Road and Nowton Road sites attending. They informed the Chairman of the meeting, Councillor Stefan Oliver, that they required speedier action on the part of the Council to deal with tenants who let their plots become unduly weedy and allowing the unwelcome spread of weed seeds. In consequence Council has tightened up on its neglected plot procedures. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 10 January 2013 at 7.30pm at the Town Council Offices. All allotment tenants are invited to attend.

### Official Town Guide

The third edition of the official town guide is available free of charge from the Town Council offices and many other local outlets. It includes much useful and interesting information about the town, as well as a map. An online version of the guide can be accessed via the link below:

[www.localauthoritypublishing.co.uk/flip\\_guides/burystedmundsguide/index.html](http://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.

The Auditor raised one matter relating to the amount of Fidelity Guarantee insurance cover.

### Grit bins

The bad weather will come soon enough; we have had a number of requests for Grit Bins and requests are still being considered. The Council has set criteria to be met as to the need (in the vicinity of a hill, a bend etc.) but the consent of the land owner (Suffolk County Council or private owner) has to be forthcoming to enable a bin to be placed at any particular location. As ever we are grateful to Councillor Paul Simner who has helped to site these on a voluntary basis.

If you think you have real need of a grit bin and or wish to volunteer as a spreader of grit (and be covered by Suffolk County Council's insurance whilst doing so) please contact us.



## 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 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) as well as in the library and at St Edmundsbury Borough Council offices.

Meetings are scheduled as follows:

### 5 December 2012

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Finance Policy & Resources 7.00 pm

### 19 December 2012

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Precept Ratification 7.00 pm

### 16 January 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Finance Policy & Resources 7.00 pm

### 30 January 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Full Town Council 7.00 pm

### 13 February 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Finance Policy & Resources 7.00 pm

### 27 February 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Full Town Council 7.00 pm

### 13 March 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Finance Policy & Resources 7.00 pm

### 27 March 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Full Town Council 7.00 pm

### 10 April 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Finance Policy & Resources 7.00 pm

### 24 April 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Full Town Council 7.00 pm

### 08 May 2013

Annual Town Meeting 7.30 pm

### 15 May 2013

Planning & Licensing 6.30 pm  
Finance Policy & Resources 7.00 pm

### 22 May 2013

Annual Full Council meeting 7.00 pm

## Welcome our new Councillor

In September Pete Thompson was elected as Town Councillor in Eastgate Ward.



Cllr Pete Thompson

## 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](http://www.burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk)

Bury St Edmunds is split into 9 wards which are shown alphabetically below:

### Abbeygate ward

Paul Farmer 768777  
Vacancy

### 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

Ross Taylor 07794 881672  
Vacancy

### 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](mailto:Julia.dyball@burystedmunds.gov.uk)

Assistant Town Clerk and Responsible

Financial Officer: Sue Hindry

Tel: 01284 757157

Email:

[susan.hindry@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:susan.hindry@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk)

Allotments and Administrative Assistant:

Gill Cook

Tel: 01284 757158

Email:

[gill.cook@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:gill.cook@burystedmunds.suffolk.gov.uk)

## Bury In Bloom

Congratulations to Bury In Bloom for winning a Gold award in Anglia in Bloom's 'Best Large Town' category.



Statue of St Edmund  
on the roundabout at the junction of  
Risbygate and Parkway

## 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).

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.