New APP Launched

We are excited to announce that the new Leighton-Linslade Town Council App is now available to download from the Apple Store and Google Play.

The app was created as part of our ongoing communication plans to keep you well informed about Town Council projects, events and more. We welcome all feedback, please download the app and let us know what you think.

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After having served a year as Deputy Mayor, Syed Rahman described it as an honour to wear the gold Mayoral Chains and begin his term supporting the town he calls his ‘destiny’.

During his term as Town Mayor, Syed Rahman planned to raise funds for five charities: Aquarius helping solve alcohol, drug and gambling issues; Keech Hospice - specialist care for people facing terminal and life-limiting illnesses; St. John’s Hospice - end of life care and support; Autism Bedfordshire - support for those with autism, as well as their families and carers, and The Homeless Service Leighton-Linslade – to improve and expand facilities for homeless people in the town.

The Mayor is determined to raise as much money as possible for his nominated charities, which he chose specifically to enable him to support a diverse aspect of the community. Work has already begun, with dates being set and venues being booked. In addition to the familiar Mayoral events Cllr Rahman also hopes he might also be able to add one or two new events to Leighton-Linslade’s busy calendar.

**Dates for the Diary**

- **Charity Collection**
  - 12 August – Morrisons
  - 26 August – Astral Park

- **Christmas Carol Concert**
  - 9 December - All Saints’ Church

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**Contact details for your Local MP - Andrew Selous MP (South West Bedfordshire)**

- **email** – andrew.selous.mp@parliament.uk
- **post** – House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
- **telephone** – 020 7 219 8134 (House of Commons)

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**EVENTS**

- **JULY**
  - [种植中心](#)
    - Sat 15 – Farmers’ Market, Town Centre (0900 - 1600 hours)
    - Sun 16 – Band Concert, Parson’s Close Recreation Ground (1500 - 1700 hours)
    - Sat 22 – Craft Market, Town Centre (0900 - 1600 hours)
    - Sun 23 – Band Concert, Parson’s Close Recreation Ground (1500 - 1700 hours)
  - [Leighton-Linslade Canal Festival](#)
    - Sat 29 – Leighton-Linslade Canal Festival, Tiddenfoot Waterside Park (1100 - 1700 hours)
    - Sun 30 – Town Twinning Band Concert, Parson’s Close Recreation Ground (1500 - 2000 hours)

- **AUGUST**
  - [Leighton-Linslade Canal Festival](#)
    - Sun 6 – Morrisons Pop-Up Market, Town Centre (0900 - 1600 hours)
    - Fri 11 – Big Summer Weekend, Rushmere Country Park (1500 - 2100 hours)
  - [Britain's Best Barnyards](#)
    - Sun 13 – Proms and Picnic in the Park, Parson’s Close Recreation Ground (1500 - 2100 hours)
    - Sat 19 – Farmers’ Market, Town Centre (0900 - 1600 hours)
    - Sun 20 – Band Concert, Parson’s Close Recreation Ground (1500 - 1700 hours)
    - Sat 26 – Craft Market, Town Centre (0900 - 1600 hours)

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**COUNCIL COMMITTEE DATES**

Committee meetings start at 1930hrs and are held in the Town Council Offices unless otherwise shown below. Please note these may be subject to change, please check our website.

**JULY 2017**

- Wed 05 – Planning & Transport Committee
- Mon 10 – Personnel Sub-Committee
- Wed 16 – Planning & Transport Committee

**AUGUST 2017**

- Wed 16 – Planning & Transport Committee
- Thu 10 – Market Sub-Committee (1030)

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**Linslade Canal Festival Saturday 29 July**

Linslade Canal Festival takes place on Saturday 29 July from 1100 - 1700hrs at Tiddenfoot Waterside Park in Linslade. The country park adjacent to the Grand Union Canal provides a very unique setting for this popular one day event.

By back popular demand for 2017 is the fun dog show, (don’t forget to register your dog on the day), children’s amusements along with a programme of live music. New for this year and not to be missed is the chainsaw carver, who you will be able to see demonstrating throughout the day.

Alongside a display of arts and crafts, cottage industries and life on the canal, visitors will be able to browse the numerous stalls and narrow boats selling their wares, from Hand Crafted products to cheese and jewellery, there’s something for everyone. On dry land, our rural life exhibitors provide an insight into some traditional skills including Bee Skeps and Love Spoons. Admission to the event is free. Car Parking charges apply.

Teddy and Otto - appearing at this years Canal Festival for further details contact Leighton-Linslade Town Council on 01525 631920 or e-mail: info@ leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk or browse our website www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk
**Honorary Burgess Nominations 2018**

Do you know a good citizen?

We are now accepting nominations for the title of 2018 Honorary Burgess of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade. If you know someone who gives their time to help others in the community, nominate them now! The closing date for nominations is 31 October 2017.

The nomination criteria is that the nominee:

- has served the community in one or more voluntary capacities for at least seven years, performing a service which is of benefit to the town or to a vulnerable community within the town
- is not a serving Councillor, nor can he/she have served, during the previous term of the Council.

This ‘Title of Dignity’ is a prestigious award reserved for the truly deserving. If you know of a fitting candidate please telephone the Town Council for a nomination form on 01525 631920, email us at info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk or download a form from the Grants and Awards page on our website.

For further information contact Jo Martindale on 01525 631920 email: info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

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**Astral Park**

**Charity Race Night**

**Saturday 30 September**

A fun family event

Tickets £10 per adult, £5 child £25 family ticket (4ppl) includes drink and burger basket meal.

Starts at 1830 hrs
First Race 1930 hrs
Tickets can be purchased directly from Astral Park or The Town Council Offices (Hockcliffe Street)
Total of 6 races, hot food and bar facility

For further information contact Jo Martindale on 01525 631920 email: info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

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**High Street Improvement Scheme**

This scheme invited independent High Street retailers and landlords to apply for grant funds to help improve their shop fronts and the way they present themselves to customers.

By the end of the application period, 17 Leighton Buzzard retailers had expressed an interest to grant provider Central Bedfordshire Council. Out of those, 13 passed to the second stage of the application process and are all at various stages of the full application and the scheme.

Over the next few months you will begin to see some changes to a few shop fronts around town. New business façades will present confidence in the business and customers will be more likely to enter. Likewise, a good frontage improves the wider street presentation to the benefit of all businesses in the town.

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**Our Green Spaces are Great Places**

Our 2017 Green Flag Award status – comparable to the Blue Flag denoting beach excellence along Britain’s coastline. In addition, there are 5 main parks, and 20 local parks. All are open access. It’s not just town parks, but cemeteries, allotments and the much loved floral displays are also part of the Grounds teams responsibilities. Then there’s over 60 hectares of open access public space which is part of the parks’ rich portfolio.

Councillor Steve Jones, Chair of Grounds and Environmental Services Committee said “We act as temporary custodians to the public. We manage the land on behalf of the people of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade, and it’s there for all to enjoy. Its beauty and tranquility make a lasting impression on visitors, and we appreciate peoples’ comments.”

The team come across acts of mindless vandalism: graffiti scrawled on play equipment, trees snapped or flower beds pulled up. Plant theft too is “dispiriting”. However, they always remove, repair and replace as soon as possible to ensure our parks and open spaces look their best.

Both Councillors and Mr Haynes have particular praise for all the volunteer groups that help out in the parks, which includes many young families, whose friends and children are being directly consulted about what happens in their own local park.

We think we know what the public want, but it’s always helpful to have some direct participation, and guidance from those who use and enjoy Leighton-Linslade parks.

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**TACTIC**

**LEIGHTON-LINSLADE Together**

**Central Bedfordshire**

**Play Scheme**

| 1 – 4 August (0930 – 1530 hrs) |
| TACTIC will be running summer activities for 8 - 11yr old at Astral Park Community Sports Centre. Check out our website www.tactic-centre.co.uk or ‘like’ our Facebook page for updates. |
| **Summer Activities** |
| 7 – 24 August |
| TACTIC will be running summer activities for 12-19 yr olds to ‘get involved’ with and have FUN. Young people can take part in Street Art, Drama, First Aid, Arts & Crafts, Multi- Sports and trips out to Go Ape and Stockgrove Park. |

Contact us with your comments on 01525 631920 or e-mail: info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk
We hope you enjoy your new play space.

**Mentmore Park**

Mentmore Park Junior Play Area refurbishment has been completed.

The Town Council has designed and improved the Mentmore Park Junior play area based on the feedback from the public consultation ensuring the 10 principles of designing successful play spaces are achieved. We have worked closely with equipment manufacturers to ensure that not only will this project exceed the expectations of the public but will also achieve best value. We hope you enjoy your new play space.

**Improvements to Linslade Recreation Ground**

Linslade Recreation Ground is an important green space, attractively laid out with a network of paths and avenues of pollarded trees. The Recreation Ground provides an attractive backdrop to the church. Arranged around a network of tree-lined paths, the area functions as a valuable amenity space. There are many pleasant and attractive views across the recreation ground taking in the backs of houses on New Road to the north and the grand (original) entrance to the Hunt Hotel and church to the east.

The Recreation Ground was initially saved from development by London Financier and local benefactor Mr Henry Finch who among many other gifts, bought the fields next to the railway station and gave them to the town of Linslade. The focal point within the Recreation Ground is the granite drinking fountain commemorating its benefactor Henry Finch. At the time, it had cups attached so that children could get a drink while they were playing, but unfortunately today the water is no longer connected. However, the Town Council has an aspiration of restoring the fountain to its original working glory.

As the biggest area of public open space in Linslade, it is the Town Council’s intention to look at projects that will enhance the visitor experience without compromising its character. How will this be achieved?

- By making improvements to boundary treatments.
- By making improvements to key gateway features and in particular the western railway frontage.
- By restoring the Henry Finch Memorial Fountain to working order.
- Re-naming the Public Open Space.
- Installing a standalone Children’s Themed Trail within the park.
- To work with Friends of Anglia in Bloom in order to deliver the community garden project.

We see this as an exciting project that once delivered will provide Linslade with a park of the highest quality.

**Photographic Competition**

The Friends of Leighton-Linslade in Bloom Group are still working hard to improve the appearance of the town and make it a more pleasant place in which to live. For the last few years, we have organised successful competitions for young persons in which they were asked to design posters on various themes. By popular request, we are now trying to engage with older groups to get them to participate in a competition, which tests their artistic and photographic skills.

**The 2017 Competition**

As many teenagers have access to a camera / in built camera - mobile phone we have designed this competition to enable them to use their artistic ability to capture, by a single photograph, one of the many tourist attractions in Leighton – Linslade. An unusual angle or unconventional view of the attraction is acceptable.

Some examples of the many tourist attractions include:

- The Narrow - Gauge Railway
- The Market Cross
- Pages Park and the Community Garden
- Parsons Close Recreation Ground
- The Children’s Trail
- The Grand Union Canal – its boats, locks or pubs
- Tiddenfoot Waterside Park
- Linslade Wood
- The Market and its stalls
- Any of the beautiful flower arrangements in the town, parks or pubs
- Any of the old buildings in the High St

The photograph, taken electronically or by conventional film exposure, must be taken and submitted by non - professional photographers and must not have been used in other competitions.

**Judging and Prizes**

Entries will be judged by a panel of members of the Friends of Leighton-Linslade In Bloom Group and the winner and the two runners up will receive prizes of £50, £20 and £10, with a trophy going to the winner.

In addition, we may produce a 2018 Calendar based on some of the most successful designs, which will give an acknowledgement to the person submitting the entry.

**Details:**

- The Competition is limited to those aged 10-18 years. Entries should be submitted in one of two ways:
  1. by email attachment, with a title for the photograph, the name and age of the entrant and contact details on the email. They should be sent to: info@leighton-linsladeinbloom.co.uk
  2. by hard copy, using conventional film exposure, with a title for the photograph, the name and age of the entrant and contact details on a sheet of paper, clipped to the photograph, all enclosed in an envelope. The envelope with contents should be taken by hand to The White House, Hockcliffe Street, Leighton Buzzard, where there is a special box on the reception desk.

All entries should be submitted by midday on Monday 31st July 2017. The decision of the judging panel is final. It is with regret that individual entries cannot be returned to the entrant and will remain the ownership of The Friends of Leighton – Linslade In Bloom.

The winner and runners up will be notified directly after August 2017.

**Calling all budding Photographers!**

**Photographic Competition**

This year’s theme is “Growing the Movement” a celebration of all the hard work put in by voluntary association management committees, plot-holder volunteers and councils managing, creating, developing and safeguarding sites.

Did you know that the Town Council has two allotment sites Weston Avenue, Leighton Buzzard and Alwins Field, Linslade. The Council works in partnership with Leighton-Linslade Allotments Society. To find out more please get in touch as we have plots available at Weston Avenue.

**What are you doing for National Allotments Week?**

### Have you tried our Children’s Trail?

FREE family Activity. Every month we give away a goodie bag to the family who checks-in or uploads the most liked photo, to our Facebook page. www.facebook.com/ChildrensTrail

### JUNE - SEPTEMBER

1500 - 1700 hours
Sunday Afternoons
Parson’s Close Recreation Ground

**Sponsored by** Connells Group Employees

Visit us on [www.facebook.com/LeightonLinsladeinBloom](http://www.facebook.com/LeightonLinsladeinBloom) or on Twitter [@LLCTNews](https://twitter.com/LLIThreeBloom)
WHY NOT ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US?

Pricing Guidelines

1/4 page 8.7 x 12.7cm (portrait) £50 + VAT
1/8 page 8.7 x 6cm (landscape) £30 + VAT
1/2 page 18 x 12.7cm (landscape) £80.00 + VAT
Full page 21 x 29.7cm £160.00 + VAT

We reserve the right to review pricing.

For more information contact: Vivien Cannon on 01525 631924

SUBSCRIBE TO ABOUTTOWN

Straight to your e-mail box every time, visit

www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/your-council/about-town/

WHILEST EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN TAKEN TO PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION, THE COUNCIL DOES NOT ACCEPT ANY LIABILITY FOR ERROR OR OMISSION FOR INFORMATION ON SERVICES IT IS NOT DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR. THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES NOT NECESSARILY ENDORSE ANY BUSINESS USING ADVERTISING SPACE.

Leighton-Linslade Town Council, The White House, Hockliffe Street, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 1HD
Main switchboard: 01525 631920 info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

NEWS

ABOUT TOWN

Feedback Form

We would welcome your comments on the services we provide. Please cut out and post in the box provided at the Multi Storey car park (West Street) or Town Council Offices (Hockliffe Street).

Your comments:

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Please enter your details if you want us to respond to your comments.

Name: .............................................................................................................................
Telephone .....................................................................................................................
Email .............................................................................................................................

Please tick relevant box

LU7 □ other □

ABOUT TOWN

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W: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk