YOUR TOWN, YOUR SAY

An ambitious two month public engagement exercise will begin in September. Its purpose is to help shape town council objectives over the coming 5-year period. In 2015, the Town Council published its 3 Year Plan and objectives for the period 2015-18.

With most of those objectives now completed, the Town Council wants to better understand from residents their aspirations for the parish over the coming years. Continued on page 3.

Help us set the blueprint for the parish over the coming 5 years.

CENTENARY

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

WW1 CENTENARY

FIND OUT MORE - PAGE 5

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY

To mark the centenary of WW1 and as part of the ‘In Bloom’ campaign, TACTIC’s young people designed two war murals. They are currently being displayed in Church Square.
I very much hope that you all had an excellent summer and thoroughly enjoyed your holidays! It seems incredible that we are now moving towards autumn, but that brings other different things to look forward to. Speaking to friends and others who do not live in Leighton-Linslade, they are frequently astonished when I mention the community events which are organised in the town and attended, literally, by thousands. During the summer we had the Big Lunch, the Carnival and the magnificent ever-growing Canal Festival. Now, we look forward to our Living History event in the High Street on 6 October. Inevitably, and rightly, this spectacle will focus on the 100th Anniversary of World War 1. Looking back on our families, both

Continued from front page ...

Your Town, Your Say

Working in collaboration with “Howdo” research consultants, a series of face to face interviews will take place across the parish where residents will be given the opportunity to have their say. We want your views on the following services and facilities we provide that include our open spaces, cemeteries, events, Teenage Advice and Teenage Information Service and twice weekly market. Whilst we welcome your engagement in the process, we should make clear that as a council we have no control over the services and facilities that Central Bedfordshire Council are responsible for that include housing, council tax, benefits, elections, schools, highways, parking, community safety, waste collection, social services, leisure and libraries, planning matters. Once the survey is complete, any recommendations that come from this will be fed back into the democratic process and will be agreed by the Policy and Finance Committee at its meeting to be held on 19th November 2018. It is hoped that in January 2019, Full Council will adopt the plan that will set the blueprint for the parish over the coming 5 years.
BB Society

Did you know that there is a civic society in our town, formed in 1965? The Leighton Buzzard Society meets once a month at The Gables, Wing Road, Linslade. Each meeting includes a guest speaker as well as an update on matters affecting the town, such as planning applications and transport. Membership costs just £10 for an individual for a year (less for couples/concessions).

Please see www.leightonbuzzardsociety.com for more information.

Buzz Services as Usual

Buzzer Buses are extremely pleased to announce that after two years of uncertainty we confirm that we have now been awarded the contract to continue operating the Dial-a-Ride service for Leighton Buzzard, Woburn and the Bedfordshire villages in-between. This means that we will be able to continue offering all of the services that we have done in the past.

Any new members will be more than welcome to join, and current members can look forward to our buses running as usual. We will also continue to run our popular weekly outings to various garden centres, pubs and other places of interest. If you have any requests for destinations, then please call us and we will do our best to add them to our itinerary.

For more information about our friendly, reliable local service, please call 01525 853566.

Visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/leightonlinsladebuzzers

BB Society

BANDSTAND REFURBISHMENT COMPLETED

The newly installed balustrades and redecoration have finished off the refurbishment of our much-loved bandstand. As part of our ongoing site improvement programme, the Town Council agreed it is time to improve the bandstand within our prestigious Green Flag Award winning park in the heart of Leighton Buzzard. Just under £7,500 has been invested to improve one of the park's most iconic features. The previous wooden balustrades were not strong enough to continue to take the level of misuse the bandstand has seen over the past few years.

This new lease of life with a contemporary update will allow it to take on the pressures of the modern world. Its new splendour will remain the focal point of our vibrant park, echoing the sounds of silver and brass bands for all to enjoy.

Movies for More Mature

Sponsored by Leighton-Linslade Town Council

Library Theatre, Lake Street

A free membership open to all residents of Leighton-Linslade aged 55 or above. Membership includes a discounted ticket and light refreshments.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society
Wednesday 19 September - 1400 hours

Mama Mia-Here We Go Again
Wednesday 17 October - 1400 hours

T: 0300 300 8125

For further information please call Sarah Jewell on 01525 631919.

BEST BAR NONE

Have you spotted this in your local?

Leighton-Linslade pubs who have Best Bar None status are now displaying their window stickers and plaques.
**Town Benchmarking - Feedback**

This is the second year the Town Council has undertaken this benchmarking work. It incorporates feedback from businesses, visitors and residents and provides the Council with data to help inform what investment and lobbying on local issues is needed. If you participated in the Town Centre User or Business Confidence surveys, thank you.

The analysis provides data on key performance areas for the National benchmarking work. It incorporates feedback from consultations with data to help inform what investment and lobbying on local issues is needed. If you participated in the Town Centre User or Business Confidence surveys, thank you.

**Food and Drink Offer - Town Centre users;**

- **Classed 'Pubs/ Bars' as a positive aspect, with 66% stating 'Cafes/ Restaurants' as a positive aspect during the daytime**
  - 69%
- **Businesses that felt that 'Restaurants' as a positive aspect of the evening economy whilst 83% reported 'Pubs/ Bars' Nightclubs**
  - 81%
- **91%**

**Market**

- 20 Market Traders were present at the time of the audit in May 2018, higher than the 2017 figure (15) and the National Small Towns (15) average.
- 66% of Town Centre Users would recommend a visit, similar to the 2017 and National Small Towns (64%) averages whilst nearly two-thirds stated that they would recommend a visit to the Saturday Market.

The full report can be found on our website: [www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk](http://www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/)

**Art for Art’s sake**

**Arts Showcase with Leighton-Linslade Arts Forum**

Following the success of last year’s Arts Bazaar and feedback received, Leighton-Linslade Arts Forum is keen to let you know about the forthcoming event, the ‘Arts Showcase’. This is an enhanced event which will take place on Saturday 15th September from 11:00am to 3:00pm at Brooklands School, Leighton Buzzard. Leighton-Linslade Arts Forum has organised the above event to encourage local residents, young and old, to visit and see how they can get involved with a new hobby or activity and make more of the dark winter days.

The Forum distributes annual grants on behalf of the Arts Forum and their activities should be of benefit to individuals or groups residing in Leighton Buzzard and Linslade and the surrounding district.

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**A Week in the Life of Working for Leighton-Linslade Town Council**

The Town Council often has requests to provide work placements for school students. The article below was jointly written by two students following their time with us in July. Both are camera shy, so we have words only:

As citizens of Leighton Buzzard, we expected that the Leighton-Linslade Town Council (LLTC) would do a variety of jobs for the town itself, however it is in fact Central Bedfordshire Council who have legislation over matters such as street lighting and potholes. We carried out work experience at LLTC for a week which gave us a different insight into the requirements of the town council.

Part of the work experience was helping with planning and marketing of the Canal Festival. LLTC began planning this event at the beginning of the year and now with only two weeks to go, we helped inform people around Linslade about any closures or inconveniences. Another event LLTC have organised is the screening of the World Cup final in the park. Unlike the Canal Festival, they planned this within a week which shows they can do spontaneous events too!

Surprisingly we also found out that the majority of the tax that we pay gets given to the LLTC and the majority to the Central Beds Council. This along with not having legislation over the town means their job is very hard to complete all the tasks that need to be done on such a low budget, but from our work here we can see that they thoroughly enjoy their jobs and have a brilliant atmosphere.

Thank you, to all our recent work experience students. Good luck with your future careers.

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Congratulations!

Leighton-Linslade Town Council Official

About Town

Honorary Burgess

Do You Know a Good Citizen?
Do you know someone who regularly gives their time to help others within our town?
Why not consider nominating them for the 2019 Honorary Burgess of Leighton-Linslade award so they can be recognised for their contribution? To check the eligibility criteria and to download a nomination form, please visit our website: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/your-community/grants-and-awards/

The deadline for nominations is 31 October

Leighton Buzzard and District Archaeological and Historical Society
The house history of 17a Hockliffe Street.
A second grant has been awarded to undertake an archaeological dig and house history in Bridge Street.

Friends of Tiddenfoot

Leighton Buzzard Guides. Helpers cooking on the new gas rings and guides enjoying archery at a residential event

Youth Promise Grant

Remaining available grant funds now sits at £87,814.99 with 6 local groups having successfully been awarded grants so far. At the time of going to press, Committee was expecting to receive three more applications at its meeting on 3 September. Anyone interested in applying will need to get their applications in asap. Two remaining committee dates remain before the scheme closes in December 2018.

For Committee on 15 October, try and get your applications in by 28 September;

For Committee on 10 December, try and get your applications in by 23 November.

If you wish to explore your ideas for a grant, or want to discuss the deadlines, contact: 01525 631920
You can download the guidelines from our website: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/your-community/grants-and-awards/

One of the very first grants to be awarded was to the Linslade Tennis Club, £23,030.00, to build a mini court. Working with the Town Council, the project was completed in July.

Youth Promise Grant

To find out more about our Youth Promise Grant, please get in touch with Vivien Cannon 01525 631924 vivien.cannon@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

General Grants:
Could your local charity or voluntary group use a £500 General Grant for a specific project, to be completed within 12 months, which will benefit local residents? If so, please submit an application form by 1630 hours on Friday 19 October.

Please read the guidance notes on our website, where you can also download an application form: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/your-community/grants-and-awards/

The deadline for nominations is 31 October

Youth Promise Grant

LB Netball Club receiving their cheque

To find out more about our Youth Promise Grant, please get in touch with Vivien Cannon 01525 631924 vivien.cannon@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

LB Youth Hockey Club receiving their cheque

4th Leighton Buzzard Guides. Helpers cooking on the new gas rings and guides enjoying archery at a residential event

Community Grant
Leighton Buzzard Voluntary Patient Transport.
Image shows a client using a volunteer driver’s car to reach his outpatient appointment.

Land of Hope and Glory …

Another successful Proms & Picnic in the Park was held on Sunday 19 August. Feedback from one happy resident read;
“This is a wonderful community event enjoyed by all ages (and even some canine enthusiasts). We look forward to catching up with our friend and these concerts are an annual highlight we enjoy very much. Keep up the good work!”
D1 DASH DIRECT SERVICE SET TO GROW

NEW SERVICE FOR SITE 17A IN THE SOUTH (THEEDWAY) (MS)

Southern Leighton Buzzard Exemplar Transport Scheme
Dash Direct (D1) Bus Service Extension
Back in April 2010, a brand-new bus service was launched in Leighton Buzzard. The D1, Dash Direct provided a high quality, high frequency service to residents of the Southern Leighton Buzzard Development and provided key connections to the High Street and Railway Station.

Since this time, the service has achieved annual passenger growth, with more than 115,000 passenger journeys in 2017 and is considered to be an excellent example of a successful partnership initiative for Sustainable Transport.

Throughout the delivery of the service, the Southern Leighton Buzzard Steering Group has continually looked to provide excellent service to passengers, whilst ensuring that the service continues to operate commercially (as is currently the case).

With the increasing demand at Leighton Buzzard Station, for journeys to London and Milton Keynes, Arriva and the rest of the Steering Group has considered how best to serve all fast commuter trains, whilst ensuring the needs of all other passengers are met and still ensuring the service remains commercially viable. To this end, a new timetable has been prepared with the launch of a second bus, which will provide increased frequency during the key commuter periods.

The service will continue to operate from 06:00hrs to 20:30hrs, Monday to Saturday, with further proposals to extend the service into Roman Gate and along Grovebury Lane once the bus gate has been erected.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD MARKET

A great place to shop

We are lucky to have a bustling, modern twice-weekly market at the heart of our vibrant High Street. Shoppers can choose from stalls selling everything from classic market staples such as fresh fruit and vegetables, plants and cut flowers to books, shoes and biodegradable glitter bath bombs.

We regularly run specialist markets, each designed to enhance the vitality, variety and value of the market. We are thrilled to be adding to our already successful Farmers and Handmade & Craft offerings; a Vintage & Collectors Market – an eclectic market of quirky vintage, retro & collectables which will be on the 5th Saturday of the month (excluding December) launching 29 September.

It’s been almost a year since our Market relaunch. Whilst some traders and members of the public remain sceptical, the relaunch has been largely well received with positive feedback from the public and traders alike. One of our traders quotes that his ‘rent has gone down, and profits have gone up 10% since the relaunch. One of our market goers, Mr E says ‘The Market looks good lately and there’s a nice atmosphere in the town on Saturdays’. The general overview of the market is that it is friendly, covers a wide range of stalls and has a good footfall, although some traders have opinions contrary to this.

The Market is a hugely important part of our community. We will endeavour to work with Traders and listen to feedback from the public to continue to grow our Market.

We are looking for more traders to join our already thriving Charter Market with many opportunities available whether you are local or further afield, brand new business or established. Our fees are not just for a pitch – it also includes gazebo and tables (if required) fully erected, free parking, refuse collection as well as easy, flexible access.

Fees start from £10 per market, you can view our full rate card on our Markets website. If you’d like to find out more information on becoming a trader, and the opportunities available please get in touch:

For more information contact Tracey on 01525 373838 or visit our website: www.tactic-centre.co.uk. Alternatively you can email: tactic@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

FREEFLOW

A Complete Drainage Service

Leighton Buzzard’s Drainage Company
Blocked Drain Clearance . Drain Jetting Colour CCTV Inspection Excavation & Repair Free Quotation Service

Drain Clearance £55ph+VAT (most jobs completed under 1hr) No Call Out Charge (within 10 miles of Leighton Buzzard)

24hr Emergency Drain Clearance

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Tel: 01525 634070 or 07928 652013
Fax: 01525 376094
FULLY INSURED

Company No. 04730483 · VAT No. 829 5387 90
Church Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard Beds. LU7 2LR

For more information contact Tracey on 01525 373838 or visit our website: www.tactic-centre.co.uk. Alternatively you can email: tactic@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

Follow us on facebook @LeightonBuzzardMarket Alternatively tweet us at @market_LB

Are you looking for somewhere to hold a meeting, training or community event?

TACTIC offers rooms to hire at affordable prices for local community groups and charities. Facilities include a lounge and a 121-meeting room.

For more information and scale of charges please contact Linda on 01525 373838 or email: linda.farmer@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

TACTIC young’s respectful act of remembrance

Youth Forum members from TACTIC (Teenage Advice and Information Centre), run by Leighton-Linslade Town Council, spent over 12 weeks to research, design and make two murals to remember the 100 years centenary of the end of World War One (WW1).

The murals are currently on display in Church Square situated behind the War Memorial for all community members to appreciate. The art work was timed to contribute to the Town’s ‘In Bloom’ flower displays and judging day was unknown. The young people involved are pictured here with two of the ‘In Bloom’ judges at the time of going to press, the outcome of the judging day was unknown.

This Art project was co-funded by the Town Council and Central Bedfordshire Council’s Youth Support Service Grant.

Youth Forum members from TACTIC shown here with the ‘In Bloom’ judges next to one of the two murals they designed to remember the 100 years centenary of the end of World War One. The murals are currently on display in Church Square.
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 hand into Reception at the 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 Note: By entering your details, you agree we can use this information to contact you regarding your feedback. We shall not share your details with any other third party and will destroy them once we have responded.

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
is responsible for

Housing | Council Tax | Benefits
Elections | Schools & Education
Highways (roads, pavements, footpaths, verges & trees)
Parking (car parks, permits, disabled parking passes & bus passes)
Environmental Health & Trading Standards
Waste Collection Street Cleaning & Recycling
Children’s Services | Social Services
Leisure & Libraries | Planning Matters
Registrar & Coroner
Leisure & Countryside
Community Safety
Children & Young People
Business Support | Health & Social Care

E: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
0300 300 8000

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Leighton–Linslade Arts Forum
www.llaf.org.uk

You are invited to a free ARTS SHOWCASE

Saturday 15th September 2018
11am – 3pm at Brooklands School,
Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3PF. Free Parking.

Thinking about taking up a new hobby or activity?
Meet members of a wide variety of local arts groups who can tell you all you need to know about their activities and how to take part.
Experience short performances by some of the groups – see website for further details.

singing | community groups

writing | drama

photography | church groups
crafts | painting

bands | dance

musicals | and more...

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