SUMMER HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

Did you know there are plenty of free activities available in the town to entertain families over the summer holiday break? Why not spend a day in Parson’s Close Recreation Ground enjoying the splash & play facility or the sandy beach? Pick up a Children’s Trail map from the Library or the White House and enjoy finding the hidden treasures around the town centre and in the park. Remember to claim your prize at the end! Visit one of our many play areas, or for 12-19 year olds, why not check out what TACTIC has to offer (see page 7).

D-Day Normandy 1944 through to D-Day Leighton Buzzard & Linslade - 5 May 2019

Pictured are Veterans from Leighton Buzzard and Linslade, who on 5 May 2019 journeyed to Normandy in France to remember those who fought and died on what is now known as D Day. More of this story on page 2.

Photos courtesy of Olivia Jane

IN THIS ISSUE

2 Linslade Canal Festival
4 Meet Your New Town Councillors
5 What does the Town Council do?
6 D-Day Commemorations
D-Day Commemorations

Two wreaths were laid: one by Michael Green, formerly of the Royal Air Force, on behalf of the town’s Royal British Legion, Leighton-Linslade Town Council and the town’s residents. The other was laid by Kenny Maines, a 2 Battalion Scots Guard who is also a veteran of the Falklands War in 1982. Despite terrible storms and torrential rain, everyone present had a thoroughly memorable, emotional and enjoyable time, meeting with several D Day veterans who were able to laugh and joke about their service despite the horrors they had seen. Lost we forget: not only those who lost their lives on D Day, but all of the men and women who died in World War 2 for our freedom.

If you know of any veterans who fought and died at D Day, fought but have since died or are still alive, please get in touch with Mick Green of the Remembrance Day Committee via email: Mickey2Boy@talktalk.net

“Everyone present had a thoroughly memorable, emotional and enjoyable time!”

 Mayor of Leighton-Linslade

Welcome message from the Mayor

I was immensely proud to be elected as Mayor recently and consider it a great honour to be able to serve the Town in this position.

I have been a Town and District Councillor for 12 years and have always put the Town’s needs first, both at CBC and the Town Council. A little about myself. I was brought up in Bromwich in the West Midlands and left there to study physics and electronics at Imperial College, London. After graduating in 1968 I worked in the aerospace industry for about 7 years before “migrating” to the automotive industry where I worked until I retired 9 years ago.

It has become traditional for the Mayor to raise funds for local charities and I shall be continuing with this.

My charities for the year will be...  

Yes We Can Disability Sports

A wonderful group of people who dedicate themselves to enabling disabled people to participate in a wide range of sports.

Hospice at Home Volunteers

This group work hard to ensure that people with severe and often terminal illnesses are able to stay in the comfort and familiarity of their own homes as long as possible

Motor Neurone Disease Association

I was privileged while at college to meet Professor Steven Hawking who at the time was in the early stages of MND, I am sure most people will remember him being unable to talk and having to use a computer generated voice. I was very pleased to meet a local man, Richard Gleave, who works with MNDA generating voice banks. When a person is first diagnosed their voice is recorded on a computer and if they lose the capacity to speak this will generate a voice which sounds just like “the real thing”. I shall enjoy working with these groups and hope as many of you as possible will support my fundraising events.

DIARY DATES

SUNDAY LUNCHEON 18 August (12:00 - 14:30 hrs) at Astral Park

COFFEE MORNING 5 October (10:00 - 12:00 hrs) at Pizza Express

CEILIDH 25 October (19:30 - 23:00 hrs) at Astral Park

ROCK OF AGES 8 November (19:30 hrs) at Hockliffe Street Baptist Church

COUNCIL COMMITTEE DATES

July 2019

Mon 01 Personnel Sub-Committee

Wed 03 Planning & Transport Committee

Mon 15 Community Safety Sub-Committee

Wed 24 Planning & Transport Committee

Mon 29 Policy & Finance Committee

August 2019

Aug 21 Planning & Transport Committee

Thur 29 Market Sub-Committee (1030)

All meetings due to take place at the White House at 1930 hours unless otherwise stated. Meetings may be subject to change so please check the Town Council website before attending.
Local Councillors are elected by the community to decide how the Council should carry out its various activities. They represent public interest as well as individuals living within the ward in which he or she has been elected to serve a term of office of 4 years.
What does the Town Council actually do?

We know, from the enquiries we receive from residents, that it can be confusing to understand which Council is responsible for which services.

The Town Council is in fact a parish council like any other parish council. The Council comprises of 21 democratically elected Town Councillors (see Pages 4 & 5 for their details) who are all unpaid volunteers. As a collective body, the Council makes decisions and these are then implemented by Town Council staff.

So what can a parish council do? Parish councils have duties and powers which are set out in law. We can only take actions which are permitted in legislation. So for example, the Town Council has no power to repair potholes, to implement speed restrictions or to fix broken lamp columns. These responsibilities all sit with the local Highways authority at Central Bedfordshire Council.

Legislation does however permit us to provide allotments, to acquire and maintain burial grounds, to maintain monuments and memorials, to provide and maintain bus shelters, to make bye-laws, to provide public clocks, to spend money on crime prevention measures, to provide litter bins, to acquire and manage recreation grounds and open spaces and to contribute to traffic calming schemes.

Some of the lesser known laws include the power to provide wells, the power to provide boating pools, the power to deal with ponds and ditches and the power to provide public baths and washhouses!

The Town Council does also, in having 21 elected Members and a fully qualified Clerk, meet eligibility criteria to use a new power which arose from the Localism Act 2011: the General Power of Competence. This gives the Council a bit more scope to take on additional functions, although it does not overrule previous specific legislation.

Parish councils, whilst having the power to undertake a number of functions, have only one statutory duty, which is set out in the Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908.

This duty is to provide allotment gardens if demand is unsatisfied.

The Town Council owns and manages two allotment sites within the parish: one at Weston Avenue in Leighton Buzzard (168 plots) and one at Alwins Field in Linslade (80 plots).

Traditionally a means by which people could grow their own food in times of possible food shortages, nowadays it is widely recognised that gardens and allotments offer many health and wellbeing benefits. Allotment holders grow a wide range of trees and plants, with many also growing flowers.

In recent years tending an allotment has become increasingly popular with families. In recognition of this, during 2017-18 the Town Council worked in partnership with the Leighton-Linslade Allotment Association to install composting toilets on both sites.

There is an expectation that tenants shall keep their allotment plot in a good state of cultivation, and free from perennial weeds. Allotment holders will also be expected to abide by the terms of their allotment tenancy agreement and allotment rules as determined by the Council.

Due to increasing demand and in order to manage the sites and waiting list as effectively as possible, the Town Council is introducing a new regime.

Residents of the parish may apply at any time to join the allotment waiting list and the list will be reviewed three times per year, in August, October and March, following site inspections and the re-allocation of any plots which become vacant.

New plot holders may expect their plot to be in a reasonable condition, with the Town Council having undertaken any work necessary to remove unsafe structures or to address any unacceptable levels of weed growth.

Get ready for Summer with TACTIC!

Don’t be bored this summer, there’s plenty to do at TACTIC. Come and join us to learn new skills, have some fun, make new friends, dip your toes in the sand at the seaside.

**ACTIVITY PROGRAMME**

29 July - 22 August

**Ages 12 – 19 years**

**Arts and Crafts Sessions**

Design your own canvas or Tote bag, or how about making some jewellery?

**Got a Bike?**

Come and get it overhauled and fixed for free …

**Love the Seaside?**

Who doesn’t love a day at the seaside, sign up for our Trip to Great Yarmouth. Limited places available.

**Seaside?**

Love the Seaside? Come and join us to learn new skills, have some fun, make new friends, dip your toes in the sand at the seaside.

**Got a Certificate?**

Learn the basics of food hygiene with our Level One Food Hygiene course.

**Got a Bike?**

Come and get it overhauled and fixed for free …

**Get a Bike?**

Come and get it overhauled and fixed for free …

**Sports in the Park**

Basketball, football, cricket and much more…

**Gain a Certificate?**

Learn the basics of food hygiene with our Level One Food Hygiene course.

**Want to become a Volunteer?**

Come along to our Youth Volunteer taster session and see how you can gain new skills whilst supporting the local community.

**Community Park Fun**

Circus Skills, Retro Games & Zumba.

**Playschemes**

23 – 26 July

**Ages 8 – 11 years**

Don’t let your little ones get bored this summer … Come and join in our playschemes, arts and crafts, sports, fun, entertainment and laughter.

**0930 – 1530 hours at Mentmore Community Pavilion. £10 per day.**

**DON’T MISS OUT**: Limited places on some activities, bookings being taken now.

Contact us for more information.

E: tactic@leightonlinslade-lc.gov.uk

facebook.com/thetacticcentre
Love Your Local Market Fortnight

Leighton Buzzard Market’s ‘Love Your Local Market’ campaign has been announced as the 2019 Facebook Categories Champion by the National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA).

NABMA said, “Leighton Buzzard Market shared engaging posts about their market traders, visitors and events throughout #LYLM2019. The content shared on their page showcased the beauty of Leighton Buzzard Market in its entirety."

The Love Your Local Market (LYLM) campaign took place between 17 – 31 May. LLYM is a festival of markets and is also supported by the National Market Traders Federation (NMTF) with its main aim to raise the profile of markets across the UK and internationally.

During the fortnight, the Town Council focused on engaging with the traders and the public creating a visual social media campaign including a competition for the chance to win some market vouchers if people shared what they loved about the market.

“This created lots of positive engagement,” said Cllr Perham, Chair of the Market Sub Committee. “It has been so rewarding for everyone involved in the market to read the comments.”

Find out more about our markets by visiting: www.leightonbuzzardmarket.co.uk

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.

FreeFlow
A Complete Drainage Service
A Division of UK traders INC Limited

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

Please call us on
Tel: 01525 634070 or 07928 652013
Email: freeflowmk@gmail.com

13 Ashburnham Crescent, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard Beds. LU7 2PB
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Whilst 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.

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