Official Town Guide and Map

Look out for the new Town Guide and map being distributed around town in the coming weeks. It includes some photos submitted by residents in our recent photo competition.

Alternatively download the online version here:

www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/publications/

Cemetery Public Consultation

The Council wishes to capture the public’s views on issues relating to the future of Vandyke Road Cemetery. With approximately 8 years of burial capacity remaining, the inability to find and secure suitable burial land either within the parish or outside means that the Council needs to think about ways to maximise burial capacity within its existing site. The public consultation exercise will ask parish residents to consider options that could provide additional burial capacity in order to meet increasing demand by an ever expanding parish population. Continued on Page 3.

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W: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk
Earliest varieties of peaches will be available at hand-ripened market, along with fresh cheese and local honey. Gastronomic delights for a seventh year!

Leighton Buzzard High Street will come alive on the first weekend in June as the Big Lunch Food Festival returns on Sunday 2 June from 1100 hours.

With over 45 food and drink options representing the four corners of the world, we’re sure you will find something to suit everyone’s taste.

Our entertainment programme this year incorporates the traditional methods of public engagement, we will also be using electronic methods for those unable to attend the public engagement sessions.

In order to capture as many comments as we can, we intend holding consultation events at the following locations.

It is hoped that the findings will be presented to the 9th September Grounds and Environmental Services Committee for its consideration.

Cemetery Public Consultation

The issue is both complex and for some, will be a sensitive topic. It is important to be aware that the final decision is made by Council and may not always reflect some of the views expressed during community engagement and consultation. The Council will do its utmost to take all comments into consideration when seeking a workable solution in the interests of the town’s ability to accommodate those wishes to be buried within the parish.

Farewell from the Mayor

Well, what a year (Mayoral that is!) it has been! On 20 May my year as Town Mayor will come to an end and my successor will take over.

It has been an extremely busy time for me (and the Mayoress!) with well over 100 engagements attended (and that is apart from normal Council business). At the same time it has been a privilege to represent the town at so many functions and places to meet some truly inspirational individuals.

I must also at this time, reiterate my sincere thanks to the many people who have supported me – and my money raising efforts for Macmillan Cancer Support, Kids Out and Autism Bedfordshire - over the past year.

I look forward, as my final Mayoral act, to handing over cheques for the money raised to these charities on 20 May and I hope that you will all give my successor every support during his or her Mayoral year.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE DATES

May 2019

- Mon 20: COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING (Astral Park)
- Wed 22: Planning & Transport Committee
- Thu 23: Market Sub-Committee (1030)

June 2019

- Mon 03: Cultural & Economic Services Committee
- Thu 06: Partnership Committee
- Mon 10: Grounds & Environmental Services Committee
- Wed 12: Planning & Transport Committee
- Mon 17: Policy & Finance Committee
- Mon 24: COUNCIL

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.

Pricing Guidelines

1/4 page 8.7 x 12.7cm (portrait) £52.20 + VAT
1/8 page 8.7 x 6cm (landscape) £31.30 + VAT
1/2 page 18 x 12.7cm (landscape) £52.80 + VAT
Full page 21 x 29.7cm £158.89 + VAT

We reserve the right to review pricing. For more information contact Vivien Cannon on 01525 631924.
Twenty years of caring for our local environment

Independent, local environmental charity The Greensand Trust is this year celebrating 20 years of action to protect, conserve and enhance the distinctive landscape, wildlife and history of the Greensand Ridge and wider area - improving access, understanding and enjoyment of the area for the benefit of everyone.

The charity was formed in 1999 as it was recognised just how important the landscape, wildlife and history of this unique area is and that message remains just as relevant today. The Greensand Ridge offers a mosaic of important habitats and is one of the few places in Central England where thin, sandy soils support lowland heathland and acid grassland - distinctive landscapes which support specific wildlife and vegetation and need to be protected to thrive.

The Greensand Trust exists to:

- Protect and enhance the Greensand Ridge and surrounding areas.
- Create opportunities for people to engage with and enjoy the area, improving their quality of life.
- Raise awareness of the Greensand Ridge, which runs from Leighton Buzzard in the West to Gamlingay in the East, its value and the challenges it faces.

Over the past 20 years the Trust is proud to have achieved so much, working together with partners and communities across this precious landscape, most notably:

- The conservation management of a range of sites including parks, national and local nature reserves and local community green spaces, with the help of Greensand Volunteers who contribute well over 10,000 hours per annum.
- The creation of Rushmere Country Park near Leighton Buzzard and Sandy Smith Nature Reserve near Clifton.
- The development of a Working Woodlands Centre at Maulden Wood with the aim to protect, enhance and promote the woodlands of the Greensand Ridge for their biodiversity, heritage and recreational value, their role in the landscape, as providers of ecosystem services and as part of the rural economy.
- Co-lead on the development of a Greensand Country Landscape Partnership, a Heritage Lottery funded initiative helping to raise awareness of the heritage value of this landscape.

The Greensand Trust has been a key player on several partnerships, helping ensure the importance of our local environment is recognised and enabling more to be achieved through working in partnership.

The Trust helped to pioneer community-led environmental planning and continues this work across the Greensand Ridge area. In these times of huge pressure from growth and development, it is more important than ever for local communities to identify what is important to them and how communities can be grown sustainably.

Greensand Trust Chief Executive Gill Welham commented: “We’d like to thank our supporters, funders and partners, who have helped The Greensand Trust raise and invest over £17 million in the local environment over the past 20 years. The Greensand Trust receives no core funding, so everything we achieve together, is thanks to your support!”

Contact us for further information on our activities, the many services we offer, or ways to support us in caring for your local environment.

Visit www.greensandtrust.org/

LEIGHTON BUZZARD MARKET

Supporting Fledgling Businesses

We always welcome new faces and have many opportunities on our market. If you are thinking about becoming a Market Trader and are not sure where to start, then we offer a FREE ‘Introduction to Market Trading’ workshop.

This workshop is open to anyone who may have an interest in Market Trading but would like to find out more. We have had two very successful workshops already this year with some great feedback and attendees commenting on how valuable the workshop was, and that the topics covered were beneficial.

Joining an ex Market Trader with 40+ years’ experience to answer any questions you may have, we will be covering topics including; What you need to know to start a Market stall, Trading Standards & law, plans & ideas and next steps.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD MARKET

Our next Workshops are on Friday 21st June and Friday 27th September at 10.30am – 12.00pm. Please visit Eventbrite to book your FREE ticket, search ‘Introduction to Market Trading workshop’.

Leighton Buzzard has a bustling, modern twice-weekly market at the heart of the vibrant High Street. The market runs on a Tuesday and Saturday where shoppers can choose from stalls selling everything from classic market staples such as fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, fish, plants and cut flowers to books, shoes, clothing & fast food.

Make a date for lunch at our monthly social #TastyTuesday

2019 sees Leighton-Linslade Band and the Heath Band return as firm local favourites, alongside bands who haven’t performed for us since 2017 and some who are new to the programme.

Refreshments for this year’s concerts will be provided by the Café in the Park, a new venture by Community Action Bedfordshire to provide refreshments from the kiosk, not only for the band concerts programme, but also throughout the summer months.

Our Proms in the Park event has moved for 2019 to coincide with the national Last Night of the Proms celebrations and takes place on Saturday 14 September from 1830 hours onwards. A live performance by singer Eve McGrath followed by music from Kidlington Concert Brass precedes the BBC’s coverage of the finale to the proms season, live from the Royal Albert Hall. This evening promises to be a spectacular conclusion to the band concerts programme and all are invited to join in the celebrations, wearing Red, White & Blue.

Join us at our next Proms in the Park, Saturday 14 September 2019

Kidlington Concert Brass from 1830 - 2230 hours

Includes Live Screening of the Last Night of the Proms.
Celebrating 100
Years of the Leighton Buzzard Railway

This year the Centenary of the Leighton Buzzard Railway is being celebrated by giving every child in Leighton-Linslade a free train ticket. The Leighton Buzzard Narrow-Gauge Railway Society is asking all local schools and playgroups for their help to distribute the free tickets to the children of the town.

England’s friendly little line

The Leighton Buzzard Narrow-Gauge Railway Society (LBNGRS) started working with the owners in 1968, taking over the line as commercial use ended and now operating it as a nationally recognised Heritage Railway and Museum.

The line was originally built in 1919 to move sand from the quarries on the edge of town to the processing plant and exchange sidings on the main line railway. This took heavy traffic away from the Town Centre which had been causing damage to the roads.

Do you want to help other Young People?

Are you aged 13-19yrs? TACTIC is offering the first part of a Mental Health Awareness Training programme on Wednesday 29 May at 1300 hours.

This Youth Project will enable you to take part in group discussions, visit other youth groups and speak at school assemblies. For more details contact Cristina at TACTIC on 01525-373838 or email: tactic@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

Business Network Event 2019

“Best one yet,” was a comment heard as people left the 7th annual Business Networking Event held on the 24 April. It truly had a great ‘buzz’ about the evening with a 117 local businesses and representatives attending and 1,900 recorded connections made throughout the evening.

The next event will be held in Spring 2020.
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.

Where’s my favourite trowel?

As we start really enjoying our garden or allotment, we remind ourselves of all the tools we use that help us manage and nurture growth of flowers and food. Look after your tools and lawnmowers by locking them away and out of sight when not in use. When your back can’t stand the work any longer and its time to stop for the day, tidy up and don’t leave tools and equipment outside. Don’t make it easy for anyone to take it or use it to gain leverage into a shed or building. Maybe think about security marking your tools?

Does your shed or outbuilding need a new lock? Make sure you use British Standard kite marked padlocks. Check the door hinges are still strong and not rusting and that the screws used are non-return screws. If they are normal screws, damaging a couple of screw heads will make it harder for anyone to unscrew the hinge if they can’t break the padlock for entry. Net curtains over shed or garage windows may not be fashionable yet think about blocking off the view when you are not around. No one needs to know what’s inside.

It’s quite simple, enjoy your garden and ensure you can keep doing so by looking after your tools.