

ABOUT TOWN



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
TOWN COUNCIL

September/October 2021

The newsletter for residents of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade

Published by Leighton-Linslade Town Council

#KeepingItLocalLB



**THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK** 
GET INVOLVED!

See pages 6 and 7.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

OCTOBER 2021

For 2021's Black History Month, the Town Council has been working with residents and the Luton based UK Centre for Carnival Arts (UKCCA), to celebrate black people in our communities and increase our learning. **Continued on pages 4 & 5.**

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Proms in the Park

Saturday 11 September

Celebrating the best of British and concluding our Music in the Park concerts for 2021, Proms in the Park decorates the Bandstand in Parson's Close Recreation



Ground Red, White & Blue for the evening. Starting from 1900hrs with a live musical performance from Chiltern Hills Brass, the event will also show the Last Night of the Proms Live from the Royal Albert Hall in London. Last Night of the Proms is the perfect opportunity to meet with friends, family and loved ones for an evening of Pomp and Circumstance, Rule Britannia and some classic sea shanty sing-alongs.

Living History Trail

Launched in 2019 to celebrate and commemorate the history of our Town Centre, the Living History Trail along with the Children's Trail are both available on the Buzzard Trails app. Joining them on the app from October will be the Sands of Time trail in partnership with the Greensand Trust. We also have added the Living History Business Trail which we created in 2020. Sand has been quarried from in and around Leighton Buzzard for over 150

years and is famous around the world for its versatility and usage. As some of the quarries are eventually filled in and covered up, Leighton Buzzard risks losing information and stories from its industrial past. The trail takes users on a journey around Leighton



Buzzard to see the locations and hear stories of the highs and the lows from those who worked in the quarries along with their friends and family, preserving the heritage and educating future generations about life in the quarry.



Local shops play an important part of life within Leighton Buzzard and many have a long history dating back to the mid 1500's. The Living History Business

Trail explores the historical past of shops within the town alongside their current owners and the story behind how they built their business within the town.

Suitable for all ages, you can download the Buzzard Trails app for free from the App Store on iPhone or Google Play Store on Android.



COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following meetings are provisionally scheduled to take place during September/October but this may be subject to change. Meetings start at 1930 hrs and will take place at the White House unless otherwise stated, but this may depend upon Covid risks and attendance numbers may be limited.

For the latest information about meetings including dates/times, format, venue and agenda papers, please visit the Meetings page of the Town Council website.

September 2021

Mon	06	Grounds & Environmental Services
Thurs	09	Partnership Committee
Mon	13	Cultural & Economic Services
Wed	15	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	20	Policy & Finance Committee
Mon	27	COUNCIL – Astral Park

October 2021

Wed	06	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	11	Personnel Sub Committee
Mon	18	Community Safety Sub Committee
Wed	27	Planning & Transport Committee

Take a look at our website...



You may have noticed on the town entry signs that Leighton-Linslade is twinned with Coulommiers in France and Titisee-Neustadt in Germany.

Town twinning was strongly encouraged following WW2 and our twinning has been in place for over 40 years. Although visits have sadly not been possible since the outbreak of COVID-19, it is hoped that this will change in 2022. To find out more and contact the Town Twinning Forum, please visit the Town Twinning page of our website.



Message from the Mayor

When becoming mayor, I could not have imagined the impact of the pandemic on my work - it has certainly been unpredictable so far, to say the least!

We finally resumed council meetings in person in May and it was with a mixture of trepidation and excitement to be able to chair the meeting of full Council, held at Astral Park. This allowed us to have the necessary spacing requirements as per government guidelines. Several other committee meetings have also taken place and I am sure I speak for all involved when I say that I am looking forward to being able to conduct Council business in person as we move forward.

I am also pleased to say that the Council has successfully resumed its event programme albeit delivered somewhat differently for this year with much going on during September and October. A focus in September is on our Environmental Ambitions with our collaboration with Fairtrade Leighton-Linslade, as we encourage you to create your messages for a sustainable future using the template on page 7, during The Great Big Green Week (in readiness for the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in November.)

Part of the Council's celebration of equality is the UK's 30th anniversary year of Black History Month, which for us started back in July with help from the UK Centre for Carnival Arts based in Luton. Young people from TACTIC created costumes using the techniques used for traditional Caribbean carnival and entered a float in the Carnival Leighton-Linslade's 60th anniversary procession. I extend my congratulations to the TACTIC young people for achieving 1st in

their category. The serious side of sharing social activities is to establish relationships and the valuing of difference. On 2 October, I will take great pleasure in launching the Council's collaboration with community representatives in delivering Black History Month discussion. You can read about this on pages 4 & 5.

I am now resuming my fundraising efforts to help support my three charities: CHUMS Charity, Macmillan Cancer Support and Home Start Central Bedfordshire. I am also delighted to announce that I have chosen to support one more local charity, Freddie & Friends Sunshine Stop, who work locally to support children with special needs. I will also be hosting some popular Mayor's events that are long overdue, including a restaurant meal, quiz night and a coffee morning; more details and dates to be announced very soon. All my latest fundraising activities are listed on the Mayor's website page and I am sure I can count on local support to be able to help the invaluable work these charities do to help others in need.

My final wish is that as Covid restrictions are now lifted. We all respect the wishes of those around us and in our community as we go about our daily lives. How we live and work has probably changed forever. As we all adjust to how we meet others depending on our personal circumstances, let us all show kindness to each other and not make any judgements when someone makes choices that may not be our own. We must all work together to help keep us all safe.

I look forward to being able to meet the public in person over coming weeks and months.

Supporting the Mayor's chosen charities:

Fundraising for

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



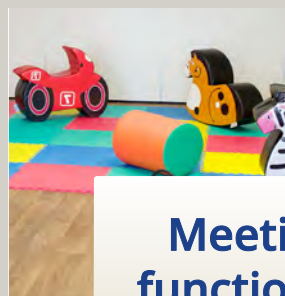
HOME
START
Central Bedfordshire

BOOK your function now!

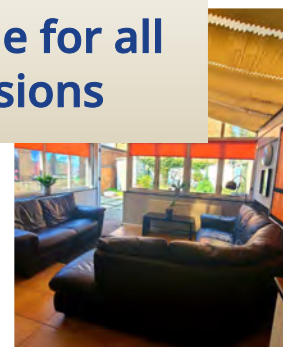
Are you looking for a venue to run a community activity, meet with a local group, or hold a party?

The Town Council has 3 pavilion buildings offering a range of facilities which can be hired on a regular or a one-off basis. Off-peak rates exist for weekday afternoon bookings (1300 hours to 1600 hours).

For more information and to make an enquiry, please visit the Venues page on our website.



**Meeting and
function rooms
available for all
occasions**



VENUE HIRE

For enquiries please
tel: 01525 631920



The easiest way to read our bi-monthly newsletter is to:

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CLICK HERE

BLACK HISTORY

Continued from front page.

In January 2021, the Council took the opportunity to update its Equal Opportunities Policy and in doing so, ratify the Local Government Association's (LGA), Equality Statement. On the matter of racism the LGA said, "it is vital that we are all part of the much-needed conversation on how we can all confront and end racism. Racism has no place in our communities or in our lives." You can look up our new Equal Opportunities Policy and the LGA Equality Statement by going onto our website: www.leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk.

The build up to our BHM programme of activity started in July. Our TACTIC centre team and young people from TANG (TACTIC Additional Needs Group), put in some long hours and hard graft working with Clary from UKCCA, learning the construction skills and techniques for creating traditional style Caribbean carnival costumes. TANG members presented their costumes

and decorated carnival float on 10 July joining the procession of the Leighton-Linslade Carnival.

UKCCA members also joined the carnival leading the procession for part of the way. Did you see them? The costumes looked as if they should be heavy, but the main area of weight is the body brace to which everything else is fixed. The focus on a shared theme

of 'carnival' between Leighton-Linslade and Luton residents gave an opportunity for fun and celebration with some fantastic colour - just when we all needed it.

A Caribbean carnival is culturally different to an English one yet those taking part all want to have fun, look great and win a prize. Which we did – first in class – well done TANG and TACTIC staff! And a thank you to Clary and UKCCA for their help.

BHM continues the theme of celebration and importantly, recognition and acknowledgement for everyone's contribution to society and the right to be here. Why focus on black people? The contribution to our society of people from African and Caribbean backgrounds recognises their part in our British history which many feel is frequently overlooked, not known, not recorded or ignored, and often distorted due to ill-informed perspectives. Raising the profile of black people values many positive contributions they give to our lives, as neighbours, friends, family, nurses, teachers, women and men like us getting by on a day-to-day basis.

'Proud To Be' is this year's Black History Month Organisation's campaign. The aim being to "invite Black

and Brown people of all ages throughout the UK to share what they are proud to be". Cllr Kharawala said. "I'm simply so proud to serve my hometown as Mayor

and bring opportunities for celebration and learning forward for people to take part in and maybe think more respectfully of those who are different



Town Mayor
Cllr Farzana
Kharawala



Discover your Local History

Alarming during the Second World War when German bombing raids and gas attacks were feared to be imminent, every town had an Air Raid Precaution (ARP) warning system. Everyone was issued

with a gas mask that had to be carried at all times. Air Raid sirens were fitted to fire stations.

Volunteers known as ARP wardens stayed up all night in shifts to keep watch from

rooftops for enemy bombers. In Linslade the volunteers, mainly women, were issued with this hand bell (pictured opposite) which had to be rung as loudly as possible. It was to get people to leave

MONTH OCTOBER 2021

to ourselves, or who we may not have spent much time with."

From September onwards, as a way of inspiring as many people as possible to get involved and take part in BHM, people can post a letter, email or social media, including video and audio clips on the Black History Month UK's magazine website and social media platforms. Positive messages are all important in today's world. Read more about the campaign on the website: www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk.

Our Learning and Sharing activity will continue in October with the launch of BHM delivered by the Town's Mayor, Councillor Farzana Kharawala.



Local resident Ken Breinburg, will present a talk on Black History and how black people came to be in the UK.

Sugar and Spice & All Things Nice, the Then, Now and In-between

**Saturday 2 October (1400 hours)
at Trinity Methodist Church,
North Street LU7 1ES**

Christine Sheppard, an experienced group facilitator and local resident, warmly invites you to attend one or more of a series of "Understanding White Racism" sessions that will take place at the **TACTIC Centre, 17 Hockliffe Street, LU7 1EZ.**

**A much needed conversation
about Racism**

**Wednesday 6 October (1200 - 1400 hrs)
Wednesday 13 October (1200 - 1400 hrs)
Saturday 23 October (1000 - 1200 hrs)
Saturday 30 October (1000 - 1200 hrs)**

For further information contact:
christinemsheppard@icloud.com
For more info and resources
on Black History please visit:
www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk

**Learning about each other
is fun, sometimes surprising
and often informative.**

**P
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HISTORY

their beds and get into air raid shelters. These were often simply the converted cellars of houses but some had been especially built underground in various places in the town.



For more information visit our website: www.lbdahs.org.uk

What Local HISTORY will you discover, in the next issue ...

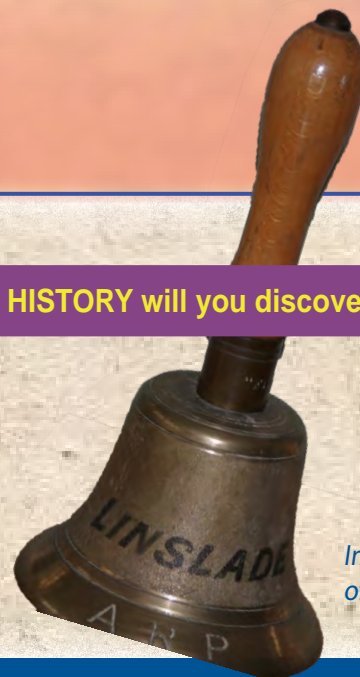


Image: courtesy
of Colin Holmes.

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

This autumn the UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) and Fairtrade Leighton Linslade is calling on you to show your support for those suffering most as a result of climate change.

Many of us have found comfort in a cup of tea, coffee or even a bar of chocolate over the last 18 months.

But there has been little comfort for those who produce these goods.

Farmers of crops such as tea, coffee and cocoa are still being paid poorly for their produce and work. On top of that, they face low, volatile market prices and rising production costs. And worryingly, alongside the coronavirus crisis and market challenges, the climate crisis is intensifying.


Fairtrade coffee farmer, Bayardo Betanco of the Prodecoop co-operative in Nicaragua, said:

'There is a chain on earth that starts where the producers are. They are the ones who suffer the consequences of climate change, the ones who get the least help, and carry all of the burden. It's not fair.'

As a nation of people which has come to love tea, coffee, bananas and cocoa, and which sources many other foods from overseas, these crises have the potential to affect us too. If we don't take action now, availability of products such as coffee could decline to the extent that they become luxury items.

With Fairtrade, farmers get a fair price and can respond better to the effects of climate change that they are facing now.

With Fairtrade, farmers and workers have a voice and this year, we are asking for your help to ensure that their voices are heard at the climate talks that their livelihoods depend on.

How to get involved - Use the template provided on the opposite page to write, draw or create your message about climate change and the importance of Fairtrade in helping address the challenges, to global leaders. Please then share an image of your message with Fairtrade Leighton Linslade on our Facebook page by tagging us, we're  @FairtradeLL, by Friday 24 September. Alternatively, you can drop your message into the Oxfam shop on the High Street, they will then submit all your messages to COP26

attendees alongside messages from communities up and down the country.

There will also be a fabulous Fairtrade prize for the best message in two categories, under 18s and over 18s.

You can also download a template from: greatbiggreenweek.com/ or by collecting a printed version from Oxfam in the Town Centre.





My message about climate change
from a resident of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade



GET INVOLVED!



THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK

WELCOME BACK

to our Town Centre



SHOP LOCAL LB
KEEPING IT LOCAL

Central Bedfordshire Council invited the Town Council to submit a bid for Welcome Back Funding. The grant money has been released by Government as part of their roadmap out of lockdown specifically to

support the revival of local town centre shopping areas post Covid-19

restrictions. The Town Council has been allocated £59,000 and it is to be spent by 31 March 2022.

Spending the grant funds has already started and by the time you read this, we aim to have ordered benches for the High Street to accompany the additional planted containers. In September every household will have received a 'welcome back' letter from the Town Mayor, Cllr Farzana Kharawala, requesting you to shop local and make use of the fantastic High St. and local shops, along with other useful information that will help towards local people using the shops and leisure activities offered in the Town Centre.

"It is so very important for everyone to continue shopping locally and safely to get the best out of what our Town Centre offers residents. It isn't only a place to shop. It's

a place to gather, meet with friends and enjoy leisure

opportunities like eating out or following the activity Trails that we have in the heart of our town." Said Cllr Kharawala.

The spend and delivery of activity will span across many months until the 1 April 2022. We will invest in improving the cleanliness of the Town Centre. There will be various programmed activities to take place in the Town Centre. We will again secure large beautiful 3D Christmas motifs to support the festive season, buy additional gazebos to facilitate community group attendance of the market and more.



This newsletter is produced bi-monthly so whilst its great to offer you an introduction to what is being planned, we recommend you sign up to our social media platforms and keep an eye on our website to stay up to date with what is happening so that you can enjoy the programmed activities and your return to the Town Centre.

We look forward to seeing you back.



HM Government



Central Bedfordshire Council
Working in partnership

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Organic Hair & Beauty
or Happydashery.

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Leighton Buzzard's Drainage Company

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Colour CCTV Inspection
Excavation & Repair
Free Quotation Service

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(most jobs completed under 1hr)
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(within 10 miles of Leighton Buzzard)

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Email: freeflowmk@gmail.com

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



LEIGHTON BUZZARD MARKET

Lifting of COVID restrictions

Following government announcements about the roadmap out of Covid, we have taken the opportunity to amend the market layout. We hope you will continue to enjoy your visits to the market.

We are a friendly bunch, and always happy to assist. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

Visit our website to find out more:

www.leightonbuzzardmarket.co.uk

Sign up, sign up!

We'd love to keep you updated about what's going on with Leighton Buzzard Market, to be the first in the know, sign up to our newsletter, or find us on social media – find us on Facebook/Instagram/Twitter.



You can sign up by visiting:
[//leightonbuzzardmarket.co.uk/newsletter/](https://leightonbuzzardmarket.co.uk/newsletter/)



AGED BETWEEN 16-30?

Then why not give our Young Traders Scheme a try at our twice weekly Market.

The Town Council is committed to

supporting the market traders of the future and as such, is setting up a Young Traders Scheme to support young people (aged 16-30) to have a trial period of trading on our market. Under the scheme, young traders can trade on the Leighton Buzzard Charter market with extra support from the markets team and compete for the NMTF national 'Young Trader of the Year' award.

Looking to launch in Autumn 2021, the scheme will support traders who are new to the market. Local schools, colleges and young people's organisations are actively supporting the initiative.

We also run a 'Start-up' scheme for potential traders of any age.

If you are interested in hearing more about the scheme, or trading on the market in general, please get in touch.

We would love to welcome you to Leighton Buzzard Market very soon.



We have moved our activity for the annual, Love Your Local Market campaign from May to October this year. The campaign links up with the World Union of Wholesale Markets (WUWM) so it's an international celebration of markets. Knowing that all our fellow marketeers across the world have struggled through COVID, we have linked up with our Twin Town market communities, Coulommier in Northern France and Titisee-Neustadt in the High Fore area of southern Germany, from the 16 October - 30 October.

Follow our social media to help celebrate our market.



T: Market Manager on 07812 088116 [f](https://www.facebook.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) [i](https://www.instagram.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) /leightonbuzzardmarket

[/market_LB](https://www.facebook.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) #LBMarket E:Markets@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk



MARKET



Teenage Advice & Information Centre

01525 373838

www.tactic-centre.co.uk

ROOMS FOR HIRE

Are you looking for somewhere to hold an event, meeting, training session? Look no further, TACTIC is now offering rooms to hire at affordable prices for community groups, charities, and individual hire.

- Conservatory area with Kitchenette
- Lounge Area with comfortable seating
- 121 meeting room

For more information and scale of charges and an update on COVID-19 safety measures.

TACTIC Centre - 17 Hockliffe Street, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1EZ

Look what the Centre has to offer!



For more information contact: Linda on 01525 373838 Email: linda.farmer@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk

Supporting

our Local Community

Community Grants

The Town Council has a long history of supporting local voluntary, community, charity or other not-for-profit organisations which provide projects or services to benefit residents. Annually, we give more than £75,000 in community grant funding. This year we are running a new scheme to specifically benefit our older residents. Do you know a local

organisation or group which could do with some funding? Have a look at the Grants & Awards page of our website for more details and application forms.

General Grants

Up to £500 for a project to benefit the local community. Funding must be used within a year. **The deadline for applications is Friday, 15 October.**

55up Grants

Up to £2000 for projects specifically supporting residents aged 55 and over. If you are an arts or sports related organisation, please approach the

Leighton-Linslade Arts Forum or Sports Council about grant funding.

Community Volunteer Awards 2022

The Town Council was delighted to present 3 awards for longstanding voluntary service in 2021 and we are now accepting nominations for the 2022 awards. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised for their voluntary work in the town? To find out more and to download a nomination form, please visit our website: leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/grants-and-awards/

The deadline for nominations is Sunday, 31 October.

Young People Awards 2021

The Town Council presented the very first two Young People awards in December 2020 and we're now looking to award other young people who have overcome challenges or completed personal achievements. To find out more and to nominate someone, please visit: www.tactic-centre.co.uk

The deadline for nominations is Thursday, 30 September.

Report It!

Contact us to report any issues with these local services



Leighton-Linslade Town Council
(01525 631920)
www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



Central Bedfordshire Council
(0300 300 8000)
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/

1. **Allotments** www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/allotments/
2. **Public Toilets** (Multi Storey and Parson's Close)
3. **Parks, Play Areas and Pavilions**
4. **Christmas Illuminations**
5. **Cemeteries**
6. **Markets** www.leightonbuzzardmarket.co.uk
7. **Teenage Advice & Information Centre**
Tel: 01525 373838 www.tactic-centre.co.uk

8. **Bin Collections** 0300 300 8302
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/waste/bins/collection-day.aspx
9. **Street Lighting** 0300 300 8049
www.cb-report-it.co.uk/streetlighting.aspx
10. **Parking Enforcement** 0300 300 8005
11. **Roads, Pavements and Potholes** 0300 300 8049
centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/55/transport_roads_and_parking/588/report_or_track_roads_and_highways_problems_-_potholes_street_lights

International Day of Older Persons



United Nations

Friday 1 October 2021

The United Nations' (UN) International Day of Older Persons is celebrated annually on 1 October to recognise the contributions of older persons and to examine issues that affect their lives. This dedicated day was established in 1990 and 2020 was its 30th anniversary year. Within the Town Council's 5 Year Plan, 2019-2024, we state that we aim to 'consider ways to support the increase in leisure opportunities for older people'. Work started during 2020 and as you can read adjacent, projects are now coming forward.

On 1 October, maybe do something special for the older people in your life or perhaps think about doing something nice for an older neighbour. Small gestures can make someone's day. If you are an older person, we raise our glass to you and hope you enjoy your dedicated day.



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AWARDS



GENERAL GRANTS



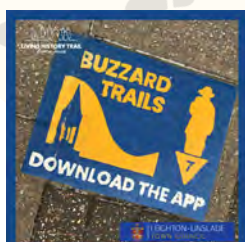
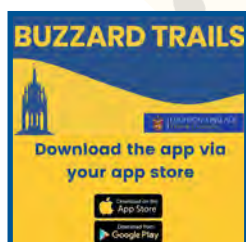
YOUNG PEOPLE AWARDS



LIVING HISTORY TRAIL LEIGHTON-LINSLADE

What mark will you leave?

You can enjoy the Living History Trail online by downloading the App.

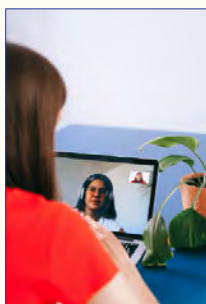


55up

Funds to be used for the development and delivery of a 'technology' helpline.

Do you run a community group or society that includes 55-year-olds and over? Do you want to expand what you can do as a group, especially for this age group? Your group can apply for a 55up Town Council grant of up to £2,000 to help achieve this.

For information or to apply for funding go to our website: leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/55up or email: sarah.jewell@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk / Tel. 01525 631920.



Covid-19 has shown us that supporting older people to use technology is fundamental to reducing their isolation and the negative effects this may cause such as loneliness. The Town Council seeks to address the issue by investing funds into the development and delivery of a 'technology helpline', as well as through face-to-face support that assists those aged 55 and up to have the ability, skills set and confidence, to use digital devices.

We are inviting organisations to tender for the development and delivery of this work to run as a pilot scheme for two years. This Technology Helpline is one of several initiatives being carried out under the project banner '55up' to support Parish residents who are over 55 years old.

Organisations can find out more here: leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/55up

FREE membership MOVIES FOR THE MORE MATURE

A joint initiative between Leighton-Linslade Town Council and Leighton Buzzard Library Theatre to provide Wednesday afternoon film shows for residents aged 55UP.

Membership is FREE and open to residents of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade.

BOX OFFICE: 0300 300 8125



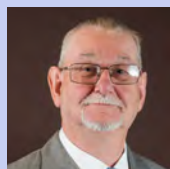
Rebecca L Faret Solicitors

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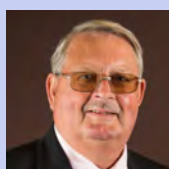
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MEET YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS



BARNABAS
Cllr Mark Freeman
Independent
Tel: 01525 379216
Mark.Freeman@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



BARNABAS
Cllr Russ Goodchild
Liberal Democrat
Tel: 07539 225192
Russ.Goodchild@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



BARNABAS
Cllr Steve Owen
Liberal Democrat
Tel: 07973 318383
Steve.Owen@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



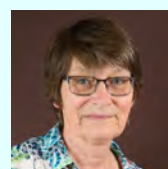
BROOKLANDS
Cllr Dave Bowater
Conservative
Tel: 01525 378308
Dave.Bowater@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



BROOKLANDS
Cllr Amanda Dodwell
Conservative
Tel: 01525 378418
Amanda.Dodwell@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



GROVEBURY
Cllr Robert Yates
Conservative
Tel: 07476 868787
Robert.Yates@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



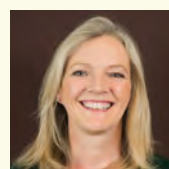
GROVEBURY
Cllr Anne Gray
Liberal Democrat
Tel: 07749 757263
Anne.Gray@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



GROVEBURY
Cllr Farzana Kharawala (Mayor)
Conservative
Tel: 01525 850795
Farzana.Kharawala@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



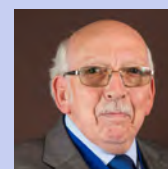
GROVEBURY
Cllr Jeremy Silverstone
Conservative
Tel: 07949 586944
Jeremy.Silverstone@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



PLANETS
Cllr Sheona Hemmings
Conservative
Tel: 07528 889124
Sheona.Hemmings@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



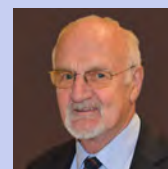
PLANETS
Cllr Stephen Jones
Conservative
Tel: 01525 631874
Steve.Jones@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



PLANTATION
Cllr Ray Berry
Conservative
Tel: 07876 340734
Ray.Berry@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



PLANTATION
Cllr Tony Morris (Deputy Mayor)
Conservative
Tel: 07956 311450
Tony.Morris@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



PLANTATION
Cllr Brian Spurr
Conservative
Tel: 0300 300 8558
Brian.Spurr@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



LESTON
Cllr Victoria Harvey
Independent
Tel: 07815 817108
Victoria.Harvey@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



ST GEORGE'S
Cllr Pat Carberry
Labour
Tel: 07801 575346
Pat.Carberry@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



ST GEORGE'S
Cllr Daniel Scott
Labour
Tel: 01525 370695
Daniel.Scott@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



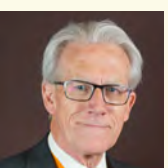
SOUTHCOTT
Cllr Karen Cursons
Conservative
Tel: 07702 587657
Karen.Cursons@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



SOUTHCOTT
Cllr Clive Palmer
Conservative
Tel: 01525 378526
Clive.Palmer@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



SOUTHCOTT
Cllr Gordon Perham
Conservative
Tel: 01525 371204
Gordon.Perham@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



SOUTHCOTT
Cllr Peter Snelling
Liberal Democrat
Tel: 01525 376760
Peter.Snelling@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

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