

ABOUT TOWN



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
TOWN COUNCIL

January/February 2022

The newsletter for residents of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade

Published by Leighton-Linslade Town Council

HAPPY NEW YEAR
to all our residents

DONATE, SHARE, EAT!

Community fridge opens its doors to the residents of Leighton-Linslade.

for everyone in the community to access it.

For contact details and information on opening times, please turn to page 4.

A simple solution to wasting less through the sharing of good quality food. A Community Fridge is a space where everyone can share surplus food, including donations from local food businesses, supermarkets, producers, households and gardens.

The food is free and available



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Are you a knitter/crocheter?
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Treasure Hunt is planned.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

To mark this occasion there will be an extended Bank Holiday weekend this year, from Thursday 2 June until Sunday 5 June. On Thursday 2 June the Town Council will be organising a beacon lighting event to be followed by a celebratory fireworks display.

Keep an eye out in the next edition of About Town for more information about how the town will be marking this extraordinary event.



EVENTS 2022

Wednesday 27 April

Business Network Event



Sunday 5 June

Big Lunch Food Festival



Sunday 5 June – Sunday 4 Sept

Band Concerts



Saturday 30 July

Linslade Canal Festival



Saturday 10 September

Last Night of the Proms & Picnic in the Park



Friday 25 – Sunday 27 November

Christmas Festival Weekend



COUNCIL MEETINGS

To try and reduce the potential spread of the Omicron variant, all face to face council meetings have been cancelled. A review of this situation is to take place in late January and will be determined by government guidance and infection rates at that time. Meetings will continue in accordance with the calendar of meetings albeit virtually via the Teams Platform. To join a meeting, please contact the Town Council where a meeting link will be made available.

JANUARY 2022

Wed	05	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	17	Community Safety Sub Committee <i>Astral Park</i>
Mon	24	Policy & Finance Committee
Wed	26	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	31	*COUNCIL - Astral Park

FEBRUARY 2022

Thurs	10	Partnership Committee
Wed	16	Planning & Transport Committee
Thurs	17	Older Persons Sub Committee (1000 hours)
Thurs	24	Market Sub Committee (1030 hours)
Mon	28	Policy & Finance Committee

*COUNCIL meeting in January

The Town Council delegates much of its work to committees but meets as a whole on at least five occasions each year. The January meeting is an important one as the Council is required to set its annual budget for the following financial year and to agree a precept (this is the amount collected through the council tax, by the local authority). Also at the January meeting, the Council will consider nominations for the 2022 Community Volunteer Awards. To find out more, why not visit the 'Meetings page' of our website?

In need of a Grant for your Charity/Group?

We still have some funds left in the budget for this financial year, so if your charity or voluntary group is in need of a General Grant of up to £500, please apply now.

We recognise that the pandemic has had a huge impact on local groups and so we are slightly relaxing our normal grant guidelines on this occasion. Ideally, grant funding will be for a specific project or to

purchase equipment, but if your group is struggling with operating costs due to not being able to fundraise in 2020-2021, we may be able to help. Groups can apply for up to £500. To apply by the deadline of Wednesday 9 February, please visit our website where you can find the guidance notes and application form.

Deadline Date:
Wed 9 Feb 2022



Looking for a project during Winter?

Are you a keen knitter or a fan of crochet and looking for a project during the winter months? The Council would like to invite you to create a poppy – or as many as you like for display, as part of the 2022 Remembrance Commemorations. Please visit the 'Remembrance page' of our website where you will find links to patterns. Please bring any completed poppies into the White House, Hockliffe Street. If you are involved in a local knitting or crochet group and would like to participate, we'd be delighted to hear from you.



Please contact Julie Murphy on 01525 631921 or by email on: Julie.murphy@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

GRANTS 2021/22



Cllr Farzana Kharawala



I hope that everyone had a peaceful Christmas and that the New Year brings good health and prosperity to all.

The highlight of the festive season was the Mayor's Carol Concert held at All Saints' Church on 11 December 2021. I was thrilled

to see so many attend and I think we almost managed to raise the roof with all the enthusiastic singing! I am very grateful to the church and everyone involved for helping to bring this very popular celebration back last year.

Over recent weeks and months it has been a pleasure to be able to visit local groups and organisations to offer my support and encouragement in their activities, especially with all the disruption that many have endured. It is so uplifting to see that people are coming through adversity and adjusting to find a solution to any ongoing challenges. Listening to people's personal stories and offering ways that I can help them, whether that is as the Council or connecting them to other useful organisations that they may not know about, is very important to me as Mayor.

With less than 6 months to go until the end of my term as Mayor, I am planning a number of events, both fundraising and others, to do my best in bringing people together within our wonderful town.

One of my next fundraising events will be the Mayor's Quiz Night (date TBC). All are welcome to join in and I have a surprise round that even seasoned quizzers will not easily know the answers to; all will be revealed on the night!

I am also already planning my main fundraising event on 6 May 2022, themed as 'Arabian Nights'. It will be an evening not to be missed, so well worth putting into diaries now.

It has been 9 years since we last had a female mayor and my way of recognising this honour is to highlight International Women's Day on 8 March 2022 and of course the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which officially falls on 6 February 2022. Please check the Town Council website for all the details of plans for celebrating both events within the parish.

I truly believe that by working together positively, we can all help each other to feel a sense of contentment and belonging within our communities. Leighton Buzzard and Linslade are not to be proud of just for the physical places that they are, it's the people of this town that make it so special and for me people always come first.

Supporting the Mayor's chosen charities:



WHAT'S ON 2022

January 2022

Tues 4	REDUCED MARKET
Sat 15	Farmers Market, Town Centre (0830 - 1300 hours)

February 2022

Sat 19	Farmers Market, Town Centre (0830 - 1300 hours)
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* The Charter Market is on every Tuesday and Saturday, (0830-1500 hours).



Please don't be a rubbish visitor

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Most visitors take their litter away with them. Don't be rubbish and leave it here. Please take it away with you!



SHOP LOCAL in LEIGHTON-LINSLADE

Looking for a service?
You may find it here!



To add a business to the directory, you simply click add listing on the site and follow the process. There is a contact form on there if you have any problems. The website address is:

www.leightonlinsladedirectory.co.uk



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LEIGHTON LINSLADE
HELPERS.org.uk

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Our opening hours are as follows:

Monday	(2:00pm – 6:00pm)
Tuesday	(11:00am - 3:00pm)
Wednesday	(11:00am-3:00pm) & (6:00pm - 8:00pm)
Thursday	(2:00pm - 6:00pm)
Friday	(11:00am - 3:00pm)
Saturday	(10:00am – 2:00pm)

Contact details are below:-

Leighton Linslade Helpers: 07517 851 382
E: help@leightonlinsladehelpers.org.uk

Come along to: Leighton Linslade
Community Fridge at Leighton Linslade
Helpers, Albion Chambers, High Street,
LU7 1DP. Leighton-Linslade Community
Fridge (Charity No.1196332)



Thank You!



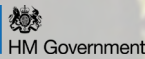
You may have seen this picture around on our social media, we would like to send a huge 'Thank you' to Leighton Buzzard Arts Society for their kind permission to use it.

It was created when the society attended the market on 21 September as part of the Welcome Back Fund supported activity, The Society invited visitors to engage in art activity. You may even have been there! If you enjoy art and are looking for an outlet, maybe think about joining the society. For more information visit: www.lbas.org.uk.

Instagram- @leightonbuzzardartsociety

Facebook- @LeightonBuzzardArtSociety

The Charter Market is on every Tuesday and Saturday (0830-1500 hours). The Handmade and Craft market runs on the 4th Saturday of the month March-December and will return in the spring.



Citizens Online

- Did you get new technology at Christmas?
- Need help using the internet?
- If you're over 55, call the free digital skills helpline run by Citizens Online.

T: 0808 196 5883

Get help with:-

- Ordering Groceries
- Chatting with Loved Ones
- Making a Doctor's Appointment
- Exploring Hobbies
- Ordering Repeat Prescriptions
- Accessing Job/ Volunteering Opportunities
- Claiming Benefits
- Learning & Training



T: Market Manager on 07812 088116 [f](https://www.facebook.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) [i](https://www.instagram.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) /leightonbuzzardmarket
/market_LB #LBMarket E:Markets@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



There are a number of specialist Domestic Abuse Services in Bedfordshire that are available to support you.

For further information please visit <https://bedsdv.org.uk/get-help/>





boost PROJECT

(Supporting Young Peoples Mental Health)

Would you like to BOOST your Self-esteem?

Would you like to BOOST your confidence?

TACTIC is running a weekly after school project to help young people reach their full potential and help them to recognise their skills and capabilities.

The group meet in an informal relaxed environment, giving them the opportunity to socialise and make new friends.

If you are aged between 12-19 years, then come along and check it out.

The sessions are FREE and run from (1600–1700 hours) every Tuesday at TACTIC Centre, LU7 1EZ. Refreshments provided.

For more information contact: TACTIC on 01525 373838.

CUT OUT AND KEEP

YOUNG PEOPLE



Do you know someone who received a computer or mobile phone for Christmas?

Did you buy your child one?

Here are some useful tips for keeping them safe whilst online.

- 1 Set social media accounts to private and help to delete any unwanted comments.
- 2 Turn off location settings so they can't be found in the real world.
- 3 Block users on apps or any unwanted phone numbers they may receive by text.
- 4 Don't let any devices get in the way of parenting - stay in control.
- 5 Set rules and communicate often.
- 6 Manage the amount of time your child spends online.
- 7 Ensure parental controls are set.
- 8 Create an agreement with your child around use of the internet or mobile.
- 9 Keep the computer in a room where its easy to monitor.
- 10 Ensure your child has a strong password.
- 11 Inform your children not to give out personal details.
- 12 Have regular discussions on how to stay safe online.
- 13 Set controls for amount of time spent online.
- 14 Find out what child protection services your internet provider (ISP) offers.

For sources of help and information, see below.



Helpline 0808 800 2222
askus@familylives.org.uk



www.ceop.police.uk/



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Email: freeflowmk@gmail.com

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Beds. LU7 2PB

Did you Know?

The Leighton Buzzard Society was formed during the 1960s. In those days it was known as the Leighton Buzzard & District Preservation Society. In 2001 the name was changed to the simpler Leighton Buzzard Society. The aims have not changed since the formation of the Society. This is to protect our historic market town and environment. The Leighton Buzzard Society wants to keep the fine heritage of the town but not lose its vibrancy. Beyond the borders of Leighton Buzzard, we also include the surrounding villages and countryside. The aim of the Society is for the locality to be an attractive place to live in.

The Leighton Buzzard Society campaigns for the preservation of the Green Belt. Within our area, we want to safeguard our open spaces. The Society also supports Leighton Buzzard's Green Wheel to allow more access for walkers and cyclists within our town and its borders.



Another area of concern for the Society is the future of the derelict land south of High Street. Leighton Buzzard is a town lacking in facilities for its size. We would like to see the land developed with facilities such as an Arts Centre on the site.

Local planning is another area the Leighton Buzzard Society monitors. Activities of the Society have had planning proposals rejected because of their lack of suitability for the town.

The Society also monitors aircraft movements at Luton Airport. Recently there has been a change in flight paths pattern and Luton Borough Council wants to increase the number of aircraft movements. Both changes affect Leighton Buzzard with noise and pollution. The Society challenges these proposals.

For many years the Society has supported the East-West Railway between Oxford



Members of the Society raising awareness on the Market

and Cambridge, which is now under construction. However, the Leighton Buzzard Society objects to the proposed million houses which are to be built between Oxford and Cambridge: The so-called Arc.

Other areas of public transport the Leighton Buzzard Society campaign for are improvements in the town's bus services.

In normal times we have face to face monthly meetings. During the pandemic, we have had our monthly meetings on Zoom. The Society hopes to resume live meetings in February at the Wynne

JUST 1 CHANGE

in the home and office ...

JUST 1 CHANGE

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE

“ IN EVERY ISSUE, WE WILL SHARE HOW YOU CAN MAKE - JUST 1 CHANGE! ”

Hi, Sustainable Suzi here: I thought I'd say hello and share with you my first thoughts on all this talk about living more sustainably.

The first thing to know is that I'm no saintlier than the next person, but I realise I want to enjoy the remainder of my time on this gorgeous earth comfortably, so I've been rethinking a few things. My confession is that I've been lazy. I'm old enough to remember the energy saving campaigns in the 1970s. I remember sticking a "Save Energy" sticker onto my parent's light switch at home, did you? And did that campaign make a difference to the way I lived from then on? Yes, it did, but I need to do more – so in future, I'm just going to make that one change and remember to switch things off more often.

In the Home I'm switching off the second upstairs radio that I leave on when downstairs, sockets that don't need to be on like the microwave and of course the lights when I'm not in the room.

In the Office I'm switching off the computer and screen at the end of each working day, office photocopier and guess what, the lights when I'm at work, but not in my office. It isn't difficult and maybe you could join me in switching things off.

Until next time ...

Jones room at Linslade Community Hall.

We have a variety of topics from a range of guest speakers. Recently, we invited the new Bedfordshire Police Commissioner to speak and answer questions. Our last speaker talked on the subject of Workhouses.

Finally, we do have a regular liaison between Leighton-Linslade Town Council and Central Beds Council, but the Leighton Buzzard Society has no political bias. Our only interest is for the betterment of the town and the locality.

Please Note: Leighton Buzzard is a very large hamlet or township in the civil parish of Leighton-Linslade. When the society formed, Leighton-Buzzard was the umbrella name for the whole town which included Linslade.

If you are interested in joining the Leighton Buzzard Society contact us at our email address at societylb2@gmail.com. Annual membership costs £10 for a single person and £18 for couples.

Contact us at our email address at:
societylb2@gmail.com



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
TOWN COUNCIL

Your Council Services

Take a look at our website

This month we are featuring a brand new web page about climate change.

As reported in the last edition, the Council recently declared a climate emergency and an intention to become carbon neutral by 2030. Work has now started on reviewing our carbon footprint and identifying actions to reduce this. We also encourage the wider community to pledge to make a change and live more sustainably.

You can find some tips on how to do this on our website and we welcome your stories and photos about how you are making a difference.

JUST 1 CHANGE

Fairtrade Fortnight

21 February – 6 March 2022



'X' marks the spot!

What's happening locally?

Following the success of our fabulous Fairtrade Treasure Hunt in 2014, Fairtrade Leighton-Linslade is planning to run another, over Fairtrade Fortnight. The focus this year will be on a specific Fairtrade product (we're not sharing any clues yet!) and the Treasure Hunt will be focused in the Town Centre.

Keep your eyes on our website and social media for news of this as we confirm our plans.

Fairtrade farmers and the communities they support, depend on the climate for their livelihoods but the climate emergency caused by centuries of exploitation of people and planet means those livelihoods are under serious and immediate threat. During Fairtrade Fortnight, two weeks each year at the end of February and start of March, thousands of individuals, companies and groups across the UK come together to share the stories of the people who grow our food and drinks.



Cocoa Farmer (Bismark Kpabiteley) and Fairtrade Africa Director (Kate Nkatha)

Fairtrade Fortnight 2022 will once again highlight the challenges farmers face due to the climate crisis. For COP26, Fairtrade farmers and workers came together to demand that politicians in the wealthiest nations, those most

responsible for the climate crisis, start to take that responsibility seriously. The message is simple: Fairtrade farmers and workers are already pioneering solutions and politicians and business leaders need to invest in their expertise and follow their lead in committing to a low-carbon future.

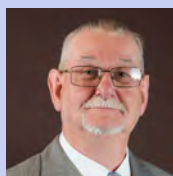
Amongst other Fairtrade farmers attending COP26, we were pleased to welcome Ghanaian cocoa farmer Bismark Kpabiteley and Fairtrade Africa Director, Kate Nkatha pictured enjoying a Fairtrade coffee in Glasgow, as they prepare to take the Be Fair With Your Climate Promise message to COP26.

Climate concern is for everyone

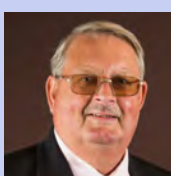


WE ARE A
FAIRTRADE
COMMUNITY

MEET YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS



BARNABAS
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Mark.Freeman@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



BARNABAS
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BARNABAS
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BROOKLANDS
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Amanda.Dodwell@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



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GROVEBURY
Cllr Anne Gray
Liberal Democrat
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Anne.Gray@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



GROVEBURY
Cllr Farzana Kharawala (Mayor)
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Farzana.Kharawala@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



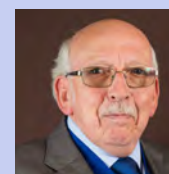
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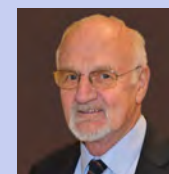
PLANETS
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PLANTATION
Cllr Ray Berry
Conservative
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You can pick up a copy of About Town from any of these main locations:

Aldi (Vimy Rd), Iceland, Library Theatre, Multi Storey Car Park, Tesco and Train Station



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Straight to your e-mail box every time

CLICK HERE

www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/about-town-newsletters/

Leighton-Linslade Town Council is responsible for:



- Allotments
- Cemeteries
- Christmas Illuminations
- Community Events & Promotions
- Grants to Voluntary Organisations
- Markets
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Pavilions-Astral Park, Pages Park, Linslade Memorial Pavilion
- TACTIC-Teenage Advice & Information Centre
- Multi-Storey Car Park Toilets

Central Bedfordshire Council is responsible for:



- Community Safety
- Health & Social Care
- Education
- Housing
- Homelessness
- Planning
- Leisure & Countryside
- Waste & Recycling
- Transport, Roads & Parking

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- 1/2 page 18 x 12.7cm (landscape) £82.80 + VAT
- Full page 21 x 29.7cm £166.89 + VAT

EDITORIAL DEADLINES 2022

March/April 2022 (Mon 24 Jan) **May/June 2022** (Mon 21 March)

We reserve the right to review pricing. For more information contact Vivien Cannon on 01525 631924.

We welcome your

FEEDBACK

We welcome your feedback on the services we provide. Please email any comments you may have to:
info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

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W: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk