



# Billericay Town Crier

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## LAKE MEADOWS PLAY EQUIPMENT



**O**n January 31st the Chairman of Billericay Town Council officially opened the Teen Area in Lake Meadows with the help of Miss Sophie Harrison Chairwoman of the Youth Town Council. Present at the opening were the Chairman of Essex County Council, Cllr Elizabeth Hart and Vice Chairman of Basildon District Council, Cllr Sandra Hillier, Town and District Councillors plus organisations from Billericay. It was a beautiful day and the play equipment looked magnificent and, as soon as the ribbon was cut, it was immediately being used by many excited teenagers.

Our thanks to our partners Basildon District Council for their total co-operation throughout this project and allowing this area to be developed into a Teen Play Area and also the Billericay Youth Town Council who gave their full support and guidance throughout the project.

The total cost of providing this was £86,000 of which we received the following funding:

**Essex County Council, Community Initiatives Fund – £20,000**

**Veolia ES Cleanaway Pitsea Marshes Trust – £38,000**

**Awards for All Lottery Funding towards the Youth Shelter – £5,000.**

*Cllr Peter Bowditch – Chairman  
Recreation Facilities Working Party*

## GARDENING TALK

As part of this year's Billericay in Bloom competition, a representative of the Hyde Hall Royal Horticultural Society Garden will be giving a talk on 'Herbaceous Borders at Hyde Hall – Colour Structures and Techniques'. The talk will take place on Thursday 7th May at the Reading Rooms, High Street, Billericay and will commence at 7.30 pm. All are welcome and there is no admission fee

## QUALITY STATUS RETAINED

The Town Council was originally awarded Quality Status in 2005; obtaining this Status proves that the Council is competent, has a commitment to the local community and is capable of taking on an enhanced role. Re-accreditation has to be undertaken after a four year period and this process involves the completion of an application form and portfolio demonstrating that the Council meets a number of tests. The submission from the Town Council was considered recently by an adjudication panel resulting in Quality Status being achieved for a further four year period.

For further information and general enquiries contact:

Town Clerk • Billericay Town Council • The Loft • Crown Yard • High Street • Billericay CM12 9BX  
[www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

**T: 01277 625732 F: 01277 634784 E: [townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk)**

Official Office Opening times 9.30am - 2.30pm Mon-Friday - outside these hours please ring as there may well be office staff present

# ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LITTER PICK



Those participating prior to setting out

Members of the Town Council were joined on Saturday 4 April by District Councillor Richard Moore, Essex County Councillor Kay Twitchen, representatives of Billericay Lions Club, Billericay Mayflower Rotary Club, Billericay Society, Archaeological & Historical Society, Youth Town Council, Air Training Corps and members of the public when they took to the streets to collect litter. The Norsey Woods Society and Mill Meadows Society also used this opportunity to collect unwanted litter from their respective areas. In total approximately fifty

bags of rubbish were collected from various areas within the town and the Town Council is very grateful for all those that participated and Basildon District Council officers for their contribution in collecting the bags at the end of the event. Due to the success of this event another 'Big Litter Pick' is sure to take place during the autumn. It is very much hoped that in time it will not be necessary to hold such events as everyone will dispose of their litter in the correct places.



John Baron MP with Peter Bowditch, Chairman of Billericay Town Council and other Councillors and representatives of the community.

## HEALTHCARE AND WELL-BEING IN BILLERICAY – CHOICES FOR THE FUTURE

It's up to you – to help choose the health services you want to see in Billericay. NHS South West Essex which looks after our healthcare needs will be asking for your views in the coming months.

Having already looked at community-based healthcare in the locality and listened to the

views of the users and providers of health services, they discovered some areas where they feel that services can be improved.

Improvements already pledged by NHS South West Essex are:

- working with GP practices to offer more extended hours
- improving access to NHS dental care
- introducing appointments in the blood sample taking services at the St Andrews

Centre.

However they now want to find out what people in Billericay think about their recommendations for further improvements in GP practices, specialist health centres and additional specialist provision for young adults.

The NHS South West Essex will endeavour to deliver a consultation document to every household in Billericay. Please make sure you complete the questionnaire, and return by the due date using freepost.

## A DECREASE NOT AN INCREASE IN PRECEPT

In your Council Tax Demand from Basildon District Council in March you may have noticed that there was an error in the percentage change from last year, which should have stated that Billericay Town Council decreased their precept by 6.7% for 2009/2010. Basildon District Council recognised the error and have apologised.



## CIRCULAR WALKS LEAFLET

The Town Council has recently produced a colourful brochure of four circular walks starting from the Town Centre. Each walk is approximately 4 miles long and is depicted on a colour co-ordinated map at the centre of the leaflet. Copies can be obtained from, Bennetts Funeral Directors, the Library and the Town Council Offices. With the better weather approaching, now is the time to get fit and enjoy the town and countryside.

## PLANT A SHRUB RETURNS

Notification has been received from Basildon District Council that it will be possible for additional shrubs to be planted in Festival Garden during May. Since the start of the 'Sponsor a Rose and Shrub' scheme in the Festival Garden in 1999, over 300 rose bushes and shrubs have been planted by people wishing to commemorate a loved one. Planting in the Garden will take place on Thursday 21 May 2009 at 2.00 pm and staff from Basildon District Council's Park Department will be on hand to help. A Book of Remembrance is kept in the Town Council offices recording the names of those commemorated.

During 2007 it was also agreed that the Plant A Shrub scheme should be extended to 'The Child in the Park' area, Lake Meadows Park where parents who have lost a child would be given the opportunity to plant a shrub. This planting will take place in May on a date yet to be decided.

Anyone who would like to Plant A Shrub in either of these locations should contact the Town Clerk on 01277 625732.

The closing date for applications is Monday 11 May 2009 and the cost is £15.00 per shrub.

# BILLERICAY IN BLOOM



2009 is the twelfth year of the popular Billericay in Bloom competition and this year will see the addition of two new categories: Best Topiary Design and Best Garden Design. The closing date for applications is Monday 29th June 2009 and judging will take place on Sunday 5th July and Monday 6th July with the prizegiving taking place on Friday 17th July at Canon Roche Social Centre. The BBC Essex Radio presenter Ken Crowther will be in attendance to present the prizes and talk about The Changing World of Gardening.

The Town Council thank this year's sponsors: Waitrose, Billericay Nurseries, Mayflower Twinning, Bedwells, Chequers Public House, Billericay Cook Shop/Emporium, Bennetts Funeral Directors, Lions Club of Billericay, Accountants Firm Michael Letch Partners Ltd and Billericay Rotary Club.

Please note that all rear gardens/vegetable gardens/hanging baskets will where possible be judged on Sunday the 5th July 2009. *If you will be away please make arrangements with a neighbour for the judges to gain access and make sure the Town Clerk knows that you have given permission.*

**Judging:** Sunday 5th July and Monday 6th July 2009

**Prizegiving:** Friday 17th July 2009 at Canon Roche Social Centre, Laindon Road

## Billericay in Bloom 2009 Entry Form

I wish to enter the following categories:

- ☐ A – Best Kept Small Front Garden (1000 sq.ft or less)\*
- ☐ B – Best Kept Large Front Garden (more than 1000 sq.ft)
- ☐ C – Best Kept Small Back Garden (1500 sq.ft or less)\*
- ☐ D – Best Kept Large Back Garden (more than 1500 sq.ft or less)\*
- ☐ E – Best Hanging Basket
- ☐ F – Best Sheltered Accommodation Garden
- ☐ G – Best School Garden
- ☐ H – Best Commercial Premises
- ☐ I – Best Public House
- ☐ J – Best Miniature Garden in a Pot (Primary Schools only)
- ☐ K – Best Vegetable Plot (minimum 10ft x 6ft, must be within confines of property)
- ☐ L – Best Topiary Hedge – **NEW CATEGORY**
- ☐ M – Best Garden Design – **NEW CATEGORY**

\* includes paths and drives

**Closing Date:** Monday 29th June 2009

This information will be treated as confidential and used only for the administration of the competition.

Please Note – Only entries within the Billericay Town Council boundaries can be accepted.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No \_\_\_\_\_

**Categories A-D Best Kept Gardens** – Judges will consider all aspects of the garden including the standard and range of plants, general maintenance and design.

**Category E** – Please indicate the location of your hanging basket, e.g. front or back of house, porch etc. \_\_\_\_ If located in the back garden, do you give permission for the judges to enter your premises via side gate etc if you are not there \_\_\_\_ You will be supplied with a label which must be visibly displayed to clearly identify you entered hanging basket.

**Categories A to F inclusive and Categories J, K & L** – No professional help is allowed for these categories.

**Category K – Best Vegetable Plot** – Judges will be looking for the best use of the area and variety of vegetables grown. Pots and grow bags are acceptable.

**Please return this form to:** Billericay in Bloom, Billericay Town Council, The Loft, Crown Yard, High Street, Billericay CM12 9BX

**Enquiries to:** Town Clerk 012 62532

**Email:** townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

## TOWN WALKS 2009

Following the popularity of these Heritage Walks in 2008 they are being extended in 2009. Each walk commences at 1.30 pm from the Railway Station on the following dates:



Sunday	June 7
Saturday	June 13
Sunday	June 21
Saturday	June 27
Sunday	July 5
Saturday	July 11
Sunday	July 19
Saturday	July 25
Sunday	September 6
Saturday	September 12
Sunday	September 20
Saturday	September 26

The gentle Walks last about 2 hours and encompass the Union Workhouse, Norsey Wood, Norsey Bridge the Festival Gardens and the buildings along the High Street, ending at the Cater Museum. Tea and biscuits will be available during the Walk at St Mary Magdalen.

### FAIRTRADE TOWN

Billericay Fairtrade Association has been active since 2006 and the Town Council has renewed its continued support for this organisation.

### PÉTANQUE

The Town Council are looking at the possibility of providing facilities for Pétanque. If you are interested please contact the Town Council office.

### SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL SERVICE

Sunnymede Infant and Junior Schools and Brightside Primary School are looking for School Crossing Patrol Operators – If you are interested telephone: 01245 437261 or email: [school.crossings@essex.gov.uk](mailto:school.crossings@essex.gov.uk)

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Future Dates For Your Diary

### MAY

Tuesday 5	Environment
Tuesday 12	Planning
Thursday 14	Finance & General Purposes
Tuesday 26	Planning
Thursday 28	Annual Town Council

### JUNE

Tuesday 9	Planning
Tuesday 16	Environment
Tuesday 23	Planning
Thursday 25	Finance & General Purposes

### JULY

Tuesday 7	Planning
Thursday 9	Town Council
Tuesday 21	Planning
Tuesday 28	Environment

All meetings start at 7.00 p.m. unless stated otherwise and are held in The Coach House, Crown Yard High Street and are open to the public.

### BDC – SATURDAY CRUNCH SERVICE

9.00 a.m. to 12 noon

Garden refuse and general rubbish can be taken to the following:

May 5	Radford Crescent Car Park
June 6	Little Burstead Car Park
June 2	Radford Crescent Car Park

### ESSEX POLICE

24 hour non-emergency number 0300 3334444

## BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Name	Address	Phone No.	E-Mail	Ward
Paul Arnold				E
Tina Arnold				E
Peter Bowditch				W
John Buchanan				E
Jim Devlin				W
Jack Dunn				W
Colin Dyer				W
Terence Gandy				W
Edgar Guest				SW
David Knight				E
Kevin Mesnard				W
Moirra Moore				E
Rod Rapley				W
James Shrubbs				E
Daphne Spencer				E
Trevor Stansfield				W
Ann Ud-Din				SW
Dr. Hameed Ud-Din				SW
Pamela Went				W
Marion Wilson				E

TOWN CLERK: Helen Philpott  
Billericay Town Council  
The Loft, Crown Yard, High Street  
Billericay, Essex CM12 9BX

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