



Billericay Town Crier

March 2024

www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL



BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

**FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024
10AM - 3PM**

The Chantry Centre,
Chantry Way

COME ALONG AND MEET WITH LOCAL CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

FREE ENTRY
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Find Out About:

- Volunteering Opportunities within the Community
- Support with Health & Wellbeing
- Social Activities

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY OPEN DAY AT CHANTRY CENTRE 22ND MARCH 10AM-3PM

ON FRIDAY 22nd March from 10am until 3pm many local community groups and organisations will be at the Chantry Centre, Chantry Way to provide information about what they do as well as looking to recruit new members. At the time of going to press the groups that we expect to be in attendance are:

Billericay Choral Society
Billericay Community Archive
Billericay Community Cinema
Billericay District Residents' Association
Billericay Horticultural Club
Billericay Lions
Billericay parkrun
Billericay Street Pastors
Billericay Tree Wardens
Billericay Men's Shed
Cycling Campaign
Essex Wellbeing
Girl Guides
Gone Too Soon
Hearing Help Essex
Human Kind
Mayflower Morris Men
Memory Café
Men's Supper Club
Mill Meadows Society
MIND
Next Chapter
Norsey Woods Society
Outwood Common Tenants and Residents
Parkinsons Support
Photofold Camera Club
Sunny Days
The Cater Museum
The Fold Arts Association

PLEASE COME ALONG AND FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED.



In commemoration of the
**80th Anniversary of the
D-Day Landings**

Billericay Town Council

Would like to invite all residents to join with other villages, towns and cities across the United Kingdom in lighting our beacon to mark this historic occasion.

6th June 2024 at 9.00pm

QEII Playing Field, Sun Corner
Laindon Rd, Billericay.



CIVIC SERVICE

ON SUNDAY 26th May 2024 at 3pm the Town Council and Churches Together in Billericay will be holding the 10th Annual Civic Service. The location is Emmanuel Church, Laindon Road and all residents are welcome to come along.

**LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
FOUNDATION**

For further information and general enquiries contact: Town Clerk
Billericay Town Council • The Chantry Centre • Chantry Way • Billericay CM11 2AP
T: 01277 625732 • E: townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk • W: www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

Office Opening Times – 9.30am - 5.30pm Monday - Friday.

X @BillericayTC

BillericayTownCouncil 



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

MOST OF THE responses to the new Christmas Lighting scheme have been positive and by opting to use wrap around string lights, for the first time in years every lamp column in the High Street had a decoration. In previous years the CCTV cameras meant that motifs could not be displayed on many columns which gave the High Street an "uneven" appearance.

We were able

to get lights in more trees in the High Street and outside the Chantry Centre the Christmas tree was spectacular. All feedback received is being considered by the Town Council and will be relayed to the contractor ready for Christmas this year.



COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENT



BASILDON BOROUGH WARD Councillors recently held an event in the Chantry Centre to enable residents to get information and items to aid their personal safety and security.

Unfortunately, the event wasn't very well attended, but for those that missed it the Town Council has various items available which can be

collected from the Chantry reception during working hours. Purse/bag cables, dipping bells, personal alarms, doorstep seller deterrent stickers, card protectors and property marking kits are all available for FREE. So don't delay, as stock is limited and will be on a first come, first served basis.



LOCAL ELECTIONS 2024

ALL THE COUNCILLORS on Billericay Town Council are elected every four years and on 2nd May this year there will be an election to fill the 20 seats on the Council.

The Notice of election will be published at the end of March and nominations have to be completed and delivered to Electoral Services at Basildon Borough Council at the start of April. The relevant dates will be made available on the Town Council's website as soon as they become available.

Should you wish to stand as a candidate or would like more information about the role of a local councillor and the qualification rules then please contact the Town Clerk. Full details of the election process will be available on the Basildon Borough Council website www.basildon.gov.uk.

REFUSE/ RECYCLING SCHEDULES

AS SOME RESIDENTS do not have access to the internet, and there have been enquiries from residents regarding collection times, the Town Council is happy to publish the refuse collection schedules.

Collection Calendar 2024 Recycling & non-recycling

week 1

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
M T W T F S S Please see over leaflet for details 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1* 2* 3* 4* 5* 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27* 28* 29* 30* 31*	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26* 27* 28* 29* 30* 31
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

■ Glass Box / Non-Recyclable Wheeled Bin collection week

■ *Collections one day later for bank holiday

Basildon recycles



Collection Calendar 2024 Recycling & non-recycling

week 2

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
M T W T F S S Please see over leaflet for details 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1* 2* 3* 4* 5* 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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■ Glass Box / Non-Recyclable Wheeled Bin collection week

■ *Collections one day later for bank holiday

Basildon recycles





POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF BILLERICAY POLICE STATION

THE TOWN COUNCIL has been consulted by Essex Police regarding the possible closure of the police station and has responded with several objections. The Town Council regards the police station as an important security and safety asset to the residents of the town. Events will be closely followed by the Council



TOWN COUNCIL WORKS TO SAVE HIGH STREET POST OFFICE



® THE TOWN COUNCIL recognises the High Street post office is an essential resource for residents and was concerned when One Stop gave 12 months notice to the Post Office that the High Street store will be closing in November this year. Our local MP John Baron secured a meeting with the Post Office

together with our Vice Chairman, Cllr. Jim Devlin and representatives from Basildon Council to look at ways of retaining this service within the High Street. The Post Office have advertised the availability of the Post Office business and further work by this group is ongoing.



APPEAL DISMISSED – POTASH ROAD DEVELOPMENT – A WIN FOR BILLERICAY AND RESIDENTS

AN OUTLINE PLANNING application for 150 dwellings and a 50 bed care home that were to be built in the land between and behind numbers 41 and 65 Potash Road, had been objected to by Billericay Town Council and refused by Basildon Borough Council.

This resulted in an appeal against the decision being raised by P & A Investments Limited and P D Developments (Essex) Limited. The appeal was heard by Jonathan Price, of the Planning Inspectorate, on the 12th-14th December 2023.

On day one of the appeal, open for public participation, Cllr James Tutton, (Billericay Town Council – Planning Committee Chairman), and 3 members of the public, Mr Alasdair Daw (Billericay Action Group), Ms Samantha Ruston (Potash Road Action Group) and Mr Gordon Taylor, attended the full session.

All presented their objections to the plans in a exemplary, detailed, knowledgeable and passionate manner which was positively noted by the Planning Inspector. An excellent presentation was also given by Cllr Andrew Schrader (Basildon Borough Council – Billericay East) supporting the call for the appeal to fail.

The main appeal process continued for 2 more days. The Inspector viewed the area concerned, on the last day of the appeal proceedings.

The appeal had failed – it was dismissed. This satisfying result was announced on the 23rd January 2024.

This is a great result for the residents of and around Potash Road and Billericay. It proves that when a sound case is properly supported and presented, residents are able to win against the large building corporations.



NEW FACE ON THE TOWN COUNCIL

AT THE COUNCIL meeting held on 14th December last year members voted to co-opt Jessica Leung to the vacant seat in West Ward.

Jessica moved to Billericay from Hong Kong almost two years ago and comfortably calls Billericay home and says she is devoted to

contributing her best efforts to this lovely town.

As well as serving the residents of Billericay she is also a Wavemaker campaigning for gender equality at Billericay Town Football Club and a fundraiser for the Billericay Foodbank.



KING CHARLES III OFFICIAL PORTRAIT

RECENTLY THE OFFICIAL portrait of King Charles for public buildings was released. The Town Council looks forward to considering where it will be placed at the Chantry Centre.

At the time of writing the Town Council was saddened to learn that King Charles has been diagnosed with cancer. We hope very much that its installation at the Chantry Centre will coincide with King Charles' return to full health. We wish His Majesty a speedy and full recovery.



NEW FLORAL DECORATIONS FOR HIGH STREET

THE HEALTH, WELL-BEING and Environment Committee recently decided to bring back colourful floral displays to the High Street this summer. Having had to stop provision of hanging baskets due to damage from high sided vehicles we are changing to pole baskets. These are bolted around the columns so will hopefully be much harder to dislodge. The High Street planters and War Memorial will be kept beautifully planted as usual.

BILLERICAY YOUTH SAFETY PROJECT



THE BILLERICAY YOUTH Town Council (BYTC) created a project called the Billericay Youth Safety Project to raise awareness of the dangers when out in public. We are making a booklet and social media banner as part of our project, with lots of

information on how to stay safer and report crimes and we will release this at a launch event at the Chantry Centre on Saturday 23rd March 2024 at 10am.

Recently we held an illustrations competition



where young people in Billericay could enter drawings to be used in our publications. We also now have an Instagram account where we will be posting regular updates and information on youth safety. @billericayyouth

safetyproject
More information about our launch event and other events during the Easter holidays will be posted on our Instagram page.
George Wood, Chair, Billericay Youth Town Council





FOCUS ON CHANTRY CENTRE HIRERS

ON 19TH MAY, 2021 Fit N Fabulous held the first socially distanced exercise class in the newly opened Chantry Centre. Fit N Fabulous were previous users of the old Day Centre so we were really pleased to welcome them to our new and much improved premises.

Since that date they have increased their use of the centre and now run Zumba Gold, Beginners Pilates and Seated Pilates sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week. The classes are a fun way to improve posture, balance, flexibility, coordination, strength and mobility. They also provide an opportunity to socialise as after Tuesday's seated pilates the class stay behind for a cuppa and a natter. Lisa, of Fit N Fabulous, believes: *"age is just a number and you don't need to be already fit or flexible to join in and keep up."*

CHANTRY CENTRE – THE PLACE TO BE

SINCE THE CHANTRY Centre opened its popularity with users has grown. Users appreciate the facilities and the layout of the building. From the table below it can be seen that the centre is a terrific success. If you wish to hire the hall or rooms the hiring rates are competitive. Please contact the Town Council office for further information about hiring or joining the classes taking place at the centre.

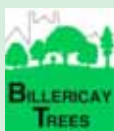


CHANTRY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

REGULAR CLASS / GROUP	FREQUENCY	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
Fit and Fabulous	Weekly	www.fitandfab.co.uk
Zumba Gold	Tuesday and	
Beginners Pilates / Seated Pilates	Wednesday morning	
Gone Too Soon	Monthly	lyn-currie@hotmail.co.uk
Bereavement Support	Monday evening	
J R Fitness	Weekly	jrfitnessclasses@gmail.com
Power Hula Hoop	Wednesday morning	
Baby Ballet	Weekly Wednesday morning	romfordcentral@babyballet.co.uk
Bump & Baby	Monthly	info@yourfamilynutritionist.co.uk
Baby / toddler advice / support group	Last Friday of the month morning	
Billericay Community Cinema	Monthly	www.billericaycine.com
	Thursday evening Sunday afternoon	
Buy the Dress	Once a Month	Facebook – Buy The Dress
Designer Clothes Sale	All day Saturday	
Billericay Horticultural Society	Monthly Monday evening	www.billericay-horticultural-society.co.uk
Photofold Camera Club	Weekly Tuesday evening	www.photofold.org.uk
Super Mumma Fitness	Weekly Monday afternoon	liane@supermummafitness.co.uk
Good Companions	Bimonthly	Enquiries – Billericay Town Council
Social Club for Seniors	Wednesday afternoon	
Sharon Murphy Yoga	Weekly Monday morning	smurph3@btinternet.com
Jeremy Sawas Sound Bath Essex	Weekly Thursday evening	Soundbathessex.co.uk

CHANTRY CENTRE HIRE RATES

	Community Rate	Commercial Rate	Childrens Birthday Parties
MAIN HALL	£20 PER HOUR	£40 PER HOUR	£50 PER HOUR
COUNCIL CHAMBER	£15 PER HOUR	£30 PER HOUR	n/a
MEETING ROOM 1	£10 PER HOUR	£25 PER HOUR	n/a
MEETING ROOM 2	£10 PER HOUR	£25 PER HOUR	n/a
MEETING ROOM 3	£10 PER HOUR	£25 PER HOUR	n/a



THE FREE TREE GIVEAWAY EVENT BY THE BILLERICAY TREE WARDENS

ON SATURDAY 25TH November from 10am to 3pm, volunteers from Billericay Tree Wardens were outside Paul Robinson's the solicitors in the High Street giving away 55 two-foot-high trees and advice on their planting and care. "Black Friday" had been followed by a "Green Saturday"! A very successful event with strong engagement from shoppers and visitors to the High Street.

The locally grown native tree species on offer were Rowan, Cherry, Hazel, Silver Birch, and Oak. Some 'mini-whips' (very small trees!) were eagerly sought after by the children of the parents passing by, thus ensuring the enthusiasm of the young folk, one of the remits of the Billericay Tree Wardens. It's not often that the Billericay Tree Wardens gets to meet the public as often their work is behind the scenes liaising with Residents and the Local Authority on tree issues. A big thank you to Paul Robinson's for allowing use of their frontage for this event.

Billericay Town Council have had positive feedback via emails and social media by those who received and have already planted the trees in their gardens! Accordingly, Billericay Tree Wardens plan to repeat this event on an annual basis. The Billericay Tree Wardens is a subgroup of the Billericay Town Council.

TREE PLANTING AT BLACK CAT MEADOW BY THE BILLERICAY TREE WARDENS

ON SATURDAY 9TH December the Billericay Tree Wardens and friends planted seventy trees in 'Black Cat Meadow' which is just south of Norsey Wood and the railway line. Planted were fine young specimens of the following native tree species, Oak, Willow, Silver Birch, Rowan, Elder, Hazel, Hawthorn and Blackthorn.

These were sourced from the Norsey Wood tree nursery by Nathan Hume seen fourth from the left in the accompanying photograph. Billericay Town Councillor Cllr Chris May, on the left, himself a Tree Warden, participated in the event.

If ever one needs confirmation that Billericay is mainly built on thick clay soil, then this is the proof! Several residents living nearby expressed an interest in the project and are keen to be our "ears & eyes" as to the safety of the trees. Unfortunately, vandalism to trees in the town continues, so having observers next to the site is a safeguard. The Meadow is the resident's recreation area, so the planting has been kept to the periphery. A small project but every little helps in the face of the global Climate Crisis. The Billericay Tree Wardens is a subgroup of the Billericay Town Council.



OPEN DAY – BILLERICAY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (BDRA)

27th April 10.00-4.00pm –
Reading Rooms, 73 High Street

Come along and find out all about the BDRA
The Cater Museum, Billericay Action Group
and Historical Society will also be there

FREE ATTENDANCE AND REFRESHMENTS

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

MARCH 2024

Monday 4 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Thursday 7 Full Council
Tuesday 12 Planning
Tuesday 26 Planning

APRIL 2024

Tuesday 2 Health, Well-Being & Env
Tuesday 9 Planning
Thursday 11 Finance & General Purposes
Thursday 18 Full Council
Tuesday 23 Planning

MAY 2024

Thursday 2 LOCAL ELECTIONS
Thursday 9 Annual Town Council
Tuesday 14 Planning
Tuesday 21 Health, Well-Being & Env
Tuesday 28 Planning
Thursday 30 Finance & General Purposes

All meetings are open to the public and press and are held at The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way, unless otherwise stated and start at 7.00pm.

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Name	Address	Phone No.	E-Mail	Ward
Cllr A Adshead	29 The Meadow Way CM11 2HL	01277 632104	adam.adshead@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr J Clark	33 Carson Road CM11 1SA	01277 659842	jo.clark@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr L Clark	c/o The Chantry Centre	07902 979632	laura.clark@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr R Clark	1 Wick Glen CM12 0HS	07802 425842	richard.clark@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr M Dear	12 Redwing Drive CM11 2PG	01277 622499	marie.dear@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr J Devlin	231 Perry Street CM12 0NZ	01277 656937	jim.devlin@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr J Henshaw	46 The Avenue CM12 9HG	07544 499272	james.henshaw@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	SW
Cllr K Herlock	c/o The Chantry Centre	01277 625732	kathryn.herlock@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr J Leung	c/o The Chantry Centre	07378 955506	jessica.leung@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr Chris May	5 Devereux Way CM12 0YS	01277 627005	chris.may@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr M Moore	47 Laindon Road CM12 9LG	01277 627266	moira.moore@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	SW
Cllr K Mordecai	c/o The Chantry Centre	01277 625732	kim.mordecai@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr M Mordecai	c/o The Chantry Centre	01277 625732	martyn.mordecai@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr M Roessler	9 Second Avenue CM12 9PR	07760 373070	martin.roessler@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	SW
Cllr E Sainsbury	17 Hares Chase CM12 0HJ	07517 362368	edward.sainsbury@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr D Spencer	Fir Tree Lodge 16 Back Lane CM4 9DG	01277 829750	daphne.spencer@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr G Talbot	185 Perry Street CM12 0NX	07983 421686	gareth.talbot@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr A Talboys	c/o The Chantry Centre	01277 657576	alan.talboys@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Cllr M Thomas	39 Chestwood Close CM12 0PB	01277 650453	mark.thomas@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Cllr J Tutton	11 Bluebell Wood CM12 0ES	01277 655443	jim.tutton@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Mark Thomas	01277 625732		
TOWN CLERK	Deborah Tonkiss, Billericay Town Council The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way Billericay, Essex CM11 2AP	Telephone: Email: Website:	01277 625732 townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	

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