

News

Town Crier in Hibernation Due To COVID

The Town Council has taken the decision to put on hold the printed publication of the Town Crier. As the coronavirus is so contagious the decision not to print and deliver the Town Crier to homes was taken in the interests of residents' safety. We hope residents will understand but rest assured the Town Crier will be published again as soon as it is safe for residents to receive copies.



Census 2021

Town Council Precept

Town Council Meetings

Mayflower Plaque

Census 2021

The Census is Coming

Households across England and Wales will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

What is the census?

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It's been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Who should complete the census?

Everyone living and working in England and Wales (Scotland and Ireland are doing their census in 2022)

When does it take place?

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

How do you complete it?

It will be the first census run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

If you're 16 or over, you can call the census helpline and request access to complete a questionnaire independently and anonymously to the rest of your household.

I don't have access to the internet?

Paper questionnaires will be available by calling the number on the letter you receive, or you can complete it online by visiting one of the census support centres

For more information visit

www.census.gov.uk

Town Council Meetings

Legally Town Council meetings have to occur at a 'place' and decisions are taken by the majority of members present and voting. When the Covid-19 restrictions came into being face to face meetings were no longer permitted, so provision was made via new legislation to allow virtual meetings. The Town Council has successfully been using the Zoom platform and as a critical element of local council meetings is that the public and press are able to attend and observe, there is also the ability for interested parties to remotely attend the meeting. The meeting log in details are published on the agenda(s) and can also be obtained from the Town Clerk.



Latest COVID Government Advice

For information visit

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT TO RISE ON AVERAGE 2 PENCE WEEKLY

The "Precept" is the money residents pay to support the activities and services that Billericay Town Council delivers to our town such as: the hanging baskets and planters in the High Street, upkeep of the Festival Gardens, maintenance of the War Memorial, Christmas lights and the provision of the new Chantry Way Centre with all the facilities it will provide.

Your Town Council has agreed to a precept for 2021/2022 of £300,000. This is rise of £9,000 (4.56%) which will see an average increase of £1.08 a year making the annual cost for a typical Band D property £24.75 (£23.67 in 2020/21). Historically Billericay has had a very low precept. The national average in 2020 was £69 and Billericay was in the lowest 20% of parish authorities. It will remain so in 2021/22.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During the pandemic Town Council Planning meetings are taking place remotely via email in accordance with Government guidelines. If residents have planning queries please visit Basildon Borough Council Planning website where planning applications can be viewed and tracked at www.basildon.gov.uk or call 01268 533333.

If residents wish their views regarding planning applications to be shared via email with the Town Council Planning Committee, please email the Town Clerk/Planning Clerk on: townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk or call on: 01277 625732

MAYFLOWER COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE



Billericay Town Council sponsored a piece of artwork to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower in 2020. Well known Essex sculptor, John Doubleday, was commissioned to provide a statue representing the Mayflower and its pilgrims.

It is located in the Jim Shields Garden on the corner of the High Street and Western Road.

The plaque was unveiled on November 10, 2020.