



# Billericay Town Crier

August 2019

[www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

## BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL'S FIRST COMMUNITY SPECIAL CONSTABLE TAKES HIS FIRST PATROL TUESDAY 16TH JULY 2019

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL is delighted to announce that our first Community Special Constable has started patrolling in town. Special Inspector Thom Simons is a volunteer police officer, who is part of the Essex Community Specials Scheme.

Thom will volunteer a minimum of 16 hours each month in Billericay to target and disrupt anti-social behaviour, respond to community concerns and carry out high visibility foot patrols in the town. Specials have the same full policing powers and uniform as regular police officers. Billericay Town Council will fund expenses that the Specials require to carry out their duties in the town and the scheme will form part of the council's plans to continue to keep the town area safe.

We are still recruiting for another Community Special to join the scheme soon, and applicants can apply via Essex Police's website: [www.essex.police.uk/specials/billericay](http://www.essex.police.uk/specials/billericay)

At the launch on Tuesday 16th July 2019, the event was attended by representatives from Essex Police including Derek Hopkins, Deputy Chief Officer, Sarah Wright, Specials Development Manager, Maria Rawlings, South Specials Co ordinator, Les Hawkins, Specials Supported Policing Co ordinator and Chief Inspector Chris Bradford, Basildon District Commander. They were joined by Cllr Devlin, Cllr Adshhead, Cllr Roessler, Cllr J Clark, Cllr Talboys, Cllr Dear, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Herlock and Cllr Talbot from Billericay Town Council to officially launch the scheme.

On Thom's first patrol residents were happy to approach, report concerns and express their gratitude to Thom for becoming our first Special.

Find out more about becoming a Billericay Town Council Community Special Constable now: [www.essex.police.uk/specials/billericay](http://www.essex.police.uk/specials/billericay)



Cllr Jim Devlin and Special Inspector Thom Simons



LOCAL COUNCIL  
AWARD SCHEME  
FOUNDATION

For further information and general enquiries contact: Town Clerk  
Billericay Town Council • The Loft • Crown Yard • High Street • Billericay CM12 9BX  
T: 01277 625732 • E: [townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk) • W: [www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

Official Office Opening times 9.30am - 12.30pm Mon-Fri. Outside these hours please ring as there may well be office staff present.

@BillericayTC BillericayTownCouncil

Details of Town Councillors can be obtained from the Town Council website or Offices.

## TOWN COUNCIL – CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

ON 13TH JUNE the Chairman, Cllr Jim Devlin, and Vice Chairman, Cllr Jo Clark, attended the Billericay Community Cinema's screening of *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner*. This was not to watch the film. It was to surprise Jo Adshead who is Billericay's Citizen of the Year for 2019.

Jo is not only a founder member of the community cinema but has worked extremely hard over the last few years to rejuvenate the Billericay Art Trail, and it was for this that Cllr Moira Moore nominated her. Cllr Moore said that Jo has worked tirelessly to rejuvenate the Art Trail, making it bigger and better than ever with a wide range of activities and that she gave up a huge amount of her free time to make it possible. Her work with the community cinema provides entertainment to adults and children of the town and helps to keep the library a well used facility.

Congratulations to Jo Adshead, Billericay Citizen of the Year 2019.



Jo Adshead and Cllr Jim Devlin

## BILLERICAY TOWN HALL PROGRESS ON OUR NEW COMMUNITY FACILITY

OUR TENDER FOR the construction of the new Billericay Town Hall community building resulted in submissions from 5 construction companies. For the past few weeks our architects Ingleton Wood have undertaken an evaluation of those tenders using a detailed matrix of criteria. Ingleton Wood scored each company's submission based upon this with 60% being awarded for criteria related to pricing, and 40% based upon quality of submission. A preferred supplier, A W Hardy, was then selected by the Town Council.

We are now coming to the end of a "value engineering" phase which has been looking at ways that we can reduce the building costs without compromising the look or functionality of our new community space to ensure that we obtain the best value for money.

In parallel with this our application for a Government loan of £1.4 million has been approved and, added to the money that has been saved specifically for this building for the past few years, we now have financing in place.

Subject to Town Council approval, we expect to be able to formally sign the contract in the next few weeks allowing construction work to start.

## WAR MEMORIAL REFURBISHMENT COMPLETED

THE FINAL STAGE of works to the War Memorial were completed on Monday 17th June when Bakers of Danbury came to repair and repoint some of the joints on the main Memorial Stone and also some of the defective brick pointing on the walls of the Memorial. This was the first time the Town Council had used crowd funding for a project and the results have been fantastic.

Cllr Moira Moore, Chairman of the Environment Committee said "thanks to the generous residents and businesses that contributed to the crowd funding we were not only able to purchase the There But Not There Tommies, repave and illuminate the memorial, but the surplus funds received have also allowed us to carry out these repair works which have greatly enhanced our War Memorial". Thanks also to the team at the Mary Magdalen Church who gave access to their facilities for the duration of the repair works.

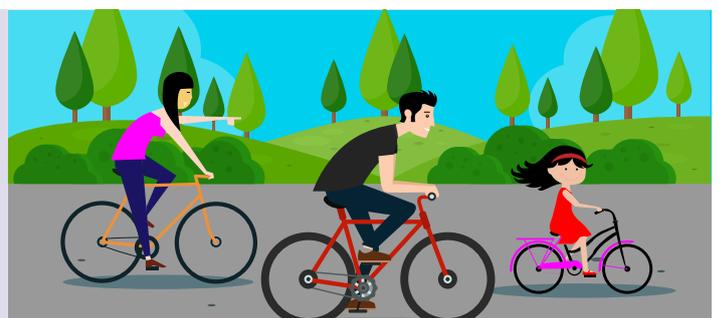


## TOWN COUNCIL AND AROUND TOWN

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL now has a regular column in the free monthly "Around Town Magazine" which is delivered to homes in the town. Each month we will focus one of the council's activities, or perhaps explain how the council operates, or highlight how it differs from Basildon Borough or Essex County Councils. Perhaps there is something you might like to know about the Town Council – if so, please email [TownClerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:TownClerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk) with the subject "Around Town".

## BILLERICAY BIKE RACKS ALMA LINK

AS CYCLING IS healthy, environmentally friendly and economical, it is a good way to travel into Billericay. There are twelve bike racks in Alma Link, to the rear of the Town Council offices, where bikes can be stored while visiting the High Street. These robust racks were originally installed by the Town Council and were refurbished last year. Once a bike is safely secured to a rack residents can take their time exploring the High Street.





# Billericay in Bloom 2019 Prize Giving



ON FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY, around 200 people gathered at the Canon Roche Centre to find out whether they had won a prize in the prestigious Billericay in Bloom competition. This year saw the highest ever number of individual children entering, plus there were entries from five schools.

This is the twenty first year of the competition and the judges had fifty five gardens/premises to visit and judge over two days. A lot of towns are no longer holding "In Bloom" competitions due to lack of interest from residents, however Cllr Moira Moore who is the Chairman of Billericay in Bloom, said that the competition seems to be going from strength to strength in Billericay and she thanked all the entrants for their hard work and also the sponsors for their continued support.



*Billericay in Bloom 2019 Winners*



*Reg O'Neill Dental Care*



*The Crown*



*Most Holy Redeemer RC Church*



*Cater Museum*

- THE WINNERS WERE**
- School Garden** – Quilters School
  - School Vegetable Plot** – Buttsbury Infant School
  - School Wildlife Garden** – Buttsbury Infant School
  - Front Garden** – Mr & Mrs Walters
  - Back Garden** – John Dowsett
  - Public House/Restaurant** – The Crown
  - Commercial Premises** – Cater Museum
  - Care Home/Sheltered/Retirement Accommodation** – Anisha Grange
  - Church Grounds** – Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
  - Hanging basket/window box/planter** – Mr & Mrs Walters
  - Wildlife Garden** – Reginald O'Neill Dental Care
  - Best First Time Entrant** – Keith Thacker
  - Judge's Special Award** – Owen Eggett
  - CHILDREN'S PLANT IN A RECYCLED CONTAINER**
  - Winner Sunnymede Infant School** – David Best
  - Winner Quilters Primary School** – Josh Rogers
  - Winner Buttsbury Infant School** – Sophie Bickerstaff
  - Winner Brightside Primary School** – Olivia Courtney
  - CHILDREN'S HERB GARDEN**
  - Winner Quilters Primary School** – Rebecca Rodgers
  - Winner Buttsbury Infant School** – Abigail Small
  - Winner Brightside Primary School** – Chloe Templeman



*Abbeyfields*



*St Peters School*

## SUNNYMEDE JUNIOR SCHOOL'S PERSUASIVE LETTERS TO BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCILLOR

*Sophia wrote: "I am writing to you because there is litter scattered around our local area."*

Year 3 pupils from Sunnymede Junior School have been learning about the art of persuasive writing from their teacher, Miss Aston. On learning that they were to write a letter to a Billericay Town Councillor highlighting issues that concerned them most they were very excited – and according to Miss Aston have produced some of their best pieces of writing. We completely agree!

**"...we need lots more bins in the park because people are just dropping their rubbish on the floor,"** claims April.

The letters covered some very important subjects: the amount of litter and the harm it causes to the environment; danger on the roads and the need for lollipop people; a request for speed bumps in car parks to reduce the danger to children and the elderly; the condition of play equipment near the school, and a desire for more open spaces for people to relax and enjoy the environment.

*Sophia argues that "We should extend fields and parks so more people can get a breath of fresh air."*

"I found the letters to be very persuasive" said Cllr Adam Adshead. "They were thought provoking, well argued and clearly the authors felt very strongly about each of the issues. It was a pleasure to both read the letters and to write replies.

I'm sure Miss Aston is very proud of them; they are certainly a credit to Sunnymede Junior School".

Well done to everyone in the class, and in particular to Kitty, Sophia, April, Isabella, Anya and Hattie whose letters were sent to Cllr Adshead. **A final word from Hattie who says "We only have one place to live so everyone has to protect it."**



## MAYFLOWER SCHOOL AWARDS

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL was very pleased to donate £80 towards Music Award Trophies in support of pupils from years 7, 8, 9, and 10 at Mayflower School.

The Awards Ceremonies were held over two nights. Cllr. Jo Clark, Vice Chairman, presented awards to students from years 7 and 8 on Wednesday July 10th and Chairman Cllr Jim Devlin presented the awards to years 9 and 10 on the following evening. Both evenings were very successful.

Well done to all the students who were a credit to the school and their families and thanks go to the teachers for organising a very successful evening.



## BYTC

### YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

ON MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> youth councillors once again helped at the fourth spectacular Soapbox Derby. Despite the freezing cold weather they remained at their posts beside the track ensuring that all was clear before participants started their run. The event attracted over 8,000 people.

Recently they have had a talk from members of the Tree Wardens Group giving them a greater understanding of the problems created for the landscape when old established trees are felled by unscrupulous developers.

Earlier this year they decided that any profits made from events they held would be put towards a fund to replace the skatepark in Lake Meadows. Arising from this they have been invited by the designers of a skatepark in Southend to view the development shortly.

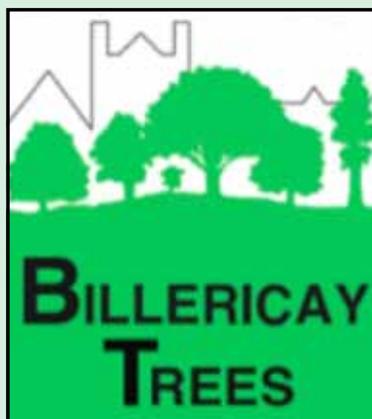
Lastly they are busy creating a video which it is hoped can be used as an advertising tool to help other Billericay young people have a better idea of what the Youth Town Council is about.

## BUY A BRICK

THE MAIN AIM of the new Billericay Town Hall is to provide the community with a modern venue for organisations and societies to meet, for classes to take place, entertainment such as drama and cinema and a hub providing information to residents. A place of social inclusion which will be centrally placed at the very heart of our town.

Individuals and organisations are invited to sponsor this community building by buying a brick and investing in the future of our town. Sponsors individual names, organisation or societies will appear on a scroll so that present and future generations know how community minded our town is.

Do you or your organisation want to contribute to a facility that will provide so much to the community now and in the future? If so the Town Clerk will be pleased to hear from you.



## THE BILLERICAY TREE WARDENS

IT IS HEARTENING to have come across residents who have declared themselves "guardians" of a characterful and mature tree close to their homes. They are keen to fuss about them and fend off any threats to their continuance.

One resident is very proud of "his" 400 year old oak hollowed out with age and missing limbs but it still delivers a fresh set of leaves every spring. Accredited Tree Surgeons know how to keep a tree fit and safe for our amenity in order that its future is assured. It is an oak within a run of old timers that must have marked a border between two farms or estates way back in the mists of time. It's examples like this that gives depth to our town's tree heritage. Standing in its presence, the sense of time is almost tangible.

When the Local Plan is finally agreed, the BTW Group will be pushing for as many mature and characterful existing trees to be landscaped within the new residential developments as possible. At least then some of our town's historical legacy will have survived. Interestingly, developers are required to undertake a tree survey of a New Build site that is required to accompany the Planning Application.



## TUK TUK FUNDRAISER CHALLENGE TO IMPROVE FRASER'S ACCOMMODATION

BILLERICAY CAR FANATIC, Matt Everard, has set himself a new challenge in his supercharged Tuk Tuk to travel from Barry Island (Wales) to Billericay (Essex) on 28th October 2019 in aid of Fraser & Friends. Fraser has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), a muscle wasting disease. More info here: [www.fraserandfriends.com](http://www.fraserandfriends.com)

## TOWN COUNCIL SPRING CLEAN

RESIDENTS JOINED FORCES with Town and Borough Councillors and the 2393 Billericay Air Cadet Squadron for a Litter Pick on Saturday 27th April, targeting the High Street and its surrounding areas including the railway station, Sun Corner, Waitrose car park and Festival Gardens. Everyone collected their equipment from the Town Council offices then set off to tidy up the town. After an hour and a half's work a very impressive haul of over 25 black sacks had been collected. Thanks to all who attended for your help with spring cleaning Billericay.



## TOWN TRAIL WALKS

**SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST AND SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER**

THERE ARE STILL two dates left this year for you to enjoy a walk along the High Street in the company of knowledgeable local guides. If you would like to book a place, then please contact the Town Council office. The walks start from Billericay railway station at 2pm and last around 2 hours.



## BILLERICAY DANCING CLUB

DENIS HART, a resident of Billericay since 1957, founded the Billericay Dancing Club in 1972 along with Edmundo Ros who was Britain's top American band leader in the 40s, 50s and 60s. Mr Ros passed away in 2011 at the grand old age of 101 and Mr Hart wants to keep the club going as long as possible in his memory. Sadly the membership has dwindled from 80 to just 8 so new members are required urgently! The club meets every Wednesday at Buttsbury Infant School, Perry Street from 8pm until 10pm (term time only). There is plenty of free parking. The entry cost is £5.00 per person and includes refreshments. The club covers ballroom, Latin American, sequence, old time, rock and roll and jive. For more details just turn up or contact Denis on 01277 654768.



## BILLERICAY TEAM MINISTRY FOODBANK

IN A RENOVATED space at St. John's Church Outwood Common, the Billericay Foodbank opened its doors just over a year ago. Since then many generous donations of foodstuffs and other essential items have been put on the shelves, thanks to the kindness of church members across Billericay and from individual members of the public, schools, community groups and shoppers at Waitrose and the Co-op in Queen's Park.

We are in regular touch with local schools, the housing office in Outwood Common, doctors' surgeries and other social and welfare organisations, asking them to let people know about the Foodbank. We also use various social media outlets and over time have seen an increasing number of people benefitting from the support we offer.

We are very grateful to those who have already donated goods and offered to give some of their time to help. The Foodbank is currently open on Tuesday afternoons (2-3pm) at St John's Church, Outwood Common and we can receive donations then or on Thursdays between 1.00pm and 2.00pm.

If you want to find out more or know someone who might benefit from the help we offer, please call 07707 466 262 for an informal chat.

## LAKE MEADOWS HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR UK'S BEST PARK 2019 AWARD

Do you love Lake Meadows?  
Celebrate and share why it is so special to you by voting for Lake Meadows!

Voting takes place from July 5th to August 19th.

Please vote by going to  
[www.fieldsintrust.org/best-park/east/lake-meadows](http://www.fieldsintrust.org/best-park/east/lake-meadows)

N.B. 1 vote per email address.

You will receive a return email from the voting system in your Inbox, which you will need to validate for your vote to count.

For further information see [www.lakemeadows.org.uk](http://www.lakemeadows.org.uk) or contact [secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk)

Mobile: 07843 860 135

Friends of Lake Meadows

Registered Charity No 1157058





# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**  
**FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE 2019**  
**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH**  
**AT 7.30PM**  
**EMMANUEL CHURCH**  
**LAINDON ROAD**

THE EVER POPULAR annual Festival of Remembrance concert will be held again this year. Tickets can be booked on line through the link at [www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk) from mid August. There will also be a few tickets held for purchase at Billericay Library and at Slipped Discs, Billericay High Street.

For all enquiries please contact Billericay Town Council on 01277 625732.

**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**  
**SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2019**  
**WAR MEMORIAL**  
**BILLERICAY HIGH STREET**  
**10.30AM**  
**"LEST WE FORGET"**



**ESSEX POLICE FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER PRESENTATION**  
**ST MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH, HIGH STREET**  
**TUESDAY, 19TH NOVEMBER 7.30PM-9.00PM**



**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON SATURDAY**  
**23RD NOVEMBER 2019 AT 3PM**

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL are pleased to announce that the lights switch on will once again take place on Sun Corner, ensuring a safe afternoon of family fun and entertainment for all residents.



## Action Fraud

National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre

**0300 123 2040**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**  
 Action Fraud has experienced an increase in the reporting of malicious calls, voicemails, text messages or emails to members of the public purporting to be from HMRC.

**WHAT YOU NEED TO DO**  
**Always question** unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information. Just because someone knows your basic details (such as your name and contact details), it doesn't mean they are genuine. Instead, contact the company directly using trusted methods such as a known email address or phone number.

**Listen to your instincts.** If something feels wrong then it is usually right to question it. No genuine organisation will ask you to pay taxes, bills or fees using iTunes Gift Cards, or any other type of voucher.

**Don't be rushed** or pressured into making a decision. Under no circumstances would a genuine bank or some other trusted organisation force you to make a financial transaction on the spot.

**Report Phishing attempts.** If you receive a call, text or email of this nature and have not lost money, report this as a phishing attempt to Action Fraud.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

**AUGUST 2019**  
 Tue 6 Planning  
 Tue 20 Planning

**SEPTEMBER 2019**  
 Tue 3 Planning  
 Tue 10 Environment  
 Tue 17 Planning  
 Thur 19 Finance & General Purposes  
 Thur 26 Full Council

**OCTOBER 2019**  
 Tue 1 Planning  
 Tue 15 Planning  
 Tue 22 Environment  
 Tue 29 Planning  
 Thur 31 Finance & General Purposes

**NOVEMBER 2019**  
 Thur 7 Full Council  
 Tue 12 Planning  
 Tue 26 Planning

All meetings are open to the public and press and are held in The Coach House, Crown Yard, unless otherwise stated and start at 7.00pm.

## BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Name	Address	Phone No.	E-Mail	Ward
Clr A Adshead	29 The Meadow Way CM11 2HL	01277 632104	adam.adshead@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr R Chapman	99 Church Street CM11 2TS	01277 657696	robert.chapman@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr J Clark	33 Carson Road CM11 1SA	01277 659842	jo.clark@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr R Clark	1 Wick Glen CM12 OHS	07802 425842	richard.clark@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr M Dear	12 Redwing Drive CM11 2PG	01277 622499	marie.dear@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr J Devlin	231 Perry Street CM12 ONZ	01277 656937	jim.devlin@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr C Dyer	6 Montpelier Close CM12 0UH	01277 625732	colin.dyer@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr J Henshaw	46 The Avenue CM12 9HG	07544 499272	james.henshaw@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr K Herlock	11 Cranmer Close CM12 0YQ	07776 212968	kathryn.herlock@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	SW
Clr L Mitchelmore	The Loft Crown Yard High Street CM12 9BX	01277 625732	lesley.mitchelmore@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr M Moore	47 Laindon Road CM12 9LG	01277 627266	moira.moore@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	SW
Clr C Roberts	77 Tyelands CM12 9PB	07568 346 055	carl.roberts@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr M Roessler	9 Second Avenue CM12 9PR	07760 373070	martin.roessler@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr D Spencer	Fir Tree Lodge 16 Back Lane CM4 9DG	01277 829750	daphne.spencer@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr G Talbot	185 Perry Street CM12 ONX	07983 421686	gareth.talbot@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	SW
Clr A Talboys	8 Wren Close CM11 2YU	01277 657576	alan.talboys@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
Clr M Thomas	39 Chestwood Close CM12 0PB	01277 650453	mark.thomas@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr F Tomlin	2 Ruskin Dene CM12 0AN	01277 625692	frank.tomlin@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr J Tutton	11 Bluebell Wood CM12 0ES	01277 655443	james.tutton@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
CHAIRMAN	Clr Jim Devlin	Telephone:	01277 625732	
TOWN CLERK	Deborah Tonkiss Billericay Town Council The Loft, Crown Yard, High Street Billericay, Essex CM12 9BX	Email: Website:	townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	

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