



Billericay Town Crier

November 2019

www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE EMMANUEL CHURCH, SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER AT 7.30PM

ONCE AGAIN Billericay Town Council has great pleasure in presenting this musical event, with Brian and Beryl Ford organising the music. Now in its 5th year this very popular evening of music combined with traditional aspects from the military is definitely not to be missed.

Tickets are almost sold out, but if you wish to purchase them you can still do so online at www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk or there are a few tickets remaining at the Library and Slipped Discs in the High Street.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE *(The Service starts at 10.50am)* HIGH STREET WAR MEMORIAL 10TH NOVEMBER



AS IN PREVIOUS years Billericay Town Council will again arrange for the closure of the High Street for Remembrance Sunday in Billericay, as this enables our local community to hold a Remembrance Parade.

The High Street will be closed from Sun Corner to the junction with Western Road / Norsey Road from 10:15 until 11:45am. The public car parks will only be accessible before and after that time.

The Parade will start from the Fire Station and proceed along Landon Road, across Sun Corner, and up the High Street to the War Memorial where the Remembrance Service will be held.

THE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER WILL VISIT TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER – 7.30PM AT ST MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH BILLERICAY HIGH STREET

THE TOWN COUNCIL has organised this visit by Mr Roger Hirst, the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, to enable him to engage with the local community and gather information about what people want from their police and fire service. There will be an opportunity for Mr Hirst to discuss what is currently happening with the services and answer any questions residents may have. It is anticipated the meeting will last for about one and a half hours ending at 9.00pm.

Billericay Festival of Remembrance

Saturday 9th November 2019, 7.30pm
Emmanuel Church, Billericay

Doors open 7pm

In support of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Help for Heroes



Book online at: www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

Tickets also available from:
Billericay Library and Slipped Discs Cafe



Billericay Town Council Christmas Lights Switch On

Saturday 23 November
3-4.30pm at Sun Corner



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 • W: 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



OUR TOWN HALL TAKES SHAPE

CONSTRUCTION WORK ON Billericay's new community building by developers A.W.Hardy started in September with site preparation. The hoarding has been temporarily extended to provide better site access from Chantry Way but once complete, rest assured we will be replacing the bench that sat at the top of the hill providing lovely views and re-establishing the grassed area.

Delivery of the structural steels started in early October and within a day sections of the building could clearly be seen. This part of the build moved incredibly fast. The final steels were put in place on the 9th October and at our site visit that day we were able to visualise for the first time the size of key parts of the building such as the 162-seat hall with its 4 metre ceiling and the Community Hub in the entrance lobby. At the time of writing work is now focusing on putting the drainage system in place followed by large slabs of pre-cast concrete which will make up the floor of the building. Weather permitting by the end of November the walls surrounding the ground floor will be visible over the hoardings and by the end of December they should be up to roof height.

Whilst the construction work continues the focus of our Committee moves from the building design to how we will be operating it. Everything from charging rates for the various types of groups to usage procedures and the day-to-day mechanics of running the building as well as identifying all the furniture required will have to be discussed in detail and agreed over the coming months.

The building is scheduled to be handed over to Billericay Town Council by the end of July 2020 at which point we can start the process of moving from our current home in Crown Yard and opening up the building for community use.



Lancaster Bomber (RAF Photo)

LANCASTER BOMBER'S CREW MEMBER FAMILY SEARCH

ON THE NIGHT of 18/19 October 1943 a Lancaster bomber went missing in action on a mission over Hanover and for 75 years the families did not know what happened to their loved ones, nor where their final resting place was. Only recently has it been discovered what happened to the crew.

One of the crew members is on the Billericay War Memorial, Sgt. Ronald Henry Morel and his family will only have known that he was missing/killed in action. His mother Rose lived in Billericay but that is all the information that is known of the family.

If you know of any family of Sgt. Morel please let the Council know so that we can put them in touch with the researchers who have now located the grave site of the crew.



Town Councillors, Town Clerks and Residents

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

ON 13TH SEPTEMBER Town Councillors, Town Clerks and residents attended a half day Mental Health First Aid course at the Town Council offices. The course was delivered free of charge by Lyn Mowforth through a company called Provide for the NHS. The purpose of the course was to give members of the public basic skills in identifying and assisting those who may be vulnerable to mental health issues.

The course gave an overview of mental illnesses and provided a 10 step toolkit on how to maintain good mental health and how to use the skills learnt to help others access assistance and maintain their mental health.

One of the most disturbing facts shared on the course covered suicide. In 2016 there were 5,668 suicides in Great Britain, 400 of those were in Essex. This fact alone made it worthwhile taking this course. Attendees were provided with written material to study after the course which also contained important contact details to share with those suffering mental health issues.

OUR NEW COMMUNITY SPECIAL CONSTABLE REPORTS

THANK YOU FOR the great reception I've had since my appointment into the new CSC role. I have been 'walking the beat' speaking to residents about their concerns and have been working to combat them. It's only been a couple of months since starting the role but issues such as anti-social behaviour are being tackled, especially around the Festival Gardens on Crown Road.

I've had a wonderful meeting with the Friends of Lake Meadows to discuss how I can help. I have been and will continue to complete high visibility and plain clothes patrols in and around Lake Meadows.

I have also completed a advice and safety talk at St Mary Magdalene Church in Great Burstead which was great fun and sparked a lot of great conversations.

If you see me around – don't be shy, say hello!

THOMAS SIMONS – Billericay Community Special Constable



There is still one vacancy for a Community Special Constable in Billericay. Why not apply and join Thomas Simons in making a difference to our town. For more information go to:
www.essex.police.uk/join-the-police/special-constabulary/billericay-community-special-constables/

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE BECOMES HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AT A RECENT Town Council meeting the role of the Environment Committee and Town Council regarding the well-being of residents was discussed. The five key areas of well-being concern: learning disabilities, mental health, social isolation, activity, diet and obesity.

There was agreement that many of the Environment Committee's responsibilities have always focussed on the well-being of residents with for example: litter picks, maintaining open spaces such as the Jim Shields and Festival Gardens, maintenance of the children's play area at Outwood Common, Billericay in Bloom, Tree Wardens Working Party, the Christmas lights switch on, and town trails. Additionally, the Town Council recently hosted a half day course on Mental Health First Aid. The meeting noted the EALC's supportive comments regarding well-being.

In the light of the discussion it was decided to change the name of the Environment Committee to the **Health, Well-Being and Environment Committee** to better reflect the well-being aspect of the roles and responsibilities of the Committee and the Town Council.



YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL SHARES EXPERIENCE

ON 1ST OCTOBER the Parish Clerk and two councillors from Stansted Mountfichet Parish Council came along to observe a Youth Town Council meeting as they are looking to set up their own youth council.

Maureen Caton, Chair of Stansted Mountfichet Parish Council, said afterwards that they really appreciated being allowed to visit and get the benefit of Billericay's experience in setting up and promoting a Youth Council, and that all the information they gleaned will be invaluable. The visitors particularly enjoyed the video that the youth council had made during the summer to attract members. This will be shown in school assemblies and be available to view on the BYTC facebook page as well as the Town Council's website.

There are currently five vacancies for youth councillors so if you would like to apply or to find out more about the role then please contact the Town Clerk.

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.

We would like to thank residents and businesses who have already indicated they would like to contribute.



DAVID BREMNER'S LAST TOWN WALK

17 PEOPLE ATTENDED the Town Walk on Sunday 22nd September despite the forecast of rain in the afternoon. The walk was led by David Bremner, chair of the Billericay Society, ably assisted by Robert Reeves. The most positive feedback received came from people who had lived in Billericay many years, and thought that they knew its history, but were pleasantly surprised by places that they had not visited before or knew the interesting story of their existence – presented with good humour, despite the rain.

Billericay's involvement with nature and climate change goes back 500,000 years to when the Anglian ice sheet, some 1km deep, pushed the River Thames from its ancient estuary at Clacton to Southend – flooding Billericay in the process. Leaving behind finely ground sand and clay suitable for making bricks. There is simple evidence of continuous occupation on our 315 foot geographical outcrop from the Mesolithic Stone Age. Affording fine views over the surrounding countryside and the local rivers Thames, Crouch and Blackwater. Mesolithic hand axes and copped trees, 55-350 AD Romans; 500s the Saxons; replaced by Normans' 7 manors; 1293 market; 1342 chapel; 1381 Peasants revolt; 1620 and 1672. One could go on, but sadly this was David's last Town Walk after 17 years.

Although the walks will continue, the Town Council thanks David for leading the walks and sharing the history of the town.

LAKE MEADOWS WINS EAST OF ENGLAND'S UK'S BEST PARK AWARD 2019

LAKE MEADOWS is the 'Jewel in the Crown' locally and Billericay can feel proud that the park has recently become the East of England's Best Park in a national competition.

The charity, Fields in Trust, runs the annual, nationwide awards. Nine regions take part and in the East of England 37 local parks and green spaces were nominated this year. These nominations were then put to a public vote. Following voting from all those who use and love the park, it won the regional award and now officially has "Much Loved" status, putting it within the top 20% of all parks nominated nationally.

FoLM Chairman, Charles Novis said, "We are delighted that the park has received this prestigious award and thank all those who voted. Our Friends group helps care for the park. Our team of twenty volunteer gardeners look after all the gardens weekly, as well as creating new garden areas. Over the past seven years, we have completed several improvement projects, such as the gym equipment, information boards, baby changing facility and the wizard and dragon. We run large and small events, including walks and talks about the wildlife. We hope even more people will now support the work that we do by joining the Friends of Lake Meadows. Even if you are unable to actually volunteer, your membership can help us to care for the park." For more information about the park, see www.lakemeadows.org.uk



LOCAL ELECTIONS 2020

ALL THE COUNCILLORS on Billericay Town Council are elected every four years and on 7th May 2020 there will be an election to fill the 20 seats on the Council. Should you be interested in standing 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. No special skills are required just a desire to serve the community by helping to keep Billericay a great place to be.



SUNDAY MATINÉE
A cuppa, a slice of cake
and a bit of a natter



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SCREENING

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

17 NOVEMBER - 2:30PM

**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER
AT 2:30PM IN BILLERICAY LIBRARY**

BILLERICAY COMMUNITY CINEMA is screening this iconic film. It is open to anyone who fancies something to do on a Sunday afternoon. Our friendly team of volunteers will be on hand to welcome you and ensure that you have an enjoyable time.

We particularly welcome those who find going out in the evenings a little challenging and those living with dementia, their carers, family and friends. The lights will be a little higher than usual, the sound a little lower and we have an interval for people to take a break. Dementia Friends and experts will be on hand to provide support and to answer any questions you might have.

Tickets are £4.00 and include tea/freshly brewed coffee and cake – plus an opportunity to meet and socialise with others. Other reasonably priced refreshments are available, including freshly made popcorn! Tickets are available from billericaycine.com and from Billericay Library reception.



**CHRISTMAS MARKET
SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER**

THIS YEAR'S Billericay Christmas Market promises to be one of the most welcoming. Now in its eleventh year the Mayflower Rotarians have taken on its organisation.

The Market Day opens at 11am with a Santa Claus parade along the High Street. As usual the road will be closed to traffic for the day enabling the public to mingle freely among the many Christmas gift stalls, food stalls and entertainers.

Santa then moves to his grotto to welcome young people at the Women's Institute Hall in St Edith's Lane. Nearby the town's main car park will have a children's fairground and other attractions for young people; two public stages will host talented local musicians, singers and dancers in a full five hour programme; and impromptu performances by local dance groups will add to the day's fun. Meanwhile carol singing choirs will provide a continuous reminder of the Christmas message in St Mary Magdalen Church where tea or coffee will be available.

Up to 20,000 people are expected to attend before the market closes at 5pm. Mayflower Rotary's operations team will then restore the High Street to normal by 10pm. Market Day is a happy and carefree event for the people of Billericay.

**GIANT FAMILY FUN DAY BAZAAR
24TH NOVEMBER – 10AM-3PM
HANNIKINS FARM, ROSEBAY AVENUE,
BILLERICAY, CM12 OSY**

Father Christmas, gift and craft stalls,
face painting, free craft table,
home made cakes and tea.
Singer Daren Francis.
More info tel: 01277 627224

BILLERICAY CHORAL SOCIETY

**AUTUMN CONCERT PERFORMANCE
FAURE REQUIEM AND
RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
FANTASIA ON CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**7.30PM – SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH,
111 CHURCH STREET, GREAT BURSTEAD,
BILLERICAY CM11 2TR**

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:
CHRIS KEMPSON ON 01277 656443.**

**TOWN COUNCIL
MEETINGS**

NOVEMBER 2019

Thur 7 Full Council
Tue 12 Planning
Tue 26 Planning

DECEMBER 2019

Tue 3 H, W & Environment
Tue 10 Planning
Thur 12 Finance & GP
Thur 19 Full Council
Mon 30 Planning

JANUARY 2020

Tue 14 Planning
Tue 21 H, W & Environment
Tue 28 Planning
Thur 30 Finance & GP

FEBRUARY 2020

Thur 6 Full Council
Tue 11 Planning
Tue 25 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 OUH	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 OYQ	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 Kim Mordecai	18 Hilary Mount CM12 9JS	01277 659717	kim.mordecai@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	E
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 OPB	01277 650453	mark.thomas@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr F Tomlin	2 Ruskin Dene CM12 OAN	01277 625692	frank.tomlin@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk	W
Clr J Tutton	11 Bluebell Wood CM12 OES	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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