

PROGRESS

Littlehampton Town Council's Newsletter



Inside this edition:

- Child's play for all
- Cash boost for organisations
- Grab that Jab!

? WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?

Confused by the 3 tiers of local government providing services in Littlehampton?
Here is a guide to each Council's responsibilities



Museum



Allotments



Youth Services



Grants



Street Scene & Graffiti Removal



Rosemead Park



Venues for Hire



Southfields Community Centre

littlehampton-tc.gov.uk ☎ 01903 732063



Housing



Dog Offences



Council Tax



Environmental Health



Planning



Public Conveniences



Visitor Information



Waste



Beaches



Car Parks

arun.gov.uk ☎ 01903 737500



Births, Marriages & Death



Roads & Travel



Health & Social Care



Education, children & families



Waste



Libraries



Streetlights



Fire & Rescue Service

westsussex.gov.uk ☎ 01243 777100

Weddings

at The Manor House
Littlehampton



Grade II Listed Building
Grand Setting

01903 732063

littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/weddings
weddings@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Covid-secure
measures in place

SOUTHFIELDS JUBILEE CENTRE



**TWO HALLS
KITCHEN
FREE CAR PARK
INTERNAL
COURTYARD GARDEN**



BOOKINGS@LITTLEHAMPTON-TC.GOV.UK
WWW.LITTLEHAMPTON-TC.GOV.UK



Mayor's Message

The dark months of winter do seem especially bleak this year, but there are some positives to look forward to:



Firstly, the vaccine roll-out offers real hope for the not-too-distant future. If you haven't had a letter telling you that it's your turn, please be patient; you won't be forgotten and you will be contacted. Our frontline health workers are doing an incredible job, so in the meantime please comply with the guidance and help everyone to stay safe and well.

The second virtual ray of sunshine is the way in which our community has come together since the pandemic began. The goodness and kindness in our town is truly heart-warming, with charities, organisations and individuals giving fantastic support and practical help to those in need. I am so proud of all that has been achieved, and continues to be achieved, and I thank all those concerned for their dedication and commitment.

I know it is tough being locked down or having your movement restricted, but we all need to dig a little bit deeper for a little bit longer – we're on the home stretch. Don't be shy of tapping into all the resources available and if you aren't sure about something then do please ask. You'll find contact details for your local Councillor on the Town Council's website. You elected us and, where appropriate, helping you is what we are here for.

Please stay well, continue to follow the guidance and keep supporting one another. We WILL come through this.

With all good wishes,

Councillor David Chace, Town Mayor

Contact the Mayor

✉ mayor@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk
f @littlehamptonmayor



The Mayor's SHOUT-OUT

Littlehampton Community Fridge

Having witnessed first-hand the wonderful work done by Sarah Renfrey and her team of volunteers, I can confirm that this fantastic local resource not only saves hundreds of tonnes of food going to waste, but also provides for hundreds of residents. I sincerely thank all those involved from the bottom of my heart for their efforts. If you can offer support with donations of time or money, please get in touch.

f [littlehamptoncommunityfridge](https://www.facebook.com/littlehamptoncommunityfridge)

Littlehampton Community Fridge is located at St James the Great Church in East Ham Road check Facebook for opening hours.



Latest News

- Census day is 21 March 2021. Find out more at census.gov.uk
- Children's activities providers apply **NOW** for funding for summer sessions. See our website for details.
- For updates on local events see our sister website www.visitlittlehampton.co.uk
- Littlehampton Museum is still available online with its galleries and range of resources visit www.littlehamptonmuseum.co.uk.

CORONAVIRUS

Visit our website for details of organisations able to assist you and your family during the Covid-19 pandemic.

🏠 [littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/coronavirus)



- The activities, projects and initiatives mentioned in this issue are all subject to change to reflect latest Government Guidelines on Covid-19.

Sign up for the digital version of Progress for more in depth stories and additional news as it breaks.



www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/progress-newsletter

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Published by Littlehampton Town Council, The Manor House, Church Street, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 5EW 01903 732063 lrc@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk
© Littlehampton Town Council.
Design and print production RWP GROUP Littlehampton 01903 732590



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left to right Town Mayor Councillor David Chace, Sutcliffe Play Area Manager, Simon Preston and Lloyd Parvin-Blackstone



Child's play for all

Access for all was the inspiration behind the refurbishment and reimagining of the Town's much-loved Rosemead Playground. Officially declared open by Town Mayor Councillor David Chace on Saturday 18th December, 10-year-old Lloyd Parvin-Blackstone cut the ribbon. Lloyd's views helped in the redesign of the playground, which was delivered by Littlehampton Town Council and constructed by Sutcliffe Play.

Designed for children up to the age of 14 and including specific features to ensure happy and productive play, Lloyd, who has autism, wrote to the Council expressing his wish for a playground where everyone could play, even if they were confined to a wheelchair – "I think parks should be for everyone, the disabled and abled. We like playing together."

Listening and acting on Lloyd's thoughts, which echoed many others heard during the consultation process, LTC briefed Sutcliffe Play accordingly. Funded from Capital Receipts Reserves the project cost a total of £137,398 which includes a generous contribution of £12,000 from Anesco.



Chair of the Community Resources Committee, Councillor

Billy Blanchard-Cooper said: "I am absolutely thrilled with the playground. Sutcliffe Play has managed to create a fun, safe and inclusive space for children of all ages and abilities. This new facility will bring much life to Rosemead Park and provide hours of fun for children and families. After the year we have had, it is nice to end it with something so positive for the whole community."



Bear hugs to remember Chris



A lover of teddy bears whose final show as President of the Littlehampton Musical Comedy Society was Goldilocks and the Three Bears, the late and well-respected Councillor Chris Blanchard-Cooper now has a lasting and unique memorial in Mewsbrook Park. Unveiled in September, a trio of wooden teddy bears were dedicated to the former Arun District Councillor, who sadly passed away unexpectedly last Spring. More than £3,500 was raised towards the statues, which incorporate references to Chris' involvement with the Bonfire Society and Friends of Mewsbrook Park, his widow Billy hopes the bears will bring smiles to many for years to come.



You're hired!

Apprenticeships provide real opportunities for young people trying to enter the employment market. Three apprentices have been valued members of the Town Council's team during the past 18 months and each has found the experience rewarding.



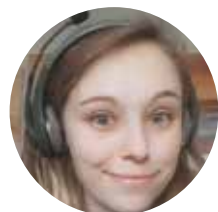
"I have gained many skills, but most of all I have grown in confidence through the experience. Working with a variety of people in the Town has developed both my communication skills and

confidence, whilst learning a lot of transferrable skills which will be valuable through my career," said **Emily Jordan**, who has been supporting Committee & Administration.



"You learn on the go and it also prepares you for what the industry itself is like," agreed **Chloe Brown-Felpts**, who has worked in Events. "I now have the skills to successfully plan an event; I have

gained knowledge in running websites and social media accounts, and admin skills. I work closely with members of the community which has really helped my confidence, as I am always speaking to new people and liaising with contractors and entertainers. The pandemic forced us to cancel our annual events, so I have learnt new skills in the world of virtual events."



"Even if you're a little older, and have been out of school for a little while, it can still be a valuable hands-on experience that can take you from one career step to another," added **Jay**

Thomson, who has been working with

Corporate & Business Support.

Each expressing their gratitude to the Town Council and their colleagues, in turn the Council is appreciative of the trio's hard work and their positive attitudes.

In September 2020, the Government launched new incentives to help businesses to invest in the skills they need to recover and grow as part of the Government's Plan for Jobs. Employers have until 31 March 2021 to sign up for the apprentice cash boost and are being offered up to £2,000 for each new apprentice they hire.



For details on the Apprentice Cash boost go to apprenticeships.gov.uk/employers/financial-incentives



Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine champion Councillor Mike Northeast promoting its importance.

That's the advice of NHS Flu Champion Councillor Mike Northeast, who is urging others to get that vital Flu shot.

"I became a Flu/vaccine Champion because I wanted to dispel myths and change perceptions about the Flu jab and COVID-19 vaccine whilst making people aware of their availability to all adults", explained Mike.

Pointing out the importance of getting a flu jab Mike says "as the current campaign states, it's not 'Just' the Flu, it's a killer that takes thousands of lives every year and puts many more in hospital. The best protection is to have a Flu jab, which is free for a lot more people now."

He urged all residents to check their eligibility for the jab, adding that immune systems would benefit from being clear of Flu before the COVID jab is administered.

Please don't contact your GP about your COVID-19 vaccination, they will contact you.

Mike told Progress, "Vaccination is the way to beat both these killer viruses. It's quick, it's easy and it saves lives. Grab that jab!"

"If there is a problem getting to your COVID-19 vaccination centre please call the Community Hub helpline on 033 022 27980, don't let it stop you keeping your appointment."



For information about the Flu jab and Covid-19 vaccine see nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations



Littlehampton Town Council's Budget 2021/22



The Town Council has agreed its budget for the forthcoming year and like previous years key services such as allotments, grants and events have been protected whilst also allowing new facilities and services to be brought forward.

Speaking at Full Council, Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Dr James Walsh KStJ, said: "Like many other Councils, our income has been impacted by the pandemic with losses being largely offset by the cancelling of last year's events, this year's budget envisages a full programme of events being delivered. The budget also provides the financial package to support the new capital project, namely the new youth facility and the forthcoming North Littlehampton Community Centre."

The Council has agreed a 2% increase in Council Tax for a Band D Council Taxpayer. This represents a £2.53 per annum/just under 5p per week increase.

The Council is spending £1,138,099 from its reserves, this is excluded from the Council Tax. £1,041,193 of this is for the new youth centre. These figures are for the Town Council's part of the Council Tax, for other elements residents need to check their Council tax bill when it arrives from Arun District Council.


Total Budgeted Revenue Expenditure	£3,030,425
Total Budgeted Income	£580,645
Net Budgeted Revenue Expenditure	£2,449,780
Financed By	
Precept	£1,311,681
Reserves	£1,138,099
Total	£2,449,780
Band D Council Tax 2019/20	£128.84
Increase in Band D tax	2.00%


Cash boost for organisations


Charities and not for profit organisations have been especially hard hit by the pandemic, with all but very few fundraising events cancelled. But the Town Council's Grant Aid fund will continue to support local groups and charities in 2021.


A local resource that has seen a significant demand for its services during the pandemic, last year's beneficiaries include Littlehampton & District Food Bank and Life Centre, where the funding will enable it to provide free specialist trauma counselling.

Expenditure Breakdown



Democratic Representation
& Management
8.79%



Community
8.86%



Town Management
6.54%



Southfields
Jubilee Centre
2.90%


Community Grants &
Partnership Initiatives
2.75%



Parks & Open Spaces
3.22%



Planning & Transportation
0.66%


Project 82 &
Youth Provision
3.74%



Manor House Room Hire
0.40%


Museum
6.45%


Corporate Management
9.19%


Allotments
2.71%


Street Lighting
0.06%


New Youth Facility
43.73%

Chair of the Community Resources Committee, Councillor Billy Blanchard-Cooper said: "With a pot of £21,000, the annual funding programme invites applications from charitable or not-for-profit clubs, groups or organisations providing services to the benefit of Littlehampton residents. The process runs from 1 April to 14 May."



Application Forms available online
littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/grants



Bridge named for dedicated Councillor and local hero



Part of new by-pass bridge over Toddington Lane, to be named 'The Tony Squires Bridge'.



Councillor Mike Northeast has persuaded West Sussex County Council, Arun District Council and Network Rail to name the new road bridge over the railway at Toddington 'The Tony Squires Bridge' in memory of the late Councillor.

In addition to the bridge naming, Tony will be remembered through a dedicated tree in the Manor House garden which his wife Wendy planted with Town Mayor Councillor David Chace last year.



Tony was not only a good friend; he was also my mentor when I

was first elected with him for Ham Ward over thirty years ago. With the blessing of Tony's wife Wendy this will be a fitting memorial to a man who was a well-loved Councillor amongst residents and colleagues and was a staunch advocate of the Lyminster by-pass. He also worked on the railway for many years. Not many people know that he was the guard on the train involved in the Purley rail crash in 1989 and that he selflessly risked his own life to help many passengers to safety. I'm so pleased that Tony will be remembered for all the good he did and all the love he gave in whatever he did, R.I.P. Tony Squires.



A Good Time to...



As we enter a new and hopefully brighter year, Town Councillors have reflected on the positives of lockdown to create ideas for you to incorporate into a 'life laundry' spring clean.

Growing and green spaces



We have really appreciated our gardens and green spaces during the lockdowns.

Demand for allotments has risen, people are growing more produce and we are spending more time in our parks. We have discovered that you can grow everything from flowers to fruit even in window boxes and the National Allotment Society has very useful resources online.

Freshen-up your finances



Give your finances a health check. Look for potential savings on utilities and the best return on savings and if it makes sense, switch.

If you are struggling with debt then contact CAP Debt Centre for free today on 0800 328 0006, they offer advice and support.

Cook up a storm



Cooking from scratch is cheaper and healthier and the whole family can get involved and have fun in the kitchen. If you have sharpened your culinary skills during lockdown, why not consider volunteering as a baker with Littlehampton's Free Cakes for Kids (search on Facebook)?

Fitting fitness in



A good walk along the seafront or in one of the Town's parks will support good physical and mental health. Remember: Keep fit but comply with the guidance.

See www.visitlittlehampton.co.uk for inspiration.



CORONAVIRUS

STAY HOME SAVE LIVES

Find out more at
gov.uk/coronavirus









YOUR Councillors Who represents you and how to contact them

Beach Ward



Councillor Billy Blanchard-Cooper

☎ 01903 718300 / 07772 606751

✉ billy.blanchard-cooper@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Dr James Walsh KStJ

☎ 01903 773771 / 07973 217243

✉ james.walsh@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Brookfield Ward



Councillor David Chace

☎ 01903 722822 (work) / 07790 235070

✉ david.chace@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Jo Price

☎ 07715 150624

✉ jo.price@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Andrea Turner

☎ 07950 411274

✉ andrea.turner@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Courtwick with Toddington Ward



Councillor Jill Long

☎ 07742 970983

✉ jill.long@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Vicky Rhodes

☎ 07956 574806

✉ vicky.rhodes@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Freddie Tandy

☎ 07748 294666

✉ freddie.tandy@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

River Ward



Councillor Ian Buckland

☎ 07986 488982

✉ ian.buckland@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Michelle Molloy

☎ 01903 732063

✉ michelle.molloy@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



Councillor Emily Seex

☎ 07934 341271

✉ emily.seex@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Wick Ward



Councillor Tracey Baker

☎ 01903 856539 / 07852 217415

✉ tracey.baker@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Wickbourne Ward



Councillor Mike Northeast

☎ 01903 732063

✉ mike.northeast@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Meeting Dates



March – May 2021

March

Mon 1 Planning & Transportation

Mon 15 Policy & Finance

Thu 18 Community Resources

Mon 22 Property & Personnel

Thu 25 Full Council

Mon 29 Planning & Transportation

April

Thu 15 Community Resources

Thu 22 Annual Town Meeting

Mon 26 Planning & Transportation

May

Thu 13 Full Council

Mon 24 Planning & Transportation

For details on how these meetings will be held (remotely or in person) see

🏠 www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/committee-meetings