

Spring 2018



Bognor Regis Town Council

OUR TOWN



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A message from the Mayor

Cllr. Phil Woodall

It has been an honour and privilege to have served as your Town Mayor for the last year. It has been an amazing opportunity to meet with and learn about so many of the wonderful organisations and charities we are lucky to have within Bognor Regis and has offered a real insight into the extraordinary work they do.

Highlights of the year have included being the first on the ice (and the first to fall over) at the 'ice skating on the Prom' rink which was on the Place St Maur over the Christmas period. A huge success, and one we hope to welcome again in the future. I was also given the opportunity to promote this wonderful seaside Town of ours on various Radio stations, including Radio 2, UK Talk Radio and BBC Sussex.



My charities for this year have been Alzheimer's Society & Epilepsy Action, who I have been raising funds for.



As a Patron of Stonepillow I visited the hostel in Ellasdale Road earlier this year. It is fantastic to see how they are expanding to meet the growing need for important and life changing places such as these.

I was also present at the grand unveiling of the new anti-gravity treadmill for Age UK at the Laburnum Centre in February, which is one of only 150 machines throughout the country, most of which are in closed units, military bases or private hospitals, and not readily available to the wider community, as this one will be.

The treadmill will be used for local people who suffer with cerebral palsy or neurological problems and will do wonders for recovery following knee and hip operations.

I will be holding my 'Scare the Mayor' week from Monday 7th May, during which I shall be challenging myself to step beyond my comfort zone to take on different activities including water walking and going on a zip wire. More information will be published in the local paper nearer the time if you would like to come along to show your support for me and my charities!

To conclude, I would like to offer a positive insight into the regeneration happening in the Town right now.

Many of the empty units in Town are starting to be filled, which is an exciting opportunity to welcome new businesses and promote retail growth in the Town centre. With a new play park along the seafront, a redesigned adventure golf course at Hotham Park, the almost complete expansion of the Picturedrome Cinema, and many more exciting projects such as the developments taking shape at Butlin's, and the University of Chichester's Bognor Campus, things are really starting to look bright for Sunniest Bognor Regis.



Our Budget 2018/2019

Dear Resident

As we enter the last year of this administration we are going Forward with a Council that is in good shape Financially.

We will continue to contribute towards vital local services such as the 2 Hour Free Parking Scheme and CCTV. Awarding Grant Aid Funds will enable us to continue in supporting local organisations in recognition of the valuable work they do.

In addition to providing Free-to-attend events, the Town Council is proud to allocate Funds to promoting the Town, as a whole, to visitors to help boost the local economy.

Details on the budget can be Found on the Town Council website www.bognorregis.gov.uk

Cllr. Adam Cunard
Chairman
Policy and Resources Committee



BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE

Total Revenue Expenditure	£780,590
Total Capital Expenditure	£125,426
Total Expenditure	£906,016
Less Income	£63,300
Net Budgeted Expenditure	£842,716
Plus Replenishment of Reserves	£35,939
Precept	£878,655

BUDGET FIGURES

	Events & Christmas Activities	5.15%
	Partnership Working	3.76%
	Projects & Event Support	22.69%
	Floral Displays with sponsorship	5.60%
	Tourism & Visitor Info incl. Promotion	0.62%
	Street Scene Enhancements	2.85%
	Allotments	0.31%
	Highways & Transport	0.49%
	Democratic & Corporate Management	45.38%
	Weather Recording	1.09%
	Replenishment to Reserves	4.09%
	Grant Aid Funds	7.97%

LOCAL GOVERNMENT – who does what?

There is often confusion as to which Council is responsible for the governance of local services. In Bognor Regis there are three tiers of local government and shown below are their main areas of responsibility.

Bognor Regis Town Council

Is responsible for:

Allotments; Organising and promoting Town events; Town Force; Sponsored planting; Some benches; Input on planning applications; Seafront beacon; Improvement of signage and restoration of neglected architectural features; Dealing with graffiti; Seafront showers; In Bloom; Picturedrome cinema building; Specific street lights and Supporting local organisations and events via a grants programme.



Contact: www.bognorregis.gov.uk
Telephone: 01243 867744

Arun District Council

Is responsible for:

Environmental Health; Revenue (Council Tax collection); Housing; Leisure; Recreation (Parks); Planning Applications; Economic and cultural development; Regeneration; Elections and waste collection.



Contact: www.arun.gov.uk
Telephone: 01903 737500

West Sussex County Council

Provides 80% of services including:

Maintaining roads and footpaths; Social Services for adults and children; Schools; Waste Disposal; Libraries; Registrar Services; Trading Standards and Fire and Rescue Service.



Contact: www.westsussex.gov.uk
Telephone: 01243 777100

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engaging with you, our community, can add real momentum to our projects. Listening to your ideas, issues and concerns allows us to build on our understanding and get better results in what we set out to achieve.

Community engagement has been a real focus for the Town Council this year, with new approaches adopted in how we communicate with those that live and work in our Town.



This broad-based community engagement process has included;

- Extending public question time, at Community Engagement and Environment Committee Meetings held every other month, to allow for in-depth discussions between members of the public, and Councillors, in attendance.
- Introducing Community Engagement Forum sessions, held in the months between scheduled committee meetings, at local schools and community centres.
- Councillor Surgeries held at local venues on a regular basis.
- 'Pop-up' drop-in surgeries allowing members of the public to talk with Councillors about their concerns and issues.

A Youth Worker has been engaged, on a six-month contract, with a remit to reach out to the young people within our community. It is hoped that further funding can be secured to expand the service.

The Council has engaged with young people on collaborative art projects and are currently working on delivering a 'Playing Out' scheme which not only allows children to play safely within the environment in which they live but can encourage other residents to come out and engage, helping tackle loneliness and isolation. If you would like to get involved with this scheme, then please contact us.

Your Ward Councillors are happy to discuss your ideas so please do get in touch with them.

BOGNOR REGIS IN BLOOM

Our Working Group continue to promote the green-fingered amongst us. 2017 was the first time that a category for child entrants was included in our Bognor Regis in Bloom Annual Awards competition. Winners were presented with a trophy, plaque, and certificate by the Mayor at an awards evening. It is hoped that this year will see even more children becoming involved with the award, in addition to their schools taking part in our produce growing competition.

Our popular 'Grow a Pumpkin for Halloween' competition will take place again this year at the Rox Halloween event in Hotham Park. Entry forms for this will be available on our website soon.



ALLOTMENTS

Town Council allotments, on Gravitts Lane and Sandringham Way, are available to rent at a very reasonable cost. There are a total of 142 allotments that range in size from small to large depending on the amount of time you can spare to work on them. If you are interested in taking on an allotment, contact us on 01243 825535 and we will add your name to the waiting list.



TOWN FORCE

Our Town Force team continues to improve the appearance of the Town and provide a quick response to issues raised by residents. This small team of highly-adaptable, multi-skilled individuals help to keep the Town tidy, well maintained and attractive.

Their support at Town Council organised events is relied upon and helps us to deliver these enjoyable experiences for all. The quality of their work is well regarded, and the team offers their services to businesses and residents. Should you wish to obtain a quote from Town Force, please email bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk.

Our Councillors

HATHERLEIGH WARD



Damien Enticott
LABOUR
T: 07828 384843
E: cllr.enticott@gmail.com

HOTHAM WARD



Steve Goodheart
SBI
T: 07989 264103
E: goodheartsigns@live.co.uk



Stephen Reynolds
CONSERVATIVE
T: 07976 268714
E: cctv@liveclick.co.uk



Martin Smith
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
T: 07791 001274
E: martin.smith003@hotmail.co.uk



Mrs Jeanette Warr
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
T: 01243 827061/07814 340588
E: jinny_chapman@uwclub.net

MARINE NORTH WARD



Tony Gardiner
CONSERVATIVE
T: 01243 262977/07547 397856
E: sandratony@talktalk.net

MARINE WARD



Jim Brooks
INDEPENDENT
T: 01243 861066
E: jim.brooks@btconnect.com



Martin Lineham
UKIP
T: 01243 262900
E: martin061081@gmail.com



Matt Stanley
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
T: 07513 406697
E: matt.stanley1983@hotmail.com

ORCHARD WARD



Kenton Batley
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
T: 01243 945146
E: kenton.batley@bognorregis.gov.uk



Jan Cosgrove
LABOUR
T: 08432 894991
E: jancosgrove1945@gmail.com



William Toovey
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
T: 01243 861456/07946 778373
E: william0toovey@gmail.com



Phil Woodall
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
T: 07502 617451
E: philwoodall61@hotmail.com

PEVENSEY WARD



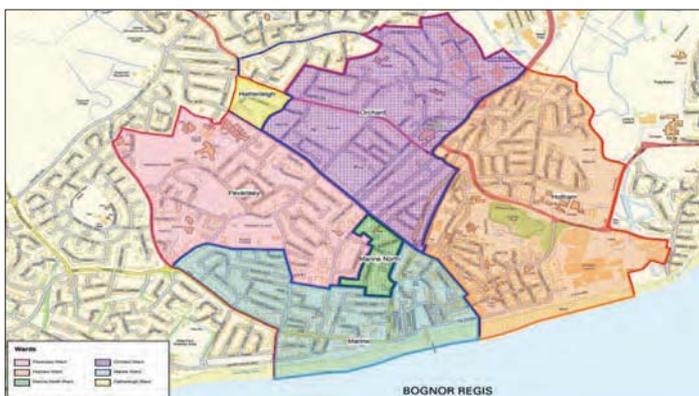
Adam Cunard
INDEPENDENT
T: 01243 822388
E: adam@bognorcinema.co.uk



Mrs Sandra Daniells
INDEPENDENT
T: 01243 823350/07790 291030
E: sandrawsx@hotmail.com



Pat Dillon
CONSERVATIVE
T: 07881 968582
E: Dillon.51@uwclub.net



Larger map available to view on our website

Stand For What You Believe In

What would you do to make your local area better?

Do you want to make a difference?

In May 2019 the local Town Council Elections will be held and in Bognor Regis 16 Members will be elected to the Town Council. One of them could be you.



Many people believe that to be a Councillor they must be affiliated to a political party or group but, in fact, many Town and Parish Councillors stand as independent representatives and are totally unpolitical. Either way a Town Councillor is elected to serve and represent the residents who vote for them and strive to improve the community, its facilities and services.

There are some sectors of society who are still under-represented on local Councils such as those under 45, women and people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) backgrounds; perhaps you are from one of these communities and would like to be their voice? Two of our current Town Councillors offer their thoughts as ambassadors of under-represented sectors below.

**STAŃ PO TO,
W CO WIERZYSZ!**

If English is not your first language, then it needn't be a barrier to standing for election.

If you can speak fluent English, understand the spoken word and read reports written in English, then becoming a Town Councillor would be a huge benefit, as a representative of an under-represented sector of our society, to so many of our residents living and working in Bognor Regis.



Cllr. Sandra Daniells PEVENSEY WARD

If you have an interest in the Town, and a little time to spare, why not consider standing for election to Bognor Regis Town Council in May 2019?

For the Council to work most effectively, committed and enthusiastic team players are needed from diverse backgrounds and ages, with a broad range of skills and experience, so that all parts of our community are fully represented. More female councillors would be especially welcomed!

Just some of the things we work together on are events, planning, environmental and community projects and visitor promotion.

You don't need to be a political expert, just a local resident who really cares and who wants to have a direct influence on policy and decision making for the benefit of our Town.

If you'd like to know more about the role, or how to stand for election, you are always welcome to attend a council meeting, contact any of the Councillors, or attend one of the candidate information evenings next year.



Cllr. Martin Smith HOTHAM WARD

If you're under the age of 30, there is nothing stopping you from putting your stamp on the Council.

Speaking as someone who was elected at the age of 25, if you have a passion for local politics, age need not stand in your way. Our own creative streak and drive can be useful to steer the Council and we welcome young people.

If you fancy your hand at local politics, then please stand for election and make a difference.

If you are interested in your Town why not consider representing your community, either independently or as a member of a political party? Come and talk to us to find out more. We can give you the advice, information and support you need to take your first steps towards helping make your local area better.

Hire a Crier!

Since her first appearance at our Drive Through Time Motor Gala, last July, the Town Crier has made a huge success of the role. Jane regularly appeared in Town delivering weekly proclamations, meeting and greeting members of the public and traders, and promoting all that the Town has to offer.

Her reputation was further enhanced when she won the category for the 'Best Dressed Town Crier' at the 65th National Town Crier's Competition at Hastings in October.

In addition to the voluntary work that Jane carries out for the Town Council she is also bookable by individuals and organisations for private engagements at a very reasonable rate. Please contact us for further details or visit our website.



What is Twinning all about?

Have you ever wondered what those road signs mean as you approach Bognor Regis - the ones that say 'Welcome to Bognor Regis, twinned with Saint Maur des Fossés, Weil am Rhein and Trebbin'?

Town Twinning was set up after the Second World War to encourage friendly contact between Britain and countries in Europe at a local level. Bognor Regis has been officially partnered with Saint Maur des Fossés, an elegant town on the river Marne, near Paris, and even nearer to Disneyland Europe, since 1980. In 1987 we linked with the town of Weil am Rhein, situated in the southwest corner of Germany, where Switzerland, France and Germany join, and in 1994 we officially twinned with Trebbin, a small town south of Berlin, in the former German Democratic Republic.

These relationships are not just something written on a sign, or filed in official documents at the Town Hall; they are true bonds of friendship stretching across the Channel encouraging an understanding of each other's culture and history. Bognor Regis Twinning Association, a small but active voluntary organisation, welcomes about 50 visitors from our two German twin towns every 3 years. By supporting with a grant this year, Bognor Regis Town Council made it possible for the Twinning Association to continue their student programme, whereby free places are offered on these trips to two or three young people. An affiliated group runs an exchange to our French twin town every two years, with a return visit in the interim year. From time to time the Twinning Association also runs sporting, rambling and musical exchanges.

The Twinning Association hold social events to not only raise much-needed funds, but also provide great opportunities for members to meet together and have a good time. The most successful annual event is the Beaujolais Bistro, a French style luncheon when the season's Beaujolais Nouveau is sampled along with a tasty meal.

If you want to get involved in twinning links, or would just like to be a social member, the Twinning Association would love to hear from you. Please look at their website, www.bognortwinning.co.uk for further details of what they do, and who to contact for membership information.



Events for 2018 ~ at a glance

FULL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE,
OR BY FOLLOWING OUR FACEBOOK EVENTS PAGE



Sat 19th May: ROYAL WEDDING
Hotham Park - Live broadcast, on a big screen TV, of the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.



Sun 20th May: BOGNOR PROM 10K
Seafront - The Bognor Prom 10k Road Race has been run by Bognor Hotham Rotary Club since 1994.



Wed 30th May: BOOK DAY
Hotham Park - A magical day celebrating the works of Julia Donaldson, with storytelling, children's rides & lots more.



Sat 9th Jun: CARNIVAL
Esplanade & West Park - The carnival includes a procession of spectacular local floats.



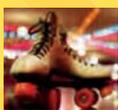
Sat 16th Jun: ARMED FORCES DAY
Waterloo Square Gardens - To commemorate the service of men and women in the British Armed Forces.



Sat 23rd Jun: PROMS IN THE PARK
Hotham Park - Rousing evening of free entertainment on the Bandstand in the beautiful surroundings of the park.



Sun 8th Jul: DRIVE THROUGH TIME
West Park - Motor Gala with live broadcast of the Silverstone Grand Prix followed by an outdoor cinema showing Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in the evening.



Thu 2nd Aug: ROLLER RINK
Place St Maur - Step back in time and enjoy some retro roller skating!



Sat 4th & Sun 5th Aug: COUNTRY FAIR
Hotham Park - Attractions to suit all ages including music, food stalls and arts & crafts.



Tue 7th - Thu 9th Aug: FUNSHINE DAYS
Place St Maur - Free activities for children between 11am and 3pm, including magicians, donkeys and Punch & Judy.



Tue 14th - Thu 16th Aug: FUNSHINE DAYS
Place St Maur - More fun and free activities on offer between 11am and 3pm.



Sat 11th & Sun 12th Aug: BIRDMAN
The Pier - The International Bognor Birdman is a competition for human-powered flying machines.



Sat 25th - Mon 27th Aug: KITE FESTIVAL
King George V Playing Field, Felpham - Professional Kite Fliers attending from all regions of the United Kingdom.



Sun 26th Aug: ILLUMINATIONS GALA
Esplanade & West Park - Night-time procession with a funfair on the seafront all weekend.



Thu 20th - Sun 23rd Sep: FOLK FESTIVAL
Throughout Town - The Southdowns Folk Festival offers plenty to see and enjoy (tickets required for some events).



Sun 28th Oct: ROX HALLOWEEN
Hotham Park - Get dressed up and enjoy the live music and spooky entertainment.



Sun 11th Nov: ACTS OF REMEMBRANCE
Town Hall & Seafront - Traditional Remembrance Day Service in the morning, and the lighting of the seafront beacon in the evening to commemorate the World War One Centenary.



Sat 24th Nov: CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS
Town Centre - The switching on of the Town's Christmas Illuminations for the Festive Season.



Event's organised by
Bognor Regis Town Council

Details correct at time of going to press but all events may be subject to change.

Did you know that you can park for 2 hours FREE in either Fitzleet multi-storey car park, Hothampton car park in the Queensway, or Lyon Street car park?

To use all of the 3 car parks this year's orange disc is required. Once purchased, the disc can be used as often as needed, following the instructions given. Purchase your disc for £2.00 at outlets showing the 2 Hour Free Parking logo, or from the Town Council Offices at the Town Hall.

Tel **01243 867744**
Email **bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk**
Web **www.bognorregis.gov.uk** for more information



Find us on Facebook and Twitter

