

Neighbourhood Plan Update



Following the successful referendum in October last year, the Bognor Regis Neighbourhood Plan was officially "made" by Arun District Council by a resolution of 11th November 2015.

The Bognor Regis Neighbourhood Plan now forms part of Arun District Council's planning documents and should be referred to when they consider any planning applications for Bognor Regis.

See it, report it!! Use the 101 number?

We all know that in an emergency or if a crime is being committed then 999 is the number to phone. However, what about incidents when a crime is not actually taking place. Perhaps it may be someone acting suspiciously in your area, or a group intimidating local people by gathering in certain areas. It is important that this type of information is passed on to the Police so that they are made aware of potential problems.

If you spot something that you are concerned about – but not actually a crime taking place – then call 101.



Bognor Regis Events



Follow the ducks



ROALD DAHL DAY Wednesday 1st June

Hotham Park, 11am to 4pm. Mobile Laser Tag, Selfie Mirror, Magicians, Story Telling, Face Painting and much more.

BOGNOR REGIS CARNIVAL Saturday 11th June

Contact: bognorregiscarnival2015@mail.com for further details.

KITE FESTIVAL Saturday 2nd July – Sunday 3rd July

A DRIVE THROUGH TIME MOTOR GALA* Sunday 10th July

A day of classic and vintage motor vehicles at West Park includes: craft & charity fair, hog roast. Live broadcast of the Silverstone Grand Prix on a big screen.

PROMS IN THE PARK* Saturday 16th July 6.30pm

Rousing evening of free entertainment, bring your chair, grab a picnic and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Hotham Park.

ROX MUSIC & ARTS Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st July

FUNSHINE DAYS* Monday 1st to Friday 26th August

FREE fun activities for children of all ages. See www.bognorregis.gov.uk or find us on Facebook "Bognor Regis Town Council, Events" for more details.

HOTHAM PARK COUNTRY FAIR

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th August

Big crafts display and stalls, music and dancing in the idyllic setting of the town's biggest and most beautiful park.

INTERNATIONAL BOGNOR BIRDMAN

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th September

International flying competition from the end of the Pier. See those magnificent men (and women) trying to fly. (To be confirmed – see www.birdman.org.uk)

SOUTH DOWNS FOLK FESTIVAL

Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th September

Ticket holders will have FIVE great afternoon and evening concerts to attend, plus a free Folk Club, sessions, workshops, dancing and all the music, food fayre and other attractions in Hotham Park and various venues in the Town Centre. www.southdownsfolkfest.co.uk

ILLUMINATED GALA Sunday 28th August

Sunday night spectacle of floats and walking characters, all lit up. In support of Bognor Regis Seafront Lights. Email: brsfl@btinternet.com

SWITCH ON OF CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS

Saturday 26th November

(contact 01243 825535 for details or see www.bognorregis.gov.uk)

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

Events organised by Bognor Regis Town Council

Have you got your new pink disc for 2016?

A new pink disc has been issued for the 2 hours FREE parking scheme in the town. Purchase your disc at the outlets showing the



2 hour free parking logo and you can park for 2 hours free at either Fitzleat Multi-storey car park, Hothamton car park in the Queensway or Lyon Street car park. Once purchased, the disc can be used as often as needed, following the instructions given. Although the 2 hour car

parking is free to those using the disc, it does have a cost. The Scheme is funded by the Town Council, Arun District Council and the local Traders Association. The £1 cost of the disc goes towards the Traders' contribution to the scheme and also to pay for new discs. If you are still using your white, yellow or green disc, it's time to purchase a new disc NOW.

For a larger print or audio version of this newsletter please call 01243 825535

Funshine Days www.bognorregis.gov.uk

Twenty days of FREE fun for family's weekdays from 01/08/2016 – 26/08/2016, follow us on facebook or check out our website for further details about the individual days. #followtheducks

SEASIDE CLASSICS 1st – 5th August

Five days of classics that you would expect to find at the seaside, everything from Donkey rides to Punch & Judy.



2016 sees the 150th Anniversary of Beatrix Potter, magical happenings in the beautiful surroundings of Hotham Park along with Art on the Prom.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT 15th – 19th August

Move it and shake it for the final week, Music, DJ and dance workshops.



BOGNOR H2O 22nd – 26th August
Come and celebrate all things water... in it, on it and beside it... Everything from Marine Conservation & Environmental Awareness to Beach Cleans, Art from Rubbish to Surf & SUP demos.



Your BOGNOR REGIS



YOUR TOWN YOUR NEWS YOUR TOWN YOUR NEWS

Message from the Mayor (2015-2016)



This Mayoral Year has seen a few changes at the Town Council as we had three Councillors resign soon after the May 2015 elections.

These resignations triggered By-Elections in the Hotham, Marine and Orchard Wards and as a result, Martin Smith, Martin Lineham and Kenton Batley were duly elected and the Council has returned to a full complement of 16 Members. This last year has been my third time as Mayor of our Town and each time it has never failed to amaze me how many wonderful volunteers we have, who help to make a difference

to the lives of so many (young and old), by their selfless works and my sincere thanks go to them all. It has been a privilege during my term to attend schools and nursing homes, to open shops and fetes and so much more in the name of Bognor Regis. My choice of charities this year has been to raise money for little Toby Booker for his vital operation and also for Stonepillow, a fantastic organisation that does a sterling job of providing help and shelter for the homeless. I'm delighted to report that the fundraising target of £40,000 for Toby's operation was reached in September last year and his operation was planned for 1st April. Bognor Regis Town Council continues to support many activities that happen throughout the year for the enjoyment of both our residents and visitors to our Town. The Town Council has organised many events over the past 12 months from "Proms in the Park" through to the ever popular "Drive Through Time Motor Gala", both of which are to be repeated in 2016. The vision of regenerating our Pier is progressing and its future is looking great and in my view will be a major part of the continued regeneration of our Town.

As I end my year in Office, I would like to say a huge Thank You to all those who have invited me to their events. It has been a pleasure and privilege and has given me memories to treasure.

Cllr Jeanette Warr, Mayor of Bognor Regis 2015-2016

New Mayor Pat Dillon

It is an honour to be elected as Mayor of our vibrant Town and I hope I will be able to continue the good work of my predecessors. I have lived in Bognor Regis for 12 years and am proud to have served on the council since 2008. I'm sure that my term of office will be a busy one and I look forward to meeting many of you during the coming year.



THE DAY SUSSEX DIED - The Battle for Boars Head

The project focuses on one particular day during the First World War, the 30th June 1916, the Battle for Boars Head.

Are you a living relative? Can you tell us more – or would you like to find out more? We would like to create a picture of these men. Who were they? How old were they? What did they do before the war? How did the events of that day affect their families and what impact did it have on the town? All the information we can gather will be made into a commemorative book to mark the 100th anniversary of that bloody day. But we do need your input. Local historians and the museum have offered their help and we can organise trips to the Chichester Records Office for those who would like to do their own research. All the services are free. There will also be a short wreath laying service at the Bognor Hospital War Memorial on 30th June.



Please get in touch and help us honour these brave men.

Email:

sheilagreen@bognorregis.gov.uk
or telephone
01243 825535



Entertainment

If you are interested in music, art or the theatre then have a look at the following:

Picturedrome Cinema Visit: www.picturedromebognor.com or phone 01243 841015 for details of movies showing

Regis Centre Theatre Visit: www.alexandratheatre.co.uk or phone 01243 861010 for latest performances

Folk on the Coast at Seasons (Bognor Regis Football Club) Visit: www.folkonthecoast.co.uk or phone 01243 820187 for dates of meetings

Regis School of Music Visit: www.regisschoolofmusic.co.uk or phone 01243 866462 for details of concerts and performances

Contact us



Find us on Facebook

Tel 01243 867744 Email bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk

Web www.bognorregis.gov.uk for more information



Report from the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee

As has been widely reported in the press, there has been a general reduction of spending by our district and county authorities and this has, of course, had a knock on effect to Town and Parish Councils. However we are pleased to announce that, due to good planning over the last few years, the Councils' finances are in good shape. Nevertheless, there is no room for complacency as by 2017/18 the parish support grant, received from Arun District Council (ADC), will have reduced to zero and therefore close scrutiny of the Council's finances will remain a priority. Over time, the Council will need to carefully weigh up the provision of services and the needs of the town against this significant loss of income and how we can be most efficient so as to continue to provide the very best we can for our residents and visitors. For the year ended 31st March 2015, the Council received income totalling £928,196 made up as follows:

- **£689,397 from the precept**
- **£146,109 from grants including the parish support grant**
- **£7,976 from Rents, Interest and investment income**
- **£48,119 from charges made for services**
- **£36,595 from other income.**

This is balanced up by total expenditure of £874,608 giving the Council a surplus of £53,588 for the year which will go towards offsetting the reduction in grant from ADC. The Council was also pleased during this period to give out over £47,000 in grants to local groups and events. In addition, the Council continues to give Councillors their own ward allocation budgets to spend on agreed good causes in their particular area and this year we were able to support £2,000 of spending in this way. The Council is always looking at ways we can be more lean and effective and is moving to a paperless environment. It has therefore been able to continue to fund in this current year:-

- **Two hour free parking - £19,200**
- **CCTV - £2,000**
- **Public conveniences - £30,000**

Looking forward, the Town Council, through its corporate strategy, is investigating investment in assets for the town and finding ways to be less reliant on the precept. Further hard decisions, such as the recent one not to continue to fund the Jet Ski ramp, will need to be taken and we will also need to consider the impact auto enrolment pensions and the new living wage will have on the authority. However, by the actions we have taken, we hope that we can balance the needs of the town and the important services we do, with modest tax rises, to ensure the Council can continue to provide for the residents in the best way possible without hitting their pockets hard.

Cllr Adam Cunard (Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee)

Town Council Budget 2016/17



Events and Christmas activities
£30,570



Highways & Transport
£24,600



Allotments
£2,558



Street Scene enhancement (net costs)
£55,615



Tourism and Visitor Info
£1,350



Corporate & Democratic Management
£392,714



Public conveniences / community safety
£32,000



Weather Recording
£8,196



Environmental projects, floral displays and town promotion
£211,425



Surplus for loss of precept Support Grant
£6,036



Grant Aid and Partnership funding
£56,000



TOTAL
£821,064

Parish Polls

At the Annual meeting of Electors on 14th March 2016, a Parish Poll was requested with the following proposed questions :-

Question 1

The Annual Meeting of Electors supports the full Sir Richard Hotham plan for consideration for the Regeneration of the Hothamton and Regis Centre sites.

Do you support this?

Question 2

The Annual Meeting of Electors supports the creation of a single parish-level Bognor Regis Urban Town Council to replace the current 6 parish councils of Aldwick, Bersted, Bognor Regis Town, Felpham, Middleton and Pagham.

Do you support this?

Question 3

The Annual Meeting of Electors calls for the abolition of all District-level Councils in West Sussex including Arun District Council and that their work be transferred to a Unitary West Sussex County Council working in conjunction with parish-level councils in the County area to deliver services.

Do you support this?

The Poll took place on 13th April 2016 with a Turnout of 2.8% and the results were as follows :-

Votes cast & counted

Question 1 431 votes cast of which 63.37% or 282 answered “Yes”

Question 2 435 votes cast of which 76.18% or 339 answered “Yes”

Question 3 433 votes cast of which 73.26% or 326 answered “Yes”

Parish Polls – Your Questions Answered

Who calls a Parish Poll?

The Local Government Act 1972 states that a poll may be demanded before the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting on any question arising at that meeting; the poll must be demanded by 10 Electors or one third of Electors present at the meeting, whichever is less.

Can a request for a Parish Poll be refused?

The Town Council and District Council cannot refuse a request for a Parish Poll as the process is laid down by law.

When must the Parish Poll take place?

The timing of the poll shall not be earlier than the fourteenth day or later than the twenty-fifth day after the day on which the poll was demanded, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Who can vote at a Parish Poll?

Those entitled to attend the Annual Parish Meeting as Local Government Electors of the 6 Wards of Bognor Regis are entitled to vote at a Parish Poll.

Who is responsible for organising the Parish Poll?

The relevant authority, in this case Arun District Council (ADC), is responsible for the organisation of the Poll in accordance with rules made by the Secretary of State.

Who pays for the Parish Poll?

The Town or Parish Council is responsible for meeting the costs associated with the Parish Poll. For the most recent poll, this was estimated to be in excess £20,000.

Why did I not receive a polling card?

Under the relevant legislation, ADC is not obliged to issue polling cards to all Electors as would be the case for General or Local Elections. Furthermore, the relevant authority does not have to offer postal or proxy voting.

Why was the usual St Wilfrid's Church Hall not used as a polling station?

This venue was not available for the nominated date during the prescribed timeframe for the holding of the Parish Poll.

Is the result of a Parish Poll binding?

The results of any Parish Poll are not binding to the Town Council or any other authority.

Are there any planned changes to the process for Parish Polls?

The Government carried out a consultation in December 2014 on their intentions to modernise Parish Poll regulations. The Government proposals include changes to the trigger for the number of electors needed to call a poll, updating the voting arrangements to improve access and modernise the polling procedure and more closely define the question(s) on which a parish poll can be held to ensure questions posed are on appropriate local issues. Changes arising from this consultation are still awaited.

Bognor Regis Museum



Bognor Regis Museum, which the Town Council supports each year through its grant program, is now open for the 2016 season.

Even if you have been before, it is worth visiting again to check out all the improvements and new displays which the volunteers at Bognor Regis Local History Society pride themselves upon. New highlights include a display on games that we used to play as kids when it was raining and before computer games and a Fireman's helmet, reputed to have been dented

by a falling timber during a fire at the railway station, which has prompted a new panel about our Fire Brigade. A Hay Press from the former Watneys Convalescent Home in Aldwick Road (now Royal Bay), which came via Chichester Museum now dominates the Museum entrance and continuing the theme of drink, there is a new display of bottles, appropriately positioned next to the model of the Berkeley Arms pub!

Another talking point is the old Gas Lamp post outside, which will help attract

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.

West Sussex County Council

This provides 80% of services. These include:

Maintaining roads and footpaths; social services for adults and children; schools; waste disposal; libraries; Record Office; Registrar Services; Trading Standards and Fire & Rescue Service.

Contact: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/> or telephone 01243 777100

Arun District Council

The District Council is responsible for:

Environmental Health; revenue (Council tax collection); housing; leisure; recreation (Parks); planning applications; economic & cultural development; Regeneration; elections and waste collections.

Contact: <http://www.arun.gov.uk/> or telephone 01903 737500

Town (or Parish) Council

Every Town and Parish Council is different but generally they are / can be responsible for:

- Public open spaces; notice boards; bus shelters; allotments; promotion of local area and activities (eg events and youth activities).
- They are also the liaison between the district and county council, to ensure the voice of local people are heard.

Bognor Regis Town Council is responsible for:

Allotments; organising and promoting town events; Town Force; sponsored planting; some dog bins and benches; input on planning applications; seafront beacon; improvement of signage and restoration of neglected architectural features; assisting with cost of public toilets; dealing with graffiti and dog fouling; seafront showers; In Bloom; Picturedrome cinema building; and supporting local organisations and events via a grants programme.

Contact: <http://www.bognorregis.gov.uk> or telephone 01243 867744

Allotments

- **Do you long to grow your own vegetables but only have a small garden or none at all?** Town Council allotments are available to rent at a very reasonable cost. Some plot holders have been there for years and have an immense amount of knowledge they are happy to share. A wide variety of vegetables can be grown and in summer salad straight from the allotment tastes so much nicer. Flowers and fruit can also be grown and even have grapes grow in green houses on some plots. An allotment is a big responsibility and commitment in all weathers but the rewards are great if you put in the time and work. If you are interested in taking on an allotment please let us know on 01243 825535 and we will add your name to the waiting list.



Bognor Regis in Bloom

BRIB Annual Competition

Entry forms are now available for the 'green finger tipped' amongst you to get involved and enter our Bognor Regis in Bloom competition. If you are the proud owner of a lovely front garden, hanging basket, window box or tub that can be seen from the roadside then you could be in with a chance of being a winner of one of our 13 categories for judging, at our annual awards evening later in the year. *Closing date for entries is Saturday 25th June 2016.*

‘Grow a Pumpkin for Halloween’ Competition

This is a BRAND NEW competition for this year and is open to individuals, families, businesses, groups and schools in the area. The In Bloom Working Group wants you to grow and nurture your very own pumpkin in time for Halloween! Pumpkins will be weighed at the Rox Halloween Extravaganza on Saturday 29th October- with prizes for the HEAVIEST pumpkin from each category. There will also be a chance to decorate your pumpkins following the 'Big Weigh In'. So if you fancy becoming champion of the pumpkins please complete an entry form and return by Friday 21st October 2016. Get growing!

Entry forms for both competitions are available on the Town Council website: www.bognorregis.gov.uk or can be picked up from the Town Council Office on the first floor of the Town Hall.

passers-by into the Museum as well as being an attractive addition to the street scene. Perhaps one of the most exciting new exhibits, is the statue that used to be the centrepiece of the fountain in Marine Park Gardens. This had been in a shed for approximately ten years, so visitors will be delighted to be able to enjoy it once again and it should bring back many happy memories. Elsewhere many displays have been improved or revamped including the Meccano and WWI features and there is now a sound effect to accompany the Air Raid Shelter. There are now more pictures on display than ever before and the venue now boasts free WIFI. Whilst the adults reminisce, there is plenty to keep the kids amused including audio points, two quizzes, Dressing-Up Box and sound effect buttons!

This year the attraction will stay open until late November, following the Christmas event.

*Open Tuesday to Sunday plus Bank Holidays 10am to 4pm **FREE ENTRY.***



Bognor Pier Trust

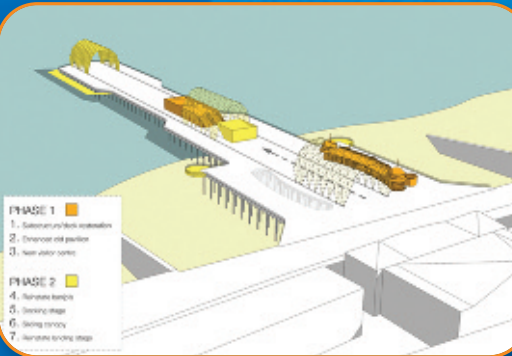
The work is continuing to develop plans for Bognor Regis Pier and it is hoped that the submission for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund will be made before the end of the year.

In the meantime, the award-winning studio dRMM Architects have been appointed by the Bognor Pier Trust to create design

proposals for Bognor Regis Pier fit for the next generation of users and visitors to the Pier and these proposals will form a key part of the Heritage Lottery Fund bid.

dRMM have been involved in the design architecture of Hastings Pier and have won many awards for creating architecture

that is innovative, high quality and socially useful. The Trust looks forward to working with dRMM in the coming months and is looking forward to the initial ideas and concepts that will be produced.



One of the exciting designs created by dRMM Architects for the on-going Hastings Pier Redevelopment Project