



Buckingham TownMatters

Autumn issue 2022



Autumn Walk by Tamika McCullough

**Message from your Mayor • New deputy Mayor • New Town Clerk
Future events • Where the money came from and how we spent it**

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR



It has been a great honour to serve as 256th Mayor of Buckingham during the last year, and to have been elected by my fellow Councillors to continue for a second year. It was amazing to be Mayor during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, which began with the fantastic Celebrate Buckingham Day in Bourton Park, followed by events, such as the lighting of the Beacon at the Parish Church, a special Civic Service and street parties. This was a significant time for our nation: a time to come together and give thanks for our Queen and her dedicated service over so many years. In 1972 she said in a broadcast "I set out to work for tolerance and understanding among the nations..." This is something which remains significant 70 years later. Although our world and our nation have been transformed in many ways during the intervening period, a need for more tolerance and understanding remains.

The rainbow is a symbol of hope, and as we raised a Rainbow flag for the first time in Buckingham on June 6th as part of Pride month, we were reminded to consider again how we can be more inclusive and considerate of everyone, without exception. The restarting of our Equality, Community Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group is another step in the right direction, as we seek to redress the hurt and exclusion that some members of our community have experienced through no fault of their own.

Over the last year as Mayor, I have been able to visit many of our local schools and community groups. These serve and enrich our town, making Buckingham a great place in which to live, work and study. We were able to recognise some of those people and groups which make a difference to our daily lives through awards and grants at Mayor-making in June.

I am conscious also of so many serious issues in our world, which impact on the lives of people everywhere. The cost-of-living crisis is one of these. I have therefore chosen two local charities which seek to help people who are struggling financially. Details of these are on the next page.

In response to the ongoing war, a Buckingham Support for Ukraine group has been established. This group is enabling our Ukrainian guests and hosts to come together and help each other. A recent example of this was a Question and Answer session, featuring representatives from the Swan Practice, Citizens Advice and Buckinghamshire Council, together with an interpreter. Thanks to everyone involved.

As I write this, we are experiencing record high temperatures, a reminder that we are amid a climate crisis. Buckingham Town Council's Climate Emergency Plan is a high priority for us. We must all do what we can to reduce our carbon footprint for the sake of our planet and for everyone. Small steps really can make a difference.

When I lit the beacon for the Jubilee, and I saw the light shining in the darkening sky, I reflected on how our Queen has lit up our lives over the last 70 years. May we follow her example and do what we can to bring light and hope to our community and beyond.

Margaret Gateley

Cllr. Margaret Gateley, Mayor of Buckingham

NEW DEPUTY MAYOR Cllr. ANJA SCHAEFER



It is a great honour to have been elected as Buckingham's Deputy Mayor in May, after joining the Council last year. I look forward to supporting Mayor Gateley and representing Buckingham and its people.

There is so much to enjoy in our town, from our vibrant markets, our parks, and the many events that allow us to celebrate together again after the forced isolation during the worst of the pandemic.

But these are also challenging times. The lingering effects of COVID, the very visible impacts of climate change, and the cost-of-living crisis, as well as the repercussions of the war in Ukraine, can all be felt in our town. During my time as Deputy Mayor, I hope to work with our community, our many active groups and my fellow councillors and officers to do what we can within our town to address these challenges together.

NEW TOWN CLERK

The Town Council recently said farewell to Paul Hodson who had been our Town Clerk for the last four years. The Town Clerk is accountable to the Council for the effective management of all its resources. Claire Molyneux has taken over the role as the most senior member of Town Council staff. Claire has been the Deputy Town Clerk for the last three and a half years so knows Buckingham and the Council extremely well.

Claire is looking forward to working with a great team of councillors and officers to deliver a range of exciting projects including a new cemetery, allotments and depot.



MAYOR'S CHARITIES

I have been conscious of the current cost of living crisis, which is impacting many people. I have therefore chosen two charities for this year, which help people with food. There will be the opportunity to donate to these charities at Town Council events.

Buckingham Food Bank

distributes non-perishable and fresh food to people in need, who have been referred by an agency or local church. Volunteers deliver supplies direct to their homes, or confidentially via their referring agency. This service covers short-term emergencies, such as sudden unemployment or loss of benefits.



Jedidiah UK

Their fresh food pantry at 13 Castle Street, Buckingham is a charity working in partnership with local supermarkets to repurpose the surplus food they are unable to sell. Best of all, it's free to access and use. Each day, all the unsold food is displayed for families to come and help themselves. This includes good quality vegetables, fruit, dairy, baked goods, meat and fish products.

Their main aims are helping people struggling to make ends meet, access healthy food, reduce isolation and ensure that no good food goes to waste.



EQUALITY, COMMUNITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP

Buckingham Town Council has established an Equality, Community Diversity and Inclusion Working Group. The Council recognises and celebrates that Buckingham has become an increasingly vibrant and diverse community as the town has grown over the years. This has enriched our area in numerous ways, bringing a wealth of new experiences to all involved. However, not all experiences have been positive. Therefore, the Council has started this working group to identify and address issues of discrimination and to create a better environment for everyone in Buckingham through mutual respect and understanding.

Buckingham stands against hate and discrimination in any form. The Council strongly believes that no person living here should be subjected to any hostility

or prejudice due to their race or ethnicity, religion or beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

The members of the group are a small number of town councillors, residents and colleagues from partner public agencies. We invite interested Buckingham people to join the group to share their experiences and take part in implementing projects that will enable Buckingham to become more cohesive and inclusive. The group will also advise the Council and partner bodies on issues regarding equality, community diversity and inclusion in Buckingham and is currently working on a joint project with Stop Hate UK.

Please contact the Town Council for dates of the next meeting if you wish to join. We look forward to welcoming you.

PAST EVENTS PAST EVENTS

BUCKINGHAM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Celebrate Buckingham Day took place in the paddock in Bourton Park on Thursday 2nd June 2022. Entertainment was provided by the Winslow Concert Band, Brackley Morris Men and Buckingham

Ukulele group. Along with 27 stall holders, there were bouncy castles, a face painter, doodle artist and food vans.

Later in the day on Thursday 2nd June 2022, a **Jubilee Platinum Beacon** was lit at 9.45pm atop St. Peter & St. Paul's Church.



Music in the Market drew a busy crowd into Buckingham Town Centre on Friday 3rd June 2022, as part of Buckingham's Jubilee Celebrations. Families brought along chairs and picnics to enjoy the live music provided by brilliant local musicians.

Picnic on the Pitch took place on Saturday 4th June 2022 at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre. Children were excited to be greeted by Spider-Man and Elsa mascots and had fun making badges and having their faces painted.

On Sunday 5th June 2022 at 11am, a **Jubilee Civic Service** took place at St. Peter & St. Paul's Church to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen.

BUCKINGHAM FRINGE WEEK

Buckingham Fringe is a week-long celebration of arts, sports and culture – the theme this year was 'Buckingham is Back'.

A **Skateboard Event**, hosted by King Ramps, gave the opportunity to young people to perfect their skateboarding, BMXing, and scooter skills on Saturday 16th July 2022.



Over two Saturdays colourful stilt walkers, local musicians and magicians graced Buckingham's **Street and Flea Markets** keeping residents and visitors thoroughly entertained.

Crowds of people visited Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre for the annual **Family Fun Day**. There were traditional games, inflatables, craft market stalls, live performances.



PAST EVENTS PAST EVENTS

Oxford Fiddle Group were due to perform the evening of Tuesday 19th July 2022 but due to extreme heat, the performance was postponed.

An Architectural Tour of St Peter & St Paul's Church took place with guide and local architect Warren Whyte.

Quiz-heads took part in the **Big Fringe Week Quiz Night** at the Woolpack. The Town Council super-team did very well and were crowned the ultimate winners.



Professional and amateur artists gathered in the Cattle Pens for **Art In the Market**, taking the opportunity to create art inspired by their surroundings and imaginations. A giant Art Attack was made using loaned charity shop rags from Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity Shop. The final design was inspired by Buckingham favourites: swans and The Floss.



Play Around The Parishes

visited Chandos Park three times across the summer holidays. These free sessions were organised by Buckinghamshire Council and funded by Buckingham Town Council.



Illyria performed an outdoor theatre production of **Peter Pan** on the green outside St. Peter & St. Paul's Church.



Organised by Lee Maloney and sponsored by Buckingham Town Council, **Bandjam** took place on Sunday 28th August 2022 in the town centre. Live bands included: Brothers Homebrew, The Reformers, The Big Head, Krissy Matthews, 60s Jukebox, Twisted Echo and Liquid Stone.



CURRENT EVENTS

These events take place soon after the newsletter is printed, you may receive this edition after some have taken place. Our website, social media, and posters around Buckingham are a great place to keep updated about current events.

The annual **Buckingham Dog Show** will take place on Sunday 11th September 2022 in the Paddock in Bourton Park, and we can't wait to crown the best pooch in town! Registration will start from 11am and then judging will commence from 12pm.

Classes:

- Cutest Puppy 5-12 months
- Fabulous Fella
- Gorgeous Gal
- Best Rescue
- Dog Most Like Its Owner
- Golden Oldie 7 years and Over
- Waggiest Tail
- Junior Handler 16 years and Under
- Agility

The winner of each class goes through to Best In Show.

£1.50 per class – Cash Only.

There will also be a host of doggy-based stalls and entertainment to browse.



The first of this year's **River Rinses** will take place on Sunday 25th September and will go from the University and through Fishers Field. Members of the Stowe Sub Aqua Group will be on hand to pull any debris from the river. Volunteers and members of Buckingham Town Council will litter pick along the riverbank and collect the debris found in the river.



FUTURE EVENTS FUTURE EVENTS FUTURE EVENTS FUTURE EVENTS



The second **River Rinse** is taking place on Sunday 9th October 2022 and will start at the bypass in Bourton Park and go upstream towards the cricket club. If you are interested in taking part, please e-mail events@buckingham-tc.gov.uk.

The **Charter Fair** will be returning to Buckingham on Saturdays 15th and 22nd October 2022. The fair, operated by Nichols Amusements, will arrive in town on Fridays 14th and 21st October 2022 with dodgems, sideshows, and stalls, ready for us to enjoy on the Saturday. A road closure and parking restrictions for the town centre will be in place for both weekends.

Join us at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre for a fantastic family-friendly **Hallowe'en Disco Party** on Friday 28th October 2022 from 6-9pm.



Bonfire and Fireworks will light up the paddock in Bourton Park on Saturday 5th November 2022. This FREE event is organised by Buckingham Town Council. The firework display is provided by Titanium Fireworks.



On Sunday 13th November 2022, the **Remembrance Day Parade** will form up on Market Hill and march from there at 10:30am to the War Memorial at St Peter & St Paul Church. After a moving service, it will march back to Market Hill. A rolling road closure and parking restrictions will be in place when the parade is on the move.

The **Winter Fair** arrives at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre on Sunday 20th November 2022 from 11am-3pm. You can expect lots of local handmade Christmas goodies, refreshments and art and craft activities for the children to enjoy.

Sparkles, lights, an Artisan Market and music will brighten up the High Street at the **Christmas Light Switch On**, on Saturday 26th November 2022. The lights will be switched on by Town Mayor, Cllr Margaret Gateley.



The annual **Christmas Parade** will be taking place on Saturday 10th December 2022 and will form up on Chandos Road. Floats, walking groups and marching bands will make their way through the town centre and then back to Chandos Road. A rolling road closure and parking restrictions organised by Buckingham Town Council will be in place during the parade.



After the parade, make your way to Buckingham Community Centre for the **Community Fair**. Charities and local societies will be selling a range of gifts including knitwear, baked goods and Christmas cards.



SPOTLIGHT ON BUCKINGHAM MARKET AND FLEA MARKET

Buckingham's markets continue to thrive and attract many new visitors to the town.

The increased foot fall on market days brings benefits to the local economy. Shops, job opportunities and tourism all reap the rewards of our twice-weekly established markets.

The traffic-free locations of the markets ensure access for all, making Buckingham an ideal destination for everyone.

Musicians, artists, and charities have continued to take opportunities to embrace this inclusive environment. Whether entertaining, showcasing or raising awareness,

Buckingham's markets have a place for you.

The sense of community on market days is wonderful to observe. Friends, family, residents, and visitors all gather in one safe place, to share news, goodwill, a hot drink and often a tasty lunch. All involved reap the social benefits the outdoor markets provide.

Sustainability and health benefits are also included, by encouraging people to shop locally, whilst providing affordable food and goods.

On behalf of Buckingham Town Council, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who visits the markets and the loyal, hardworking traders.

The future is looking very bright for Buckingham's markets.

LITTER PICKING PROJECT

Visitors and residents of Buckingham can now help tackle lazy littering by accessing clean up kits for use in our parks and town centre.

As part of the Government's Welcome Back Fund, Buckingham Town Council has received 30 x litter pickers, collection hoops and high vis jackets for community groups to borrow. This compliments the #QuickLitterPick stations in Chandos and Bourton Park, encouraging people to take pride in their surroundings and make it easier to access the right equipment for a litter pick, whether that's a solo effort or as part of a larger community group.

Pupils from Buckingham Primary School were the first to have a go, organising a week of litter-busting activities. The children managed to fill several bags of rubbish from

the parks, paths, and town centre – what litter heroes!

Each year Buckingham Town Council supports the Keep Britain Tidy campaigns through annual River Rinses and #QuickLitterPick schemes.

The bulk of the equipment is stored at Buckingham Town Council's depot and can be accessed by calling the office on 01280 816426 or emailing estates@buckingham-tc.gov.uk.

Full guidance and tips on running a successful community litter pick can be found on the Town Council's website.



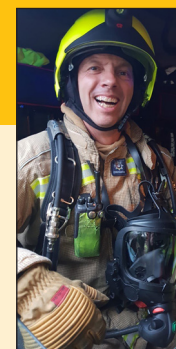
MEMORIAL TESTING

Buckingham has a beautiful and historic cemetery that is over 150 years old and maintained by Buckingham Town Council. The Council's commitment to providing an attractive and safe cemetery for its visitors includes assessing the safety of memorials.

The Town Council will undertake a programme of memorial safety testing in an appropriate and sensitive manner. This will be an ongoing process with all the cemetery's headstones and memorials being tested over a 5-year period. The holder of the grave deed is ultimately responsible for the maintenance of the memorial. In the first instance, any unsafe memorials will be supported using a wooden stake and nylon banding. The council would like to stress that if any unsafe memorials are found they will not be laid flat unless there is no alternative to make them

temporarily safe until they can be repaired. The Council will contact the deed holders of any unsafe structures.

We would also like to take this opportunity to ask if any deed holders of burial plots in the cemetery, who have moved since they were issued with the original burial deed, could update the Town Council with their current address. The Town Council would be more than happy to answer any questions anyone has about the memorial testing at the cemetery, please contact Lee Phillips on 01280 816 462 – greenspaces@buckingham-tc.gov.uk



PUT YOUR SKILLS TO GOOD USE – JOIN BUCKINGHAM FIRE SERVICE

Buckingham Fire station is looking to expand its firefighting team – and wants to hear from you. On-Call Firefighters are professional, paid, firefighters who respond to

incidents, train and take part in community safety activities such as school visits and attending the British Grand Prix. Buckingham On-Call crew usually respond from home or their job on a call-by-call basis.

Darren, 51, is a local Buckingham On-Call firefighter. "Our crew gets called out to a wide range of jobs from road collisions, house fires, and fires in the open - I've even been involved in rescuing a sheep that

had got stuck in a river. You never know exactly what you're going to be called out to, but it's always about making something better for someone.

I am close to my team – we're a mixed bunch, all ages and all from different backgrounds. The experiences we have together, learning, training, and responding make us a tight crew. We've all got each other's backs, both in work and outside, and I'm sure anyone new coming to the team will soon find themselves part of the crew."

Visit <https://bucksfire.gov.uk/join-us/on-call-firefighters> to find out more.



WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM AND HOW WE SPENT IT

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS 2023/24



Are you looking for funding for a not-for-profit community group or charity? Applications are invited for funding for projects and activities beneficial to the people of Buckingham.

This year you can apply for:
– One-year projects taking place 2023-2024

Application forms are available on the website and must be returned to the Town Council by 12 noon on Friday 4th November 2022.

If you would like to discuss a possible application or receive an application form, please contact the Town Council by:

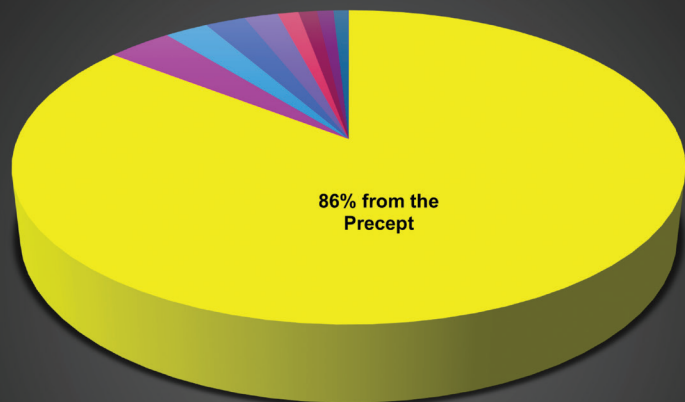
**Post: Buckingham Town Council
Buckingham Centre
Verney Close
Buckingham MK18 1JP**

Phone: 01280 816 426

Email: deputytownclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/your-town-council/grants/>

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM 2021-2022



- Precept
- Interest
- Sponsorship
- Community Centre Income
- Other
- Markets
- Burial Income
- Devolved Services
- Property Rental
- Tourist Information Centre

www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk

AND HOW WE WE SPENT IT



PARKS, CEMETERY AND BUILDINGS
£428,663

TOURISM AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
£42,950



EVENTS AND TOWN CENTRE
£112,773

NEWSLETTERS
£7,560



COMMUNITY GRANTS
£13,546

BRIDGE REPAIRS
£20,509



LEGAL, PLANNING, ADMIN, HR AND OTHER
£428,579

TOTAL EXPENDITURE
£1,054,580



UNDERSPEND TRANSFERRED TO RESERVES
£2,302



TOTAL
£1,056,882

MAYOR MAKING/CIVIC AWARDS



The annual Mayor Making event, a formal ceremony that confirms the Council's choice as Mayor and Deputy Mayor

of the Town, took place at Buckingham Community Centre on Friday 10th June 2022.

This year's community awards were given to:

Honorary Freeman

- Terry Bloomfield for 20 years of service to the town, as well as being a Councillor for many years, Terry was a key person involved with horticultural shows, managing the community centre and the Old Gaol Trust.

Friend of Buckingham

- Mr. Chris Mullis for all his work in setting up and managing the Buckingham Support Network during covid lockdowns.
- Mr. Mikey Dyson-Smith for his morale-boosting work through the pandemic.
- Mrs. Jenny Manning for her work on the Buckingham Railway Walk Volunteers Group.

Bard of Buckingham

- Mr. Dean Jones, the first ever Bard of Buckingham, who carried on the role for two years.

Arts and Sports Award

- Buckingham Ukulele Group in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the local community through enhancing the cultural life in Buckingham.

Natural Environment and Climate Champion Award

- Railway Walk Conservation Group in recognition of the exceptional and outstanding contribution to the local community through protecting and enhancing the environment.

Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Award

- Men in Sheds in recognition of the group's continued support for men in the community.

Cllr. Geraldine Collins was also awarded a rose bowl, as a mark of her service as past Mayor of Buckingham 2020-2021.

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Margaret Gateley – Mayor	01280 816 317	Cllr. Howard Mordue	01280 815 418
Cllr. Anja Schaefer – Deputy Mayor	01280 816 426	Cllr. Lisa O'Donoghue	07906 408 646
Cllr. Robina Ahmed	07515 338283	Cllr. Ade Osibogun	07467 837 954
Cllr. Mark Cole JP	01280 816 005	Cllr. Anthony Ralph	07968 108 304
Cllr. Geraldine Collins	01280 823 006	Cllr. Robin Stuchbury	07752 394 162
Cllr. Jon Harvey	01280 812 711	Cllr. Martin Try	01280 816 202
Cllr. Sue Hetherington	01280 817 263	Cllr. Ryan Willett	07889 284 495
Cllr. Andy Mahi	01280 816 562	Claire Molyneux – Town Clerk	07484 546 784

USEFUL NUMBERS

Buckingham Town Council	01280 816 426	Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247
Buckingham Cemetery	01280 816 801	Thames Valley Police	101
Buckingham Shopmobility	07738 314 027	NHS Urgent Care	111
Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre	01280 812 872	National Power Cut Helpline	105
Buckingham Community Hall	01280 823 584	National Gas Helpline	0800 111 11
Buckingham Tourist Information Centre	01280 823 020	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Buckinghamshire Council	0300 131 6000	Floodline	0345 988 1188
Transport for Buckinghamshire	01296 382 416	ChildLine	0800 111 999
Citizens Advice Aylesbury Vale	0344 245 1289	Samaritans	01908 667 777
		StreetLink (rough sleeping)	0300 500 0914

YOUR VIEWS COUNT

Buckingham Town Matters is produced by Buckingham Town Council in order to provide you with a taste of what keeps Councillors and staff busy. But this is also an invitation for you to tell us what you think of what we do and what you think we should be doing. We are all working together to make Buckingham an even better place, so please let us know:

- what you think we should carry on doing
- what you think we should stop doing, or do less of
- what you think we should start doing, or do a lot more of

Just a reminder... all Town Council meetings are open to the public. You are invited to come along and give us your views.

You can email us at or just drop us a line at the address opposite.

We look forward to hearing from you:

Town Council Office, Buckingham Centre, Verney Close, Buckingham, MK18 1JP

Email: office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk or visit: www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk

Call: 01280 816 426 (Please phone for appointments)

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This edition of **BTM** has been designed by Black Dog Design (www.black-dog-design.co.uk), printed by BCQ Print Group and distributed to the homes and businesses of Buckingham by Sure2Door Ltd.

This is delivered to approx. 6,500 homes and businesses. It is also available on our website as a PDF and an audio version. Please contact the Town Council if you would like to request a large print copy.

Please note, events organised by Buckingham Town Council may be photographed and these photographs may be published.

2022 EVENTS DIARY



Please find further details inside or online: www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/town-matters/events/

2022

SEPTEMBER	Dog Show   	Sun 11th (10:30am-3pm)	Bourton Park
	River Rinse 1	Sun 25th (10am)	Buckingham University
OCTOBER	Bardic Trial	Tues 4th (7pm-10pm)	Bourton Park
	River Rinse 2	Sun 9th (10am)	Bypass in Bourton Park
	Charter Fair	Sat 15th & 22nd (1pm-11pm)	Buckingham Town Centre
	Lace Hill Halloween Event   	Fri 28th (6pm-9pm)	Lacehill Sports & Community Centre
NOVEMBER	Bonfire & Fireworks   	Sat 5th (6pm)	Bourton Park
	Remembrance Parade	Sun 13th (10:30am)	Buckingham Town Centre
	Winter Fair   	Sun 20th (11am-3pm)	Lacehill Sports & Community Centre
	Christmas Lights Switch On  	Sat 26th (6pm-9pm)	Buckingham Town Centre
	DECEMBER	Christmas Parade	Sat 10th (10:30am-12:30pm)
Community Fair 		Sat 10th (11am-2pm)	Buckingham Community Centre

BOURTON PARK USER SURVEY



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

SCAN ME



<https://forms.office.com/r/A8VmqJazYZ>

Key to spaces available:

- Food & Drinks Traders 
- Crafts & Goods Traders 
- Local Charities, Voluntary & Community Groups 