



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk: Claire Molyneux

CSSC

08/9/2025

Councillor,

You are summoned to an informal meeting of the **Communications Strategy Sub-Committee** of Buckingham Town Council to be held on **Thursday 16th October 2025 at 1pm** via Zoom.

Claire Molyneux
Town Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are asked to receive and accept apologies from Members.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 Sections 26-34 & Schedule 4.

3. Current Newsletter – Winter 2025

To review the current newsletter articles:

- Front Cover
- Message from your Mayor
- Our Town Events
- Where money came from and we spent it
- Christmas Card Competition
- Buckingham in Bloom
- Public Art & Photography Competitions
- Small Business Saturday
- Cemetery & Allotments updates
- Lace Hill Community Centre
- Warm & Safe
- List of Councillors & Numbers
- Events Diary 2025/26
- Newsletter Competition

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Twinned with Mouvaux, France;

Neukirchen-Vluyn, Germany



Members are reminded when making decisions that the Public Sector Equality Duty 2010 requires Members to have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act, advance equality of opportunity between people who share a characteristic and those who don't, and to foster good relations between people who share a characteristic and those who don't. All Committee documents can be found on the Buckingham Town Council's website. Alternatively, the Clerk can send you a copy of any minutes, reports or other information. To do this, send a request using the contact details set out above.

4. Newsletter Review - Autumn 2025

To review the production and delivery of the previous newsletter and identify key learning points from the production process and its look, including a discussion of:

- Quality of production & content
- Delivery

Appendix O

5. Chair's Items

6. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 20th November 2025

Thursday 15th January 2026

To:

Cllr. R. Ahmed (Vice-Chair)

Cllr. J. Harvey (Chair)

Cllr. H. Haydock

Cllr. J. Mordue

Cllr. F. Davies (Mayor)

Cllr. M. Try



Christmas Lights Switch on Performers 2023



Santa at Christmas Light's Switch On 2023



Snowy Bourton Road Allotments



1 Ford Street Bridge looking towards Bridge Street



2Breaking ice on Railway Walk

Message from your Mayor

Chased Fran 22/9/25

Asked for by the end of the week – 1/10/25



To follow

(125 words)

Dog Show - 6th September



River Rinses - Sunday 21st September and 5th October



Charter Fair Saturday - 18th & 25th October



Black History Month Talk – 23rd October

The story began nearly a century ago with Ada Louise Curtis, a determined young woman who left Jamaica in 1924. Her courage, independence and resilience laid the foundation for a family legacy that would eventually reach Buckingham, and leave a lasting mark on its community.



Halloween Disco Friday 31st October



Bonfire Fireworks - 1st November

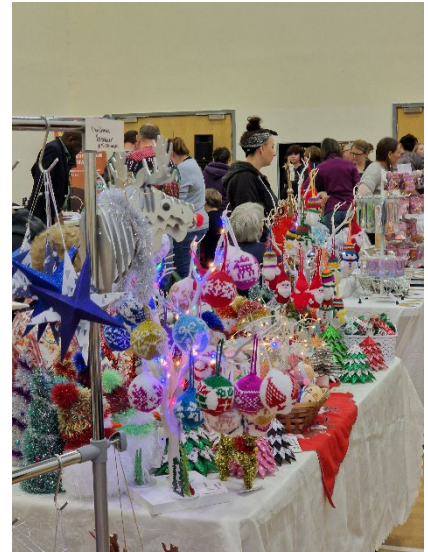


Remembrance Parade - 9th November



Lace Hill Winter Fair - 16th November

Join us on Saturday, 16th November from 2pm to 4pm at the Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre for the popular **Winter Fair**, a family event full of community spirit and seasonal delights. There will be lots of stalls showcasing beautiful handmade Christmas gifts, decorations, and treats - all crafted by talented local makers. There will also be refreshments, children's art and craft activities and heaps of festive cheer.



Christmas Lights Switch On – 27th November

Gather with family and friends as the town is transformed at the **Christmas Lights Switch On** event, which takes place on Thursday, 27th November from 4pm to 7pm. Enjoy carol singing, tasty food and drink, live entertainment and family-friendly festive activities.



Christmas Parade – 13th December

This year's **Christmas Parade** will take place on Saturday, 13th December. Join us as the town is transformed by a dazzling display of floats and walking groups – all celebrating this year's magical theme: *Christmas Movies*.

The event is organised by the Christmas Parade Committee, with support from Buckingham Town Council, who fund the parade and oversee the road closures to ensure a safe and joyful experience for all.



Community Fair – 13th December

Our last event of the calendar year is the **Community Fair** on Saturday, 13th December. It takes place immediately after the Christmas Parade at Buckingham Community Centre. If you're feeling the chill after the Christmas Parade, what better way to warm up than enjoying festive refreshments and supporting local charities by buying some last minute gifts.



Holocaust Memorial Day – 27th January

On Tuesday, 27th January 2026 from 11am to 12 noon, we recognise **Holocaust Memorial Day** with a commemoration in Bourton Park next to the Holocaust Memorial Stone. Our town Mayor, Cllr. Fran Davies will lead with a reading and there will be contributions from local schoolchildren. We would be honoured if you can join us to mark this important day.



Pancake Race – 19th February

Grab your apron and get yourself down to the green at St. Peter and St Paul's Church on Thursday, 19th February for our annual **Pancake Races** from 11am to 12:30pm. There is a race for everyone, with prizes and treats for the winners. Come and run or cheer on the racers and enjoy this fun, friendly, community event.

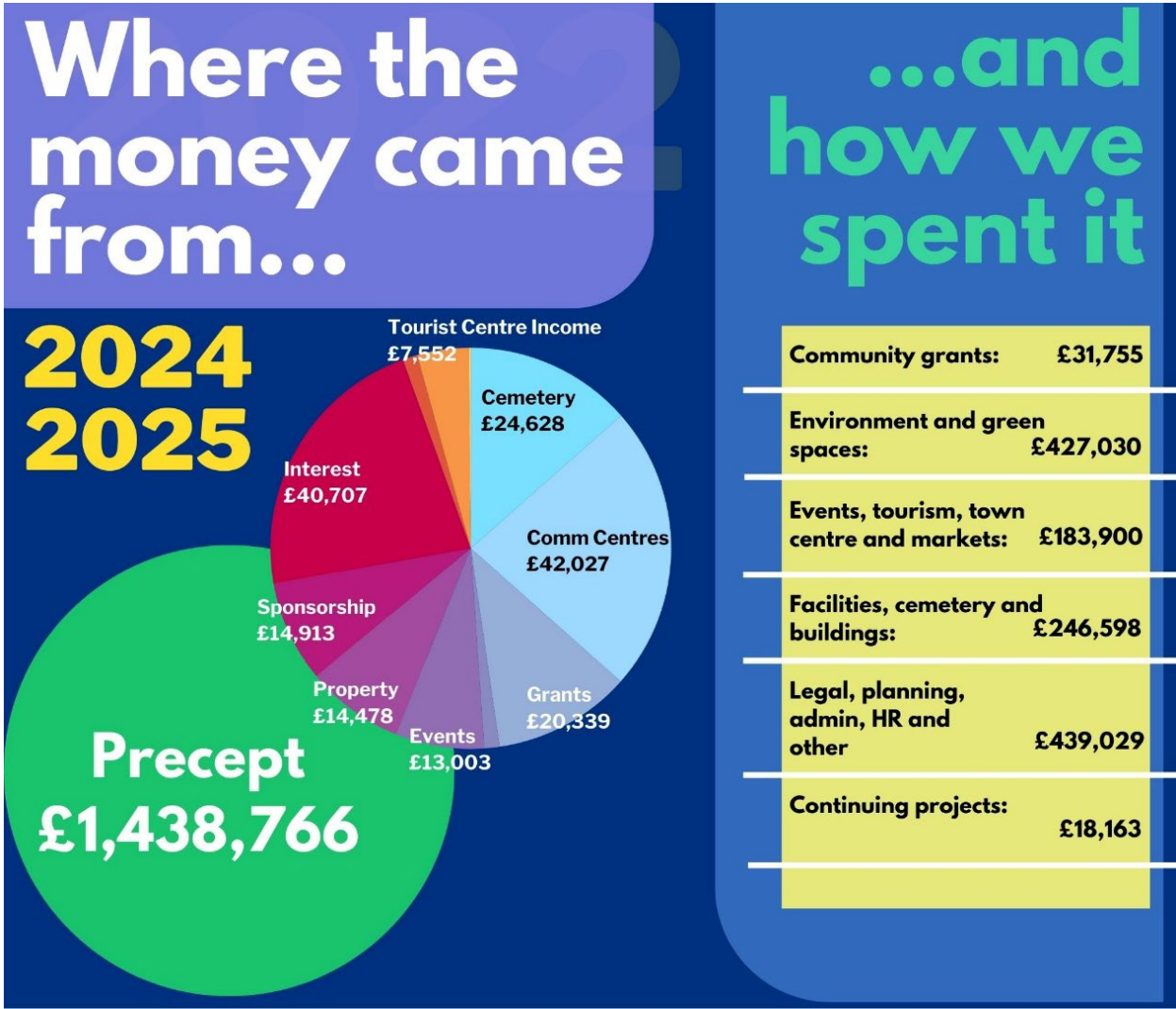


Food Fair – 28th February

The popular **Food Fair** is back on Saturday, 28th February at Buckingham Community Centre, bringing a vibrant mix of food vendors and artisan producers. The event supports our local food businesses and visitors can look forward to sampling and buying delicious treats. Outside the venue will be street food vans to tempt you further.



Where the money came from and how we spent it in 2024/25



Each year, Buckingham Town Council manages a wide range of services and facilities for the community, funded through a combination of local income sources and the Council Tax precept. Here is a summary of how we funded our services and where that money was spent during the financial year 2024/25.

Income: £1,438,766

The majority of our income came from the Precept—the portion of your Council Tax that goes directly to the Town Council—which provided £1,230,480 of our total budget.

We also generated additional income from a variety of local sources:

- Community centres brought in £42,027
- Interest earned on investments totalled £40,707
- Street and Flea Markets contributed £25,902
- Brackley Road Cemetery fees added £24,628
- Events income was £13,003
- Roundabout sponsorship generated £14,913
- Grants received totalled £20,339

Smaller income streams included Lace Hill Community Centre's solar energy (£2,170), Tourism Information services (£7,552), and Shopmobility hire (£311), among others.

Expenditure: £1,346,475.94

Our biggest area of spending was on resources, which includes staff, administration, and day-to-day operations, costing £439,029

Other major expenditures included:

- Green spaces – £427,030, maintaining parks and play areas
- Town Centre enhancements (TCE) – £183,900
- Cemeteries – £160,982
- Lace Hill facilities – £35,675
- Public toilets (including Chandos and Shopmobility) – £40,085

We also invested in smaller but essential services, including the Greenspaces Depot (£9,856) and grants to local organisations (£31,755). Additionally, £18,163.94 was added to earmarked reserves for future projects.

Thanks to careful financial management, income exceeded expenditure by over £92,000, which helps support reserves and future service improvements.

Christmas Card Competition 2025

262 words (less with images) **123 words**

This year, the Mayor, Cllr Fran Davies, held her annual Christmas Card Competition with the theme “*Christmas Around the World.*” Local children were encouraged to think about how different cultures celebrate and let their creativity shine through their festive designs.

The winners joined the Mayor on stage to help switch on the Christmas lights on Thursday 27th November — a magical way to celebrate their achievement. Their designs are now available in packs from the Tourist Information Centre at the Old Gaol. Proceeds from sales will support the Mayor’s chosen charities: Young Carers Youth Club and the Oli Hilsdon Foundation.

A special thank you goes to BCQ, the local printing company based on the industrial estate, for printing this year’s cards.

Picture of winner from each category

Winner from reception to year 2

Winner from year 3 to year 6

Buckingham in Bloom 2025

350 words (less with images)

This year's Buckingham in Bloom competition once again highlighted the creativity of residents and businesses who brighten the town with flowers and planting.

At the **Residential Awards Ceremony**, hosted by The Larder Café at Manor Farm, Mayor Cllr. Fran Davies presented certificates and garden centre vouchers to the winners. Paynes Court won 1st Place, Community Garden. In the Residential Containers & Baskets category, Raymond Neale took 1st Place and Trevor Lawler was awarded 2nd Place, Highly Commended. Graham Phillips won 1st Place, Residential Front Garden, with Kate Cantrell taking 2nd Place.

In the **Business Awards**, The Larder Café at Manor Farm won 1st Place, Large Business, with The Woolpack in 2nd Place. In the Small Business category, Dancing

Appendix F

Squirrel Ltd. took 1st Place, while Mercy in Action placed 2nd for their creative floral window.

Buckingham Town Council thanks all entrants for their efforts in making the town brighter and more beautiful and looks forward to even more participation next year.



Residential award ceremony



Paynes Court – Community Garden winners.



Trevor Lawler – Second place baskets and containers

Public Art and Photography Competition

350 words (less with images)

Buckingham has been getting creative with the camera in our two recent photo competitions!

The first celebrated the stunning new artwork on the Chamber wall, hand-crafted by talented local artist Lee Vernon. The second invited young people aged 13–17 to capture the past, present and future of Buckingham, exploring the themes of Heritage and Sustainability.

A big thank you goes to Throwback, our town centre vintage shop, who generously sponsored the teen competition with a £40 in-store voucher for the winner and to our Mayor, Cllr Fran Davies, for judging.

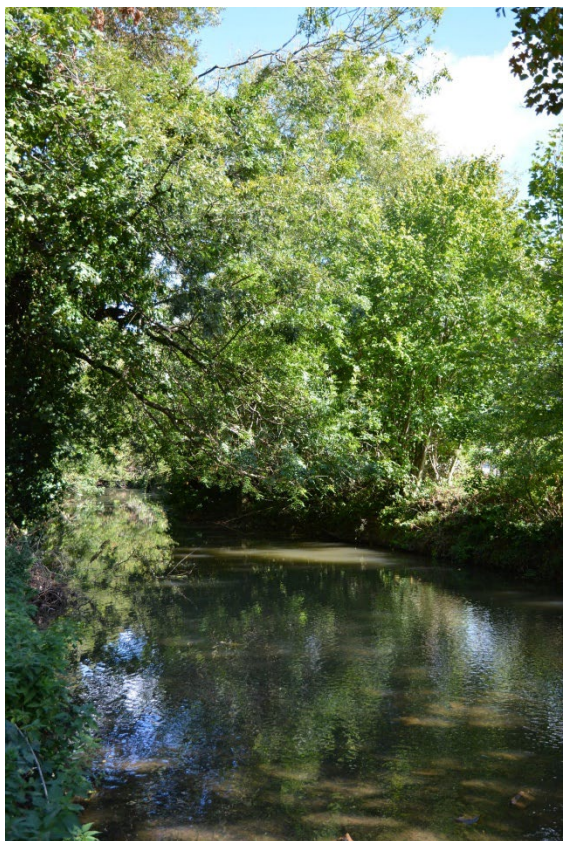
Most importantly, thank you to everyone who entered — your creativity helps us keep running fun competitions like these for the whole community!



Jemima - Winning Selfie



Willow – Runner Up



Eila – Winner of the Teen Photo Competition

Small Business Saturday

125 words (less with images)

Buckingham's high street will be buzzing with excitement as we celebrate our brilliant independent businesses. Expect fun for the whole family, with a special trail for children and exclusive incentives for grown-up shoppers.

From locally made jewellery and sustainable fashion to vintage clothing and unique gifts, you'll find plenty of treasures to take home. Plus, enjoy *one-day-only promotions* you won't want to miss!

Plan your visit now by checking out our website and get ready for a day full of community, shopping, and celebration.



Progress at Tingewick Road Cemetery and Allotment Site

Work is progressing well at the new cemetery and allotment site on Tingewick Road. The contractor, Ground Control, has laid the foundations for the entrance road, car parks and the concrete rafters that will support memorials in the cemetery's lawn section. Lawn plots are low-maintenance burial areas where graves are level with the ground and grassed over. Kerb sets are not permitted in the lawn plots, and memorials must be installed within a ground-level concrete rafter.

The site will also offer traditional plots with kerb sets, family burial plots, and a children's burial area. The project management team continue to monitor progress and aim for an approximate completion by the end of 2025.

To register interest, email estates@buckingham-tc.gov.uk or call 01280 816426.



Entrance Road from Tingewick Road roundabout



Cemetery Road with Lawn Plot rafters on left



Allotment site under construction

Lace Hill Community Centre

Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre offers a wide range of classes, activities, and community events for all ages. The Centre features two versatile rooms for hire: a spacious sports hall and a committee room, along with two sports pitches, an outdoor play park, and a multi-use games area. Whether it is for private events, fitness classes, martial arts, or kids' groups, there is something for everyone.

To book a space or inquire about availability, get in touch with the Community Centre Coordinator at lacehillcentre@buckingham-tc.gov.uk. For the latest events and to view the timetable, visit www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk or follow @LaceHillCentre on social media.

150 words (less with images)



Winter: Stay warm, stay safe

We know that winter can be a difficult time for many. Keeping warm and staying healthy is very important. The UK Government and NHS recommend:

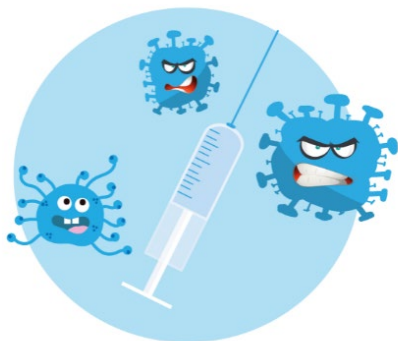
- **Get vaccinated:** Book your flu jab and winter Covid booster if eligible.
- **Seek help early:** Contact your pharmacist, GP, or NHS 111 if you feel unwell.
- **Keep warm:** Maintain at least 18°C in rooms you use often, close windows at night, and wear layers.
- **Plan ahead:** Stock up on food and medication if bad weather is forecast.
- **Register for priority services:** If you are elderly, pregnant, disabled, or need extra support, sign up with your utility providers.

Local Help in Buckingham

- **Jedidiah**, 13 Castle Street: Free fresh food, Wed–Fri from 4pm, Sat from 9am. No referral needed - just bring a bag.
- **Buckingham Food Bank:** Non-perishable items available with a referral from Citizens' Advice, GP, Health Visitor, Social Services, or a local church.
- **Repair Café**, The Centre, Verney Close: Open 2nd Saturday of every month, 10am -1pm. Volunteers help to fix clothes, electronics, and more.

171 words

Picture options:



List of Councillors and Numbers

Useful Numbers

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Fran Davies - Mayor	07976 558609
Cllr. Andy Mahi – Deputy Mayor	01280 816562
Cllr. Robina Ahmed	01280 816426
Cllr. Tony Allen	07769 339209
Cllr. Lucy Draper	07432 290842
Cllr. Jon Harvey	01280 812711
Cllr. Heather Haydock	07979 902517
Cllr. Howard Mordue	01280 815418
Cllr. Jane Mordue	01280 815418
Cllr. Roger Newall	07540 317160
Cllr. Ruth Newell	01280 815229
Cllr. Lisa O'Donoghue	07906 408646
Cllr. Russell Poppe	07563 403585
Cllr. Anja Schaefer	01280 816426
Cllr. Sundeep Singh	07810 563890
Cllr. Robin Stuchbury	07752 394162
Cllr. Martin Try	01280 816202
Town Clerk – Claire Molyneux	01280 816426

USEFUL NUMBERS/CONTACTS

Buckingham Town Council	01280 816426
Buckingham Cemetery	01280 816801
Buckingham Shopmobility	07738 314027
Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre	01280 816426
Buckingham Community Hall	01280 823584
Buckingham Tourist Info Centre	01280 823020
Buckinghamshire Council	0300 131 6000
Transport for Buckinghamshire	01296 382 416
Citizens Advice Buckinghamshire	0808 278 7938
Citizens Advice National	08001 448 848

Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247
Thames Valley Police	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
NHS Urgent Care	111
Power Cut Helpline	105
National Gas Helpline	0800 111 999
Anglian Water Emergency Line	03457 145 145
Floodline	03459 881 188
ChildLine	0800 11 11
Samaritans	01908 667777
Street Link	03005 000 914
Fraud	03001 232 040
Stop Scams UK	159
Emergency Services	999
Fix My Street	https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/
Our MP for Buckingham	callum.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

To find contact details for Buckingham Town Councillors, please visit our website:
www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/your-town-council/councillors

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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or Instagram: *(Instagram symbol)* **@buckinghamtc**

Buckingham Town Council does not endorse or sanction any other materials, products or advertisements which may be delivered together, in or at the same time as our Buckingham Town Matters.

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 approximately 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.

2025/26 Events Diary

Please find further details inside or online:

2025			
November	Bonfire & Fireworks	Sat 1 st November (6pm)	Bourton Park
	Remembrance Parade	Sun 9 th November	Buckingham town centre
	Winter Fair	Sun 16 th November	Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre
	Christmas Lights Switch On	Thurs 27 th November	Buckingham town centre
December	Small Business Saturday	Sat 6 th December	Buckingham town centre
	Christmas Parade	Saturday 13 th December	Buckingham town centre
	Community Fair	Saturday 13 th December	Buckingham Community Centre
January	Holocaust Memorial Day	Tuesday 27 th January	Bourton Park
February	Pancake Races	Tuesday 17 th	Church Green
	Food Fair	Saturday 18 th	Buckingham Community Centre
March	Easter event	Sunday 29 th	Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre
	Annual Town Meeting	Thursday 26 th	Buckingham Community Centre
April			

Find the Word Competition – Win a £10 Voucher!

Take part in our *Find the Word* competition for your chance to win a **£10 voucher to spend at a local business!**

Hidden somewhere in this newsletter is a **seasonal word**. To enter, simply locate the word 'shine', note the **page number and its location**, and email your answer to: **office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk**.

All correct entries will be entered into a draw, and the winner will be **chosen at random by the Town Clerk**.

Hurry – entries close at **midnight on 30th November 2025**, and the lucky winner will be notified by **email or telephone by 1st December 2025**.

Good luck – and happy hunting!

125 words (less with images)



Buckingham TownMatters

Autumn issue 2025



Message from your Mayor • Meet your new Town Councillors
Find out how to apply for a Grant • Civic Awards

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR



Dear residents of Buckingham

As your Mayor, I have had a busy and varied schedule since May and have many more events to attend and groups to meet in the coming months.

I have particularly enjoyed meeting with the wonderful voluntary groups which enrich and support our community, and if I haven't been to see your group yet, please email the office with your invitations.

I have signed the Twinning Agreement with the Italian town of Valmadrera, welcoming their Mayor to Celebrate Buckingham Day, on what was the hottest day of the year so far!

With thoughts of the rest of the year, and cooler days, I am particularly looking forward to some of my favourite events which the Town Council puts on annually, including Bonfire and Fireworks and the Christmas Lights Switch On.

The Town Council have various projects that are progressing, and I look forward to the new Derek Isham Allotments being ready soon, to welcome those who wish to grow their own produce, and as I write this we are hopeful that our new Neighbourhood Plan, which has been many years in the making, will be at the referendum stage around the time that this is delivered to you.

I am so pleased to see the Lace Hill Surgery is now in progress and I look forward to better healthcare provision for us all.

If you would like updates on where I have been and what I am doing as your Mayor, please follow Mayor of Buckingham on Facebook, and you can let me know about your events and projects as well.

Peace and blessings to you all,

Fran Davies

Cllr. Fran Davies
Mayor of Buckingham



INTRODUCING THE NEW DEPUTY MAYOR



I was humbled and honoured to have been voted, by my fellow Councillors, to be the Deputy Mayor of Buckingham for 2025/2026.

I am looking forward to working and supporting our Mayor Cllr. Fran Davies, the residents of Buckingham and our hard working Council officers

and staff. I so hope to meet many of you at our various upcoming events.

I hope that you had wonderful summer and are now looking forward to Christmas.

Take care,

Andy Mahi

Cllr. Andy Mahi
Deputy Mayor of Buckingham



THE BRAIN TUMOUR CHARITY



THE OLİ HILSDON FOUNDATION

YC2

Buckingham & Winslow Young Carers



MAYOR'S CHARITIES

Buckingham Town Mayor Fran Davies said "I knew Oli before his diagnosis. His

upbeat attitude, kindness and resilience throughout his treatment was an example to us all, even running a marathon to raise funds whilst undergoing treatment. He is loved and missed.

Young people seldom become carers by choice; the young person steps up because it is a natural, human, and caring thing to do. Many of these children do not realise what a vital role they are playing, nor how much

they miss out. They deserve the space and time to be a child".

The Oli Hilsdon Foundation: The Foundation continues Oli's incredible work, raising awareness and funding research projects that advance the goal of extending, and ultimately saving the lives of those diagnosed with Glioblastoma Multiforme, the most lethal and aggressive of brain tumours.

YC2 Buckingham and Winslow Young Carers Youth Club: YC2 aims to provide services that improve the quality of life and opportunities for young carers in Buckingham and the local area, by offering a solid network for fun, friendship, emotional support, advice, and personal development.

OUR TOWN EVENTS OUR TOWN EVENTS OUR TOWN EVENTS OUR TOWN EVENTS

Buckingham Live:
25th May 2025



Buckingham Play Days:
July & August 2025



Spring Green Fair:
27th April 2025



BandJam:
24th August 2025



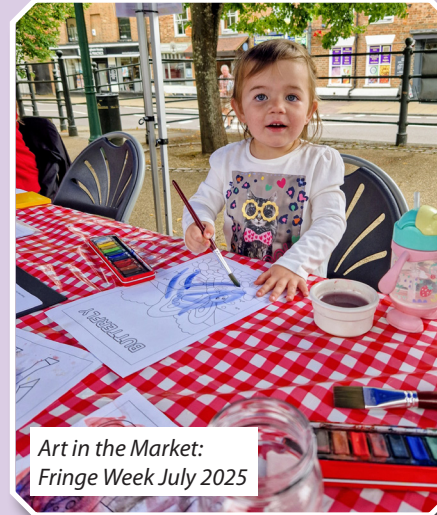
Celebrate Buckingham:
21st June 2025



Crafts at Chantry Chapel:
Fringe Week July 2025



Art in the Market:
Fringe Week July 2025



The Oxford Fiddle Group:
Fringe Week July 2025



May Day:
1st May 2025



Dog Show:
6th September 2025



OUR TOWN EVENTS OUR TOWN EVENTS OUR TOWN EVENTS OUR TOWN EVENTS

The autumn months bring a whole array of amazing community events. A summary of the dates can be found on the back page of this Newsletter. Add them to your calendar and come along and enjoy the wonderful events in your town.

This year the annual **Charter Fair** rolls into town on Friday 17th October 2025 to set up and will be operating on Saturday 18th October 2025. It will then return on the following Friday, 24th October 2025 and will operate on Saturday 25th October 2025. A full road closure will be in force from 6am on both Fridays and covering both Saturdays. Diversions will be in place.



Charter Fairs: 18th and 25th October 2025

Join us at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre for a fantastic family friendly **Halloween Disco Party** on Friday 31st October 2025 from 6-9pm. Tickets can be purchased from Buckingham Tourist Information Centre.



Halloween Disco: 31st October 2025

Bonfire & Fireworks on Saturday 1st November 2025 starting 6pm in Bourton Park. Free entry. Enjoy a fantastic fireworks display, bonfire, DJ Dan Blaze, and local food vendors.



Bonfire and Fireworks: 1st November 2025



Remembrance Parade: 9th November 2025

Buckingham's **Remembrance Parade** will be held on Sunday 9th November 2025. The parade will form up on Market Hill and march to the War Memorial outside St Peter and St Paul Church at 10:30am. A rolling road closure and diversions will be in place from 10:15am.

The **Winter Fair** will take place on Sunday 16th November 2025 from 2pm–4pm at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre. There will be lots of local handmade Christmas goodies, refreshments and art and craft activities for the children to enjoy.



Winter Fair: 16th November 2025

The **Christmas Lights Switch On** will be taking place on Thursday 27th November 2025 from 4pm to 7pm outside The Old Gaol. Expect carols, festive activities, local food vendors and live entertainment.



Christmas Lights Switch On: 27th November 2025

The annual **Christmas Parade** will be on Saturday 13th December 2025 and is organised by the Christmas Parade Committee. The Parade is made up of floats and walking groups.



Christmas Parade: 13th December 2025

HERE'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO 2024-2025



Environment

This year has seen great progress across projects overseen by the Environment Committee and our excellent Green Spaces Team.

We are pleased to have secured ownership and planning permission for the new Tingewick Road Cemetery and Derek Isham allotments, and we have started planting trees and wildflower meadows.

Brackley Road Cemetery remains well-maintained, and complemented by the popular Commonwealth War Graves tours.

Lace Hill pitches are in regular use, and the Cornwalls Meadow toilets have had a smart refresh.

Work continues in Bourton Park to remove an ageing bridge, and we await updates on the Railway Walk path project.

Planning

Major developments at Osier Way, London Road, and Bourton Farm were considered by Full Council, with two opposed for conflicting with the current Neighbourhood Plan (BNP).

The Committee continues to uphold BNP policies, safeguard the Conservation Area, and raise concerns over houses in multiple occupation, access, and enforcement issues. The updated BNP (2024–2040) was submitted to Buckinghamshire Council in December and is expected to go to public referendum.

Following two years of work with consultants ONH and over 40 meetings, including public consultations, the new BNP reflects community feedback and seeks to secure appropriate infrastructure through developer contributions.

The Committee also engaged in County planning forums and infrastructure discussions along the A421 corridor.

Resources

With many residents still impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, the Resources Committee continues to scrutinise all spending carefully. We prioritise value for money and support local suppliers where possible – for example, sourcing fuel from Buckingham's independent petrol station.

Staffing remains our largest cost, reflecting the town's growth and increasing responsibilities taken on by Officers.

In response to concerns about Management Companies maintaining new developments, we now negotiate with developers early to ensure the Town Council can adopt and care for green spaces and play areas to our high standards.

This year, we reviewed and awarded grants to 16 local organisations supporting the community through activities, events, and essential services.

Town Centre & Events

The Committee, supported by Officers and the Green Spaces Team, delivered a packed calendar of mostly free community events this year. Highlights included Buckingham Live at the Football Club, BandJam in the Market Square, and the popular Celebrate Buckingham Day in Bourton Park.

The Fringe Festival and Food Fair drew strong attendance, while free art activities and events at Lace Hill Centre remained community favourites. The Christmas Lights Switch-On and Christmas Parade were again well received, and the Community Fair helped raise funds for local charities.

We continue to support tourism through the Tourist Information Centre and fund ShopMobility to promote local shopping.

Thanks to careful planning, strong partnerships, and committed staff, our events bring the community together and support the local economy. We look forward to another vibrant year ahead.



MEET YOUR NEW TOWN COUNCILLORS

Buckingham Town Council is thrilled to welcome six dynamic new Town Councillors, each bringing a rich blend of talent, experience, and fresh perspectives. We are excited to see the positive impact they will have on our community.

Cllr. Roger Newall

I have called Buckingham home since 1987 and bring a wealth of experience in planning from my career at Aylesbury Vale District Council. I am now a planning consultant and active member of the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan Working Group; I am passionate about thoughtful development and community wellbeing. I intend to draw on my extensive experience in local government to support the Town Council as Buckingham prepares for significant growth.



Cllr. Russell Poppe

I have lived in Buckingham for nearly 20 years and work full-time as a Chartered Engineer. I am a member of the Buckingham Society and advocate for local businesses, green spaces, and our town's rich heritage. I am absolutely delighted to be joining the Town Council and supporting the community I have proudly called home for two decades.

Cllr. Ruth Newell

I have lived in the Buckingham area for decades, and although a 'new' councillor, I have served previously on the Town Council for 30 years, including as Mayor for 4 years. Tragically my wonderful husband Robert Munday died of MND 4 years ago.

My passion is the environment, from studying Ecology at Aberystwyth followed by a Masters at Imperial college, and now being a River and Tree Warden. I worked in local government finance and HR and now as a governance professional, together with volunteering for Oxfam and The Buckingham Foodbank.



Cllr. Heather Haydock

I have lived on Page Hill in Buckingham for 20 years with my husband and daughter. I took early retirement from a career in environmental consultancy two years ago and now volunteer for local community and environmental organisations like Citizens Advice and Community Impact Bucks. I love the green spaces in Buckingham, and you will often see me dog walking there with our golden retrievers. I look forward to helping the local community and environment in my time as a Councillor.

Cllr. Tony Allen

My wife Hazel and I moved to Buckingham 10 years ago and immediately fell in love with its friendly community, open spaces and the easy walk to pubs and places to eat. We were fortunate to retire early 4 years ago. Our open spaces are important for the wellbeing of our community, hence why the environment is important to me to protect; I can often be seen using them to lead C25K groups and men's walks.



Cllr. Sundeep Singh

I live in Buckingham South Ward and work in electrical engineering, leading a business that supports global energy infrastructure. I am passionate about sustainability and protecting our local environment. As a Town Councillor, I look forward to contributing to community development, supporting environmentally responsible initiatives, and ensuring sustainable new housing developments have the necessary basic infrastructure in place.



GRANT APPLICATIONS 2026 ONWARDS

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 there are two grant funds to apply for. These are:

- one-year projects taking place 2026/2027;
- four-year funding for long term activities 2026-2030.

Application forms are available on the website and must be returned to the Town Council by 12 noon on Friday 21st November 2025.

If you would like to discuss a possible application, including which fund is best to apply for, or to receive an application form, please contact the Town Council by:

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

Phone: 01280 816426

Email: office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/your-town-council/grant-applications/



BUCKINGHAM ROTARY

The Rotary Club of Buckingham has the local community at its heart and makes a positive difference.



In the last year we helped local groups raise over £10,000 – through annual events such as the Santa Float and Swimathon.

We also raise money that we then spend on our community projects. For example, this year we have:

- Taken 40 children from local primary schools to Whipsnade Zoo for the day.
- Awarded places for the Rotary Youth Leader scheme to the two senior schools.
- Arranged the Buckingham Easter Trail.
- Provided interview techniques and practice sessions for the Buckingham School.
- Donated to the new Galaxy Scout group that is being established for people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Oh, and Rotary is a global organisation with over 1.2 million members who do fantastic things across the world, and with the right people we can get involved too.

We have two meetings a month (one of which is for a meal), and always welcome people if they would like to join the club, or become Friends of Rotary (and help with our projects).

If you are interested in finding out more, please see our website www.buckinghamrotary.org, or you can contact us at secretary@buckinghamrotary.org, or find us on Facebook.

We were also instrumental in building the model town for the Buckingham Ablaze event – involving primary pupils in decorating and placing the buildings.

And we want to do so much more – but we need help to do things such as:

- Providing monthly play sessions for younger SEND children.
- Running our annual events – Santa Float, Swimathon and Classic Cars.
- Keeping social media up to date with our activities.
- Raising funds for other projects that you may think we should be involved in.



MAYOR MAKING AND CIVIC AWARDS

At this year's Mayor Making and Mayor's Reception on 6th June 2025, outstanding local individuals and groups were honoured with awards in recognition of their remarkable contributions to the community.



Friend of Buckingham

- Sheryl Bennett for her many years of generous work with the YC2 Young Carers Youth Club.
- Tony Checkley for his dedication to involvement in sports for generations of young people.

Sport and Art Award

- Buckingham Ablaze for the amazing programme of events and activities to commemorate the 1725 Fire of Buckingham.

Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Organisation of the Year

- The Buckingham Food Bank for its continued commitment to helping local people in need.

Natural Environment and Climate Champion

- The Buckingham Repair Café for their amazing work repairing a wide range of items to enable re-use.

Mayor's Prize for Outstanding Young Person

- Bourton Meadow Academy for their excellent contribution to the Holocaust Memorial Day event.

Retiring Mayor Cllr. Anja Schaefer has chosen to have a tree planted in the autumn in Bourton Park to honour her time as Mayor of Buckingham.

Further information about the civic awards can be found on the Town Council website: [Civic Buckingham – Buckingham Town Council](#).

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Fran Davies – Mayor	07976 558609
Cllr. Andy Mahi – Deputy Mayor	01280 816562
Cllr. Robina Ahmed	01280 816426
Cllr. Tony Allen	07769 339209
Cllr. Lucy Draper	07432 290842
Cllr. Jon Harvey	01280 812711
Cllr. Heather Haydock	07979 902517
Cllr. Howard Mordue	01280 815418
Cllr. Jane Mordue	01280 815418

Cllr. Roger Newall	07540 317160
Cllr. Ruth Newell	01280 815229
Cllr. Lisa O'Donoghue	07906 408646
Cllr. Russell Poppe	07563 403585
Cllr. Anja Schaefer	01280 816426
Cllr. Sundeep Singh	07810 563890
Cllr. Robin Stuchbury	07752 394162
Cllr. Martin Try	01280 816202
Town Clerk – Claire Molyneux	01280 816426

USEFUL NUMBERS

Buckingham Town Council	01280 816426
Buckingham Cemetery	01280 816801
Buckingham Shopmobility	07738 314027
Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre	01280 816426
Buckingham Community Centre	01280 823584
Buckingham Tourist Information Centre	01280 823020
Buckinghamshire Council	0300 131 6000
Transport for Buckinghamshire	01296 382416
Citizens Advice Buckinghamshire	0808 278 7938
Citizens Advice National Phone Line	0800 144 8848
Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247
Thames Valley Police	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111

NHS Urgent Care	111
Power Cut Helpline	105
National Gas Helpline	0800 111 999
Anglian Water Emergency	03457 145 145
Floodline	03459 881 188
ChildLine	0800 11 11
Samaritans	01908 667777
StreetLink (rough sleeping)	0300 500 0914
Action Fraud	0300 123 2040
Stop Scams UK	159
Emergency Services	999 or 112
Fix My Street	https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/
Our MP for Buckingham	callum.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

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. It 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 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 or drop us a line at the address opposite.
We look forward to hearing from you.

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

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

Call: 01280 816426 (Please phone for appointments.)

Follow us on Facebook: [f/BuckinghamTC](#) or **Twitter** [@buckinghamtc](#)
or instagram [@buckinghamtc](#)

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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.

2025/2026 EVENTS DIARY



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

2025			
SEPTEMBER	Dog Show X 🛒	Sat 6th September (11am to 3pm)	Bourton Park Paddock
	River Rinse 1	Sun 21st September (10:15am)	Cornwalls Meadow Car Park to the Flossh
OCTOBER	River Rinse 2	Sun 5th October (10:15am)	TBC
	Charter Fair 1	Sat 18th October	Buckingham town centre
	Charter Fair 2	Sat 25th October	Buckingham town centre
	Halloween Disco X 🛒	Fri 31st October (6:00pm to 9:00pm)	Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre
NOVEMBER	Bonfire & Fireworks X 🛒 🗑️	Sat 1st November (6pm)	Bourton Park Paddock
	Remembrance Parade	Sun 9th November	Buckingham town centre
	Winter Fair X 🛒 🗑️	Sun 16th November	Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre
	Christmas Lights Switch On X 🛒 🗑️	Thurs 27th November	Buckingham town centre
DECEMBER	Small Business Saturday	Sat 6th December	Buckingham town centre
	Christmas Parade	Sat 13th December	Buckingham town centre
	Community Fair X 🗑️	Sat 13th December	Buckingham town centre

2026			
JANUARY	Holocaust Memorial Day	Tuesday 27th January	Bourton Park

For volunteering opportunities, visit our website: www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/get-involved/volunteering/ or call the office on 01280 816426 for more information.

Key to spaces available:

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

