



# CROSS *talk*

Princes Risborough Town Council Newsletter



## Message from the Mayor

The days have finally grown cooler, the nights are drawing in and what a wonderful action packed summer it's been. The week long annual Town Festival that took place at the beginning of July was a huge success, and I'm sure those of you that attended Festival Day on the High St will agree that the along with the new food court area this year, the addition of the big screen to watch England triumph through to the semi-finals only added to the atmosphere and made it a festival to remember.

The Town Council is thrilled to be organising an outdoor Movie event in association with Churchill Retirement Living for all the community to enjoy on the 22nd September. This will take place at King George V Recreation park, where there will also be food and drink available. We hope that by showing two family friendly movies (Moana and The Greatest Showman) we will see lots of you there throughout the day and evening. Tickets can be purchased via Eventbrite and you will find full details of these on our Facebook page and Town Council website.

In other news, I was recently was asked to 'turn the first sod' on the development of the Summerley Business Centre next to Ercol. I was very pleased to hear the interest that this new development is generating. These new units will bring new jobs and opportunities to Risborough which is great news for the town.

The Town Council has recently made representations to the Inspector to ensure that commitments made by Wycombe District Council will be met in a timely manner. The hearing for Risborough did not manage to cover all the points that the Inspector had raised and the remaining issues will be covered at an additional hearing on Wednesday 26th September. I will provide a detailed report in the next issue.

I can assure you that we are continuing development work in all areas, notably economic regeneration and the new sports facilities, and I hope we can provide a comprehensive update in the next edition. As ever please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss this in more detail.

The Secretary of State will be deciding on the Unitary situation shortly. Risborough is currently served by three Councils, Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC)(Education, Roads and Social Services), Wycombe District Council (WDC) (Planning, Bin Collections and Housing) and finally the Town Council. Both BCC and WDC agree that the current structure with three councils needs to change and agree that there must be a reduction to two councils - a new entity replacing BCC and WDC and the Town Council remaining in its current form. Where BCC and WDC diverge in views is the geographical reach. BCC envisions one council covering the whole county whilst WDC and the other District Councils have proposed two. Aylesbury Vale in the North and the South (including Risborough) covering the rest of the County.

### *Inside*

- 2. Helping Local Projects
- 3. Silent Soldier
- 5. Open Cinema Event
- 6 Citizen Award Winners

The Town Council has supported the vision of the District Councils as we believe one Council has the potential to be too large to effectively serve its residents. Nevertheless, as a Town Council we have a strong record working with both BCC and WDC and we will work with either new authority. With huge experience in devolved services and Social Care - thanks to our work with the Princes Centre, I feel we will have a lot to contribute as this important issue moves forward.

Finally, I would like to thank the Councillors for electing me to a third term as Chairman and Mayor, it truly is a wonderful honour. We have a fantastic collection of Councillors whose main focus is to make things better for our residents and town. Along with dedicated and professional staff delivering our vision we are in a strong position for the challenges ahead.

**Mayor & Chairman of the Council, Cllr Matthew Walsh**



## Town Council helps fund local projects

Each financial year the Town Council sets aside a portion of its budget to help local non-profit organizations or charities fund projects which are in the interest of the town for the benefit of all or some Risborough residents.

The Town Council has two different types of grant which local organizations can apply for, minor grants of up to £250 and major grants of amounts over £250. Each grant application is judged based on its own merit and agreed by the full council following a recommendation from the finance committee. Major grants are decided annually at our November Estimates meeting so the deadline is October. Please contact the office for further details.

One example of a major grant which was recently granted is that of £1000 which was granted to the Chinnor and Risborough Railway (CPRR) this Spring. The Chinnor and Risborough Railway Association was formed in the late 1980s following the closure of the Chinnor Cement Works and the railway line that was used between Chinnor and Princes Risborough with the aim of preserving the line between Chinnor and Risborough. Its aim was achieved in part when the association was able to take possession of the line in phases up as far as Thame Junction in 1996.

Following a slight delay, of about 20 years, the Chinnor and Risborough Railway recently came to an agreement with Network Rail allowing them access to the tracks between Thame Junction and Princes Risborough and to the old platform 4. Work began on rebuilding Platform 4 and on 15th August 2018 the Chinnor and Risborough Railway re-started passenger services between Princes Risborough and Chinnor. The rebuilding of the platform and the continuing refurbishment of the signal box has been done through grants, donations and lots of hard work by the CPRR volunteers.

Steve Growcott, one of the members of the CPRR association and a key leader of the current project said "Completion of Platform 4 at Princes Risborough marks a major milestone for the Association and its supporters". However the work is not yet finished and the refurbishment of the signal box continues with a long term ambition to open this to the public.

The Mayor, Cllr Walsh, and I were present for the first passenger service between Chinnor and Princes Risborough and it was great to see how grant money from PRTC can contribute to these projects which really do bring a benefit to the community as a whole. The money from the Town Council grant helped to fund the new signage on platform 4, which was crafted by Chinnor volunteers, and the new ticket booth which used to be a car park booth at Solihull!

For more information on the Chinnor and Risborough Railway, how you can travel on the services provided or volunteer with them head over to [chinnorrailway.co.uk](http://chinnorrailway.co.uk) or if you are involved in a local project that is looking for funding head on over to the Town Council website, or call the office, for more detailed advice on the grants available.

**Cllr. Nathan Davis**



# THE SILENT SOLDIER

Commemorating 100 years since the end of the Great War



2018 is the year in which nations around the world mark the centenary of the armistice which saw the ending of the Great War, also known as the First World War. The Great War was a bloody conflict which started following the assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo and then ended 4 years later with the 1918 armistice and then the 1919 Treaty of Versailles but only following the death of around 17 million people from both sides. Looking at history it is noticeable the effect that the Great War has had on this nation and indeed the world. Not only was a generation scarred by war but the geopolitical fallout lasts up until this day.

It is important that as a town we mark this commemoration in a suitable way, so that we remind ourselves as well as educate young people about the sacrifices of the past.

As part of this commemoration, the Town Council has purchased a 'Silent Soldier' silhouette. These silhouettes are appearing up and down the country and are being put into places as a commemoration of the centenary. Whilst the local Royal British Legion will be purchasing several silhouettes to be placed in fixed locations throughout the town, the Council's Silent Soldier will be touring around the town. Our silhouette will be able to visit local organisations, youth groups and schools so that everyone can participate in the commemoration. If you would like the Silent Soldier to visit your organization please do get in touch with the office.

Also this year other commemorations are planned both in Princes Risborough and across Buckinghamshire to mark the centenary. More information will be distributed in future editions of Crosstalk, on our website and on Twitter once the plans are finalised.

## *Princes Risborough Charity*

This charity was set up in March 1823 with the aim of providing the poor or elderly of the ancient parish of Princes Risborough with money for fuel or benefit of the same. The charity is administered by seven trustees, who meet at least twice a year and provide Christmas hampers and financial assistance for the less fortunate among us.

The charity provided over 20 such hampers last Christmas and, latterly, provided financial support, along with other parish charities, to a parishioner who needed help to purchase a powered wheelchair.

The charity derives its money from the rental of agricultural land in the area and the allotments in Bar Lane Longwick. The trustees are always on the lookout for persons that are entitled to receive either a Christmas hamper or financial support. Should you or anyone to your knowledge need assistance that the charity can provide then please contact the Clerk of Trustees, Princes Risborough Charity, 3 Chestnut Close, Monks Risborough, Princes Risborough, HP27 0JU

Cllr. John Coombs

## Welcome to our new councillor Lee Byrne



I first encountered Risborough one hot and summery July eight years ago when my wife and I were looking for our first home together. We loved the friendliness and countryside and have been here ever since. I'm now lucky enough to be raising my three year old daughter somewhere quite special that's not only blessed with the beautiful surroundings of the Chilterns AONB, but that affords a strong sense of community. I took up running two years ago and through this have been able to explore much of the town and surrounding countryside, and I look forward to seeing many of you out and about on the paths and trails with your families and canine friends! The opportunity to join the Town Council and help shape the future of our town is one I couldn't refuse and I am excited to be able to make a real difference as our town continues to evolve. I'm very much looking forward to working with my fellow councillors, local residents and community groups to help ensure Risborough continues to grow and develop in the right way for the benefit of us all.

## Festival week (in a nutshell)!

Festival week 2018 was certainly one to remember. With a great mix of well-established and new events in the programme, we hope you were all able to enjoy some of the many events that were taking place throughout the town. We as councillors enjoyed getting to meet a few more of our residents at various events and enjoyed learning a bit more about our town and the local community in the process.

The week got off to an excellent start with a run around Wade's Park and it was great to see some newcomers to the 5km and many youngsters managing to complete the 1km fun run. We then moved proceedings up to Whiteleaf Hill for the picnic and chocolate hunt where we were entertained by the Cha Cha Chimps and guest appearance from Peter Rabbit!



Through the week we were fortunate enough to have daily lunchtime concerts, courtesy of our local primary schools, exercise classes from Jazzercise to Yoga and taster swim and gym sessions at Risborough Springs, as well as the local tennis and bowls clubs opening their doors to encourage us all to get more active. We had pets to pat, stitches to sew and gin to gulp to keep us occupied throughout the day and into the evening. We were also pleased to see a few of

you at our meet the councillors events and attending the heritage walk and market house talk, showing just how keen so many of you are to learn more about our town, as well as a well-attended litter pick showing how passionate you are about making and keeping Risborough the lovely place that we all call our home.

There were opportunities to explore St Mary's Church, the Hypnos factory and even our local fire station to give us an insight into the work they do. There were art demonstrations, bbqs, drumming sessions and some of us even got to have a go at being sumo wrestlers and fire fighters (mentioning no names Mr Mayor!)

However you engaged with festival week, I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did and it truly was a celebration of the many wonderful groups, organizations and businesses that we have operating across Princes Risborough. We look forward to bringing you an even more vibrant festival week next year!

Cllr Lee Byrne

## Do you have . . . .

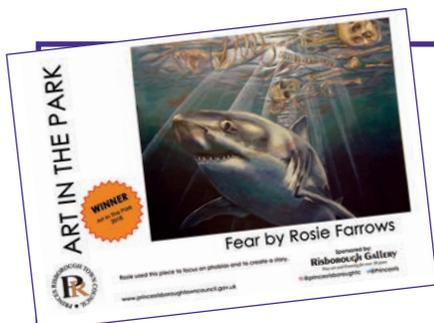


- A passion for improving the lives of children?
- A drive to support the community you live in?
- Experience of secondary school education?
- Free time during the day, Monday to Friday?
- Experience of leading teams?

If the answer to some of these questions is "yes", then we would like to talk to you!

Princes Risborough Secondary School has a relatively new team of Governors who are a friendly bunch with some fantastic skills. We provide a vitally important role as "critical friend", supporting and challenging the school to provide the best for all the children in its care. To do the best we can we need more like minded people who have the time and energy to help improve the life chances of our local children.

If you feel that you would be interested in contributing to our team please email [ChairofGovernors@princesrisborough.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:ChairofGovernors@princesrisborough.bucks.sch.uk)



# Art in the Park 2018

In 2014 I approached my colleagues on the Council with an idea to encourage and support local artists by displaying their art works on the fence between the railway line and Wades Park whilst also making that part of the park more appealing. It is now the fifth edition of Art In The Park, an event that we run as part of the Town Festival and kindly sponsored by Risborough Gallery.

We are delighted to announce that local student, Rosie Farrow was our 2018 winner.

Hopefully Art In The Park will be back again next year and I would love to see more submissions from local artists in any media. So if you paint, draw, sculpt, throw, splatter, spray or do anything else to create art we would love you to get involved. I am currently exploring ways of expanding Art In The Park. Keep an eye out on our website, Twitter and Instagram feeds in the new year for details of how to get involved in Art In The Park 2019!



Rosie with the Mayor

**CLLr Iain McLaughlan**

## Winners!



Did you know the British Transplant Games was founded in 1978 by Maurice Slapack, Consultant Surgeon, who brought together his patients and other transplant recipients to hold the first Transplant Games in Portsmouth. Since then, Transplant Sport has grown to become the largest national charity promoting activity post-transplant and the organ donor register. We are very proud to announce that two residents of Risborough were triumphant at the games. Many of you will know Trevor Lynch (Risborough Runners). Trevor was diagnosed with Lymphoma in January 2012. Over the past six years he received a lot of intense treatment including two bone marrow transplants, the most recent of which was in 2016 when he received stem cells from a donor. This qualified him to take part in this year's British Transplant Games - something he set his sights on during his transplant.

Trevor took part in the 5k and 1500 metres events coming second in the 5k and third in the 1500 metres. Trevor was joined by another Risborough resident, Sean Walsh, who manages the Risborough Rangers under 11 football team and came second in football and third in the 100 metre sprint. Two local examples of life after treatment and successful organ donation! From us all at the Town Council, huge congratulations.

A PRINCES RISBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL EVENT  
BROUGHT TO YOU IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
CHURCHILL RETIREMENT LIVING

# Outdoor MOVIES

22nd SEPTEMBER @ KING GEORGE V PARK,  
PRINCES RISBOROUGH

## MOANA @ 3PM

TICKETS £8 ADULTS, KIDS £4.50,  
UNDER 3'S FREE

PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

## THE GREATEST SHOWMAN @ 7PM

TICKETS £10 ADULTS. KIDS £7.50,  
UNDER 3'S FREE

PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

TO BUY TICKETS PLEASE VISIT THE EVENT PAGE @  
[WWW.PRINCESRISBOROUGHTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK](http://WWW.PRINCESRISBOROUGHTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK) OR CALL  
01844 275912 FOR MORE INFO



FOOD & DRINK ONSITE FROM: THE PARCHED PONY,  
LITTLE RED COFFEE VAN, THE GEORGE &  
DRAGON, WAFFLE JACKS AMERICAN DINER &  
CANDY CREATIONS BUCKINGHAMSHIRE



## New Town Council website!

Residents will now be able to find out more of the information they need from a new and improved website for the Town Council. The site has been designed around giving residents easy access to all the information about the town and the council whenever they need it.

Please browse the site and let us know what you think. Be sure to check frequently to learn about various community events or just to keep up with what's happening at Princes Risborough Town Council [www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Beacon Lighting Event

As part of the commemorations of the centenary of the Armistice that saw the end of the First World War PRTC will be lighting a beacon at 7pm on 11/11 as part of a national commemoration.

A short service will be held at the Stratton Memorial Garden from 6.30pm allowing residents the opportunity to participate without having to go up to the top of Whiteleaf.

More information will be posted about this commemoration shortly.

## Citizen Award Winners 2018

### Congratulations to Trevor Lynch.

Trevor has set up and led the highly successful weekly Risborough Run in the Park. From humble beginnings in 2014 with 4 volunteers, RRP has continued every week to provide the opportunity for families and individuals to run 5K around Wades Park. Trevor has devoted his time energy and commitment to ensure its continuous success. Trevor was also instrumental in establishing a community defibrillator at Wades Park.



**Congratulations to John Biggs.** John has shown outstanding commitment to the community with his unstinting efforts in the organization of the "Kop Hill Climb", and his support of the town festivals



### Community Group Recognition Award 2018 - Kop Hill Climb.

The restoration of this traditional hill climb by dedicated local volunteers, now in its 10th year! A great example of the whole community working together through its various organizations.



## Princes Risborough Town Council

The Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough, Bucks HP27 0DP

**T:** 01844 275912 **E:** [towncouncil@princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk)

**W:** [www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov](http://www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov)

**TW:** @Princesris

**IG:** [princesrisboroughtc](https://www.instagram.com/princesrisboroughtc)

Mayor & Chairman of the Council: Cllr. Matthew Walsh

Chairman of Finance Cttee: Cllr. Alan Turner

Chairman of Events Cttee: Cllr. Andy Ball

Chairman of Planning Cttee: Cllr. Ian Pearce

Deputy Chairman:

Chairman of Admin & HR:

Chairman of Town Cttee:

Chairman of Public Relations Cttee:

Cllr. Andy Ball

Cllr. Iain McLauchlan

Cllr. John Coombs

Cllr. David Knights

### Councillors

Cllr. Lee Byrne

Cllr. Gary Hall

Cllr. Adrian Rolfe

Cllr. Pam Summerbell

Cllr. Nathan Davis

Cllr. Janet Roberts

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. Susanne Griffiths

Deputy Clerk:

Mrs. Kirsty Pope

Administration Officer:

Jayne Mylchreest

Projects & Communications Assistant:

Mrs Annabelle Denbury

Maintenance Team Leader:

Kevin Locke

Maintenance Team Operatives:

Robert Powell, Brian Dickinson

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9.30am – 3.30pm

The full Town Council meets at 7.00pm, bi-monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at The Princes Centre, Clifford Road. There is a 10-minute slot at the beginning of each meeting when the public can express a view or concern relating to Town matters. Please check the website to confirm time and venue.

The next meetings are: **Tuesday September 25th** **Tuesday November 7th**

The Town Council aims to be as accessible as possible, and welcomes the views, comments and concerns of the Princes Risborough electorate. Although the views of the whole Council are given wherever possible, for constitutional and legal reasons we must state that the views expressed here in Crosstalk, and in any personal correspondence received from individual Councillors, are those of the author concerned and do not necessarily express the opinions or policy of PRTC unless explicitly stated.