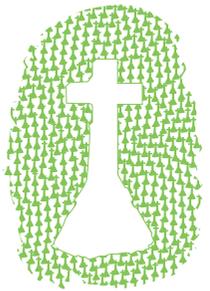




CROSStalk



Princes Risborough Town Council Newsletter

Issue No. 55

August 2014



Festival Fun 2014 photos courtesy of Tony Halford

Welcome to the latest issue of Crosstalk!

Since the last edition, the Town Council is pleased to announce that three new members have been co-opted to the council.

We welcome Mark Lowe, Matt Walsh and Mags West. Below are short introductions from each of them.

Mark Lowe

I have been given the opportunity to let you get to know me a little better with this short editorial in Crosstalk. I was co-opted onto Princes Risborough Town Council in March of this year.

Firstly, let me tell you a little about myself. I moved to Princes Risborough with Helen eight years ago and instantly loved the town. We were married at Holy Trinity in Bledlow five years ago and we have two daughters who keep me on my toes. As some of you will know, we run a shop in town and have been trading over three years now. One of the joys of having a shop in the town is the people. We meet so many lovely people in this town, it is a true highlight. I also hear what bugs people about this town and what is good about it. I thought joining the council would be a good opportunity to hear the concerns people have and hopefully help in some way.



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I am acutely aware that Princes Risborough will be going through the biggest change in a generation; the amount of information that is out there now regarding the changes is mind-boggling and I believe it is the council's job to keep you as up to date as we can. We all have to work together to ensure that the changes that are going to happen are for the good of the town and we do not get steamrollered into something none of us want.

Obviously I have a vested interest in the High Street. I made this quite clear in my interview as the simple fact is that retailers are facing a constant uphill struggle as the High Street comes under repeated threat from sources like internet trading and large out of town retail parks. Your High Street has a lot to offer and I would love to see Princes Risborough as a true destination town. That is why I have put myself forward to join the Public Relations Committee and I am the Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee. These are the two areas where I believe I can best use my attributes and help this town.

I believe that councillors should be as accessible as possible, especially during the uncertain times ahead. Please feel free to get in touch with me with any concerns you may have, and please, as more meetings are announced, come along and hear for yourself what your Council is trying to do to help.

Cllr Mark Lowe

Matt Walsh

Firstly I would like to thank my fellow councillors for co-opting me onto the Town Council and helping me settle into the role. Over the past five years I have been involved in many activities across the town.



My first appointment was on the Market Management Group, where we prepared a successful European bid for the green and white market gazebos which not only fill the High Street on a Thursday morning but have been used throughout the town for Kop Hill, sports day at Princes Risborough School and Festival to name a few!

From the Market Group I helped with the reforming of the business group, alongside helping to organise the Christmas activities for the past few years, which has included me donning an elf's costume for the Christmas Grotto! Whilst that was great fun, my proudest highlight of my time in Risborough was the event at the Houses of Parliament in aid of the Princes Centre.

Last year in conjunction with the Risborough Area Business Group and the Town Council, we had the honour of inviting clients and staff from the Princes Centre up to Speakers House for an evening reception hosted by Rt Hon John Bercow MP. Seeing the clients enjoy themselves at the seat of democracy in this country, paid for by local business and individual councillors, to me, demonstrates the feeling of community we all share here.

My job takes me across a large swathe of Buckinghamshire on a daily basis and it is here in Risborough, our base, that I

see the very best of this county. From the well-kept and hugely popular parks to people young and old simply enjoying a stroll through the High Street on a Saturday: to quote a major credit card, moments like these are simply priceless.

Princes Risborough is facing several fundamental challenges over the next few years. The Local Plan will have a vast impact on the town. Huge financial pressures at both county council and district level will have ramifications across many services that they currently provide. This, in addition to the government's drive for localising services, will result in an ever increasing workload for the Town Council.

Thankfully, we have a dedicated council, ably supported by the Clerk to the Council and her team, who play a fundamental role in supporting Princes Risborough and we are very fortunate to have them here as we enter this challenging period. I will be spending the remaining time of this elected council to ensure we are as well prepared for these headwinds as possible.

Cllr Matt Walsh

Mags West

Many of you already know me but for those of you who don't I am a former publican in the town. When I first moved to Princes Risborough in 2001 I never saw myself still living and working here 14 years later, let alone being one of the newest members of the Town Council. Yet I am!



Princes Risborough is one of the only places that I have lived in that takes hold of you. Before you know it you become part of the community and it becomes home. 14 years on and after running The George and Dragon, The Bell and The Bird in Hand I have now left the pub trade to focus on helping the community and I am currently the head of catering at The Princes Centre. Being the newbie and one of the youngest, I am hoping to bring fresh ideas and a younger face to the Council, and to move the Town Council towards the next generation. I want to connect with the people who believe that their thoughts don't count; everybody's opinion counts, however big or small, however young or old, this is our town. Over the years I have seen many changes to our town, and many of you have seen a lot more changes than me. Risborough has changed a lot in the last sixty years from a largely farming community to a small and vibrant market town, and it will change again in the next sixty years. It is up to our generation to make sure that our town is just as nice to live in in the future as it is today. One thing that doesn't change and in my short time so far on the council I have already come to see, is that any challenges that come our way as a town, the Town Council works hard to solve these problems. I am looking forward to settling in on the Town Council and working with the community that has become my home.

Cllr Mags West

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

CHANGE! - Well it's certainly never dull in Risborough and that's particularly true at present. In many ways the Town is currently facing changes and challenges greater than at any time since the 1950's. Some good, some bad, but mostly yet to be seen. The following is a brief review of some of those changes:

The Black Prince public house – an iconic part of the Town for so many years now looks almost certain to be redeveloped for residential use. The old Royal Mail delivery office - now demolished and to be replaced with a Morrisons supermarket and flats. The Baptist Church - has had a major refurbishment and is now ready for the next 300 years of its history! Picts Lane - the continuing saga of the housing development by the Railway Station still awaits determination at WDC planning level. HS2 construction traffic through Princes Risborough - the Town Council has now lodged its petition in Parliament against the effects this traffic will have on our roads. New community group - The Monks Risborough Society has been newly established and we wish it well (check out their website at www.monksrisborough.org). The East - West Rail project - we wait to see exactly how this will affect the line between Aylesbury and Princes Risborough; could it mean an additional track; what will happen to Monks Risborough Halt? Devolved Services - with the County Council facing further unsustainable cuts in government funding they are looking to devolve some service provision to the Town Council (the alternative

would simply be to stop providing them at all). Obviously there would be cost implications and the Town Council is currently considering the proposals very carefully. Mill Lane - with two large scale (unpopular) residential planning proposals for Molin's Sports Ground and land adjacent to Kingsmead it really does feel as though Monks Risborough is under siege. The combined total of the two developments would mean 300 new dwellings, with little or no improvement to local infrastructure. The Local Plan - last but not least- by now you will be aware of the implications the emerging Local Plan has for Risborough, perhaps the biggest challenge by far that we face, and we will do our best to keep you informed as matters progress.

Well there we have it: Change. There is an awful lot to ponder, but I remain convinced that as long as we, the Community, stick together and face our challenges head on we will "ride the storm" and somehow find a way to retain the character of our lovely Town and be all the stronger for it.

Cllr Alan Turner

Mayor & Chairman

Princes Risborough Town Council



DEPUTY MAYOR



It is with humble pride that I accepted the position of Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman to which I was recently elected, a position in which I will do my very best to promote our Town.

I feel that a little explanation is necessary so that people understand what is going on.

The workload of the Chairman/Town Mayor has increased dramatically over the past couple of years and therefore as Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairman, I will be attending some of the functions on the Mayor's behalf to represent Princes Risborough Town Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who "chipped in" to purchase the new Deputy Mayor's Pendant.

Cllr Wally Woolf

COMMUNITY HERO!

For anyone who hasn't already heard, the good news is that our very own community hero Peter Robinson has received an avalanche of personal awards for all the outstanding service he has given to the Town over the last 40 years. Peter was recently awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Honours List, a well-deserved honour! He has also been recognised for his long and distinguished service within Rotary by having received an extremely rare second Paul Harris Fellowship. For his sterling efforts towards saving the Day Care Centre from closure the (now) Princes Centre has named the main hall after Peter in his honour. Peter has just received an award for his work with youth services in the Town over many years. Way to go Peter! A big thank you for all your hard work within the Community. And finally, the new development on the Aylesbury Road (where the house Longfield use to be) is to be named Robinson Close in recognition of his service to the Town.

Cllr Alan Turner



Kop Hill Climb 2014 – 20/21st September www.kophillclimb.org.uk



TOWN REPORT

As was reported in the last edition of Crosstalk our Maintenance Team has now taken on the grass cutting in the public parks that are administered by the Town Council and this means that we can have our grass mown when it needs it instead of on a contracted date.



Meet the Town Council maintenance team

As you will no doubt have noticed the flower beds and containers are now filled with summer bedding and we hope that they flourish as well as they did

last year. The maintenance team will be out each day watering and weeding to keep the displays in good order and we look forward to a great display over the rest of the summer.

The Maintenance Team have also been hard at work in other areas, including the painting of over 200 lamp posts in our regular ongoing maintenance plan for our steel posts.

The winter was not so bad this year for damage to our concrete lighting poles and therefore not so many needed to be replaced, although we are considering upgrading these posts to steel ones in a long term replacement programme.

We recently received a very interesting presentation of a new style LED street light, which would significantly reduce our power requirements and offer a more concentrated, brighter and whiter light and we are presently looking into the long term replacement of all our lighting stock in the desire to reduce our carbon footprint and light pollution as well as getting better value for money. See the item on page 5 for further information.

The new Junior Play Area in Wades Park was completed on schedule and has been enjoyed by a large number of children and their parents during the spell of good weather that we have enjoyed recently. At the same time the adult fitness equipment was installed in a fitness trail around the edges of Wades Park and this has also proved very popular and is used so frequently that we are having to install grass mats beneath each item to save the wear and tear on the grass.

We are aware of a shortage of seating in the Earle Mitchell recreation area. This could be a suitable site for the donation of memorial benches. If you are interested please contact the Town Council.

Unfortunately we still seem to have some antisocial dog owners who steadfastly refuse to 'poop and scoop' in our parks and on the pavements of the town. We are in liaison with our local police, as under the "Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996" our local PSCO's have the power to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling: *Power of an authorised officer of a local authority to give a notice under section 4 of the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 (fixed penalty notices in respect of dog fouling). This power (and the 1996 Act) has now been repealed in relation to England and Wales by section 107 and Schedule 5 Part 5 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. However the power continues to have effect in respect of any land which remains designated land under the 1996 Act. Paragraph 1(2)(c) of Schedule 4 to the Police Reform Act 2002, Power to issue fixed penalty notices.*



The Pound, Askett

The Pound in Askett has recently been rebuilt to its original design and a sign installed to tell people what the Pound is and its history. The Pound was where stray farm animals were corralled until their owners could reclaim them and has long been a feature of Askett.

As the finances of the Town Council will be sorely stretched in future years the Town Committee, which is a high spending committee, is constantly striving to come up with more effective and efficient methods of working so as to get the most value for your money that we can.

Cllr John Coombs



LOCAL PLAN

The initial public consultation on the Local Plan proposals was completed in June and Wycombe District Council (WDC) have been working their way through the responses from residents across the District, (there were over 600 from Princes Risborough). Once this process is finished the responses will be published on the WDC website and all respondents should receive a direct reply. The timescales for the emerging Local Plan have now slipped back and firm proposals will not be made for some time yet. Whilst the current uncertainty is very frustrating, it is important that the process is completed in a manner which will withstand the potential of future legal challenges, (or disqualification, as happened with Aylesbury Vale District's plan). The Town Council expect to have an update for you later this year. When appropriate, we will issue a special edition of Crosstalk to keep you informed, and probably a series of public meetings. Meanwhile, please see below the Town Council's official statement submitted to the WDC Consultation.

Cllr Alan Turner

Princes Risborough Town Council's Response to the W.D.C. "Local Plan" Consultation – May 2014



Princes Risborough Town Council (PRTC) is opposed to large scale development on the northern side of the Risborough – Aylesbury railway line, as proposed in the draft Local Plan. Development on this land would set a precedent and potentially lead to uncontrolled urban sprawl across open countryside which is overlooked by the Chiltern Hills, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is PRTC's considered opinion that all the land from the base of the Chiltern Hills, which extends from the northern border of the Town and lies within Wycombe District, should be re-designated as AONB and/or Greenbelt in order to protect this beautiful countryside for the present and future benefit of all.

Whilst PRTC is mindful of the need for new housing within the Town, particularly for young families, it is against the use of Greenbelt/AONB for such developments. PRTC is also mindful that low employment opportunities in this northern part of Wycombe District and poor road connections on the A4010 in either direction could impact any large-scale development being considered sustainable.

However, the Town Council takes its responsibilities seriously and should, in the worst case scenario, development be considered on land north of the railway line it would be imperative that the necessary infrastructure improvements, (including, but not exclusively, a western relief road, new primary school, new doctors' surgery and current town centre redevelopment/expansion within the existing commercial centre of The High Street, Duke Street, New Road, Horns Lane and Bell Street), are implemented alongside any housing development. Furthermore, PRTC insist that it should play a key role in all matters relating to any development, including allocation of housing.

PRTC is currently in the process of establishing a Neighbourhood Development Plan to further establish its position.



LED LIGHTING

Many of you will have noticed that the county council have replaced most of the taller lights on the A4010 through Risborough with modern money-saving LED units. The new LED's give a crisp white light and use a fraction of the energy that traditional incandescent bulbs use. They are also individually programmable so that during the small hours when most of us are in bed they can automatically dim by 25% or more, saving even more energy without affecting road users' safety.

The Town Council is now actively investigating a switchover of all our 520 orange sodium 35W and brighter 70W lanterns to low-energy LED's. To switch over to all LED's is a no-brainer as we would consume a fraction of our current energy requirement forever.

Our energy bill for lighting last year was £19,626 so if we can save 30-50% of that every year then we all benefit. To change all 520 in one go would be hugely expensive, in excess of £100,000, so if we go forward with the project we will probably have to phase them in over a number of years, perhaps 100 per year. The supplier we are in negotiations with has offered to install two sample lights for us to evaluate before we proceed to the next stage (check the website & Twitter for locations). We will of course encourage you all to look at how it performs and give us feedback, more updates in the next Crosstalk.

Cllr Gary Hall



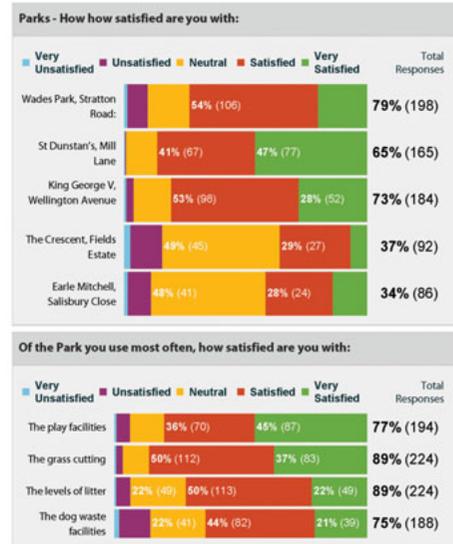
RESIDENTS SURVEY

The last Crosstalk included a 'residents' survey' questionnaire for us to gather some information on the areas of the town that are our responsibility and to highlight areas that we should concentrate on.

We received over 250 responses from the Crosstalk questionnaire and through the website. Although this does not seem much considering the population of the town and the number of Crosstalks distributed, this is in fact quite a good % response, much better than previous surveys.

The survey concentrated on the Parks and Gardens around the town and also on Town Council communication.

The Town Council are very pleased that respondents were overwhelmingly satisfied or very satisfied with The Stratton Memorial Garden and the 3 major parks of the Town (Wades Park, St Dunstons and KGV) with a staggering 88% being satisfied or very satisfied with KGV. Both The Crescent and Earle Mitchell received fewer responses, being less used than the other parks, but even then, only a very small percentage were unsatisfied with either of these parks. Since the survey, new play equipment and adult fitness equipment has been installed in Wades Park and the Town Council now knows to concentrate any next phase of upgrading on The Crescent and Earle Mitchell.



Play facilities did however come out as the aspects of all the parks that respondents were most satisfied with, with grass cutting coming second and dog waste facilities coming as the least satisfied aspects of the parks. This was a bit of a surprise and now something that we will look at. The Town Council has long since had some concerns about the lack of WDC dog waste facilities in and around the town, but had thought the parks quite well serviced.

Some of the suggestions received for the parks have been discussed and estimates for some of the work is being sought and considered for next year already. e.g. improved signage to all the parks, more seating and benches etc.

With regard to the general areas of the town, again we were pleased that all of the areas listed as being the responsibility of the Town Council were viewed well. Over 90% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the flowerbeds in and around the town and with the hanging baskets. The town's War Memorials were also rated highly. Of all the listed items, seating areas around the town received the lowest rating (still more than 50% satisfied or very satisfied) and again this is something that the Town Council is now looking at addressing.

We were also pleased that of the responses received regarding the restoration of the Market House, there was overwhelming support for having the work done and the building returned to being the focal point of the town that it should be.

Crosstalk by far proved to be the most successful form of communication for the Town Council with 88% being satisfied or very satisfied with its content. The website, Annual Town meeting and monthly meetings were also all rated well. Visibility of councillors was mentioned as an area for improvement, hence new up-to-date 'headshots' in this Crosstalk and introductions from our new councillors. Some respondents felt they should be more involved and attend our meetings. You are all welcome – meeting details are on the back page of Crosstalk and always published on the website www.princesrisborough.com

Many of the comments received were of issues that the Town Council also shares concerns about but unfortunately has little control over. There were a number of comments relating to the state of the roads and pavements, and of parking issues all over the town. These are areas we regularly address with the relevant authorities and can guarantee are shared concerns and issues that we will continue to push for resolution.

The Town Council are very grateful to all who took the time to respond to the survey. The findings are invaluable in both reassuring us that we are doing the right thing, and in guiding us in the right direction. We will try to publish detailed breakdowns of the responses on the website for more detailed inspection.



Cllr Will Streule

GRASS CUTTING

We know that you are as appalled as we are that Bucks County Council has cut back on the urban in-town grass cutting from 10 cuts per year to 6 (rural from 3 to 2) and that as of early August we have only had two cuts resulting in many areas looking an absolute unkempt mess. We are told by BCC that this is how it will be from now on and rather than looking for improvements we should expect to see the situation worsening as they have to cut back in order to use the funds elsewhere. At the July Town Council meeting the Council decided to agree in principle to accept an offer from the County Council to take on their urban grass cutting within the town from next year subject to further investigation.

Can I make this appeal to all residents - If you have a grass verge outside or near your home and you have previously

left this to the county contractors to cut then please consider taking a small amount of your time each month and going out to cut it yourselves. It makes so much difference to your environment. Those of us that do make the effort to keep our verges neat and tidy are rewarded by living in nice looking roads. Many streets in the town look shabby currently purely because of the appalling state of the neglected verges. So please, if you are able go out and do the best you can with the verges, and also if you have a neighbour who can't cut theirs please consider having a go at that too if you have time. I cut the frontages of 6 properties in my road even though I only have an electric mower and longish extension lead and it certainly makes a difference.



Cllr Gary Hall

POTHoles

The Town Council office has been inundated with complaints about potholes within and around our town.



Bucks County Council (BCC) have an ongoing programme of upgrading our existing roads around the town and you will have seen Longwick and Summerleys Roads resurfaced as well as the bellmouths of Willow Way/Manor Park Avenue and Picts Lane/Station Road completely renewed. Bell Street is due to be renewed this August and The Holloway is next to be resurfaced, followed by Aylesbury Road from Tesco roundabout to Queens Road (beside The Paddocks). In addition, the BCC Local Area Technician has identified all those areas which require repair and BCC now has a complete programme of planned repairs. However, BCC have had a very difficult few years with severe weather including snow, ice and this last winter, extreme wet weather. There is only one thing worse on road surfaces than snow and ice and that is water. Our severe flooding in Mill Lane is one of 50+ sites across the county which experienced such problems and Transport for Bucks, the Bucks County Council (BCC) contractor, is working throughout this summer to try and ensure that these do not occur again. To rectify all our roads in Buckinghamshire has been estimated to cost £370m and this year BCC is spending nearly £19m, including an extra £3.75m from government, to try and stabilise this imbalance. Continue to report any areas that you consider need urgent attention.

T: 0845 230 2882
or **Email:** tfb@bucks.gov.uk

CAR PARKING IN PRINCES & MONKS RISBOROUGH

There have been many and consistent complaints about car parking within and around both Princes and Monks Risborough. Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) had originally promised to conduct a review in 4 stages, with the first 2 being completed in 2013 and the second 2 in 2014. This was stated publically at both a Town Council meeting and a local station area public meeting in 2013. However, the officer leading this initiative left the Council without any action having been undertaken. A small subcommittee of Town Councillors (Bill Bendyshe-Brown, Will Streule and Matt Walsh) was formed in June this year to review the whole of the town's parking areas and this committee came up with known hot spots around the town which was relayed to the parking team



in BCC. A meeting was held in early July with this team and proposals are now being worked up to deliver solutions to our current problems. These include determination of an existing budget within BCC, local public consultations within the known areas, including on line surveys, and then determination of proposals which will again be put to public consultation before enactment. The whole process is planned to be completed within a year – so watch this space for further announcements. The map of known hot spots is produced above for information, or alternatively visit the Town Council website to see a larger image of this map.



Cllr Bill Bendyshe-Brown

PLANNING REPORT

Wycombe District Council's (WDC) consultation on the Local Plan is understandably still a major interest for the Town Council's Planning Committee although it is so important to the future of the town that it is a full Town Council issue, and consequently the subject of its own article in this Crosstalk.

The Planning Committee is concerned that some of the suggestions within WDC's emerging Local Plan will encourage unwanted speculative applications in the open countryside beyond the railway line and have indeed already had to object to an outline application off Mill Lane. We are also aware of a similar application in the neighbouring parish of Longwick. Molins' current attempt to prepare plans for development of their land on Mill Lane have also caused much local concern and although not in the open countryside at least this site has the protection of being in the AONB and within the Green belt.

There will inevitably be more consultation and public meetings on the Local Plan and we have now a dedicated page on the website for this, so please keep an eye open and get involved. It is important that as a town we have as much say as possible on our future.

Despite this expected growth of the town (and especially with the local, welcome and imminent (!) development off Picts Lane (glad I have not held my breath!)) WDC have unfortunately approved the demolition of The Black Prince on The Wycombe Road. The Town Council fought to retain this as a pub knowing that a number of parties were interested and even tried to have the building classified as a 'community asset'. Apparently it had not been used as a pub recently enough to be classed as a 'community asset' and despite Town Council's and local residents' objections, WDC could find no reason to refuse the site's conversion to flats. Although they refused the application with regard to the out of keeping design, the principle for residential now stands. With the old Sorting Office now demolished to make way for a Morrison's Local with flats above, the prominent landmarks of the route through the town are quite rapidly changing.

The Town Centre however is thriving with fewer closed shops than ever. In fact nearly all those shut now have plans and both a wine bar, and a tea shop are currently being prepared for opening in Duke Street. Birtchnells is high on the Town Council's list as a shop that is desperately in need of a new lease of life as it is rapidly becoming an eyesore but also one that has been the subject of many rumours – I eagerly await the next one.

As ever, all planning applications received for the parish appear on the TC website where they are easily linked to the relevant pages on the WDC planning website.

Cllr Will Streule

Chairman of Planning Committee



On Friday the 12th of September Princes Risborough will echo to the sound of the Peloton as stage six of this year's Tour of Britain cycle race flashes through the Chilterns on its way from Bath to Hemel Hempstead. The Tour of Britain is now in its 11th edition and this year the event has been upgraded to a 2.HC category race. It will be an opportunity to see some of the world's best cyclists close up as nine UCI Pro Tour teams are expected to bring their big guns to contest the race. Previous years have seen

big names from the Olympics and the Tour de France like Sir Bradley Wiggins and Mark Cavendish compete for the Gold, Green, White and Blue Jerseys.

It would be wonderful if the town could turn out and give a wonderful Risborough welcome to the riders of the Tour of Britain. The route will come into Princes Risborough from Bledlow Ridge through Picts Lane, Station Road and the A4010 before turning up New Road and then on to the challenging climb that is Kop Hill. Not only will Princes Risborough feature in the King of The Mountain competition with points available at the top of Kop Hill, the town will also host an intermediate sprint. Final details regards timings through Princes Risborough have not yet been announced so keep checking on our website (www.princesrisborough.com) and on twitter (@Princesris) for the latest updates.

TOWN CHURCH HELPS TACKLE DEBT IN RISBOROUGH

As part of its ongoing commitment to respond to social issues within the Risborough community and as families across the area continue to struggle to make ends meet in the current economic climate, St Mary's Church is joining forces with award winning charity Christians Against Poverty

– CAP a Christian charity determined to reduce hardship in the UK through its network of 260 debt counselling centres and a money education programme - the CAP Money Course.

St Mary's Rector David Williams said; "Financial hardship is something that can happen to anyone at any time and through no fault of any individual. Debt can lead to reliance on medication, destroy families and sadly in some cases, lead to thoughts of or attempts at suicide."

For those in the town suffering from financial problems, from the autumn, St Mary's will be supporting the full free CAP debt help service to help people through probably one of the lowest points in their lives.

David Williams added; "All the financial advice and practical help is given freely for everyone regardless of age, gender, faith or background and in the privacy of their own home. The help from St Mary's and CAP isn't just for a few weeks but is in-depth and continues until people are debt-free."

For further information ring 0800 328 0006 for support and advice.

Rev David Williams

Rector



P PARKING CHANGES FOR HORNS LANE & THE MOUNT CAR PARKS

UPDATE FROM WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL

WDC have recently made changes to the Horns Lane and the Mount Car Park. The new system involves the use of ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras which identifies the vehicles on arrival and passes this data to the pay terminals for people to pay on departure. No need to rush back, no fear of receiving a parking ticket! On return, just enter your vehicle registration details on the pay kiosks and it calculates how much to pay. This provides a much better parking experience and allows people to extend their stay longer if they want to. However, if you are a holder of a Blue Badge, please note bays are now marked as being chargeable, but FREE if the badge holder registers directly with WDC.

There are signs within the car park that explain the need to register with WDC if free parking is required. For further information, please contact WDC directly 01494 461000.



WILDLIFE MEADOW STRATTON MEMORIAL GARDEN



Following the hay cut earlier this year, the wildlife meadow at the Stratton Memorial Garden is now benefiting from the relatively dry and wonderfully sunny spring and summer.

Following another magnificent display of cowslips during April and May, the current plant that dominates the meadow is the stunning Horseshoe Vetch. Large patches are now established as part of our work to reduce coarse grasses. Importantly this vetch is the preferred nectar source for a wide range of insects including the dazzling Common Blues which now have a foothold in the meadow along with a growing number of recorded birds, insects, mammals and plants.

Mr Francis Gomme

Risborough Countryside Group

Princes Risborough Town Council

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

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Please visit our website: www.princesrisborough.com : @Princesris



Mayor & Chairman of the Council:
Cllr. Alan Turner



Deputy Mayor & Vice Chairman:
Cllr. Wally Woolf



Chairman of Finance Committee:
Cllr. Iain McLauchlan



Chairman of Admin & HR:
Cllr. Matt Walsh



Chairman of Town
& Public Relations Committees:
Cllr. John Coombs



Chairman of Planning Committee:
Cllr. Will Streule

Councillors



Cllr. Bill Bendyshe-Brown



Cllr. Mags West



Cllr. Mark Lowe



Cllr. Gary Hall



Cllr. Adrian Rolfe



Cllr. Pam Summerbell



Cllr. Spencer Swanson

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. Susanne Griffiths

Deputy Clerk: Mrs. Kirsty Pope

Clerical Assistants:

Maintenance Team Operatives: Mrs. Caroline Page & Mrs Jayne Mylchreest
Mr Lee Fortnam, Mr Kevin Locke, Mr Daniel Wright,
Mr Ian Harvey & Mr Reece Harwood

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 10.00am – 3.00pm

The full Town Council meets at 7.00pm on the last Tuesday of each 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 30th September

Tuesday 28th October

Tuesday 25th November

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.

Apprenticeship Available in Town Council Office
with effect from September 2014 contact office for details.