



CROSS *talk*



Princes Risborough Town Council Newsletter



A message from the Mayor & Chairman of the Council

Cllr Matthew Walsh

As the end of the year approaches, I look back and reflect on some of the highlights in my role as Chairman and Town Mayor. One of which was seeing our community and visitors supporting our events including the Town Festival which was our most successful yet, and our Outdoor Cinema event in association with Churchill Retirement Living, which despite the torrential rain, was enjoyed by many local families.

We have also built relationships and forged links with various schools, clubs and organizations and we look forward to welcoming more businesses to the area with the construction and subsequent opening of Summerleys Business Centre.

We've also faced challenges, most recently facilitating the Public meeting in response to the proposed closure of Bledlow Recycling facility, as well as detailed work on the development for the future of Princes Risborough. The Town Council and its Officers have worked tirelessly on the Local plan and subsequent Inspectorate hearings and more detail on this is reported in this issue.

With Armistice day approaching, we are marking this event with a Beacon Lighting ceremony at Stratton Memorial Garden to remember and honour all of those that have contributed in The Great War. Further information on this event is included inside.

In the run-up to our Christmas Lights Switch On which takes place on the 1st December, we are running an "Elf-Hunt" in which our local retailers and businesses have sponsored Elves who will be hiding around the town. Running from 14th-29th November there is a chance to win prizes if you find all the Elves, and we hope that the local children will enjoy taking part. You will find an entry form on page 5 and additional forms will be available at the Library, Leisure Centre and via local Primary schools.

And finally, as Christmas and New Year approaches, I'd like to thank our staff, volunteers and community for making Princes Risborough a great place to live, work and visit; it is an honour to be your Mayor and represent the Town.

I wish you and your loved ones a happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.



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Christmas Lights Switch On

Saturday 1st December 3pm!



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Sunday on the 11th November will hold a particular resonance this year, as it commemorates 100 years since the end of the First World War. The sheer scale of loss of life as a result of the conflict is difficult to comprehend and a stark reminder of the sacrifices made by so many in carrying out their duty. The politics behind the causes that led up to the outbreak of hostilities have been, and will continue to be, debated for many years, but the aim of Remembrance Sunday is to remind us of the terrors that war unleashes and to pay tribute to those who answered their nation's call, did their duty and made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their Country.

The young men of the then small and separate Parishes of Princes Risborough and Monks Risborough paid a heavy price for answering the call to arms, with 86 who never survived the horrors of the Front. Many more returned wounded and/or mentally scarred for the remainder of their lives. A tragedy replicated across the British Isles, Europe, Commonwealth Countries and indeed so many countries of the world.

Please join us this Remembrance Sunday to mark this special day of commemoration. The parade of local organizations will set off from the Baptist Church at 09.30am proceeding through the Town Centre to St Mary's Church for a 10.00am service of remembrance, followed by a gathering in the Market Square for 11.00am to observe a two minute silence and the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial. Of course there is also a remembrance service held at St Dunstan's Church which is followed at 11.00am by wreath laying at the Monks Risborough war memorial.



Alan Turner

Vice Chairman, Princes Risborough Branch, The Royal British Legion

If you are interested in finding out more about the work of the RBL, would like to become a member or get involved with the Branch Committee please contact Cllr Alan Turner at a.turner2175@yahoo.co.uk

Battle's Over
 Armistice Centenary Beacon Lighting
Stratton Memorial Garden
 11/11/2018
 Ceremony Starts 18:40
 Beacon Lighting 19:00
princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk

BATTLE'S OVER
 A NATION'S TRIBUTE
 11TH NOVEMBER 2018
 100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

PRINCES RISBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

On Sunday 11th November Princes Risborough Town Council will be taking part in 'Battles Over' a national commemoration marking the centenary of the armistice that saw the end of the The Great War. A heavy price was paid by all sides during the conflict, there were around 37 million casualties of which 16 million were deaths. The centenary marks an important moment for the

nations of all those involved, not only because it is important to remember the sacrifices made by those in service of their country but also to remind ourselves to make every effort to avoid such conflict again.

At 19:00 on the 11th a Beacon will be lit on Whiteleaf Hill and the Town Council would like to invite you to join us as part of this commemoration at the Stratton Memorial Garden (behind the Paddocks Clinic off Queens Road) where you will be able to view the Beacon and be a part of a short ceremony of remembrance involving our local Army Cadets, Scouts and Guides. If you do not wish to attend the service, good views of Whiteleaf Cross can be made from many other places across the town.

Please head down to the Memorial Garden (sorry, there is no parking available for this event) from 18:00 with the short ceremony starting at around 18:40/18:45. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Cllr Nathan Davis



Town Report

Well it is hard to believe yet another summer has come and gone, this one much warmer than usual, which has proved challenging for our Maintenance Team who have overcome the difficulties to maintain our flower displays and open spaces to their usual high standards.

The team has also been responsible for the level of care that we, the Council, require for the devolved services which we perform on behalf of Bucks County Council and other local Parish Councils, such as the grass cutting of verges and parks and recreation grounds.

Since our last report several projects have been undertaken. These include a youth shelter for the KGV Park, consideration of providing adult fitness equipment in St Dunstan's Park, refurbishing the Earle Mitchell changing room and a computerised notice board in the Town. The members also requested a meeting with Bucks County Council to look at the possibility of installing a bus shelter in the High Street outside the George and Dragon, but this proved unsuccessful due to the unknown location of underground services, but the desire remains.



Recent arson damage at Wades Park

During the late summer the Youth Shelter was installed in the KGV park and has been well received by the young people who lobbied for it in the first instance.

Unfortunately, there has been an increase in graffiti and damage in the parks, including fires in the youth shelters, both in KGV and Wades parks and the council asks for the help of the public to report any sightings of those who commit these 'crimes'. The Town Council does offer a reward to anyone who reports the names of the perpetrators leading to a successful prosecution.

The trial LED lights installed in Ash Road have not been particularly successful as the light coverage is insufficient, however the lights being trialled in Manor Park Avenue meet the required standards and a trial in Eastfield Road has commenced to prove the cost effectiveness of this type of lamp. Since then a potential supplier has been identified and the roll out will soon begin.

During the summer the team cleared the streams both in Mill Lane and Wades Park to improve the flow and to clear the streams of debris.



Market House Room for hire

Following the successful opening of the refurbished Market House the building has received much praise from members of the public who have viewed the meeting room and several open days have come and gone. The building has proved especially useful for small committee meetings and during the Town Festival.

The room is available for hourly/daily rental for groups of up to 20 persons, prices and booking information is available by contacting the Town Office.

In November we will put forward the estimates for the coming year as well as any projects that the committee are considering, bearing in mind that we must keep within limits to ensure that we do not put pressure on the precept.



Cllr John Coombs

Planning Applications

Our Planning Committee meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm. Wycombe District Council, the Planning Authority who make the final decisions, pass us applications so that we can comment ahead of any decisions.

We establish each one's location; in the case of Residential, we look at both existing and proposed plans and elevations to formulate an opinion as to whether we believe it is in keeping with the immediate neighbourhood in terms of scale, massing and design. Where we feel the application is not appropriate, we state our view and reasons and if necessary make our case at the Wycombe Planning meeting.

In the case of Commercial property, and particularly in the case of the ground floor of shops, we resist where possible any change of use to residential - so as to maintain the integrity of the Town Centre.

We also consider applications for removal or work to trees, and usually refer these to the Arboriculturalist.

Cllr Ian Pearce



Update on the Local Plan

The final hearing session for the Local Plan examination took place in early October. Following this the Inspector posed further questions to WDC, which are now available on the Wycombe District website. The Inspector is not producing an "interim report", as happened with neighbouring authority Aylesbury Vale, but will proceed straight to producing her full report - NB: an interim report is often a sign of more significant problems or the need for more work for the Council to do.

The Inspector did however say that she will be asking the Council more questions over the next few weeks. The questions and answers will be made available on the website. It will include a question about the impact of the Government's new household projections on the Plan's housing need.

Modifications will be needed to make the Plan "sound" and she indicated that she will work with the Council to assemble those modifications over the next couple of months with a view to publishing them for consultation at the beginning of January 2019, avoiding the Christmas period for consultation, but this is a bit flexible depending on progress. Consultation is just on the modifications, not on the Plan as a whole.

The examination is not over until the Inspector has submitted her report to the Council, but no indication was given that there would be any further hearings, although she could still choose to schedule some. Based on the above timing the Inspector indicated that she would provide her report to the Council by 28 March 2019. Once the Inspector submits her report, it will require Cabinet and Full Council approval. With elections scheduled for May 2019 and the rules regarding Purdah it would be likely to be approved in June or July next year. WDC have to include all of the Inspector's modifications in the final plan or not adopt the plan, meaning there would be no plan for the District.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cllr Matthew Walsh

Princes Risborough School



I am honoured to have been asked to write something for Crosstalk. For those of you who do not know me, I am the Interim Head of School at Princes Risborough School and I started at the school as Deputy Headteacher in January 2015. I became Interim Head of School on 1 September, the same day we joined the Insignis Trust alongside Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School. We are seeing this partnership as a significant step forward in the future of the school and we are already building links across the two schools between departments.



In October we were privileged to host the Mayor Mr Walsh and he toured with me round the school. He was very impressed with what he saw and I shared with him the new motto of the school, which is "Aspire and Achieve". This short phrase sums up everything we are aiming to achieve: to have nothing but the highest expectations for the young people we serve, to enable them to achieve their highest potential and do all of this with the love and care you would expect of any excellent school.

One thing I am acutely aware of is that we are the only 11-18 school in the town and we have a duty to families with children of school age to ensure we provide a high quality education for the town. This is one of the key factors that is driving me to improve the school, and the school community is in agreement with this. My colleagues have been working incredibly hard since we came back after the summer and we are already seeing benefits to our efforts. I am very keen for links between us and the town to be stronger and will be working with the team in the Council Office over ways to do that.

I appreciate that this article has been more of a re-introduction of the school to the town, and setting the scene. In future articles I will be sharing more detailed news about what is actually going on in school and where we are involved in community activities, or bringing the community to the school site.

Nicholas Simms

Interim Head of School @PRSHedOfSchool

Aspire and Achieve

Local Infrastructure Update

Princes Risborough and the surrounding area will be affected by some major infrastructure developments in the coming years. Enabling works are now underway for HS2 Phase One (London Euston to Birmingham) and the Town Council are working closely with HS2 Ltd to ensure funding secured for the A4010 is targeted effectively, so that our local roads are prepared for the additional HS2 related traffic.

Two developments relating to the Oxford – Milton Keynes – Cambridge corridor are also progressing swiftly. The Princes Risborough spur has been removed from the latest proposal for phase two of the East-West Rail project, based on the Transport and Works Act Order (TWAo) submitted in July, as it appears double tracking the existing line from Risborough

to Aylesbury would be prohibitively expensive.

Option B has also been indicated to be the preferred option for the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway, with the proposed route going from Abingdon to Milton Keynes via Winslow.

For the latest developments on each of these projects and the potential impacts, please visit the relevant websites below:



Cllr Lee Byrne

HS2 – www.hs2.org.uk and @HS2Ltd

East-West Rail – www.eastwestrail.org.uk and @eastwestrail

Oxford-Cambridge Expressway –

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway/>

WANTED MISSING ELVES



REWARD OFFERED

Santa's naughty elves have escaped from the North Pole and are hiding around Princes Risborough Town Centre!

To enter write the answers to the clues and fill out your contact details below. All entries to be received by **29th November**. Prize winners will be notified by email.



Winners will be announced at the Light Switch-On on 1st December.

Prizes include: A family ticket to see Peter Pan, Books and more!

#PRELFHUNT

WHERE ARE SANTA'S ELVES?

Using the clues below write the name of the shops and businesses where Santa's elves are hiding! Once you've found all of the Elves pop this into one of Santa's post boxes which are located at the Library and Risborough Springs Leisure Centre, they'll post it to Santa for you!

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1 This Elf is hiding in a nook, reading his favourite story book: _____</p> <p>2 Vintage Van and Antique delights this little Elf hides in the flowers at night: _____</p> <p>3 This Elf needed a place to stay because there was no room on the Sleigh: _____</p> <p>4 The Turkey is on order for a Christmas feast, Pigs in blankets are this Elf's favourite treat: _____</p> <p>5 This little Elf likes to draw, art supplies, paints and gifts galore: _____</p> <p>6 Cards, prints and stationery too, this blue fronted shop sold sweets once too: _____</p> | <p>7 This little Elf had a hole in his shoe, he lost his keys and didn't know what to do: _____</p> <p>8 Making a chain out of these lovely flowers, will keep this Elf busy for hours and hours: _____</p> <p>9 One, two, buckle my shoe, this Elf fancied a pair that were shiny and new: _____</p> <p>10 Glasses galore, for sun and sight, this Elf's little peepers are shining bright: _____</p> <p>11 This Elf fancied being called George, he slayed the dragon with a sword: _____</p> <p>12 Wool and fabric and curtain rings, this little Elf likes crafty things: _____</p> <p>13 Freshly washed, pressed and clean, this little Elf will sleep like a dream: _____</p> | <p>14 This Elf likes live music whilst sipping wine, here the grown ups have a good time: _____</p> <p>15 Freshly caught from the sea, this Elf likes his with chips & peas: _____</p> <p>16 The Elf is sponsored by St. Teresa's School, but is now at an Estate Agents having a ball: _____</p> <p>17 You'll find this Elf opposite Market House, having a drink in a Public House: _____</p> <p>18 You'll find this Elf near Market Sq, buying pretty things and cutting his hair: _____</p> <p>19 Wanting to stay slim & trim, this Elf ventured off for a swim: _____</p> |
|--|--|--|

Name: _____ Tel/Mob: _____ Email: _____

Please tick this box to be kept informed of events in Princes Risborough.

For further information on our privacy policy please visit our website www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk

Follow our Facebook page for more clues! [risboroughtowncouncil](https://www.facebook.com/risboroughtowncouncil)

