

Jubilee Sensory Garden, Brownsfield Road
see www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk for more information

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023



COUNCIL SURGERY

Council Surgery is held in The Broadway on the first Saturday of each month, 10am - 12pm.

Come along and meet a Town and a District Councillor to discuss any concerns you might have relating to Thatcham.

We're often joined by our partners from Thames Valley Police.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Council meetings are held in Thatcham Town Council Chamber at 7pm unless otherwise stated.

Recordings of our Council & Committee meetings can be viewed on our YouTube channel.

Members of the public are warmly invited to attend the following meetings:

Full Council
Monday 26th June

Planning & Highways
Tuesday 4th July

Town Centre
Monday 17th July

Finance & General Purposes
Monday 24th July

Planning & Highways
Tuesday 25th July

Full Council
Monday 31st July

Planning & Highways
Tuesday 15th August

Recreation & Amenities
Monday 21st August

NEW COUNCIL ELECTED

Following the local election on 4th May, Thatcham Town Council welcomed 9 new Councillors, to its 18 seats, with 9 Councillors returning having been re-elected.

Council is now busy establishing its aims for the next four-year term and setting up its Committees and Working Parties.

Contact details for all Thatcham Councillors can be found on page 4.

At the new Council's inaugural meeting, Councillor Mike Cole was appointed Leader of the Council, and Councillor Owen Jeffery appointed Deputy Leader.



Standing, L to R: Councillors Ben Schiffer-Harte, Owen Jeffery, Jeff Brooks, Justin Pemberton, Tom McCann, Iain Cottingham, Lee Dillon, Jeremy Cottam, Simon Pike.

Seated, L to R: Councillors Stephanie Steevenson, Val Watts, Christine Rice, Suzanne Adamantos, Mark Lillycrop, Mike Cole, Petra Pemberton, Jay Lunn, John Boyd.

NEW MAYORAL TEAM

On Sunday 14th May, Councillor Mark Lillycrop was elected Mayor of Thatcham at a ceremony at the Frank Hutchings Community Hall. Mark's wife Jenny is his Mayoress and Revd Mark Bennet his Chaplain. The Mayor has chosen PALS (Partners for Active Leisure Scheme) and Sport In Mind as his chosen charities for the year and will be working hard to raise valuable funds and awareness (see more about the charities on p4).

Councillor Suzanne Adamantos was elected Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor has already been out and about at various engagements. If you would like to invite the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to your event, meeting, function or business, please complete the form at

www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/council/the-mayor/engagement-form/

or email enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk



**PLEASE RECYCLE
THIS NEWSLETTER**

THATCHAM FAMILY FUN DAY 2023



Thatcham Town Council's flagship event, Thatcham Family Fun Day, returns to Henwick Worthy Sports Field for the 23rd year, and is set to be bigger and better than ever!

Over 13,000 people joined us last year, and with lots of old favourites returning, including the classic funfair, and lots of new stalls, food and entertainment to discover, the Fun Day will continue to be what many consider to be Thatcham's best free day out of the year!

CHILDRENS' AREAS

There will be plenty to keep the little ones entertained with a wide range of activities including the fun fair, zorbing, an inflatable assault course and a fabulously fun Land Train!

Returning attractions include the petting farm, circus skills with Juggling Jake, and Punch & Judy.



FOOD AND DRINK

With the biggest offering of street food and drinks we have ever had, there is something for everyone.

From fish & chips and burgers, Caribbean, Indian and Mexican food and plenty of sweet treats (including plenty of gluten free and vegan options) you won't be going home hungry!



ROTARY CLUB CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The ever-popular classic car show, delivered by the Rotary Club, will be bigger than ever with an anticipated 150 classic and vintage cars, motorbikes and other vehicles on display.

Take the new Land Train from the Car Show to the Kids Zone and Petting Farm.



STREET THEATRE

Prepare to be dazzled by some of the best street entertainment around. You will belly laugh through the raucous ride that is Falconry Dismay showcasing the talents of three majestic 'birds of prey'* and their expert handler; and the Glitter Pickers, who know that all good parties start with a (g)litter pick. Prepare for some hilarious behaviour whilst they tidy up the planet, one sequin at a time!

*not real birds!



THE DOG SHOW

Sponsored by Picture It

Prepare your poodles and ready your retrievers, the Family Fun Day Dog Show returns this year with every dog welcome to enter!

This year's categories include:

- Cutest Puppy (under 2yrs)
- Adorable Adult (2-9 yrs)
- Super Senior (10+ yrs)
- Best Rescue
- Best Trick

And not forgetting the Best in Show award!

Registration will be from 11am on the day, and will be £1 per category to enter.

Thank you to sponsors of the Dog Show this year, Picture It. Thatcham's own high quality, bespoke, in-house framing service. Visit their shop in Thatcham High Street.

DANCE ZONE AND MUSIC STAGE

Sponsored by Shades of Siam and Image Box

The Dance Zone and Music Stage return with Thatcham's own teenage rock band and talk of the music scene 'Beyond the Sons' performing at midday. West Berks Rock Choir provide the finale slot on the music stage at 3.30pm.

Kennet Radio will compere the Dance zone which will feature music styles from many dance schools in the region. Includes Street, Asian, Fitness, Contemporary and even dancing on Stilts, many sessions will feature a chance to try out a class.

We're grateful that The Music Stage is generously sponsored by Image Box, who provide value printing services; and local business Shades of Siam who provide original South East Asian inspired artwork and tattoos from their High Street location.

THATCHAM FAMILY FUN DAY 2023

FREE ENTRY!

THATCHAM FAMILY FUN DAY

11am-4pm Sunday 25th June 2023

Henwick Worthy Sports Ground, RG18 3BN



Parking on site is at a premium so please think about cycling or walking to site if you're able to, there will be a cycle lock-up area by the main pavilion as well as in our sports area. If you can, please think about car sharing and note there are spaces and a nice 15-minute walk from Thatcham Community Hospital.

Please DO NOT park in nearby residential areas.

Please bring cash as many charities do not have card readers!

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS

JUL 16: UNITED SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
London Road Cemetery, 3pm

OCT 6 - 15: THATCHAM FESTIVAL
Various events and venues

NOV 12: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
Town Centre & War Memorial Car Park, 10.30am

DEC 1: WARMING UP FOR CHRISTMAS
Thatcham Broadway, from 5pm

DEC 10: CIVIC CAROL SERVICE
St Mary's Church, 4pm

See www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk or follow our social media channels for more information on these events as it's released.



NEW ACCESSIBLE PLAY EQUIPMENT



Thatcham is fortunate to have 16 play areas across the town, providing families with a wide variety of equipment and space to enjoy. 12 of these play areas are managed by Thatcham Town Council.

The Town Council are committed to providing accessible and inclusive equipment to ensure that children of all abilities are able to play together wherever possible, and as a result of substantial investment, we are pleased to announce the recent installation of accessible equipment in a number of our play areas, bringing more fun and excitement for children to enjoy. We've installed:

- a ramped jeep springer at Turnfields, which allows a wheelchair user to be at the heart of the play experience with other friends. The unit incorporates many tactile features and role play opportunities for users of all abilities;
- a flush roundabout at Kennet Heath, allowing up to six children including a wheelchair user to spin together, with seating available for parents and carers to accompany their child;
- a playhouse at Moorside, which has eleven ground level play features and lots of tactile and sensory stimuli to aid the cognitive development of younger users;
- play panels at Dunstan Green and Lamb Close and a rain wheel at Dunstan Green which provide visual, tactile and auditory stimulation for all users.

The £40,000 project was possible thanks to £20,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy funds held by the Town Council and £19,950 from West Berkshire District Councillors' Members' Bid funding.

We'd love to see your children enjoying the new equipment, tag @ThatchamTC on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

MORE ABOUT THE MAYOR'S CHARITIES

PALS (www.palsweb.org.uk) is committed to giving young people with physical disabilities opportunities to gain in confidence and self-esteem, helping them to achieve their full potential through providing leisure and recreational activities.



Sport in Mind (www.sportinmind.org) is a mental health sports charity and delivers physical activity projects (sport, walking, dance and movement, gardening and exercise sessions) in partnership with the NHS, in order to aid recovery, promote mental wellbeing, improve physical health, combat social isolation and empower people to move their lives forward in a positive direction.

CONTACT THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCILLORS

Each Thatcham Councillor can be contacted by email using the format name.surname@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham

John Boyd 07853 151871
Owen Jeffery 07968 251370
Val Watts

Thatcham West

Jeff Brooks 07836 388534
Mark Lillycrop 07823 322958
Justin Pemberton
Simon Pike 07787 154070
Suzanne Adamantos 07721 865268

Thatcham North East

Mike Cole 07549 164506
Jeremy Cottam
Lee Dillon 07393 288712
Christine Rice 07767 391561
Ben Schiffer-Harte

Thatcham Central

Iain Cottingham 07813 922709
Jay Lunn
Tom McCann
Petra Pemberton
Stephanie Stevenson

▷ = also West Berkshire District Councillor

REPORT IT...

Have you seen something that needs reporting that we haven't spotted yet? It's easy to let us know about things like broken glass, dog fouling and litter using the "Report It" page on our **website**.

Or call the Council Office on **01635 863592**, message us on **07503 634761** or visit a Council Surgery.

To report a problem to West Berkshire Council visit:

www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Follow us on social media to receive regular local news and information.



@ThatchamTC

