

# THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Historic Town, Thriving Community #LoveThatcham

Spring 2024



## New Mayoral Team

On Sunday 12th May, Councillor Suzanne Adamantos was elected Mayor of Thatcham at a ceremony at Frank Hutchings Community Hall. Suzanne’s husband Micky is her Consort. The Mayor has chosen Thatcham Youth and Cruise to be her charities this year, and will be working hard to raise funds and awareness. Councillor Petra Pemberton was elected Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Tom McCann was voted as Leader of the Council and Owen Jeffrey as Deputy Leader.



To invite the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to your event, please visit [www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/the-mayor](http://www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/the-mayor). Invitations will be dealt with on a first come basis and the Mayor will strive to accommodate where possible.

## Thatcham Town Council Budget

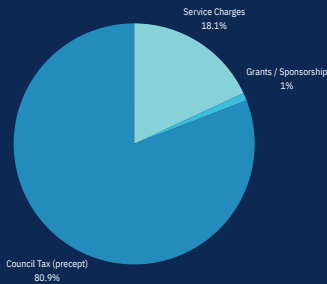
The work of the Town Council is funded through a precept on Council Tax payers within the Thatcham Parish area and from income raised through the Council’s services: hall and room hire, allotments, cemetery, football pitches, market pitches and event pitch fees. Funding is also sourced through sponsorship and grants. The annual budget is prepared and approved each year to show how resources are deployed over the following year to achieve our objectives.

Further information on our annual budget can be found at: [www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/annual-budget](http://www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/annual-budget)

### Income

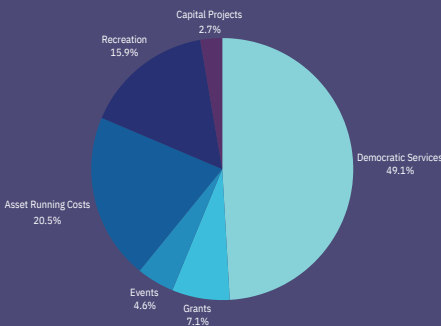
|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Service Charges       | £230,672           |
| Grants / Sponsorship  | £13,300            |
| Council Tax (precept) | £1,032,115         |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>£1,276,087*</b> |

\*Plus use of reserves - £68,974



### Expenditure

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Democratic Services | £683,074          |
| Grants              | £92,845           |
| Events              | £60,402           |
| Asset Running Costs | £266,910          |
| Recreation          | £206,830          |
| Capital Projects    | £35,000           |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>£1,345,061</b> |



## Council Surgery

You are invited to meet with a Thatcham Town Councillor and a District Councillor for Thatcham every first Saturday of the month on Thatcham Broadway.

Whether you seek information, advice, or wish to make a complaint or enquiry about our services, your elected representatives are here to help.

Saturday 1st June, 10 am - 12 pm  
Saturday 6th July, 10 am - 12 pm  
Saturday 3rd August, 10 am - 12 pm

## Council Meetings

All Council meetings are held in the 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 24th June

**Planning and Highways**  
Tuesday 4th June  
Tuesday 2nd July  
Tuesday 30th July  
Tuesday 27th August

**Recreation and Amenities**  
Monday 17th June

**Events**  
Monday 10th June

**Finance and General Purposes**  
Monday 22nd July

**Town Centre**  
Monday 15th July

# FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 30th June, 11am - 4pm

Thatcham Town Council's flagship event, Thatcham Family Fun Day, returns to Henwick Worthy Sports Field for the 24th 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, a record number of community and charity stalls, food and entertainment to discover, the Fun Day will continue to be what many consider West Berkshire's best free day out!

**CHILDREN'S 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 giant bubble maker, and a fabulously fun Land Train! Returning attractions include circus skills with Juggling Jake, and Punch & Judy.

**STREET THEATRE** Prepare to be dazzled by some of the best street entertainment around. You will be in awe of our (almost) real-life dinosaur roaming around the field, and catch The Library at the Edge of the World - an interactive play aimed at younger children about the importance of stories and libraries.

RPM Bike Display are another new attraction for this year, featuring bike stunt displays - a must-see attraction!



## FOOD AND DRINK

There will be a wide range of food and drink available this year highlights include Thatcham's very own Cook and Butcher and Moon and Stars alongside cuisines from around the world. And for the grown-ups Delphic Brewing Company and Gee Gee Gin will be on hand to wet your whistles whilst you watch the excellent music on the main stage!

**VEGAN STREET MARKET** We are delighted to welcome Vegan Street Market with a wide selection of eco-friendly and sustainable products. Browse the stalls and taste the scrumptious food on offer - all totally sustainable!



## 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.

**RAINBOW ZONE** We are working with Newbury Pride to deliver Thatcham's first Pride Parade to finish the Fun Day! Leading up to the parade will be flag and hat making and drumming workshops for everyone to get involved! Featuring Beatroots Bateria Samba Band.



## THE DOG SHOW



*Sponsored by Picture It Framed*

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 Dressed - and not forgetting the Best in Show award! Registration will be from 11am on the day, and will be £1 per category to enter. Weather permitting.



## DANCE ZONE AND MUSIC STAGE

*Sponsored by Newbury Building Society and Image Box Design*

The Dance Zone and Music Stage return with lots of musicians including tribute band 'The Lost Keys' who will be playing some classic sing-along pop and rock tracks at 12.30pm. Talented youngster DJ Hypester will close the stage from 3.30pm with some dance tracks. Kennet Radio will comper the Dance Zone which will feature music styles from many dance schools in the region. Includes Street, Asian, Fitness and Contemporary. Some sessions will feature a chance to try out a class.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Do you have any news you want to share in our next edition of the newsletter or on our social media?

Email [community.engagement@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:community.engagement@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

- **Newbury Building Society** have now opened their refurbished branch, including a brand new Onebanx cash machine which you can use to pay money into any bank account (not just NBS!). Visit [www.newbury.co.uk/find-branch/thatcham](http://www.newbury.co.uk/find-branch/thatcham) for more information.
- **D Day 80** celebrations are taking place on 6th June with a service at 11am at the War Memorial, and an evening event at Greenham Control Tower. There is a free bus service from Thatcham to Greenham - please contact [enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk) or see our facebook page for more information.
- Thatcham has achieved **Plastic Free Community Status**. The award is presented by Surfers Against Sewage in recognition of the work Thatcham has done to reduce the impact of single-use plastic. Huge congratulations to Eco Friends West Berkshire for all their hard work. For more information contact [plasticfree@eco-friends.org.uk](mailto:plasticfree@eco-friends.org.uk)
- Thatcham Town Council have installed a **defibrillator** on the wall of the garages at the entrance to London Road Cemetery. important life-saving resource is accessible to visitors of the cemetery, allotments and local surroundings, and although we hope it is never used, we hope it brings every visitor peace of mind.



## Thatcham Litter Pickers

Want to spend an hour making a real impact on your community? Join the wonderful **Thatcham Litter Pickers** and help collect some of the rubbish in the area. You only need to bring weather appropriate clothing and a bottle of water - you can collect a hi-viz vest and all the equipment from the team, and then drop it all off when you're done.

The next Thatcham Litter Picking events are:

- Saturday 15th June, 10am - 11am: Kennet School
- Saturday 6th July, 10am - 11am: Memorial Playing Fields
- Saturday 14th September, 10am - 11am: Moorside Community Hall

Visit [www.facebook.com/thatchamlitterpickers](http://www.facebook.com/thatchamlitterpickers) for more information

## Kids Fest: 29th August, 10am - 3pm

**Thatcham Broadway, High Street and Turnfields**

This summer holidays the kids and superheroes are taking over the town! With inflatables, live theatre, music workshops, crafting workshops and a visit from Captain America, and a kid-friendly market in the closed-to-traffic High Street this will be a brilliant way to end the summer holidays. See our website for more information.



## Councillors

Thatcham Councillors can be contacted by email using the format [name.surname@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:name.surname@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

### Thatcham Central

Iain Cottingham [D] 07813 922709

Jay Lunn

Tom McCann

Petra Pemberton

Stephanie Steevenson [D]

### Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham

John Boyd 07853 151871

Owen Jeffery [D] 07968 251370

Val Watts

### Thatcham North East

Mike Cole 07549 164506

Jeremy Cottam [D]

Lee Dillon [D] 07393 288712

Dave Lunn

Ben Schiffer-Harte

### Thatcham West

Jeff Brooks [D] 07836 388534

Mark Lillycrop 07823 322958

Justin Pemberton [D]

Simon Pike 07787 154070

Suzanne Adamantos 07721 865268

[D] = also West Berkshire District Councillor

## Report It...

Have you seen something that needs sorting that we haven't spotted yet? It's easy to let us know about things like broken glass, dog fouling and litter.

### Online form:

[www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/contact\\_us](http://www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/contact_us)

Email: [enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Phone: 01635 863592

WhatsApp or text: 07503 634761

Visit a Council Surgery

To report a problem to West Berkshire Council please visit:

[www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem)

[www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/faqs](http://www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/faqs)

# THATCHAM RESIDENTS' SURVEY



Thatcham Town Council is the first tier of local government, serving the residents of Thatcham at grassroots level. The Town Council plays a vital role in representing the interests of the community of Thatcham and works hard to provide services that improve the quality of life and local environment for residents. Thatcham Town Council welcomes feedback from residents.

To ensure we listen to the views of residents, we are introducing a new series of six-monthly residents' surveys, each focusing on a different aspect of the services we provide. The topic of this survey is Community Engagement.

### Ways to complete the survey:

- 1. Scan the QR code below with your mobile phone camera to complete online
- 2. Visit [www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk) and click on the SURVEY link at the bottom of the page
- 3. Collect a paper copy at Thatcham Town Council Offices



### Mayor's Parting Words

"Since taking on the role last May, I've had the opportunity to attend a great variety of events across the Thatcham area – well over 100 at the time of writing. Meeting representatives of local charities, businesses, schools, religious & military groups and clubs, I've gained a real insight into what makes our town such a great place to live.

A big thank you to all our Councillors, who give so much of their time and energy to help improve the town. I'm particularly grateful to Council Leader Mike Cole and to Deputy Mayor Suzanne Adamantos, both of whom have been a great support this year; and – of course – to my Mayoress, escort, organiser, driver, photographer and wife Jenny, who has undertaken this unique Mayoral adventure with me." Councillor Mark Lillycrop



### Thatcham Town Council ENewsletter

Would you like to receive news and updates from Thatcham Town Council more regularly? You can sign up to our monthly e-newsletter directly into your inbox!

☐ I agree that Thatcham Town Council can send me the monthly enewsletter and ad hoc news to the email address below.

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_



Please drop this form into the Town Council offices or scan this QR code to sign up online

For up to date announcements on road closures, events and community news follow us on social media!

@ThatchamTC