



THATCHAM TOWN NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025

Historic Town, Thriving Community

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Have Your Say

Meet and put questions to your Town & District Councillors and representatives from Thames Valley Police

Keep Up To Date

See an overview of Thatcham Town Council's work and achievements in 2024/25

Be part of the Community

Socialise with free refreshments and cake

THATCHAM ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Thursday 24th April at 6.30pm, Doors open 6pm
FRANK HUTCHINGS COMMUNITY HALL
Find out more on Page 7

Council Surgery

You are invited to meet with a Thatcham Town Councillor and a District Councillor for Thatcham on Thatcham Broadway.

Whether you seek information, advice, or wish to enquire about our services, your elected representatives are here to help.

Saturday 1st March, 10 am - 12 pm
Saturday 5th April, 10am - 12pm
Saturday 3rd May, 10 am - 12 pm

Council Meetings

All Council meetings are held in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber at 7pm, unless otherwise stated. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend the following meetings:

Finance and General Purposes

Monday 28th April

Planning and Highways

Tuesday 11th March

Tuesday 8th April

Tuesday 6th May

Full Council

Monday 31st March

Recreation and Amenities

Monday 17th March

Missed a Town Council meeting?

You can watch them all on the Thatcham Town Council YouTube channel

www.youtube.com/@thatchamtowncouncil

Photo: HenleysAllotments



THATCHAM MARKET

Historic Thatcham's Friday Market Brings Life To The Broadway

Thatcham's market has a rich history dating back to the 13th Century, when it served as a key trading hub for local farmers, artisans, and merchants. Established to support the town's growing economy, it became a bustling centre of commerce and community life. Over the centuries, the market adapted to changing times but remained a cornerstone of Thatcham's identity.

Today, the Friday Market continues this proud tradition, offering fresh produce, handmade goods, and local delicacies. Its enduring presence reflects our commitment to heritage, sustainability, and local enterprise, making it a treasured institution for residents and visitors alike.

Whether you're a seasoned market-goer or a curious newcomer, Thatcham's Friday Market offers something for everyone.



Don't forget to
bring your own
bags and boxes
to take your
goods home!



Join the team at Thatcham Market

We are always on the lookout for new stallholders to join us on a regular or casual basis. We are particularly interested in flowers and plants, household goods, clothes and shoes, and craft stalls but would be delighted to speak with everyone. Pitch fees start at £13 per week.

Charities and Local organisations

Every week we offer a FREE pitch at our Friday market to all local charities and local charitable organisations to raise awareness and funds. Opportunities for both Friday and Saturdays are available.

Get in touch with us on enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk to register your interest.

Meet Our Traders!

Here are the dedicated traders you'll find at the Friday market, joining us each week:

Fruit, Veg and Eggs

DB Fruits has the finest produce of fresh fruit and vegetables

Meat

Induna Meats is a new supplier to the market with a fresh meat trailer.

Fish

Francisco runs the fresh fish stall and is at the market every other week.

Cheese

New to Thatcham Market, Hedgerow Cheese are passionate about bringing some of the very best produce to your table.

Doughnuts

Neil from Crazydayz Doughnuts sells delicious sweet treats and can also cater for home and office drop offs.

Household Products

Thatcham Refillable offer ethical, sustainable, vegan and UK made household cleaning and personal care products. Bring your own pots!



Pet Supplies

Chris's pet stall offers a range of pet-related products and accessories.

Blade Sharpening

The Blade Sharpening Company is available to sharpen your knives, scissors and garden tools.

Banking

The Barclays Van joins the market once a month to help make money work for you. You can talk to them about making a plan for your money, home buying or moving, reducing your outgoings, digital banking and staying safe online.



Thatcham

EVENTS 2025

Jun 29	FAMILY FUN DAY HENWICK WORTHY SPORTS GROUND 11AM - 4PM
Aug 28	KIDSFEST THATCHAM BROADWAY, HIGH STREET AND TURNFIELDS 10AM - 3PM
Oct 11	THE BIG THATCHAM FEST OFF THE HIGH STREET 4.30PM-9PM
Oct 10 - 19	THATCHAM FESTIVAL VARIOUS LOCATIONS
Nov 9	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY TOWN CENTRE & WAR MEMORIAL CAR PARK 10.30am
Dec 5	WARMING UP FOR CHRISTMAS: LIGHTS SWITCH ON THATCHAM BROADWAY AND HIGH STREET 5pm, lights on at 7pm
Dec 6	WARMING UP FOR CHRISTMAS: MARKET THATCHAM BROADWAY 10am - 3pm
Dec 7	WARMING UP FOR CHRISTMAS: CIVIC CAROL SERVICE ST MARYS CHURCH 3PM



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Waterside Centre

YOUTH FOOTBALL SESSIONS

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SECONDARY SCHOOL

**TUESDAY - TERM TIME
5-6PM**

VENUE: HENWICK WORTHY SPORTS GROUND, RG18 3BN

**PLEASE ENSURE SUITABLE CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR ARE WORN;
ASTRO TURF BOOTS OR TRAINERS, SHINPADS & A BOTTLE OF WATER**

COST: FREE

USE THE QR CODE TO BOOK YOUR SPACE VIA OUR EOLA SYSTEM

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL
KENMORE.HINDS@BERKSHIREYOUTH.CO.UK**

THE BERKSHIRE YOUTH NETWORK

Online booking calendar
available via QR Code or
<https://widget.eola.co/rh365>

Please note EOLA is a 'live' booking calendar;
sessions will only be visible if spaces are
available to book.



Waterside Centre, Newbury RG14 1DS
www.watersidecentre.co.uk

01635 018500

waterside@berkshireyouth.co.uk

Berkshire Youth
Registered Charity: 1106341



Family Fun Day

Sunday 29th June, 11am - 4pm
Henwick Worthy Sports Ground

Thatcham Town Council's flagship event, Thatcham Family Fun Day, returns to Henwick Worthy Sports Ground for its 25th year, and is set to be bigger and better than ever! Over 10,000 people joined us last year, and with lots of old favourites returning, including the classic funfair, community and charity stalls, food and entertainment to discover, the Fun Day will continue to be what many consider to be West Berkshire's best FREE day out!

KidsFest Thatcham

Thursday 28th August, 10am - 3pm
Thatcham Town Centre and Turnfields Recreation Ground

KidsFest Thatcham is a FREE event organised by Thatcham Town Council, aimed at bringing families and the community together for a day of entertainment, activities, and fun. Taking place in the town centre on Thursday 28th August from 10am to 3pm we hope to provide Thatcham's families with a day packed full of fun before heading back to school.



Thatcham Festival

Friday 10th - Sunday 19th October
Various Venues

There will be something for everyone in this year's Thatcham Festival - a 10 day celebration of everything that Thatcham has to offer, and giving opportunities to many of the community organisations, charities and societies that make our historic town their home. From comedy to car shows, workshops to wildlife, and talks to walks. And don't miss The Big Thatcham Fest Off on Saturday 11th October which is a FREE mini-music festival right on the High Street.



Warming Up For Christmas

Friday 5th - Sunday 7th December
Thatcham Broadway and High Street

Thatcham Town Council will again be **Warming up for Christmas** as our countdown to the lights switch on takes place on Friday 5th December. A Festive Craft and Local Makers Market will take place on the Saturday, with the Civic Carol Service on the Sunday at St Mary's Church.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Sewing for Improvers Classes

Come and improve your skills and knowledge of the sewing machine with Creative Community's intensive 6 week improvers course. Students should have some experience of sewing or have completed the Sewing for Beginners course, before enrolling.

Students will be required to bring their own sewing machine to class with them and source their own patterns.

The 6-week course will start on Wednesday 23rd April, 7pm to 9pm at Thatcham Town Council Offices. To book visit creative-communities.org.uk/sewing-for-improvers/

Dementia Action Week: 19 - 25 May 2025

Thatcham Town Council is working to raise awareness and provide support for those in our community living with dementia and their families.

We are inviting local businesses to get involved by:

- **Free Dementia Friends Information Session** to help better understand dementia.
- **Displaying Information Packs** supplied by Dementia Friends West Berkshire for the public.
- **Painting the Town Blue** during Dementia Action Week by decorating shop windows.
- **Attend the Dementia Action Week Party** in Jubilee Sensory Garden, Brownsfield Road, on Friday 23rd May 2025, from 10am - 1pm. We will have entertainment and refreshments available, raising money for local dementia organisations.

If you're interested in joining us, please let us know by visiting www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/dementia.

Thatcham Litter Pickers

Want to spend an hour making a real impact on your community? Join the 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 8th March, 10am: Burdwood Community Centre

Saturday 12th April, 10am: Frank Hutchings Community Hall

Visit www.facebook.com/thatchamlitterpickers for more information

Thatcham Volunteer Fair

17th & 23rd March, 10am - 2pm

Frank Hutchings Community Hall

Join Thatcham Town Council and Volunteer Centre West Berkshire at the Thatcham Volunteer Fair and explore opportunities to give back to your community. Whether you're passionate about the environment, helping the elderly, youth initiatives, or local events, there's a cause for everyone!

Meet local charities, community groups, and organisations looking for people just like you. Gain new skills, make new friends, and create a positive impact.

Your time and talents can shape a brighter future for Thatcham. Don't miss this chance to get involved!

If you are interested in having a free table to recruit volunteers please email enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk.

Thatcham Community Awards 2025

Nominate an individual, group, organisation or business who has demonstrated outstanding service to the Thatcham Community!

Community Contributor



Inspiring Young Person

Categories

Lifetime Achievement

Volunteer Champion

Environmental Champion

Submit your nomination for an award at www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/communityawards2025

Closing Date: 12 noon on Thursday 20th March



Thatcham's Annual Town Meeting Thursday 24th April, 6.30pm

Residents of Thatcham are warmly invited to attend the Annual Town Meeting, scheduled to take place on Thursday 24th April 2025, 6.30pm at Frank Hutchings Community Hall.

The Annual Town Meeting (ATM) is a vital opportunity for the community to come together, hear about the work being done on your behalf, and engage directly with local representatives. The ATM is not a Council meeting, but serves as a platform for residents to discuss key issues, celebrate local achievements, and influence the future direction of the town.

The Annual Town Meeting is open to all residents, and attendance is strongly encouraged. This is a unique opportunity for the public to ask questions, voice concerns, and learn more about how the town is being managed.

This year's event will feature an engaging programme, including:

- **Annual Report Presentation** – Thatcham Town Councillors will provide an update on the past year's activities, projects, and developments.
- **Guest Presentation from Thames Valley Police** – Officers will share insights into local policing efforts, community safety initiatives, and crime prevention advice.
- **Entertainment from Sing Louder Choir** – Enjoy a vibrant musical performance from this talented local group.
- Presentation of the **Thatcham Community Awards**

Participation in the Thatcham NDP project is open to all residents of Thatcham, all businesses within and stakeholders with a significant interest in Thatcham.

If you wish to participate and be involved in shaping the future of Thatcham please email enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk or visit our NDP website www.Thatcham.Info for further information.

Thatcham Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

After the previous Thatcham Town Council newsletter was published the first Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) meeting commenced on the 3rd December 2024, with a positive attendance of residents and Councillors.

The meeting presented the NDP process and timelines, with establishment of 5 working groups required, these working groups will be:

- Housing and Urban
- Rural Environment
- Economy
- Community
- Transport

Since the start of the year, we have received great interest in participating in the specified working groups, and with the last few weeks before confirming these groups, Thatcham Town Council would like to offer a last opportunity for those interested in shaping our Town's future.

Book Thatcham's Halls Online

Whether you're looking for a hall in which to have your child's birthday party, a space to run a new community class, or need a professional and quiet room hot-desk or host meetings, we have you covered!

From just £14.50-£23 an hour, our spaces at the Town Council Chamber, Frank Hutchings Community Hall or Burdwood Community Centre could be just the place. If you are interested, please visit the Thatcham Town Council website to book online.



Thatcham Town Council is responsible for:

- Mayor of Thatcham
- CCTV
- Henleys Allotments
- London Road Cemetery
- Public Toilets
- Thatcham Market
- Community Events
- Street Furniture
- Play Areas and Open Spaces
- Burdwood Community Centre
- Frank Hutchings Community Hall
- Red dog waste bins



Monthly 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



West Berkshire District Council is responsible for:

- Tax and Benefits
- Business Rates
- Rubbish and Recycling
- Care and Housing
- Planning
- Roads, Transport and Parking
- Schools, Learning and Libraries
- Consumer and Environmental Protection
- Leisure, Parks and Countryside
- Green dog waste bins



West Berkshire District Council Offices

TEL: 01635 551111 (main switchboard)

To report a problem to West Berkshire Council please visit: www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Councillors

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

Thatcham Central

Iain Cottingham [D]
Jay Lunn
Tom McCann
Petra Pemberton
Stephanie Steevenson [D]

Thatcham North East

Mike Cole
Jeremy Cottam [D]
Lee Dillon [D]
Dave Lunn
Ben Schiffer-Harte

Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham

John Boyd
Owen Jeffery [D]
Val Watts

Thatcham West

Jeff Brooks [D]
Mark Lillycrop
Justin Pemberton [D]
Simon Pike
Suzanne Adamantos

[D] = also West Berkshire District Councillor

Your Feedback Welcomed

We hope you enjoy the articles in the Thatcham Town Newsletter. To send feedback, suggestions, or to report an issue

Online form:

www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/contact_us
enquiries@thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01635 863592

WhatsApp or text: 07503 634761

Visit a Council Surgery

www.thatchamtowncouncil.gov.uk/faqs

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