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THE MAGAZINE OF HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

JUNE 2016 - ISSUE 54

# TOWN CRIER



Telephone: 01582 708540

E-mail: [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk)

Web: [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)

Delivered to all properties in Houghton Regis



**Saturday 9th July**  
**The Village Green, Houghton Regis**

We have royalty in our midst as we welcome Lee Jackson starring as 'The King' to perform for our entertainment, and 'Princess Elsa' who will be promenading on the Village Green during the afternoon.



*'Kester' the Jester*



*The King*



*Princess Elsa*

*Arena Displays*

*Food*  
*Fairground Rides*  
*Birds of Prey*  
*& Lots More*

**FREE ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

CARNIVAL PROCESSION LEAVING AT 10:30am  
Starting from Houghton Regis Academy, Parkside Drive

A complimentary carnival programme is enclosed with this edition of the Town Crier, additional copies can also be obtained from the Council Offices. For the latest Carnival info, why not log on to the Town Council website on [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk) or Facebook site.



## Houghton Regis Town Council Contact Details

Houghton Regis Town Council  
Peel Street, Houghton Regis  
Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

Telephone: 01582 708540  
Fax: 01582 861102

Email: [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk)  
Website: [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/houghtonregistc](https://www.facebook.com/houghtonregistc)  
Pinterest: [pinterest.com/houghtonregistc](https://www.pinterest.com/houghtonregistc)  
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/HRCouncil1](https://www.twitter.com/HRCouncil1)

### Officers:

Clare Evans Town Clerk	01582 708542
Stuart Oliver Deputy Town Clerk	01582 708543
Sarah Gelsthorp Civic and Events Officer	01582 708523
Sonia Stennett Accounts & Cemetery Officer	01582 708541
Chantel England Promotions and Administration Officer	01582 708540

### Councillor contact details:

Houghton Hall Ward:	
Cllr. Laura Ellaway	01582 537 105
Cllr. Robin Hines	01582 759 026
Cllr. Rob Shimmin	01582 933 538
Cllr. Chris Slough	01582 751 881
Cllr. Susan Thorne	07847 702 499
Cllr. Ken Wattingham	01582 705 830

Parkside Ward:	
Cllr. Jimmy Carroll	01582 868 006
Cllr. Don Dixon-Wilkinson	01582 529 554
Cllr. Joanna Hillyard	07748 440 901
Cllr. Martin Kennedy	01582 702 274

Tithe Farm Ward:	
Cllr. David Abbott	01582 894 060
Cllr. Tracey McMahon	07948 532 662
Cllr. Richard Scott	01582 708 540
Cllr. Tony Swain	01582 522 952

Central Bedfordshire Councillors:	
Antonia Ryan (Parkside)	0300 300 8518
Susan Goodchild (Houghton Hall)	0300 300 8525
John Kane (Houghton Hall)	0300 300 8537
Tony Swain (Tithe Farm)	0300 300 8567

## Town Clerk

Welcome to the "Carnival Edition" of the Town Crier!

It certainly has been a very busy year for our "new councillors" in office, so it seems a good time to take stock of some of the achievements of the last year and look at the key priorities for the future.

**There have been numerous achievements from last year, highlights of these have been:**

- Our new councillors have partaken in a comprehensive training programme;
- We have set out a Town Council Plan to deliver over the next 4 years;
- We have delivered another successful annual programme of free community events;
- We have worked in partnership with CBC on the Houghton Regis Central Project and the Houghton Hall Park Project;
- We have branched out in our communications with residents to include social media, find us on facebook, twitter and pinterest
- We have appointed 2 apprentices to work within the Council and develop their skills and experience
- And finally we have successfully bid for match funding from CBC to help rejuvenate and enhance the town centre. This equates to a massive combined spend in the town centre of £437,700

**For 2016/17 we are planning on:**

- Beginning work on a Neighbourhood Plan for the town;
- Taking on the management of the Bedford Square Community Centre;
- Continuing to work with developers to bring forward strategic growth projects;
- Laying out a new internment area within the current cemetery;
- Beginning to work on a Houghton Regis Community Safety Strategy;
- Taking action on enviro-crime such as litter, dog waste, graffiti;
- Investigating concerns and possible solutions for speeding traffic on Windsor Drive and Park Road North;
- Reviewing sport and recreational facilities and services and identifying opportunities to enhance and expand; and finally
- We will be working hard on delivering the town centre improvement project.

More details on this are included later on.....

Finally I would like to thank on behalf of the Town Council Cllr Robert Shimmin, the previous Mayor, for his service to the town and its community during another exceptionally busy year.

*Clare Evans*  
Town Clerk



## Announcement of the new Town Mayor

Following the Annual Meeting on Wednesday 18th May 2016 Houghton Regis Town Council is pleased to announce that Councillor Chris Slough has been elected as the Town Mayor of Houghton Regis for 2016/17. The Deputy Mayor is Councillor Joanna Hillyard.

### A word from your Town Mayor

"I would like to support three charities this year. The first is to offer my support to an initiative already underway, ably led by Mick Hunt and Steve Burnage, to improve wheelchair access to All Saints, by reinstating the path across the south face of the church linking the entrance to Bedford Square.

On a personal note, it is my hope that a future mayor will lead visiting dignitaries and councillors in procession from the atrium of the Community Centre (where they will have gathered) to the church for our civic services, using this footpath. All Saints is a natural venue for our civic occasions in terms of its location, history and the role the Church in our national life. I have visited a number of civic events in surrounding towns, and we have as much (if not more) to offer in this respect.



*Continues on next page*



*From previous page*

I think we should encourage civic pride and provide an important focus for all those new people that are about to join our community.

My next charity will be to support a project involving local scouts. The scouts continue to enrich the life of young people today as they did for me in my childhood. As then, for hard pressed families they offer a challenging experience not otherwise available to young people.

Finally, I would like to offer practical support to those helping homeless young people in Houghton Regis. My experience as a teacher has led me to understand that education and employment are impossible for a young person when faced with the insecurity of homelessness.

I would like to ask you to support these good causes by helping me to raise funds in the forthcoming year".

Do you have an event that you would like to invite the Town Mayor to attend? If so, please contact Sarah Gelsthorp, Town Mayor's Secretary on 01582 708540 or email [sarah.gelsthorp@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:sarah.gelsthorp@houghtonregis.org.uk)

## May Fayre 2016

A trumpet fanfare heralded the start of the Houghton Regis May Fayre celebrations on Saturday 7th May 2016. May Queen Nikola and her attendants Ria and Sophie walked through a Guard of Honour to the stage, where Nikala was officially crowned, and her attendants received their floral garlands from the 2015 -16 Town Mayor, Councillor Robert Shimmin.



The sun shone through brightly and many people turned out to take part in the festivities, which included Maypole Dancing (lead by professional Maypole Teacher Mike Ruff), music from Last of the Summer Ukuleles, Beats Working and David Gibbons, a Magic Show, Go Karts, a Space Hopper attraction, Chip Pan Fire demonstrations by Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue, live broadcasts on L&D Hospital Radio, food, homemade sweets, Candy Floss and Popcorn, Ice Cream, Craft and Charity Stalls, Face Painting, games, a performance by the Art Town Starters Group and Teas and Coffees from Houghton Regis Helpers in the Pavilion.

The 1950s inspired backdrop for the stage was made especially for the occasion by Houghton Regis Craft and Coffee and it created the perfect setting for the day.

Sarah Gelsthorp, Civic and Events Officer said: "The May Fayre was a very enjoyable event and Houghton Regis Town Council would like to thank everyone who took part in this special occasion".

## The Town Mayor 2015-16

Town Mayor was Councillor Robert Shimmin and following his inauguration in May 2015, Councillor Shimmin has attended 97 public engagements! During the past few months, the Mayor has attended events such as Civic functions in other neighbouring towns, charity events, Annual General Meetings and presentation evenings. Councillor Shimmin has also hosted events on behalf of the Town Council, which included the Pride of Houghton Awards.

Councillor Shimmin has also hosted many fundraising events for his nominated charities which were All Saints Parish Church, Dunstable and District Disabled Sports (DADDs) and The Children's Ward of the Luton and Dunstable Hospital. The events have included Afternoon Tea at the Bowls Green, a Spring Bingo Afternoon, Coffee Morning, and 'The

Celebration of Christmas' which took place at The Grove Theatre. A total of £5145 was shared equally between the charities in a special presentation at the Town Council Offices on 10th May..

The Town Council would like to thank Councillor Shimmin for all his hard work during his Mayoral Year.





### Business interview with

### Houghton Regis Medical Centre – Dr Jinmi & Partners

#### How long has the surgery on Tithe Farm Road been open?

The surgery as you see it today has been on the current site since 1974.

#### What are the major changes in the practice over the last couple of years?

The main change in the last couple of years has been the Senior Partner Dr Goutam and his wife the Practice Manager retiring in December 2015. A new practice Manager was appointed, Olive Carr, to continue the day to day running of the surgery. For the convenience of patients a pharmacy was opened next to the surgery.

#### What are the range of services you now provide?

In January 2015 the Care Quality Commission visited and we were given a good overall rating in all key areas although some improvements in certain administrative duties were suggested. All necessary measures have been put in place and a recent visit from a NHS England representative recorded satisfaction with the progress made.

Services provided at the practice are;

- General Medical Services
- Childhood Vaccinations
- Travel vaccinations including Yellow Fever which we hold a licence for
- Cervical Smear
- Phlebotomy Service
- Warfarin Clinics including initiating treatment
- ECG
- Acute Injury Service
- Joint injections
- Cryotherapy
- Gynaecology Services

#### What is the biggest problem for the surgery?

The biggest problems facing GP practices nationally as well as locally is the recruitment of GP's. We placed several adverts for a Partner long before Dr Goutam retirement date and as yet we have had no success in recruiting a replacement. However we continue to keep searching for the right GP for our practice. We have however recruited 2 new nurses and are currently in the process of streamlining certain services to improve patient experience.

#### What are the surgery's plans for the future?

Our plans for the future of the practice are to build and improve our services within the constraints of the budgets with priority being given to appointing a new GP.

We hope with the commitment of our staff to be able improve our current services and to offer new services from the Medical Centre for patient convenience in the future.

We are forward planning for the expected growth in patients into the area due to the new building activity around Houghton Regis.

#### How can residents influence the services you provide or feed in their comments?

We hope to encourage more patients to join the Patient Participation Group. Our current group meets about every 6 weeks and all are welcome to join. We would especially like to hear opinions and ideas from our younger patients.

We currently have posters, our website and our Family & Friends survey continuously running. We appreciate patients taking time to complete the survey and give their opinion, as without patients input we are unaware of their points of view how our services can continue to improve.

Details can be found on our website, [www.houghtonregismedicalcentre.co.uk](http://www.houghtonregismedicalcentre.co.uk), or in our waiting room.





Looking to host an event or meeting?  
Then look no further than The Hub located  
at Sandringham Drive in Houghton Regis.

Private Building  
Spacious and Modern  
Professional Space  
Affordable Rates  
Membership Discounts  
Free Wifi  
Accessible Kitchen  
Cafeteria Area

For anymore information please contact:  
Amy Eckersley  
01582869275  
amy.eckersley@aldwyck.co.uk



Like us on Facebook:  
Sandringham Hub





## Easter Festivities

**Saturday 26th March 2016**

Houghton Regis Town Council and Houghton Regis Craft and Coffee put together a range of fun activities, which included the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Craft Fair, Easter Bonnet decorating, a colouring competition and the first ever Houghton Regis Egg and Spoon Race. There was also a raffle held in aid of the Mayor's nominated charities and sincere thanks goes to Houghton Regis Development Consortium for sponsoring the prizes and competition materials.



500 Children, plus their families took part in the Easter Egg Hunt. A BIG thankyou to the 1st and 3rd Houghton Regis Scouts and the 4th Houghton Regis Scouts for their help and support on the day as well as Houghton Regis Library for use of their facilities.



The event welcomed some other very special guests from BBC Three Counties Radio's Treasure Quest Programme.

## Afternoon Tea

The Sun shone brightly on Houghton Regis Bowls Green for the Town Mayor's Afternoon Tea on Sunday 1st May at the Moore Crescent Sports Pavilion. The event included refreshments and the opportunity for the guests to try a game on Bowls on the Green, whilst raising funds for the Town Mayor, Councillor Robert Shimmin's nominated charities.



The afternoon was arranged by the Ladies and gentleman's Bowls Club and guests included the Town Mayor of Dunstable, Councillor Liz Jones, the Deputy Mayor from Luton, Councillor Sameera Saleem and the Deputy Mayor from Sandy, Councillor Colin Osborne, MBE. Councillors from the Town Council and Central Bedfordshire Council, representatives from the Houghton Regis Women's Institute, Dunstable and District Disabled Sports and the local community were also in attendance.

Councillor Robert Shimmin would like to thank Houghton Regis Bowls Club for hosting this event and a great afternoon was had by all.



# Benedict Funeral Directors

Limited

**New branch opening in June  
2016 in Houghton Regis  
Shopping Centre**

**Our prices are low but our standard  
are always high**

**Tel 0800 634 4505**

**We offer a 24 hour service 7 days a week**

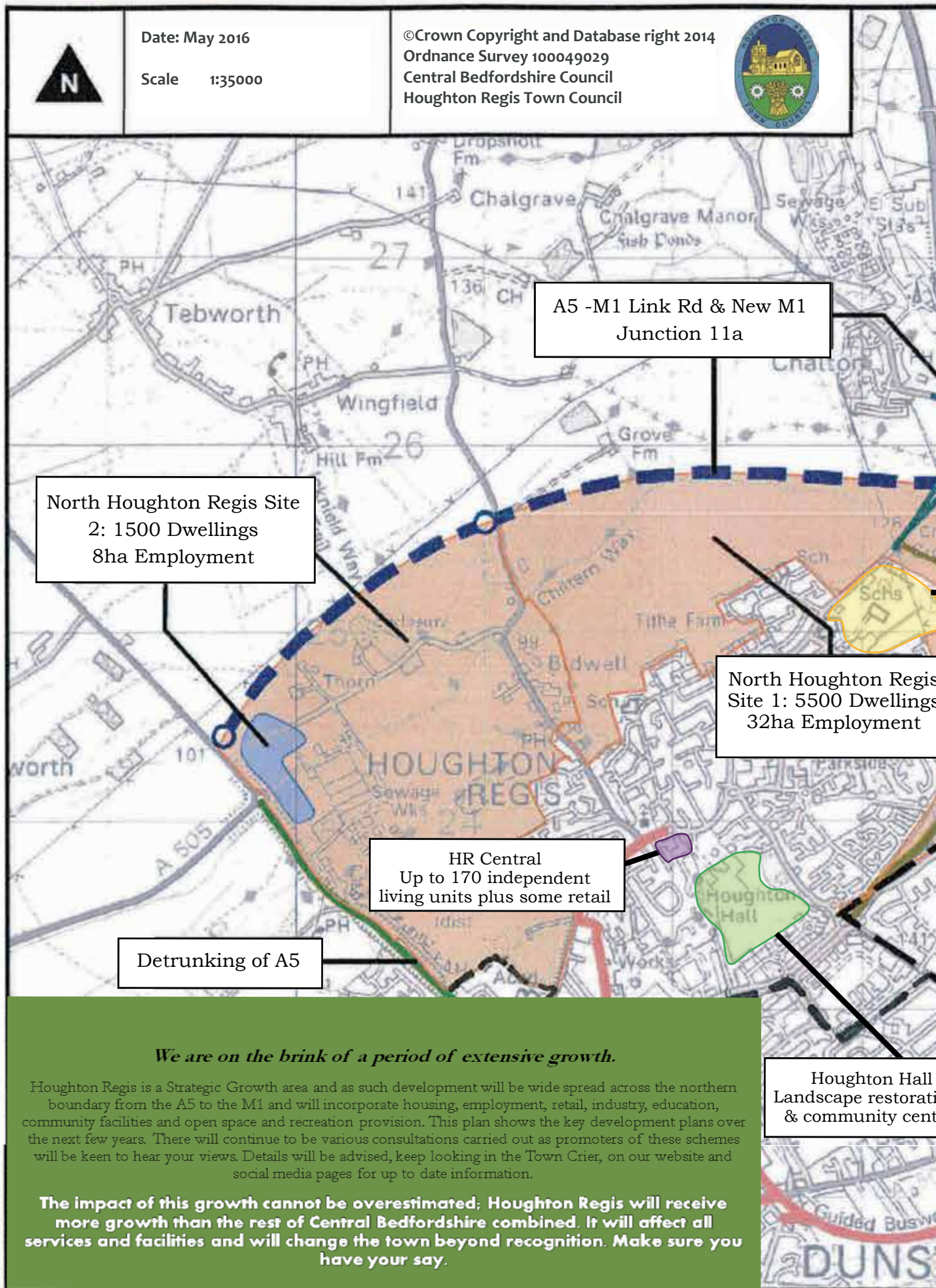
We sell pre-paid funeral plans

**Family owned and local**

**www.benedictfuneral.co.uk**

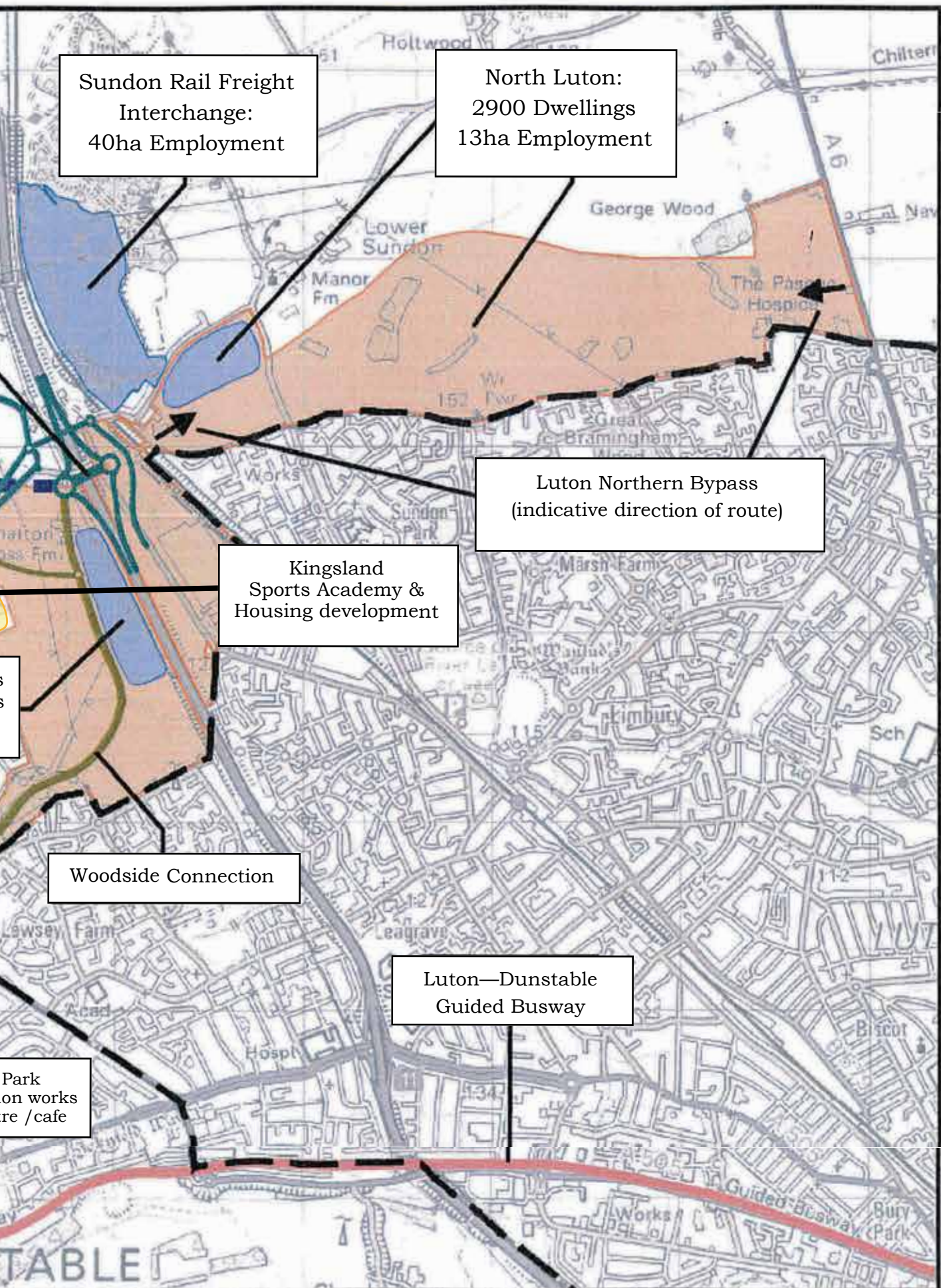


# Key Regeneration Proposals – Duns





# Dunstable and Houghton Regis





# Strategic Updates

## Woodside Link update

Work continues to progress well on the Woodside Link road. Over the next month the on-site teams will:

- prepare and surface the tie-in from the Woodside Link to the Porz Avenue roundabout
- start to surface the rest of the Woodside Link
- fill redundant sections of the brook
- install kerbs
- fill beneath the new Parkside Bridge

The Woodside Link is scheduled to open in spring 2017.



Full plans and details are available online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/woodsidelink](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/woodsidelink). Alternatively call 0300 300 8049, or email [woodsidelink@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:woodsidelink@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

## Kingsland Site

Central Bedfordshire Council's partnership with the Legacy Foundation on a major sport-led regeneration scheme in Houghton Regis began delivering on its community focus promise as football stars Mark Noble and Bobby Zamora paid a surprise visit to the Kingsland site to discuss their plans with local children.

This comes two months after the authority agreed a six-month exclusivity deal to work with the Foundation – a development company set up by the duo and former England captain Rio Ferdinand in 2015 – and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

Mark and Bobby visited the Kingsland campus on Wednesday (May 11) to learn more about the area and develop their understanding of the site's key users.

Legacy and the Council are now working towards establishing the financial models, the most sustainable housing and facility mix and the best design and layout, which can unlock the site's potential, with the aim to submit outline planning permission later in the year.

For more information about the Kingsland project, go to: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/kingsland](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/kingsland) and for more information about the Legacy Foundation, go to: <http://legacyfoundation.co.uk/>



## Dear Resident



As a local resident to Parkside Recreation Ground I would like to let you know that Houghton Regis Town Council will be holding Houghton Rocks on Parkside Drive Recreation Ground, on Saturday 10th September 2016 from 12 noon - 6pm.

Houghton Rocks is music event, which will be supported by a range of stalls, rides and attractions for children and food and drink retailers (fully licensed) so it really does promise to appeal to all.

This event is the first of its kind for Houghton Regis and the Town Council are excited to be delivering it.

Please be assured that the event will be carefully managed and fully staffed to make sure everyone enjoys themselves, stays safe and that there is minimal disruption to local residents.

If you would like to know more about the planning and management of the event please contact us on 01582 708540 or email [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk).

We hope you are able to join us on the day.

Kind Regards

**Mrs C Evans**  
Town Clerk

HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL PRESENTS

# HOUGHTON ROCKS

**10** SATURDAY  
TH 12 - 6pm  
SEPTEMBER 2016

**PARKSIDE RECREATION GROUND,  
Parkside Drive, Houghton Regis**

**FREE**

For more information or if you would like to be part of this event.  
Call us: 01582 708 540  
or visit [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)



# Houghton Hall Park Renaissance & Renewal Project – Update



Landscape works are progressing well with the creation of the new accessible paths making it easier for all users including those with buggies and mobility scooters to explore the park. Restoration of the walled kitchen garden and the formal Edwardian Garden will take place over the summer months which, once the hard landscaping works have been completed, will involve the planting of over 8000 plants including fruit trees of varieties native to Bedfordshire. Construction on the new visitors centre is expected to commence shortly.

The park has an active Friends Group who are always keen to welcome new members. If you would like to get involved with the regular Friends Group activities to undertake practical tasks within the park or to help with the new planting please contact [Alexe.Rose@Greensandtrust.org](mailto:Alexe.Rose@Greensandtrust.org).

More information on the project and its progress is available on the website '[www.houghtonhallpark.org](http://www.houghtonhallpark.org)', via the facebook page 'Houghton Hall Park' or by emailing the project team '[hhp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:hhp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)'.



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## QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

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Houghton Regis was 'Putting on the Style' at a special Service of Thanksgiving on Thursday to celebrate the 90th Birthday of the Her Majesty the Queen, followed by a 'London-esque' style indoor Street Party at the Bedford Square Community Centre.

The service took place at a red, white and blue decorated All Saints Parish Church, officiated by Father Diego Galanzino, and was attended by representatives from local schools, churches, clubs and societies as well as local residents. An invitation was also extended to residents who had reached their 90th Birthdays, and attendee's included a lady of 100 years old!

The Service included a reading of the Queen's Twenty First Birthday Speech in 1947 by the 2015-16 Deputy Mayor, Councillor Chris Slough.

The Town Council was loaned an Olympic Torch for the event, from Misha Patel, who was an Olympic Torch Bearer for the 2012 games. Misha carried the torch from Bishops Stortford to Stanstead Mountfitchet and the Town Council was honoured to have been able to use this item for a mini torch relay! The children and young people passed the torch along the Church Path under the supervision of the 2015-16 Deputy Mayor, and the torch was specially decorated for the event by Houghton Regis Craft and Coffee who created some special flame effects. The 2015-16 Deputy Mayor then carried the torch to the Community Centre, followed by the schools.

The Tea at the centre included musical entertainment from Houghton Musical Experience and Last of the Summer Ukuleles. The guests were treated to some all-time classics including 'My Grandfather's Clock', 'My Old Man, Said Follow the Van' and 'Bring Me Sunshine'.

Sarah Gelsthorp, Civic and Events Officer for the Town Council said "The event was a wonderful way to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday and there was a real sense of community spirit. The guests really enjoyed the afternoon's festivities and enjoyed a sing-along' and dance, which added to the atmosphere. Hopefully this is an occasion that everyone will remember for years to come".







**Houghton Regis Helpers**  
07587 004514

## ***Houghton Regis Helpers*** ***your local Good Neighbour scheme***

Good Neighbour schemes are established and run by volunteer local people to provide support for other residents who may need help on an occasional, or sometimes on a regular, basis. Sometimes called Village Care Schemes, there are over 40 good neighbour schemes across Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough.

**Houghton Regis Helpers** have been providing help and support locally since December 2011 and in this time our volunteers have helped over 200 local residents. Our aim is to encourage sustainability, self-help and friendship within the local community.

We are here to assist, to those who have no family or friends nearby to help, with practical tasks, such as shopping, writing letters, light DIY in the home (e.g. changing a light bulb, putting up a shelf), gardening, or giving a lift to a doctor or hospital appointment if no other transport is available. Some volunteers provide emotional support (befriending) - having a cup of tea and a chat if someone is lonely, going for walks or on outings.

We do not offer specialist care or play any role that should be left to professional, qualified services but we can advise and offer to be advocates for residents who need our support.

As a voluntary organisation, most of our services are free – the only exceptions are for our drivers, who may ask for a donation towards petrol costs, and for follow-up visits for gardening jobs if needed.

### **How does it work?**

When calling our help line 07587 004514 (between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays) a volunteer will take your details and call you back. If the phone is busy, or if you call out of hours, you can always leave a message and we will call you back as soon as possible. If you are calling for the first time we will arrange an initial visit to meet you and assess your needs.

All our volunteers have enhanced DBS checks, have photo ID badges and are covered by Public Liability Insurance.

### **How do I volunteer?**

Houghton Regis Helpers welcomes all ages of volunteers (under 18's will be supervised and help at community events only). If you are interested in joining as a volunteer, contact us by phone, email or via the website or Facebook messaging.

**We are here to help!**

**Email:** [houghtonregishelpers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:houghtonregishelpers@hotmail.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.houghtonregishelpers.co.uk](http://www.houghtonregishelpers.co.uk)

Find us on 



Houghton Regis Heritage Society are pleased to announce that they will be organising a walk around the town pointing out places of interest on route. Further information will be on the Heritage website nearer the date [www.hrhs.org.uk](http://www.hrhs.org.uk)  
The starting point will be outside the Memorial Hall.  
The Walk is part of the Bedfordshire Walking Festival



## **Town Council** **Calendar of Meetings**

Please find below the calendar of meetings for the Town Council from June to the end of September 2016. All council meetings are open to the public and are held in the Council Offices on Peel Street at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. The agendas for forthcoming meeting can be found on the notice board outside the offices and on the Town Council website. Copies can also be obtained from the office.

Date	Day	Committee	Time
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.15pm
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Thursday	Environment & Leisure	
13 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday	Policy & Resources	
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday	<b>Town Council</b>	
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.15pm
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday	Town Partnership	
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.15pm
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.15pm
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Tuesday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.15pm
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday	Community Services	
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday	Environment & Leisure	
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.15pm
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday	Policy & Resources	



# Summer Holiday Club

The Town Council is thrilled to announce that there will again be a summer holiday club on the Village Green. Working in Partnership with Groundwork, the Town Council will be delivering another fun filled and action pack holiday club for children aged 5-12.

Details are available on our website and facebook page where booking forms can be downloaded or can be collected from the Council Office, Peel Street.



## Annual Report 2015/2016

The Annual Report, containing detailed updates on the work of the Council will be published on 20th June 2016 and will be available on the Town Council website. A summary of the report will be available in the September edition of the Town Crier.

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN CENTRE MARKET TOWN REGNERATION FUND

One of the main objectives in the Town Council Plan is for 'A stronger local economy which promotes local businesses'. Under this Objective a number of outcomes were set out. A major boost to this Objective was the launch of the CBC Market Town Regeneration Fund in late 2015. This fund offered town councils across Central Bedfordshire the opportunity to apply for match funding for projects to promote and enhance town centres. After a considerable amount of work and community consultation a bid was submitted in February 2016 and the Town Council are pleased to announce that we were successful in attracting £211,600 from CBC, this will be match by £226,100 from HRTC.

The comprehensive package of projects for Houghton Regis aims to increase footfall to the town centre and to deliver physical improvements, more community events and local opportunities for our town.

If you follow this link you can find all the information submitted for the Market Town Regeneration Fund. [www.houghtonregis.org.uk/market-town-regeneration-fund](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk/market-town-regeneration-fund)

However in summary the approved application includes the following elements:

### Shop fronts & schemes

Create a sense of 'gateway' at entrances:

- To the Town
- To Bedford Square

Improving the signage to the town centre

### Adjusting places

Improvements to the Bedford Square Community Centre  
To install public art into the centre of Bedford Square on the large blank wall  
To also install hanging baskets/ planters throughout the centre of the town and along the highway fronting facades  
Refurbish the tree bed near All Saints Church  
Promote local active transport (cycling and walking)

### Nurturing street life

The creation of a Bedford Square performance space supported by an events programme  
Establishment of a Regular Market  
Establishment of Specialist Markets

### Supporting business growth

Support to local entrepreneurs  
Shop local loyalty scheme

Whilst the application sets out these different elements there is still much work to be done to develop these concepts. Over the summer there will be community consultation and involvement so local retailers, businesses, shoppers and residents can feed in their ideas and thoughts.

Exciting times for Houghton Regis Town Centre.





# HOUGHTON REGIS BOWLS CLUB

**Come and try your hand at bowls at the Houghton Regis Bowls Club at Moore Crescent.**

**Public sessions will be held every Tuesday morning (9.30 – 12.30) from Tuesday 14th June to Tuesday 23rd August 2016  
Cost: £2 per hour**

**Flat soled shoes or trainers MUST be worn**

**To book a slot, please call in at the Town Council Offices**

**Payment must be made at time of booking**



Signposts have been dedicated to helping the homeless in Luton and Dunstable to start over for more than 30 years. We provide temporary accommodation and support services in preparation for independent living."

Signposts has two projects in Dunstable and one project in Houghton Regis which provides short-term accommodation for single male and female aged between 16 - 29.

Signposts Luton has six projects in Luton which provides short-term accommodation for single homeless male and female aged between 16 - 64

Are you homeless or have been threatened with homelessness?

Do you know someone who is homeless and want to help?

Contact us on **01582 722629** or

**Email: [info@signpostsluton.co.uk](mailto:info@signpostsluton.co.uk)** you can also follow us on face book, twitter or visit us; **[www.signpostsso.com](http://www.signpostsso.com)**

Become a volunteer we are seeking people for the following roles:

**Maintenance/Handy Person**

**Gardener**

**Client Mentor**

**Receptionist**

**Housekeeper**

**Night Support Worker**

## Dear Resident

As a local resident to Tithe Farm Recreation Ground I would like to let you know that Houghton Regis Town Council will be holding a Fireworks Display on Tithe Farm Recreation Ground, on Sunday 6th November 2016.

It is a free family event, starting at 7pm and will be supported by a range of stalls, rides and the gates will be open from 6pm – 8pm.

This event is the first of its kind for Houghton Regis and the Town Council are excited to be delivering it.

Please be assured that the event will be carefully managed and fully staffed to make sure everyone enjoys themselves, stays safe and that there is minimal disruption to local residents.

If you would like to know more about the planning and management of the event please contact us on 01582 708540 or email [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk).

We hope you are able to join us on the day.

Kind regards

**Mrs C Evans**  
Town Clerk

