THE MAGAZINE OF HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

Autumn/Winter 2018/19 - ISSUE 63



Telephone: 01582 708540

E-mail: info@houghtonregis.org.uk

Web: www.houghtonregis.org.uk Delivered to all properties in Houghton Regis

Find us on **f** t Forget the rks Display 4th November Farm Recreation Ground Christmas Events comfing to

The Mayor, Town Councillors and staff all join in wishing every resident of Houghton Regis a Happy Christmas and a Reaceful New Year.



Houghton Regis Town Council Contact Details

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Cllr. Laura Ellaway	01582 537 105
Cllr Yvonne Farrell	01582 708 540
Cllr Tim Welch	01582 861 090
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:
 01582 894 060

 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)
Susan Goodchild (Houghton Hall)
John Kane (Houghton Hall)
Tony Swain (Tithe Farm)
0300 300 8537
0300 300 8567

Town Clerk

I hope you have had a good summer enjoying all the wonderful weather that we've had. As we move into autumn/winter this edition of the Crier looks back at some of the summer events which have taken place and looks forward to the jammed packed winter events, and there certainly is plenty to look forward too.

If we look back over the summer we held our annual Carnival and the Skate Park Competition in July. Both events were well supported by residents & the local community. We hope you managed to come along and join in the fun. September saw the 3rd year for 'Houghton Rocks', a free music event on Parkside Recreation Ground, with a host of bands playing for your entertainment, a fantastic selection of classic cars, motorbikes and commercial vehicles and a car boot sale. On pages 5 and 6 you can find articles and photographs capturing these days.

There is a lot to look forward to in the upcoming months. November plays host to our FREE Fireworks Night on Tithe Farm Recreation Ground, we also pay our respects to the fallen in our Remembrance services being held in the local parish church. Moving into December details of all our Christmas events can be found on

page 10. We hope you will be able to join us for them all.

All our events take a huge amount of organising by the Town Council and can only run with

the help and support of our many partners including sponsors, local businesses, charitable and voluntary groups and other volunteers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who help make these events possible.

We really hope you enjoy reading through your Town Crier. The next edition will be dropping through your door in March 2019. Look out for forthcoming events (Easter Egg Hunt, Summer Playscheme, May Fair, and of course the Carnival). We'll also let you know about our Annual Report and your council tax bill for 2019/20.

Log on to our website or Facebook pages for up to date details of future events.

Clare Evans
Town Clerk

Pride of Houghton 2018

At going to press the annual Pride of Houghton Awards will be taking place to celebrate the achievements and success of some truly remarkable residents of the town. The award nominees, local businesses and the Town Mayor are just some of the guests that will be attending the event held at Houghton Regis Memorial Hall on Saturday 13th October 2018

The Pride of Houghton Awards was first held in autumn 2003 and has been held annually since then. Each year nominations for the Pride of Houghton Awards are invited from residents during March until August; and the scheme is advertised on fliers, the Town Council website and the Town Crier Newsletter. Chosen by the public, the nominees are often from all walks of life and of all ages, their achievements are remarkable and a lesson to us all.

The Town Mayor, Cllr Ken Wattingham will open the event. Seven Pride of Houghton Awards and Highly Commended certificates will be presented, as well as some special certificates of recognition.

The award winners and photographs from the evening will be made available on our Facebook page and website. So, don't forget to go over and take a look.

Houghton Regis Town Council would like to take the opportunity to thank the following sponsors of the event for all of their support and help in making this year's Pride of Houghton a real success: D&I Butchers, Creative Decorations, Frugal Frog, Hair Comb, Perfect Profiles, TWP Carpets, Vauxhall Motors and Zebra Properties.





The Summer playscheme ran for 2 sessions a week over 4 weeks in August and catered for children aged 8-12 years. Every Tuesday over the four weeks there was a session at the Village Green Pavilion where children engaged in foam clay modelling, circus skills, doughnut making, mocktails, poppy art and den building. Alongside these activities there were additional choices such as board games, play dough,

drawing, archery and table tennis. Trips were arranged for the Wednesday sessions and this included Bounce, Cinema, Birds of Prey and Sledging at Snozone. All the children had a great few weeks having fun, increasing confidence, trying out new experiences and making friends.

The Town Council were also able to offer a family day trip to Southend-on-Sea with an

option to purchase Adventure Island tickets that proved to be very popular. Despite the rain families commented "that they had a fantastic day enjoying the attractions and taking in the sea air".

Don't forget to sign your child/children up to our Easter Playscheme which will be running in April. Details of this will be made available nearer the time.











www.houghtonregis.org.uk

Strategic Updates



Bidwell West

On site works for the Bidwell West development started to gather momentum

during the summer months, taking advantage of the good weather to progress drainage and initial earthworks.

Temporary diversions of the public right of ways have been agreed

after consultation with Central Bedfordshire Council. Current works on Thorn Road are not related to this development but are associated with the laying of new services for the development at Thorn Turn for Readie Construction. Bidwell West will be undertaking highway improvement works to Thorn Road as soon as these works have been approved by Central Bedfordshire Council, until then works will continue to be progressed

on site south of Thorn Road for the installation of new roads and drainage.

Bellway and Linden Homes are the first housing developers to have secured land parcels for new homes (totaling approximately 365). It is anticipated that the building of the initial phase of these homes will commence within the next couple of months.



Progress on major independent living scheme in Houghton Regis

Work to construct the 168 one and two-bedroomed apartments, along with community space, restaurant and retail opportunities in the heart of Houghton Regis is expected to start in the spring.

On Tuesday 11 September, Central Bedfordshire Council's Executive agreed to award the contract, in principle, to the preferred supplier to build the development. This decision is subject to a 10-day standstill period so at the time the Town Crier was going to print the contractor could not be confirmed.

It is expected that work will start on the old Co-op site in February 2019, with preliminary archaeological surveys starting ahead of that, and take around two years to build.

Cllr Carole Hegley, Executive Member for Adults, Social Care and Housing (Operations) said: "This is a really positive step forward in bringing this project to life and I am really excited at the prospect. We are committed to using opportunities to reinvest in Houghton Regis as well as improving the range and quality of accommodation for our older residents. That's what independent living schemes are all about - providing quality accommodation in a supportive environment, coupled with the access to round-the-clock care if it's needed. The community facilities

are open to everyone and our aim has always been that this scheme will become a living, breathing part of the local community."

"Given that the community have played such a key role in bringing this project to life, we want their thoughts on a possible name for the building. We'll be asking people for their suggestions so that we can shortlist and have a name ready by the time the first spade hits the ground."

Keep an eye on our webpage and social media for information about how you can suggest a name and keep up to date with progress: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/houghton-regis-central

HRN1

HRN1 continues to progress well. Following our consultation earlier in the year both the Site Wide Masterplan and Area Masterplan 1 have been submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council for consideration.

The Archaeological dig onsite is well underway and is due

to be completed by the end of the Year.

Our next step will be to progress Area Masterplan 2 and we will be consulting with the local community on this later in the year. For more information please visit www.hrn1.co.uk

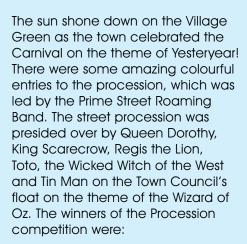
Carnival 2018







lifestyles @ houghton



Most Original entry: 4th Houghton

Regis Scouts

Best Performance: Donna's Dance

School

Best Dressed Team: 1st/3rd Houghton Regis Scouts

Best Dressed Walker: Treow House Mayor's Choice: (Yvonne Corkerton

Trophy) 1st/3rd Scouts

During the afternoon there were performances from the Vintage Show Girls, The Flying Ants (Beatles Tribute Band), Donna's Dance School, Zumba with Gina and On Pointe Dance Academy.

The Village Green boasted a fantastic range of stalls, which included, crafts, handmade items, games, tombola, the Mayor's Coconut Shy, Fudge, information, face painting, Popcorn and Candy Floss to name but a few. The winners of the Stall competition were:

Best Group: - 1st/3rd Scouts
Best Individual: Treow House
Best Commercial - Michelle Ayres Prize Everytime stall.

















Thank you to all the sponsors of the Carnival: Houghton Regis Development Consortium, Zebra Properties, Houghton Regis Leisure Centre, TWP Flooring, Razor Barbers, Grovebury Cars and Perfect Profiles. Thank you also to Kishor from Go Houghton for the donations of crisps, water and sandwiches on the day, which was very gratefully received.

Houghton Rocks

Houghton Rocks Music Festival took place on Saturday 1st September at Parkside Drive Recreation Ground, Houghton Regis, amongst brilliant sunshine.

This free music event included music from Houghton's Got Talent, The Long Riders, The Flying Ants, The Trollies, Big in Brazil and Supersonic. The crowds were entertained with classic numbers and also some original songs.

The event included a show of Classic and Vintage vehicles, and the Mayor, Councillor Ken Wattingham, had the very difficult task of deciding the winners, but after much careful consideration, the winners were announced as:

- Pre-War and Mayor's Choice -Ford Model T (James Giles)
- 1945-1968- Austin Westminster (John White)
- 1969 onwards Pontiac -Firebird (Paul Thompson)



Fireworks Display

Following on from its success in 2017, the Fireworks Display is to return to Tithe Farm Recreation Ground on Sunday 4th November 2018.

Once again, Houghton Regis Town Council has teamed up with the award winning Fantastic Fireworks to host a spectacular display which starts at 7pm. This year, there will also be a Fairground at Tithe Farm Recreation Ground and dates and times will be published on Social Media soon.



Houghton Regis Heritage Society

In the last edition of the Town Crier an error was made in the name of Christine Kavanagh the former Chairman of the Memorial Hall Committee. The name was incorrectly spelt. The Committee apologise for this error.

All the latest information. available across all your devices.



DEAR RESIDENTS

Please note that HILLBOROUGH CRESCENT (from the junction with Tithe Farm Road to Grove Road) & TITHE FARM ROAD (from the junction with Recreation Road to Hillborough Crescent) will be CLOSED on SUNDAY 4th NOVEMBER from 5PM to 9PM to enhance the safety of the FIREWORKS DISPLAY (resident and emergency access only)

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CALL 01582 708540.

WE APOLOGISE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THAT THIS MAY CAUSE BUT TRUST THAT YOU WILL APPRECIATE THE SAFETY BENEFITS FOR THE EVENT.





Housing | Council Tax | Benefits Elections | Schools & Education Highways (roads, pavements, footpaths, verges & trees)

Parking (car parks, permits, disabled parking passes & bus passes)

Environmental Health & Trading Standards Waste Collection Street Cleaning & Recycling

Children's Services | Social Services Leisure & Libraries | Planning Matters Registrar & Coroner Leisure & Countryside Community Safety Children & Young People Business Support 1 Health & Social Care

E: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



0300 300 8000

Houghton Regis Bowls Club



The year of 2018 will be etched in the minds of the bowlers of Houghton Regis Club for years to come. For it is the year, during August, that they won the 1st Division of the Bedfordshire Country League for the first time in their short history. The County League is the holy grail of bowling in Bedfordshire having been won by only 4 or 5 teams since its inauguration.

It's been a club effort with various reserves coming in when required. It's been a very successful year for the club in general, having won the Monday nights triples league and, on a very wet Sunday morning on August 26th, they secured the Luton & District League by defeating Barton Bowls Club. Two of Houghton's bowlers won through to the bowls England finals at Leamington, Martin

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE DIVISION 1 - 2018

4.1.5	Games			Shots		Rinks			Dalata		
Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	For	Against	t Diff	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Houghton Regis	7	6	1	0	506	390	116	20	7	1	50 1/2
Luton Town	7	6	- 1	0	535	398	137	15	12	1	45 1/2
Meltis 96	7	5	1	1	473	411.75	61.25	15	13	0	42 1/2
Sandy Con'	7	3	3	1	482.5	443	39.5	15	11	2	33 1/2
Henlow	7	3	4	0	454	454	0	14	11	3	30 1/2
Barton	7	2	- 5	0	404	484	-80	10	16	2	21
Ampthill	7	1	6	0	396	468.5	-72.5	10	16	2	16
Maulden	7	1	6	0	360.75	562	-201.25	7	20	1	12 1/2

Dawkins in the two wood finals and Steve Mead in the four wood single competition. Jack Frost reached the quarter finals in the Hastings Open competition.

Under the captaincy of Tony Heath its been a very full filling season with the green being used to hold various other games for Bedfordshire County players for which the club provides several, a significant sign as to how

far the club has come in the last few years since having a permanent and modern pavilion to use.

They are always needing new members to join the club, especially their ladies' section, so please look out for their Open Day in 2019 which will be detailed in the Town Crier and advertised on the Village green.

Where can I go for a walk this autumn/winter?

Houghton Hall Park is the perfect place for an autumn or winter walk, watch the seasons change from evergreen to vibrant orange and red tones, watch the leaves fall leaving frosty bare trees behind. Wrap up warm and appreciate the fresh weather before warming up in Houghton Hall Park's dog friendly café with a steaming bowl of homemade soup made with the vegetables grown in the Kitchen Gardens. We will have plenty of activities and events running throughout the season, so please visit our website to keep up to date: www.houghtonhallpark.org.uk. Join us at Houghton Hall Park to explore, enjoy and relax.

Facilities available:

- Visit our Visitor Centre, there is a dog-friendly Café with lots of hot or cold food and drinks to enjoy, accessible toilet facilities, two bookable meeting rooms and a fun interactive discovery zone
- We have surfaced paths making Houghton Hall Park accessible to all
- There is an innovative nature play trail installed throughout the park for children to enjoy
- There are a wide range of volunteering opportunities such as maintaining the historical kitchen & formal gardens, carrying out monthly conservation tasks with the Greensand Trust, assisting at events or conducting fixed point photography and more!
- Local groups use the facilities for activities which welcome beginners, there is:



You can sign up to the monthly newsletter by emailing hhp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk for regular updates and to find out this month's Photography Theme. Running every month, this opportunity encourages local photography enthusiasts to get snapping in Houghton Hall Park! For more details on any of the above and to keep up to date with activities this autumn/winter, please follow the Facebook page www.facebook.com/houghtonhallpark or visit the Houghton Hall Park website www.houghtonhallpark.org

Activity	Day	Time	Cost	Contact
Pilates	Every Monday	12:30-1:15pm	£4.50	happyandhealthywithnatalie@outlook.com
Yoga	Every Tuesday	10-11am	£6	happyandhealthywithnatalie@outlook.com
NCT Bumps & Babies	Every Tuesday	12:30-2:30pm	Suggested donation £1	dunstable@nct.org.uk
Buggy Exercise	Every Wednesday	9:30am	£2	Hayley.clear@gmail.com
Adult Parkrun	Every Saturday	9am	Free	Facebook page: HoughtonHallParkrun
Junior Parkrun	Every Sunday	9am	Free	Facebook page: HoughtonHallJuniorParkrun





HOLIDAY EVENTS

Celebration of Christmas

Tuesday 27th November at 6pm The Grove Theatre, Dunstable



Be part of our 'Celebration of Christmas' with festive songs old and new from Houghton Regis Schools plus performances from some special guests.

Tickets will be made available from The Grove Theatre Box Office nearer the time

Christmas Carol Service & Christmas **Light Switch On**

Saturday 1st December from 5pm All Saints' Parish Church

The Town Mayor's Carol Service will be taking place at All Saints' Parish Church.

This will be followed by the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights in Bedford Square, Plus light refreshments. All are welcome to attend.

Santa's Grotto

Saturday 8th December from 10am - 2pm in Houghton Regis Library Santa and his elves are stopping by again in Houghton Regis Library

Come and say Hello!

A surprise gift for every child

Entrance is free although there will be a collection in aid of the Mayor's Appeal Fund.

Register for your Christmas Card

If you are aged 65 or over you can register for the Mayor's Christmas Card.

Please contact Sarah Gelsthorp on 01582 708523 to ensure that you are on the list.

Shop local

Are you part of Shop Local Yet?

Shopping locally is one of the most powerful and rewarding steps that we can take to strengthen our community, to connect with our community and to discover more



about the individuals in our community.

By shopping locally, you can:

- 1. Find a world of discovery and a range of fresh and exciting products on your doorstep
- 2. Support your local high street and improve the local economy
- 3. Help to create more local jobs in your community
- 4. Enjoy great customer service from people who value your business
- 5. Build lasting friendship with local shop owners
- 6. Touch and feel the products to make sure you have made the right choice
- Get dedicated help and support with making your product selection
- 8. Give your shop owners feedback about the products you'd like them to stock
- Be sure that your local shop will give you a warm welcome!

Pick up a Shop Local stamp Card today from any participating shop, and start collecting your stamps. Once you have 10 stamps, you will be awarded with a fantastic booklet containing rewards & vouchers to use in your Town!

So, get ready to start enjoying your local area even more as you discover some fantastic local businesses!





Please find below the calendar of meetings for the Town Council from October 2018 to the end of February 2019. 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
		2018	
1st October	Monday	Planning	
8th October	Monday	Town Council	
15th October	Monday	Personnel Sub-Committee	6.30pm
22nd October	Monday	Planning	
29th October	Monday	Community Services (Grants)	
30th October	Monday	Town Partnership	7pm
5th November	Monday	Community Services	
12th November	Monday	Planning	
19th November	Monday	Environment & Leisure	
26th November	Monday	Corporate Services	
3rd December	Monday	Planning	
4th December	Tuesday	New Office Provisions Sub	
10th December	Monday	Town Council	
17th December	Monday	New Cemetery Working Group Planning	6.30pm
19th December	Wednesday	Combating Crime Working Group	11am
		2019	
7th January	Monday	Planning	
14th January	Monday	Personnel Sub-Committee	6.30pm
21st January	Monday	Town Council	
28th January	Monday	Planning	
29th January	Tuesday	Town Partnership	7pm
11th February	Monday	Community Services	
10th December	Monday	Town Council	
18th February	Monday	Planning	
25th February	Monday	Environment & Leisure	11am

www.houghtonregis.org.uk







