



BISHOP'S CASTLE



AUGUST
To
SEPTEMBER
2020



ISSUE 71





The Mayor Grant Perry

Shropshire Council Advice to keep our community safe and whilst many of our community volunteers return to work it is also vital that we keep in touch with those members of the community who have required assistance to ensure that support is kept in place.

Locally, at the July Council Meeting we hoped to welcome two or three new Councillors which moves us towards a full complement but there are still vacancies for anyone interested and you are asked to contact the clerk for full details. It is my ambition for there to be an Election in 2021 which will be the first such election for quite some time. The Council voted in favour of some experimental changes to Traffic Regulations which when in place will be open to consultation as to their success (or failure) via the Town Clerk and I encourage you to pass on your thoughts before any final decisions can be made. The Social Media Campaign that these changes provoked highlighted the dangers of Social Media as there was much Fake News in the posts and as councillors are prevented from commenting on Social Media prior to decision making the loudest shouters often appear to be correct when in fact they sometimes are not. If you have concerns over any local issues please speak to one of the Councillors or contact the clerk who can allay any such concerns.

As we move into the peak summer month of August we find many of the restrictions that were placed on our daily lives during the height of the pandemic being lifted as we ease back to the new normal. Whilst it has been great to see our Shops, Pubs and Cafés reopening and it is important that we all Shop Local to give them the support that they need to keep their businesses alive we must also be wary that the pandemic is far from over and a fear of a second wave is real as can be seen from recent outbreaks in Leicester, Melbourne Australia. So we must remain on our guard and continue to follow the latest Government and

We all missed the Carnival but Cllr Dickin and members of the Committee produced a week of Virtual events including Quizzes, Decorated Properties / Windows and a touring Open All Hours Float to promote local Shops – Those involved brought a smile to many people during what should have been carnival week and are to be commended on their success. I am sure that Centre Stages on line Party in the Park was equally be a great event. A number of the Festival Organisers have been holding Video Conferences to keep in touch and plan similar on line or virtual events to keep the spirit of such festivals alive in 2020 and in people’s thoughts for 2021

Hopefully the next Newsletter will be delivered door to door for October but that will only be possible if we all continue to Social Distance and keep Safe and prevent a Second Wave.

Stay Safe.

Playground

We are pleased that the playground and Skatepark are available for use once again, however it was disappointing to see that vandalism had occurred during the period of closure and this has led to an extra expense for the Council.



Whilst the areas are open again members of the Public are reminded that they are responsible for following the latest guidance regarding Sanitisation and Social Distancing whilst using the facilities and our contractors will be making regular visits to the site but please remain vigilant and report any damage, vandalism or concerns to the Town Council.

New Councillors

We were delighted to Welcome Bamber Hawes and Stuart Morris as new Councillors at our July Meeting which still leaves a couple of vacancies to be filled. If you can spare a few hours a month please contact the clerk for further details or speak to one of our current councillor's.

Face Masks

With the wearing of Face Masks now mandatory in Shops and Supermarkets please spare a thought for our shop workers who have maintained a vital service over the last few months and show them the respect they deserve by observing the rules and not making their task any more difficult.



Smartwater

Every household in Bishop's Castle should now have received their Smartwater kit through the post from West Mercia Police. These have been provided to you free of charge thanks to funding from The Town Council , Connexus and the Police & Crime Commissioner.

These kits have been pre-registered to your address so once you have marked your appliances there is nothing else you need to do other than to display the Stickers provided in the kit in your Window's. This is vital as part of the deterrent effect of Smartwater as soon larger signs will be put in place advising that properties are protected by Smartwater so please use the stickers provided or feel free to purchase some additional ones.

If for any reason you have not received your kit please contact the town clerk who will assist you further.

Next Farmers Market

The Market will be held on Saturday 15th August at Enterprise House car park 9am to 1pm.

I am still waiting for confirmation from all the stalls but to get something out we best we just include them as follows:

Alex – Handmade French Chocolates

John Fletcher – Honey and beeswax products

Amanda's bread – Homemade speciality breads and pastries

Mainstone Ladies – Homemade cakes, biscuits, jams and preserves

Weobly Ash – Farm reared pork, lamb, mutton and hoget

Cottage Garden Flowers – Flower arrangements fresh from the garden

Truly Tea – loose leaf teas, herbal teas, fruit blends and tea accessories

Little Wood Batch farm – Vegetables and fruit

Bella Donna Soap – Handmade soaps and other products from goat's milk

We may be welcoming two new stalls but I am awaiting confirmation.

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**BISHOP'S CASTLE
 TOWN COUNCIL**

Full Council meetings take place usually on the 3rd Tuesday of each month:

All meetings are held in the Town Hall and commence at 7.30pm. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.

There is a specific point in each agenda that members of the public may speak. Should you have an issue you would like to bring to the Council's attention or something you would like to discuss, please let the Clerk know beforehand that you would like to speak and the subject matter so that we can prepare.

Cut off dates for the News letter

If you wish any article to appear in the Newsletter these are the cut off dates for the inclusion in the following month's Newsletter.

18th September 2020 21st November 2020

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TSA Regulator of Social Housing No. H4156



Friends of Bishop Castle Community, Care Home and Hospital

Registered Charity No. 1005980

JOIN US NOW AND SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

**We warmly invite you to become a member of the Friends and help to promote
the health, safety and well being of people within our community whether at
home, in Stone House Care Home or in the Community Hospital.**

To become a member we ask for an annual donation of £5.

All donations to be sent, with name and address to Membership Secretary

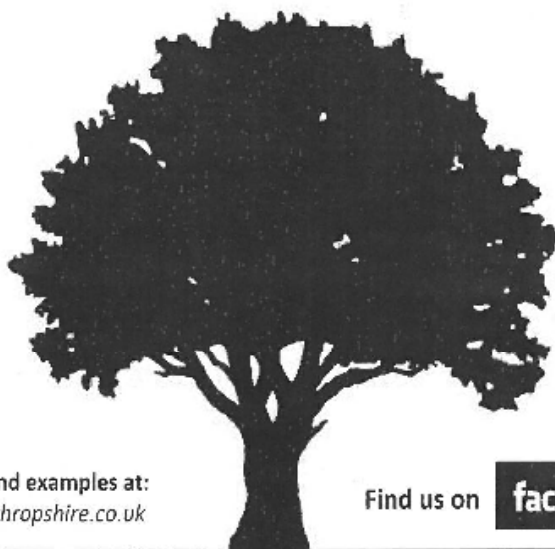
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Bishops Castle Town Council leading the way in fight against climate emergency

At the Bishop's Castle Town Council meeting on 16th June the Town Council approved the first phase of their Climate Action Plan [CAP]. Following on from their Declaration of a Climate Emergency last September, the Town Council commissioned a Climate Action Plan report which was produced by a group of local residents and presented to the council for review in April. At Tuesday night's meeting the council thanked the authors and commended them for an excellent document before unanimously approving it and appointing Councillor Andy Stelman to act as liaison with the Sustainability Working Group as the recommendations of the report are taken forward.

If you would like to read the CAP you can download it from the Town Council web-site at:- <https://bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk/sustainability/>

Paper copies will be available to be read in the Town Hall and Enterprise House.

If you are willing to help us take forward some of the CAP activities, please send an e-mail to: townplan@bishopscastle.gov.uk or contact Mike Watkins on 630277.

'MARCHES GROW LOCAL' GROUP SEEKS TO BOOST LINKS BETWEEN LOCAL PRODUCERS AND BUYERS

The Coronavirus pandemic has shown the vulnerability of our food supply and highlighted issues of food access in a time of crisis, particularly for the elderly and vulnerable in our communities. For many, this has resulted in changes to the way we shop and eat, and efforts to grow more at home. Across the Marches and in rural communities across the UK, people have sought out more local sources of food direct from producers rather than risking going to supermarkets where basic items were often unavailable. Food producers have had to change their business models to adapt to the closure of restaurants and markets.

'These changes (and the need for food resilience noted in the Bishop's Castle CAP) prompted the launch of 'Marches Grow Local' [MGL] working with The Middle Marches Community Land Trust and Tamar Grow Local (a resilient local food network in Devon). Tamar Grow Local fashions itself as an 'Online Farmers' Market', acting as a food distribution hub for local producers. Using the Tamar model, MGL's aim is two-fold: to develop direct links between local food producers and buyers across the Marches region and to empower more people to grow their own food. The vision is a more localised food system with a stronger local food economy and improved food security, and one that is more resilient to food system shocks. For areas reliant on tourism like the Bishop's Castle, Ludlow and surrounding towns historic market towns 'food tourism' based on local produce and agri-tourism have great potential as income-generating activities.

MGL also recognises that a centralised online 'food hub' service focused on local food could make supporting local producers easier, and would encourage producers to keep their products in the Marches area, rather than having to build their businesses around exports and sales out of the region. The principle behind 'short food supply chains' is that by focusing on buying local food whenever possible, it ensures that growers can make a living from keeping their sales in local markets and reduce import/export traffic that drives carbon emissions and food waste.

For more information on the background of the project, please visit <https://middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/the-hub/marches-grow-local/>

To sign up to our mailing list please send us an e-mail at: mmcltfood-hub@gmail.com



It is with regret that all concerts and Flea Markets are postponed until the foreseeable future

Message from Sparc



Corona Virus:

As of 17th March 2020 we are stopping all SpArC Theatre events from today .

We will keep you informed as to when we will recommence.

Take Care and Best Wishes



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Opening times in August onwards

Saturday 10.30 am – 4.00 pm

And on other days when feeling sunny.



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For more information:

Contact Keturah Bloor

Telephone- 01588 638487

Email – kbloor@coveragecareservices.co.uk

Update on Stars shop

312 people have signed the Save the Stars petition, with many supportive comments. Shropshire Council, having rejected the Trust's request to take out a compulsory purchase on the building, has asked Shropshire Town and Rural Housing (STAR Housing), to decide if it will buy the building, and develop a small number of homes on the car park at the rear. We expect to find out what they intend to do by early August, and will then send out an update to everyone who signed the petition.

If STAR do not, the Trust will have to consider if it can afford to buy the Stars, and convert the upstairs into affordable housing, with a community resource centre on the ground floor. We want to hear people's views on this. Just visit the Trust's new website, www.bcclt.co.uk, click on 'Contact', and leave a message.

How to contact your

Councillor Jane Carroll

Tel: 01588 638467

Email: jane.carrol@gmail.com

Councillor Ruth Houghton

Tel: 01588 638352

Email: ruthmhoughton55@gmail.com

Councillor Julie Magill

Tel: 01588 638305

Email: julie.magill@outlook.com

Councillor Andy Stelman

Tel 07773006413

Email andystelman@icloud.com

Town Clerk: 01588 638141

townclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Councillors:

Councillor Josh Dickin

Tel 07530691106

Email bcbc97@outlook.com

Councillor Grant Perry

Tel: 01588 638233

Email: grantperry24@icloud.com

Councillor Stuart Morris

Tel: 01588 630114

Email: stuartmorrisstfc@btinternet.com

Councillor Bamber Hawes

Tel: 07957 667847

Email: Info@specialprojects.co.uk

Monday to Thursday 9.30am—12.30pm

For allotment enquiries please contact

assistantclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

If anyone wishes to be a councillor please contact the clerk on
01588 638141 Email townclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

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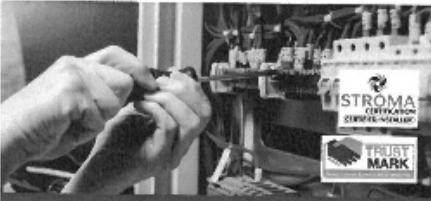
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Bus timetable for bus routes 552 / 553 Bishop's Castle to Shrewsbury

Monday to Friday times (school days)

Saturday

	Leaves		Arrives		Leaves		Arrives	
Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head all go via the Hospital	7.30		8.30		7.30		8.30	
	9.30		10.30		9.30		10.30	
	12.15		13.15		12.15		13.15	
	15.50		16.50		15.50		16.50	
Shrewsbury Stand all go via the Hospital	8.00		9.00		8.00		9.00	
	10.05		11.05		10.05		11.05	
	14.45		15.45		14.45		15.45	
	17.40		18.40		17.40		18.40	

Bus timetable for bus route 745 Bishop's Castle to Ludlow

Monday and Friday
only

Leaves
Ludlow Arrives

Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head	9.10		10.20		13.20		14.30
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Bus timetable for bus route Bishop's Castle to Newtown

Tuesday only

Leaves Arrives Leaves Arrives

Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head	10.00		11.00		13.55		14.45
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M & J

M & J Bus time table for bus route Bishop's Castle to Telford

	Leaves		Arrives	
Tuesday fortnightly only Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head	09.00		10.36	
			Bus stn	
			Bus stn	

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The following symptoms may appear
2-14 days after exposure.

Fever / High temperature

Cough

Shortness of breath

Loss of taste / smell

Anyone with symptoms should stay at home for at least 7 days.

If you live with other people, they should stay at home for at least 14 days, to avoid spreading the infection outside the home.

After 14 days, anyone you live with who does not have symptoms can return to their normal routine.

But, if anyone in your home gets symptoms, they should stay at home for 7 days from the day their symptoms start. Even if it means they're at home for longer than 14 days.

If you have self isolated and are in need or assistance in obtaining groceries, prescriptions or dog walking please contact the Town Hall staff on

01588 630023 or

email info@bishopscastletownhall.co.uk

who will try and assist you with your issues

This service will be open between

10am and 4pm

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

Covid-19 Community Support South West Shropshire

Help for anyone in the Bishops Castle Surgery or
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For Help and Advice please call :

Jeremy Hall – 07967 306615

Anne Roberts: 01588 630 165 or 07891 717728

Glynn Roberts: 01588 630 165 or 07980 266345

Grant Perry – 07949 714959

Josh Dickin – 07530 691106

Valerie Woodmansey: 01588 650 940 or 07986 237683

We can arrange help with Shopping, Prescriptions,
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If we don't have the answer we will point you to
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To offer YOUR Help to Community Support SWS please call

Evelyn Bowles – 01588 638 851

The Town Clerk – 01588 638 141