



# BISHOP'S CASTLE



Аркіц <sub>то</sub> Мау 2020



**ISSUE 69** 





The Mayor Julie Magill

Hello from your Mayor

The spread of the new Coronavirus could soon become unstoppable; please follow the Chief Medical Officer's advice: there are more details inside. This issue may be the last one for some time so please look on our Web Page, Facebook and notice boards. You can contact the town hall on 630023 for updates or the town clerk on 638141 for council matters: the clerk's office will be closed until further notice and there will be no council meetings for at least two months. We hope and pray for our town and community in these uncertain times.

This will be my last message to you as your Mayor; my Term of Office will end in May. I have enjoyed the last year immensely, it is a very special role to have had and I thank everyone for their support. I have been honoured to receive an invitation by the Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire to attend the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on May 12th and will be very proud to represent Bishop's Castle.

The town Council recently purchased 2 'Parking Buddies', these stand-alone 'SLOW' signs and are put around the town highlighting where there is a speeding problem. I hope that you have all seen them. Cllr Dickin has kindly offered to place them strategically on the pavements where needed.

The new houses at Ox Meadow are nearing completion and I hope that locals have registered their interest to rent or part buy. The Town Council are pleased with the design and look of the development.

We are constantly in talks with Shropshire Council and the Highways regarding the disgraceful state of our roads; County Cllr Ruth Houghton along with Cllr Nigel Hartin and Cllr Heather Kidd has been working hard to get potholes and line markings resolved. It is so frustrating when important matters move so slowly. Please keep reporting potholes and any damage from potholes through 'MyShropshire' – Shropshire Council's website.

The public meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday 17th March for the 'Neighbourhood Watch Scheme' and the 'SmartWater kits' was postponed. A new date will be set later in the year.

It was sad that two Councillors resigned in March. Cllr Nigel Morris and Cllr Keith Bance will be greatly missed at the meetings; I would like to thank them for all their support.

Mayor's Sunday will be on Sunday 24th May although this may well be postponed; the parade will start at the Town Hall at 10:40am, everyone is welcome to come and support your new Mayor.

With very best wishes and keep well

Julie Magill

### Clun Community Larder/Food Bank

The Clun Community Larder/Food Bank has been going for 7 years, and covers the Clun Valley, Bishop's Castle and a large rural area to the north as far as Lydbury North and Chirbury. It is open for 1 and a half hours on a Thursday from 12.30-2pm. in the vestry of St George's Church in Clun.

Weekly uptake of our service is small, but each year we are able to help a number of families who find themselves in financial difficulty. We may only see them once or twice but we know that the help they receive from us, when they are at their lowest ebb, is important. We would like to help more people who may not know they can ask for help.

People are usually referred to us by a support worker, someone in their community or a concerned friend. Please contact us if you, or someone you know would benefit from short term help from us. Or you can refer yourself for help. If you struggle on benefits during school holidays for example and your teenagers, who would normally have a good meal at school, are eating you out of house and home, get in touch. We may be able to help you.

Christmas time is a particularly busy time for the larder as we prepare large Christmas parcels to help out struggling families and provide treats for their children. This past Christmas we prepared 37 substantial parcels for families which included a total of 60 children. Many thanks to everyone who donated to ensure that none of these children went without. The public are very generous in their donations, and from time to time when we have had surplus food we have been able to help out larger food banks in Bridgnorth and Ludlow. If you are planning to donate food to the larder, tinned and packet foods with a long shelf life are welcome. We regret we cannot accept home-made food or fresh produce. Donations can be left at the back of St George's Church, but to avoid us having too much of a particular product, do please get in touch first so we can tell you what our current situation is and what we are short of.

We have recently had discussions with a resident of Bishop's Castle who suggested that there may be a wish for an annexe of the food bank in Bishop's Castle itself. That would avoid the need to travel, in light of the current restrictions and contributing to reducing carbon emissions. Could BC residents please email: Josh Dicken at bcbc97@outlook.com, or Andy Stelman at andystelman.t21@btinternet.com or text him on 07773 006413 to say whether you would like a branch of the food bank developed in Bishop's Castle or not? Thanks and best wishes in these difficult times

Joan Kerry & Ollie Holder

01588 640401; 01588 641016

## Up to Date News

## Cancelled walking event

Unfortunately the advertised Walking for Health on a Monday morning has been cancelled until further notice at leat until May

## **County Councillor Surgeries**

Cllr. Houghton is cancelling her face to face surgeries sessions

## Library

As part of the response to the COVID-19 outbreak the standard loan period for library items has been extended from three weeks to six weeks. Customers can also borrow more items than usual and overdue fines have temporarily been removed.

Please note also that all library events have, for the time being, been postponed.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

## **Citizens Advice**

Coronavirus - visiting your local Citizens Advice

If you're ill with coronavirus or are following guidance to 'selfisolate', please don't go to your local Citizens Advice.

To get advice you can:

check for other ways you can contact them - search for your local Citizens Advice and click on their name for details

search for advice on our website

# Real People. Real Advice. Our legal experts are here to help.

### Appointments available in Bishop's Castle.

#### Tel 01588 638 425 or email bishopscastle@wmlaw.co.uk.

Our legal teams also offer the following services

- Civil & Commercial Mediation
- Commercial & Agricultural
- Commercial & Civil Litigation
- Debt Recovery
- Elderly Client & Care Funding
- Employment
- Family Arbitration
- Family Matters
- Family Mediation
- Military Law
- Personal Injury
- Residential Property
- Social Housing & Development
- Wills, Trusts, Tax Planning & Probate

Caroline Denham Wils & Probate. Residential Property & Family Matters Rachel Mole Residential Property. Wills & Probate

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WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU? Phone: 01588 638141 or email: bishopscastlenewsletter@gmail.com

## **BISHOP'S CASTLE**

**TOWN COUNCIL** 

Full Council meetings take palace usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 s ubject 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.

15th May 2020

17th July 2020





# 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

Mrs Joan Grant, 4 Clive House, Bishop's Castle, SY9 5AZ

National Schemes - Sight Loss Specific

RNIB Telebefriending groups help you to socialise by phone for friendship and support in small groups of blind and partially sighted people, completely free of charge. Contact RNIB by email at talkandsupport@rnib.org.uk, or telephone on either 0845 330 3723 or 020 7391 2218.

RNIB Telephone Book Clubs join people with sight loss together by phone to discuss books and reading. Contact RNIB by email at talkandsupport@rnib.org.uk, or telephone on either 0845 330 3723 or 020 7391 2218.

Macular Society Telephone Befrienders provide a regular friendly phone call, which can help to rebuild confidence and independence. Contact the Advice & Information Service on 0300 3030 111.

Retina UK Talk & Support Service – enables people with Retinitis Pigmentosa (aged over 18) to receive a call once or twice a month from a trained volunteer with knowledge of dealing with RP. Contact Retina UK by email TalkSupport@RetinaUK.org.uk on telephone 01280 821 334. TalkSupport@RetinaUK.org. Church Stretton and SpArC Leisure Centre Update- week commencing 17th February 2020

What are Shropshire Council doing;

The Council's aims, county-wide, are to:

- Embed leisure centres into local communities
- Engage with local communities to deliver a service that meets the needs of residents
- Rebrand Leisure Services to include a new logo and website
- Reduce its carbon footprint.

We have appointed a Leisure Facilities Team Leader to support the running of Shropshire Council's five Joint Use Centres

The process of transferring SpArC and Church Stretton Staff to Shropshire Council has started. This will include an extensive staff training programme.

#### SpArC Charity

Generated nearly £37,000 in 2019, through a combination of local activities, town, council and private donations, gift aid and grant funding.

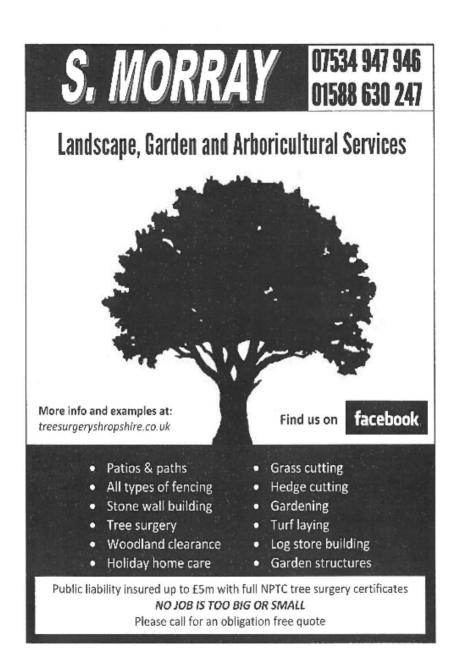
• Is making plans to replace all the gym equipment with modern, multipurpose kit appropriate to a range of abilities. This will involve substantial expenditure, once we have an agreed basis for it and the necessary structural work has been done.

Has decided that the signs to Save our SpArC have served their purpose. If you see any, it would really help if you could take them down.

#### Theatre

The new Spring Programme is now available, with a great selection of films, music, theatre and opera, at www.sparctheatre.co.uk

The theatre will remain open whilst the transfer takes place.



#### Bishop's Castle Festivals Coordinator

#### Background

Bishop's Castle's festivals, such as Michaelmas, bring in significant revenue for the economy of the Town throughout the year, as well as being an important cultural focus for the community. We know that many event visitors later return to spend longer in the Town.

However, these events take an incredible amount of time and effort to run and the cost and bureaucracy involved is growing year on year. The current Michaelmas committee have run highly successful Fairs for the last 5 years and after next year (which is the 25th anniversary), we feel the need to stand down, partly because it is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain our current level of involvement and also because we feel we need to make way for new ideas to help keep the Fair fresh going forward.

At present there aren't obvious people willing to take over from us and AMP (Party in the Park), Christmas Grotto committee and the Carnival committee are in a similar position too.

We therefore are seeking to work with the Town Council to collectively start thinking of strategies by which we might save and maintain these valuable events before it is too late.

#### Coordinating Bishop's Castle Festivals

We believe that there is an opportunity to market Bishop's Castle Festivals as one co-ordinated package. The festivals working in partnership with the Town Council, Shropshire Tourism, Shropshire Council and local businesses to promote and market Bishop's Castle as a vibrant tourist destination throughout the year.

By working together it may be possible to develop a Town-wide sponsorship scheme with local businesses so that they pay in just once per year into a central pot rather than continually being asked for support by individual festivals throughout the year.

□ It may be possible to work with local hotels, B&Bs and holiday lets to develop a festivals information package to help them attract clients. Perhaps we might levy a fee from them which they in turn pass onto clients by charging extra to stay during festivals periods?

**Festivals Coordinator** 

While it is vital to preserve the unique character of each individual festival, there are many event organising tasks that could be done more efficiently across all festivals.

It is proposed to employ a suitable Festival Coordinator, initially for Michaelmas, with BC Carnival and Xmas Lights/Grotto, to outsource many of the most time consuming tasks.

Possibly this could extend to Clun Green Man and other local festival in future years.

Key tasks

Accounts

Insurance

Admin (eg. risks assessments, performer and caterer contracts, road closures, venue bookings, managing stall bookings, managing vintage vehicle bookings, etc)

Sponsorship / bidding for grants

Publicity - maintaining Facebook, website, flyers, posters, etc

Funding

Suggested salary @ £15 per hour

2 \* 8 hour days pro rata for 6 months

Total cost per annum £6,240

To be funded pro rata by those events using the Co-ordinator. Additional funding to come from grants, donations, sponsorship and income from events.

We hope that the Town Council would support this initiative with a grant in at least year 1.



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

### Message from Sparc



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



# The Lucky Hare

On 'The Cobbles' just outside the Town Hall by The House on Crutches



Amazing birthday and other gifts Many at Discount Prices

Including : Birthstone Hearts, Flatyz Candles, Hand Painted Tiles, Glass Animals, Sand Blasted Glassware, Colourful Hanging Glass, Nightlights and Light Glass, Tea Light Holders, Incenses and Incense Diffusers.

Opening times in January/February/March

Saturday 10.30 am - 4.00 pm

And on other days when feeling sunny.



**Bishops** Castle SY9 5AJ

We offer Residential and EMI Care, day care places available on a Tuesday in our day centre which offers activities & both assisted and un-assisted baths. We also offer respite beds when available.

For more information: Contact Keturah Bloor Telephone- 01588 638487 Email - kbloor@coveragecareservices.co.uk

Dates for Council meetings

The Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month

At the moment the Town Council will not be meeting in April, however there is a possibility that all meetings will be cancelled until further notice.

If anyone has any local news please contact Julia Parker on 01588 680445 or email jparker228@btinternet.com

# How to contact your

**Councillor Jane Carroll** Tel: 01588 638467 Email: jane.carrol@gmail.com

Councillor Ruth Houghton Tel: 01588 638352 Email: Houghton.ruth@btinternet.com

**Councillor Julie Magill** Tel: 01588 638305 Email: julie.magill@outlook.com

**Councillor Andy Stelman** Tel 07773006413 Email andystelman@icloud.com

# Town Councillors:

Councillor Josh Dickin Tel 07530691106 Email bcbc97@outlook.com

Councillor Grant Perry Tel: 01588 638233 Email: grantperry24@icloud.com

Councillor Steve Whittingham Tel: 01588 638954 Email: thehappybap@yahoo.co.uk

Town Clerk: 01588 638141 townclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.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

## Jilly Evans - Heather

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The town council is considering purchasing sufficient smartwater kits for the whole of Bishops Castle. This will not be a cheap exercise, it will cost in the region of £8500, it is therefore hoped that the whole of the town will take part. There will be no cost for the kit. It will be available to all free of charge. When available it will be advertised



Bishops Castle Dementia Friendly Community

Bishops Castle has been recognised by the Alzheimer's Society as working towards being a Dementia Friendly Community. (this is an ongoing process)

Several establishments in Bishops Castle are supporting the Community to be Dementia Friendly by making changes that help those living with Dementia including the Pharmacy and Bishops Castle Medical Practice where:

All staff have completed Dementia Awareness sessions.

Railings outside the Practice have been repainted red to become more obvious and lead people to the door.

Several Medical Practitioners now collect patients living with Dementia from the Waiting Room, as this may reduce any possible stress or anxiety the patient maybe experiencing.

Signage and directions within the building are now clearer. In Bishops Castle

Future Plans at the Medical Practice

Improvement to the toilets will also include clear signage and an emergency cord.

Alterations to the Car Parking area will include safer disabled parking.

The work in Bishops Castle is ongoing to support people living with Dementia and enable them to feel included, supported and involved in their everyday lives.

**Christine Williams** 



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For orders or enquiries phone

Rachel on 07975871322 For next day delivery.

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shropshirehardwoods.com

Bus timetable for bus routes 552 / 553 Bishop's Castle to Shrewsbury								
Monday to Friday times (school days)						Saturday		
Leaves Arrives					4	Leaves		Arrives
Bishop's Castle	7.30		8.30			7.30		8.30
opposite the Boar's	9.40`		10.40			9.30		10.30
Head	12.20		13.20			12.15		13.15
all go via the	13.30		14.30			15.50		16.50
Hospital	15.40		16.40					
Shrewsbury Stand N	7.35		8.35			8.00		9.00
	10.05		11.05			10.00		11.00
	12.00		13.00			14.45		15.45
	14.00		15.00			17.40		18.40
all go via the	16.25		17.25					
Hospital	17.40		18.40					
Bus timetab Monday and Friday only Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head	Leaves 9.15	rou	Arrives	snop's		Leaves Leaves Ludlow 13.15	ow	Arrives 14.25
Bus timetable for bus route Bishop's Castle to Newtown Tuesday only Leaves Arrives Leaves Arrives								
Bishop's Castle	10.00		11.00			13.55		14.45
opposite the Boar's Head	10:00		11.00		I	10.00	I	21110
M & J								
M & J Bus time table for bus route Bishop's Castle to Telford								
Tuesday fortnightly	Leaves		Arrives			Leaves		Arrives
only Bishop's Castle	09.00		10.36			13.40		15.08
opposite the Boar's Head			Bus stn			Bus stn		

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. Fever / High temperature Cough Shortness of breath

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 of 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 ad Saturday

#### **Covid-19 Community Support South West Shropshire**

Help for the elderly or vulnerable in the Bishops Castle Surgery or School Catchment Area

For Help and Advice please call:

# Jeremy Hall – 07967 306615 Grant Perry – 07949 714959 Grenville Jackson – 07795 161612 Josh Dickin – 07530 691106

We can arrange help with Shopping, Prescriptions, Supplies or anything else you may need assistance with.

If we don't have the answer we will point you to someone who will.

To offer **YOUR** Help to this Community Programme Call Evelyn Bowles – 01588 638338 The Town Clerk – 01588 638141