



# BISHOP'S CASTLE



JUNE  
To  
JULY  
2020



ISSUE 70





## The Mayor Grant Perry

Whilst it's nice to stake a claim to be the first to achieve something I find no satisfaction in the two firsts I can claim – the first Mayor to have been elected on Zoom and the first Mayor to write a welcome in our “online” newsletter due to the effect of the current Coronavirus pandemic. This Council decided to print a Newsletter when other organisations were going the opposite way due to the nature of our town. However due to the current restrictions on our lives this edition has been made electronic with a few printed copies distributed via our local food shops due to our usual distribution network being limited. At the time of writing we are

just into the first stage of the relaxation of the restrictions we have all had placed on our lives and we are lucky to live in such a wonderful area of the Country with superb community spirit, amenities and countryside on our door step, that we have been somewhat spared the worst of this crisis. However there can be few if any of us that have not been affected in some way and it has been humbling to see the way in which our community has helped each other out and provided many key workers and volunteers. We are all grateful to our NHS staff, Care Workers and essential retailers who have continued to serve us during these times – we must also try and support our local Businesses as they begin to re-open in the weeks or months ahead as they all help to make Bishops Castle the unique place that it is. Whilst there have been casualties locally in both personal and business terms I am sure we can all make it out the other side and when we can we can rest assured that our Town knows how to throw a party and we can look forward to a fantastic Celebration at some point. In the meantime please keep up to date with our Social Media, Newspapers and Notice Boards for the latest news.

I would like to place on record my thanks for our outgoing Mayor, Julie Magill for her term in office and also the sterling work undertaken by Councillor Stelman with the Food Bank, Deputy Mayor Dicken for his community service and Councillor Ruth Houghton for her support at County Level during this crisis. We have lost Councillor Whittingham who will need to devote all his time and energy rebuilding his business during the time ahead and I thank him for his four years service.

You will find an appeal elsewhere in this newsletter for new councillors and with an election due next spring I would like to encourage anyone wishing to consider this to do so now and use the next year as a testing ground to decide if the role could be for you !  
Keep Safe !

## A place to meet, have coffee and chat at SpArC.

The save the sparc charity has been shortlisted for a grant award from The Calor rural community fund which could provide SpArC with £7k towards developing a simple community café at the leisure centre. Awards will be based on the number of votes each project receives and voting goes live on Thursday 4th June. The link to vote is.

<https://communityfund.calor.co.uk/www.savethesparc.com>

Please vote and also ask friends and family if they will vote too. Anyone can vote and all votes count. If you can ask 10 friends to vote as well that would be fantastic.

Additional votes can be achieved by making donations . using the same link.

We know that money is tight and getting tighter by the day for many people in the current Coronavirus situation so we are not asking you to do this. However, if you are in a position to make a donation the charity would be very grateful.

## THE BISHOP'S CASTLE COMMUNITY FOODBANK

At the time of writing we have been going for just under two months. We have accumulated over £7000 in donations. We have assembled a brilliant group of volunteers, who either service the food bank itself at our two weekly sessions, or deliver food to homes where people are shielding.

Local shops (SPAR, COOP, Harvest, the Pharmacy, Wentnor, Churchstoke Coop) have been great at collecting food donations for us which we collect regularly. We have received weekly donations of fresh vegetables from the Little Woodbatch market garden (thanks so much Daphne and Dave). And Morrisons at Welshpool has been our fairy godparent throughout our brief existence. Tesco's from Ludlow and Welshpool have also made donations. The morning before we opened, a big van turned up and they presented us with a van load of food for nothing! And every time we replenish our stocks with an order to them, we get lots more free. We've got enough pasta sauce to sink Italy!

And, from one person in the two sessions of week one, we are now providing food for an average of 48 people per session, all of whom are taking lots of fresh vegetables, as well as the more customary tinned and dried goods. So much so, that we have an arrangement with a local organic smallholding (Little Woodbatch) to provide us with free kale, spinach and other goodies on a weekly basis.

We have had to learn a lot too, particularly about the bureaucracy surrounding the provision of food to the public. We are officially termed "a food business" by the County Environmental Health Unit and have to undertake to provide our "staff" with food hygiene training. Please don't tell anybody that we haven't quite got round to that yet!!

We have no criteria for deciding if somebody needs food. If they turn up or phone up then they get food and other provisions— simple as that. We recently asked customers to fill in a short survey to help us improve our service. Under the question “What do you like best about the foodbank?”, we received comments like: “the friendly welcome you receive” and from another customer: “it is there to help when we need it”. For the question: “What could we do to improve our service” somebody wrote: “more variety would be nice”, and another customer wrote: “there isn’t really much to improve” These answers make us feel that we are going in the right direction.

It is thrilling to see people coming in regularly who know the volunteers by name and who clearly feel at ease using our service. We are looking to those customers to become our ambassadors to help other people who need the service to overcome their reluctance and use us. In this unprecedented crisis we are apart but not alone, and our new strap line is “if you need us, please use us”. I sincerely hope that people will continue to have confidence in us and that all those who need support from us will seek it.

# Real People. Real Advice.

Our legal experts are here to help.

**Appointments available in  
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**Tel 01588 638 425 or email  
bishopscastle@wmlaw.co.uk.**

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following services

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- Commercial & Civil Litigation
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- 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

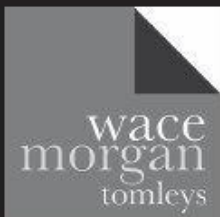


**Caroline  
Denham**

Wills & Probate,  
Residential Property &  
Family Matters

**Rachel Mole**

Residential Property,  
Wills & Probate



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**www.wacemorgantomleys.co.uk**

**@WaceMorgan**

## BISHOP'S CASTLE

### TOWN COUNCIL

Full Council meetings take place 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 subject matter so that we can prepare.*

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**email:**

**bishopscastlenewsletter@gmail.com**

### 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.

17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

# Abbeyfield

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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

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

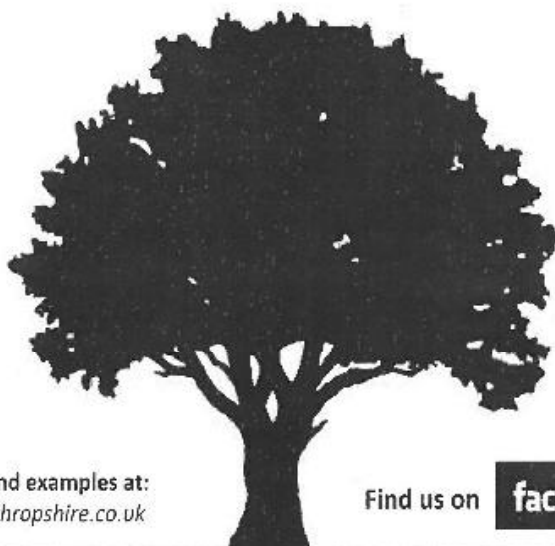


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## Bishop's Castle Festivals Coordinator

### 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



#### 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**



## The Lucky Hare

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SY9 5AJ

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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

The Council will meet via Zoom until the lockdown finishes. Still on the third Tuesday of each month. Zoom details are below .

One thing the recent Coronavirus Pandemic has shown us in Bishops Castle is the wonderful community spirit that exists in our beautiful part of South Shropshire. The number of volunteers who sprang forward to offer assistance with shopping, prescriptions, transport, gardening and the Food Bank to name a few was outstanding and now as we make tentative steps to move forward we, The Town Council now need to ask for your help. The recent crisis has taken its toll on Town Councillors as some were Key Workers, Furloughed or owners of small business's fighting for survival that has left us short in number. I am therefore appealing for anyone who can spare a few hours a month to attend one or two meetings and too respond to a few emails to come forward and seek some further details – at the time of printing meetings are being held via Zoom from the comfort of your own home and an interview process can be carried out the same way to expedite the process.

Please contact myself, the town clerk or one of our existing councillors to find out more details.

## 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

*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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As you are aware The Town Council has purchased sufficient smartwater kits for the whole of Bishops Castle and due to Covid 19 they have been posted to every household. They need to be registered with smartwater and can be undertaken by visiting the below website

<https://www.smartwater.com/police/>



*~ Serenity ~*

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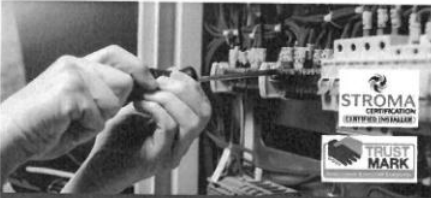
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**Bus timetable for bus routes 552 / 553 Bishop's Castle to Shrewsbury**

**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

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](mailto: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 anyone in the Bishops Castle Surgery or  
School Catchment Area

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,  
Supplies or anything else you may need help with.

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

To offer YOUR Help to Community Support SWS please call

Evelyn Bowles – 01588 638 851

The Town Clerk – 01588 638 141