

JUNE 2019

THE Bridge

- Meet the new Mayor
- Park life
- Local and Master plans
- Corn Exchange sound and vision
- Annual report



News, views, events and more from your Town Council



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FRONT COVER

Irene Valero-Sanchez

The Bridge is published four times a year by St Ives Town Council. If your free copy isn't delivered to your home you can collect it from the Town Hall in Market Hill. The next issue of The Bridge will be published in August 2019. If you would like to suggest an item for publication please contact the Town Hall.

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The Bridge is produced by the Town Council's Promotion and Publicity Committee.

The Bridge is designed and printed for St Ives Town Council by Yorke Graphic www.yorkegraphic.co.uk 01480 466830.

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It is with gratitude that I come to the end of my tenure as Town Mayor of St Ives. Gratitude, whilst general and wide, always has to risk being particular, so I must thank the staff within the Town Hall and my own work colleagues for putting up with my own idiosyncrasies - and also for those who found my intrusive caps uncomfortable.

I could describe many reflections on the year, but I want to focus on two particular aspects.

Firstly, is how fortunate we are to be blessed with our idiosyncratic history, which motivates me to defend where I can our way of life, to accommodate both change and continuity. It makes me so proud to have been able to lead the town during the celebrations and memorial of the 100th anniversary of the World War 1 Armistice. It was also a great privilege to grant the Royal Engineers the freedom of our town last June. For me it has been fascinating to learn more about the elite work that takes place within RAF Wyton, for our protection and preservation.

Secondly, I have learnt more about the power of words when combined with this role of Mayor. Last year, I spoke of my desire to do something to help develop the mental wellbeing of our town. These few words seemed to sow a seed, and we now have a team of enthusiastic volunteers creating the UK's first CALM town. This has raised interest across the country, and people in government, research and the media have been keen to learn what can be achieved through community activism. I am indebted to those on the committee who have taken up the baton and run with it.

Learning about wellbeing has also helped me learn about some of the many resources already available if you feel in mental crisis: before you do anything call 111 and choose option 2 - there will always be someone there to talk with.

I must conclude with a further drive for us to keep on working for the benefit and wellbeing of ourselves and others. Figures published in the last year show the number of people in the country between 16 and 24 who took their own life has increased by over 20 per cent; now between one and two young people a day take their own lives. This provides me with a motivation to keep working, I hope it does for you too.

Once again, thank you for all your support.

Tim Drye

THE Mayor's Message



It is an honour and a privilege to be writing these words as the new Town Mayor, and I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to my fellow Councillors for showing their faith in me to lead them for the coming year, and to those of you at home who have supported me over the years. I hope to be able to repay that faith as I start in this wonderful job.

I moved to St Ives in 2011, straight out of university, having gained employment in the local area. Not long after arriving, I sought out the then-mayor of the town, Debbie Townsend, in order to find out what opportunities there might be locally for me to volunteer, and so get to know my new neighbours and fellow residents. At this point she asked me if I would be interested in doing this as a member of the Council; the rest, as they say, is history. I was elected at a by-election in 2014 and have loved every minute of my role ever since.

In that time, I have served on all of the Council's committees, and have been privileged to chair meetings covering matters of Amenities, and Promotion and Publicity during that time. I have also been fortunate enough to be able to help the town in various other roles throughout those years, most notably with the St Ives Corn Exchange CIC, the Town Team and Friends of Holt Island.

This last year, I have immensely enjoyed my time serving as Deputy to our outgoing mayor, Councillor Tim Drye – to whom I am greatly indebted as a mentor and advisor during that period. He has had an excellent year, full of great feats and endeavours that will be difficult to follow.

His great theme for the year was in raising awareness of mental health, particularly in young adult males. This theme is something that is very close to my heart, having witnessed some of the horrors and struggles that people go through in this area. Indeed, I have lost a number of former school friends and colleagues in this dreaded manner. Following on from Tim's great work in this area, I fully hope to build on these foundations, so one of the charities that I will be supporting with my fundraising this year is the Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM).

In addition to building on Tim's theme, I also intend to build on my own for this year, which is about embracing diversity within the town. We are very fortunate in St Ives to be blessed with a wide variety of people, representing different cultures, backgrounds, interests and approaches, all of whom bring that valuable spirit to the town that sets it apart from other places nearby. One of the ways I shall be demonstrating this is through the post of the Mayor's Chaplain. Unlike my predecessors, I shall not be having one singular personal Chaplain, but instead shall have multiple chaplains representing different establishments and faiths around the town as they lead us in thoughts and prayers at Council meetings and services.

Differences should not just be tolerated, but also celebrated. One of the great ways that we do this in St Ives is with our relationship with our twin town of Stadtallendorf, in Germany. I have been extremely lucky to have had the opportunity to visit this fair town on two occasions and have witnessed the warmth with which they regard us. With Brexit around the corner, it is ever more important to maintain these relationships and see them grow, so the other cause that I will be supporting this year is the United Charities Fund, with the money being put aside expressly for use in twinning-related activities by any group that should wish to apply for it.

All of this gives much work to be done, and I can't wait to get my teeth stuck into this magnificent role, in which I shall be ably supported by my wonderful fiancée, Amy Sewell, who serves as my Mayoress and by Councillor Jonathan Pallant, whom I congratulate on his election to the role of Deputy Mayor.

Daniel Rowe
Mayor of St Ives

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'DR' with a flourish.

Armed Forces Day



See the Lancaster fly past and much more...

DIARY DATE
SATURDAY
29th
JUNE

Armed Forces Day has been celebrated in St Ives' town centre since 2009. In the early years, it received very good support from service-related charities, groups wishing to display their military vehicles and equipment, and the community as a whole. However, in the last few years support has dwindled.

The working group for the 2019 event at its first meeting considered relocating it outside of the town centre, with Slepe Hall field being the preferred option.

During this process, concerns were raised, which included: taking the event out of the town would reduce the number of people attending due to lack of natural footfall; when it was in the centre, the event also supported the shops and businesses by bringing in more people; there is plenty of car parking; and if the weather is inclement, Slepe Hall field could be damaged with vehicles and large numbers of people.

However, it was felt the positive reasons for relocating outweighed the negatives. There has been criticism raised annually by some businesses and residents that when the road closure was in place, it impacted negatively on trade and access. Holding an out-of-town centre event would mean food and drink vendors attend and contribute to the costs of the arrangements that have been met by the Town Council in the past; this will support the event becoming self-financing over time. In addition, the additional space available will allow 42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic) to display more of what they do as well and allow the introduction of a small

children's fairground to provide more activities for the family as a whole.

Overall, the working group considered aspirations for the day going forward and agreed it needs to become sustainable. They agreed that moving the event out of the town centre where the war memorial is should not cause the event to lose touch with what the day means – and in fact will give more opportunity to acknowledge military history and to show that the day is a celebration of the military – past, present and future.

The event starts at 12am and carries on until 4.00pm at least.

This year, in addition to the usual service-related charities, 42 Engr Regt (Geo) will be displaying vehicles, geographic, weapons and army equipment as well as giving you the opportunity to participate in a command task challenge. You can also test your endurance with a physical training instructor and there will be a stand with information on the Stirling Aircraft Project.

Entertainment will be provided by the Huntingdon Big Band and the Rocking Ukuleles, a Lancaster fly past, small children's fairground and many other attractions.

Civic Sunday

DIARY DATE
Sunday
16th
JUNE



One of the long-held traditions of the Town Council is the annual Civic Sunday Parade and service, which this year will take place on Sunday 16 June. The parade will as usual be led by the RAF Wyton Area Voluntary Band along with a number of youth groups. Starting at the Town Hall and processing along The Pavement, Crown Street and The Broadway, the Councillors and members of the community and invited guest in the Parish Church for a short service before parading back to Market Hill, where the Town Mayor inspects the parade and thanks all of those who have participated.

135 Geographic Squadron
Royal Engineers (Wyton Detachment)

ARMY RESERVE RECRUITING NOW

Find out what it takes to join an Army Reserve Geographic Squadron

Call – 020 8393 0891/2 (ask for Recruiting Office)
Email – 42ENGR-Recruitment@mod.gov.uk*
(*please mention 135 Geo Sqn)

Web | Twitter | Facebook | Instagram
www.135geo.co.uk | @135GeoSqn | /135GeoSqn | @135geosqnr

135 Sqn (Wyton Det), Roy Lines, RAF Wyton, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 2EA

Revitalising St Ives' play areas

Every year, St Ives Town Council engages the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) to carry out a safety check of its playgrounds. The May 2018 report highlighted the condition of the wet pour rubber flooring in the playgrounds as a recurring issue.



The Council therefore earmarked almost £220,000 in September 2018 to replace these surfaces and sought tenders, appointing DCM Surfaces as the successful contractor.

Of St Ives' eight play areas, the report found those at Warners Park, Burleigh Hill, Wheatfields, Slepe Hall and Thorndown to be most in need. At the three remaining sites, Russet Close, The Crescent and Beech Drive, the wet pour was found to be in better condition.

The Amenities Committee agreed to concentrate on the five sites, which left a balance of funds available for the provision of new play equipment.

It asked several play equipment providers to view the sites and provide solutions for upgrading

old or no longer compliant pieces of equipment with all-inclusive and newer alternatives within the budget available.

In February, the contract was awarded to Playdale Playgrounds Ltd, following public consultation and taking into account the suitability of the submissions.

The play equipment was ordered in March 2019 and is due to arrive during May.

DCM, the wet pour providers and Playdale Playgrounds, are currently working together to compile a rolling programme for the upgrading, which we anticipate will take place in June.

The new equipment being installed is as follows:

Wheatfields: Junior swing with 1 flat and 1 cradle seat, team swing, gravity bowl.

Burleigh Hill: cradle swing with 2 cradle seats, 2 bay junior swing with 2 flat seats and team swing, spinner, gravity bowl and twin rider.

Thorndown: city cradle swing with 2 cradle seats, 2 bay junior swing with 2 flat seats and team swing, quad rider and gravity bowl.

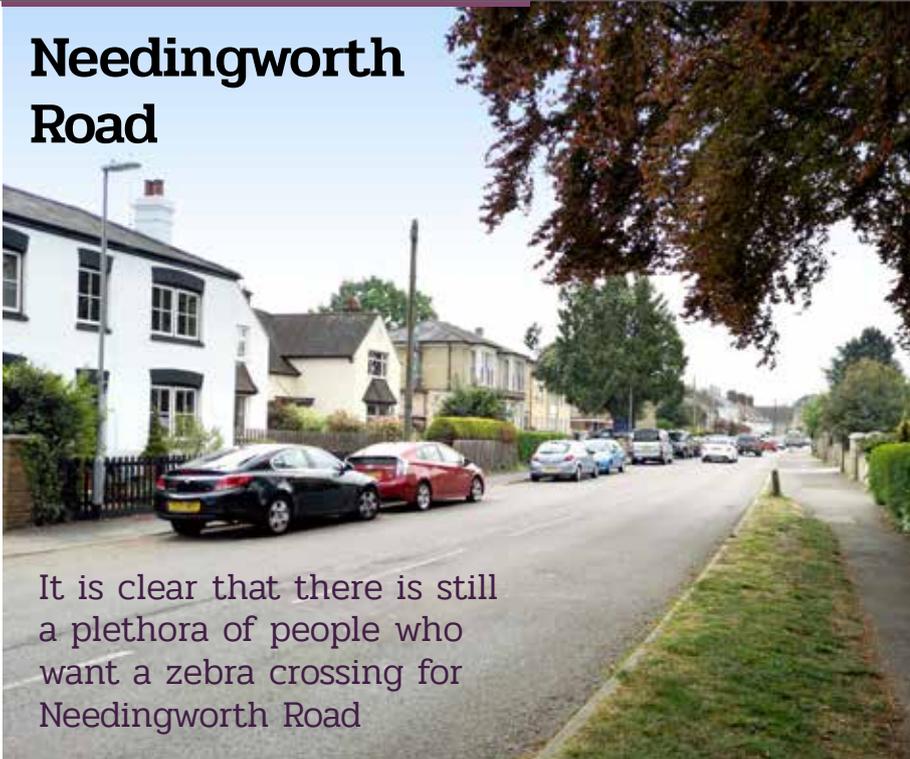
Warners Park: cradle swing with 2 cradle seats, junior swing with 2 flat seats, gravity bowl, twin rider and rockin' rider.

Slepe Hall: Rockin' rider.

St Ives' Town Clerk, Alison Benfield, said: "The Council is really looking forward to delivering this exciting project, which as well as ensuring St Ives' play areas are well maintained, will also see them updated with fun new equipment."



Needingworth Road



It is clear that there is still a plethora of people who want a zebra crossing for Needingworth Road

Each year, Cambridgeshire County Council operate a scheme for local community groups and parish councils, which can apply for up to £10,000 funding towards highway improvements in their local area. The applicant is expected to provide a minimum contribution of 10 per cent of the total scheme costs. St Ives Town Council has submitted projects under this scheme for a number of years and recently has been successful with funding towards improved visibility in Cordell Close and speed awareness measures along Marley Road.

To be successful, the scheme has to meet four criteria: evidence of a persistent highway problem; what the current safety hazard is and how the application will improve road safety; how the local community will benefit; and finally that the scheme has 'added value'.

This year, the Town Council submitted two projects for consideration – the first was for a table-top crossing point at the junction of The Waits and Ramsey Road to provide an accessible crossing point and speed control. Also submitted was a request for a zebra crossing on Needingworth Road, and we are delighted that this has been successful.

Currently, from the junction of Needingworth Road and The Quadrant towards St Audrey Lane there is no safe crossing point for over half a mile. Needingworth Road is lined on both sides with residential properties as well as a number of well-attended facilities including a mosque, nursery, church, newsagent's and hotel. Cars park along one side of the road and this, added to the narrowness of the road, provides a significant risk to pedestrians trying to cross. The road is also used as a rat run for those wanting to avoid using Harrison Way during peak hours.

It was highlighted within the application that this proposal will contribute to road safety by reducing the speed at which cars travel and provide a safe place for pedestrians to cross in the vicinity of the nursery and Oliver's Lodge hotel, as this is the stretch that takes the most pedestrian traffic and is at highest risk with regard to children and elderly residents.

The project will cost £30,000 in total; Cambridgeshire County Council is contributing £10,000 of this, and St Ives Town Council the remaining £20,000.

This proposal provides community improvement as it will bring together different community groups in working together for a common outcome - young, old, business owners, residents and different faith groups.

Charging Electric Vehicles in St Ives

Not unlike a mobile phone Electric Vehicles (EVs) are charged, usually overnight, and used during the day. If you use an EV too much, you might need a top-up to keep you going until bed time.

There are three main ways of charging an EV:

Domestic 3-pin plug: Almost all EVs come with an adaptor so they can be charged from a standard 3-pin socket. It takes 10 hours to charge fully - best done overnight!

Type 2 Charge Posts: The 'Type 2' connector allows you to charge a Nissan Leaf, for example, at 28 miles of range an hour - perfect if you're stopping for several hours on your way somewhere else.

50kW+ Rapid Chargers: 'Rapid' chargers can provide around 80 miles of range in 30 minutes. You can find them at every motorway service station, making them ideal for a quick pit-stop.

In St Ives, there are 'Type 2' charge posts at Morrisons, and the Park and Ride. The nearest rapid chargers are at Swavesey Services on the A14, and the Holiday Inn hotel at Huntingdon Racecourse.

If St Ives had some more Type 2 posts right in the town centre, along with a rapid charger or two for those making a flying visit, it would encourage people to plan a visit to our town during a long journey, rather than just flying past on the A14.

By Councillor Jonathan Pallant



Improving sound and vision at the Corn Exchange

The Corn Exchange has installed two major new assets in its Charter Hall.

Acoustic Improvements

In the second week of February, acoustic panels were fitted to the main ceiling and front balcony soffits; 32 panels in total, each of them measuring 1.2 metres by 1 metre. The project was funded with a community grant from Mick George Ltd. ACE, Friends of the Corn Exchange, provided the required third-party contribution.

Remotely controlled film screen

In January, a 6.5-metre film screen was installed on the rear balcony of the hall, making use of the integral brackets of the lighting rail. The screen is lowered and raised electronically by remote control. Funding of the screen came from Screen St Ives and ACE, Friends of the Corn Exchange, and we greatly appreciate the important engineering and purchasing assistance and sponsorship that we received from two St Ives businessmen: Mr Dennis O'Carroll, proprietor of Abbotsbury Engineering Ltd and Mr Simon Hepher, proprietor of Hephers Electrical.

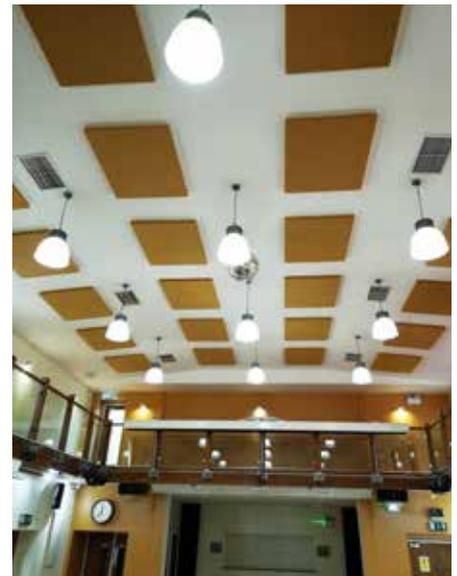
Our initial assessments and the enthusiastic feedback we are already receiving from those hiring the hall indicate that these improvements will fulfil our objectives for these two projects.

We anticipate that together the improved acoustics and the new film screen will:

- improve the quality of artistic and technical sound and public speaking in the Charter Hall
- transform our capability to host high-quality music, drama, film, TV broadcasts, gigs, comedy shows and other entertainment events,
- greatly enhance the attraction and user experience of the Charter Hall for a wide range of community and business functions, conferences and meetings.

Under our banner, Corn Exchange - Sound & Vision, we are in the planning stage of two additional projects: improved sound amplification and lighting equipment, and new modular staging.

The Corn Exchange is owned by St Ives Town Council and is managed in the community by a social enterprise, The St Ives Corn Exchange Community Interest Company (CIC).



St Ives in Bloom

St Ives in Bloom has been active in the first part of the year. In April, it visited Westwood Road cemetery.

St Ives in Bloom is now running work parties on Saturday mornings, from 10am to 12noon on the first Saturday of every month, as well as their regular weekday sessions. Look on the website www.stivesinbloom.co.uk or contact the team via siibinfo@gmail.com and they will send you all the details.



A new mausoleum

After many starts and stops, the project to bring mausolea internment to St Ives is finally about to happen. Following firm expressions of interest being received from the community that make the project financially viable, the Amenities Committee have appointed Greenbridge Designs Ltd to build a 12-chamber mausoleum in Ramsey Road Cemetery and it is expected that this build will start in July

At the time of going to print, most of the chambers in this initial phase have been reserved, and discussion has started on the feasibility of increasing the number of spaces from 12 to 24 and to include niches for ashes.

An open evening is going to be held at the Town Hall at 7pm on Thursday 20 June, for anyone who is interested in this type of internment to find out what options are available and other information.



The rules of our lawn cemeteries

Both Ramsey Road and Hill Rise Cemeteries are designated as lawn cemeteries. What does this mean you may ask. In a nutshell, it means that all graves have flat, grassed surfaces with vertical headstones only and no shrubs, trees, bushes or anything else that grows may be planted on the grave. Flowers should only be placed in receptacles, which can either be placed on the memorial base-stone or, in the case of graves without a memorial, on the base-stone placed on the grave by the Town Council.

We are aware that the subject of memorials and personal effects on graves is an emotive one, with people wanting more freedom to decide how they wish to remember their loved ones. However, these rules are in place for the benefit of everyone as what one person may feel is appropriate on a grave, others may not, and we do have to try to please everyone at the same time. The rules state that any flowers that are placed on the grave, in addition to being on the base stone must also be in a container that is made of durable material which, if damaged, will not cause a health and safety hazard. Glass and china are not allowed and will be removed.

The maintenance of the cemetery is a contentious issue: some people praise the Council for the level of maintenance carried out and others criticise and suggest more should be done. We aim to mow and strim the grass and clear rubbish on a weekly basis, but unfortunately there are times when this is delayed.

Following requests recently for memorials that are outside the rules and comments that we are allowing others to break the rules, the Amenities Committee have decided that the rules do need to be adhered to. The rules state that anything that does not comply, including unauthorised headstones, memorial plaques, flower containers, stone chippings, kerbstones and planted flowers, shrubs and trees can be removed without notice.

However, we are fully aware of the emotions linked to burials and the loss of loved ones, so are giving notice that anything that does not meet the rules will be removed from all grave spaces between Monday 5 and Friday 9 August. Anything that is removed will be marked to indicate where it was removed from and stored until the end of the year. If not claimed during that time it will be disposed of.

Hill Rise Cemetery's latest expansion

We have completed the next stage of the Hill Rise Cemetery expansion, laying additional footpaths between the plots and planting new flowerbeds.

Clerk's Corner



Alison Benfield
TOWN CLERK

They say time flies when you are having fun – in which case I must be loving my job, as it is yet again time for me to provide a summary as part of the Annual Report of the last year's achievements and financial standing again.

During the 2018/19 financial year, a number of projects were started that will finish this year, in particular new play equipment and safety surfacing in many of the play areas and the building of a mausoleum.

A major piece of work that took place was a full tree survey of all the trees that are the responsibility of the Town Council, where any work needed was highlighted – and is now pretty much complete. Overall, the survey considered our trees to be in good condition. The exception to this were the leylandii within Ramsey Road cemetery, which the report indicated should be reduced in height to between five and six meters and trimmed at the sides. When this work was started, the results were so unsatisfactory that the decision was made to take them out completely and replace with laurel along Old Ramsey Road and native hedging between Ramsey Road and Hill Rise cemetery. This decision was not universally welcomed, with a number

of people expressing displeasure, but once the hedging establishes itself over the next few years, the results will be much better and much easier to maintain going forward.

Last year, I mentioned the financial support the Town Council gives to a number of volunteer organisations who support groups and individuals whose quality of life is improved by all that they do. Significantly, this year the Town Council has entered into memorandums of understanding with these groups to provide four years of ongoing funding to assist them with their longer-term plans. In addition, I am delighted that the St Ives Volunteer Centre has relocated into the Town Hall, with the plan being to work together to provide more help jointly and support to the community of St Ives locally.

Finally - the highlight of the past year for the Town Council has to be the Freedom of the Town Parade, which happened in June. The links between the town and 42 Engineer (Geo) Regiment will continue to grow and increase in the years to come for sure and many of us are already looking forward to them exercising the freedom in the next three to five years.

Pavilion Plans



Front Elevation



Side Elevation

As mentioned in a previous edition of The Bridge, a working party has been formed consisting of residents and Councillors to look at the refurbishment of Warner's Park Pavilion. They have met on a couple of occasions to discuss options - and it was agreed that the building needed to become multi-functional and appeal to a more than just football teams to use.

The initial plans show the current building with a new internal layout to incorporate a larger kitchen, open plan centre section and storage to one side with access to a public toilet.

A side extension will incorporate a sports storage area that is accessible both internally and externally, with the front extension housing additional toilet facilities. Thanks must go to 'Partners in Planning and Architecture' for the pro-bono work on the plans and their advice so far.

The intention going forward is for the building to be more attractive for small groups to use for social events in the park and potentially for some groups to operate café facilities in the summer months to raise funds for their activities.

The addition of a public toilet with changing facilities is something that has been highlighted as being much needed in the park for a long time. As many parents will know, trying to get young children all the way to Globe Place toilets before accidents happen is nearly impossible!

The working party are keen to hear your ideas, so if you have any comments or want to get involved in this exciting project please contact the Town Clerk who will pass your details on.

Annual Report 2018/19

Accounts

Our accounts have been drawn up in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

The main source of income is the Precept which is collected by Huntingdonshire District Council as part of Council Tax locally. For 2018/19 this was £721,293. The tax base of 5920 Band D properties was used for calculating Council Tax to give a rate of £121.84.

Full details of the accounts, including our reserves, are available from the Town Hall. A summary of the Income and Expenditure account for the year ending 31 March 2019 follows on this and the next page. You will find a table of Councillors' attendance at meetings below.



Councillors' Attendance - Municipal Year 2018/19

For each Councillor we have indicated the number of meetings that they attended and the number of which they could have attended. This is to take into account where a Councillor has changed membership of committees. The numbers are shown as Attended/Possible so that 6/7 indicates that a Councillor was summoned to 7 meetings and attended 6.

* Ex officio as Town Mayor

** Opening meeting on behalf of Town Mayor

*** Member since 28/11/18

Blank space = Not a Member of that Committee

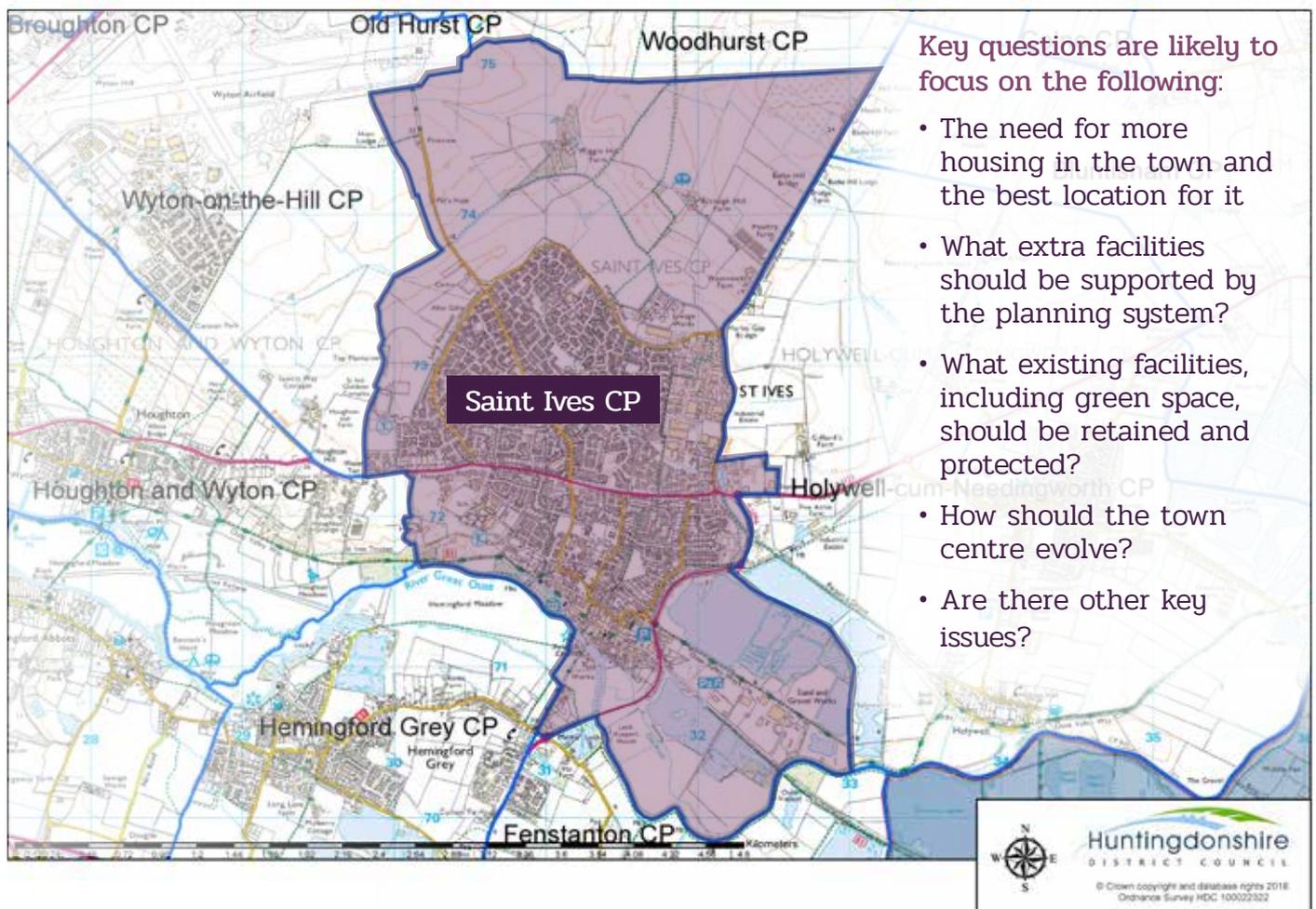
	Full Council	Amenities Committee	Personnel Committee	Planning Committee	Promotion & Publicity Committee	Property Committee
	13 meetings	9 meetings	4 meetings	22 meetings	3 meetings	4 meetings
Ayers Wilson	6/13		4/4			
Bellamy	13/13			17/22		3/4
D'Souza	9/13	6/9			3/3	
Davies J	13/13	7/9		19/22		
Dibben	12/13		4/4	21/22		4/4
Davies L	11/13	4/9***	4/4			
Dickinson	10/13		4/4		3/3	
Drye	13/13	2/9*	2/4*	16/22	2/3	2/4
Fuller	11/13	6/9				3/4
Hussain	12/13		4/4	20/22	3/3	
King	13/13	7/9			3/3	4/4
Luter	12/13	9/9				4/4
Pallant	11/13		4/4			3/4
Pegoraro	10/13	7/9			3/3	
Pope	7/13		2/4		1/3	
Rowe	13/13	9/9		22/22	2/3	1/4**
Tiddy	8/13			20/22		4/4

**Income and
Expenditure
Account
for Year Ended
31st March 2019**

31st March 2018		31st March 2019
£	INCOME SUMMARY	£
713,866	Precept	721,293
713,866	SUB TOTAL	721,293
	OPERATING INCOME	
3	Administration	36
0	Finance	13,961
0	Civic	107
1,529	Council General	47,734
13,076	Amenities General	13,411
25,714	Playground/Open Spaces/Cemetery	38,299
5,491	Allotments	5,948
27,481	Town Hall	33,567
40	Warners Park Pavilion	0
3,050	Ground Maintenance Depot	3,050
61,556	Capital - Council	19,816
760,228	Capital - Norris Museum	0
1,612,033	TOTAL INCOME	897,221
	RUNNING COSTS	
15,314	Administration	26,149
6,636	Insurance	0
64,371	Finance	470,699
11,230	Advertising & Publicity	16,849
10,087	Civic	30,583
47,700	Grants	89,334
14,013	Council General	16,821
355,289	Staff	405,615
47,510	Amenities General	74,855
2,645	Street Lighting	5,175
0	Street Furniture	309
7,932	Machinery	5,323
13,006	Playground/Open Spaces/Cem.	34,414
913	Allotments	750
38,292	Town Hall	35,516
8,794	Corn Exchange	23,069
34,013	Norris	30,766
4,241	Ground Maintenance Depot	1,177
19,835	Capital - Council	0
12,598	Capital - Amenities	0
42,041	Capital - Property	0
795,908	Capital - Norris Museum	0
1,552,366	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,267,405
	GENERAL FUND ANALYSIS	
468,103	Opening Balance	421,437
1,612,033	Plus : Income for Year	897,221
2,080,136		1,318,658
1,552,366	Less : Expenditure for Year	1,267,405
527,770		51,253
106,333	Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	361,233
421,437	CLOSING BALANCE	309,980

Neighbourhood Plan update

The Town Council has started the process to create a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for St Ives. When complete and adopted following a local referendum, a NP becomes a legal document that can be used to help determine local planning applications.



The first stage is to agree the area covered by the Neighbourhood Plan, which in this case matches the area covered by the Town Council. The Town Council is very much aware that the built up area of St Ives already extends beyond our boundary, so close liaison with adjacent Parishes will be important as the plan develops. Houghton and Wyton Parish Council already have a plan and Hemingford Grey Parish Council are intending to produce one, but NPs are not allowed to overlap. Once the area proposed is accepted by Huntingdonshire District Council, then work on the NP can start.

From here, the first step is to obtain information about the state of St Ives that will help identify some of the key issues that the NP might address; for example, how many people are on the housing waiting list, or how many empty shops and offices are there in St Ives. Once we have this key data, we can start the important consultation process, with the public and key stakeholders within the town. People will be able to talk to the NP team at forthcoming Councillor surgeries - but also look out for questionnaires and public exhibitions.

We will set up a meeting shortly but are still looking for more people to get involved. If you are interested please contact the Town Hall: **clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk**

Master Plan

In January's edition of The Bridge I wrote about the preparation of Huntingdonshire's Local Plan. Following receipt of the Inspector's Final Report we are delighted that the Local Plan can proceed to the final stage of ratification and that we remain on target to adopt it in May 2019, earlier than we initially envisaged.



However, the Local Plan is not the only work the District Council is leading that is intended to support the sustainable growth of our District. Another is the development of 'Prospectuses for Growth' for three of our market towns, including St Ives. These Prospectuses aim to develop a sound, shared understanding of the potential strengths and opportunities in each of our market towns, recognising that each is unique and that one size definitely does NOT fit all. The intention is to focus on transformational interventions that can make the most of opportunities unique to each town and its community, creating new jobs, improving productivity and raising aspirations in and around each town.

Development of the Prospectuses for St Ives, Ramsey and Huntingdon will be a nine-month long process involving both data analysis and collective input from key local stakeholders. At the beginning of May we held the launch event, a stakeholder strategic workshop designed to begin the discussion and collation of stakeholder contribution to the initiative. It was an incredibly successful and useful event in terms of outlining our ambition and planning for the long-term future of these three towns and the wider District. Following on from this event there will be several further rounds of local engagement and

input collated from public, business and community representatives to ensure that there is plenty of opportunity for the local contribution that will make a success of this work. These town specific discussions will take place between now and November when we anticipate the publication of the final reports, with St Ives being the first of the three Prospectuses to be published.

The Prospectus for St Ives will be an important part of the evidence base that we and our partners will collectively then be able to use to pursue funding and support for the interventions identified as essential for securing a prosperous future for our town and its community. Government is currently working up the detail of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, for example, which is designed to replace EU structural funds and help deliver locality specific sustainable and inclusive growth. The Prospectus will mean that we are well placed to be able to evidence what we need in applications to funds such as this as they become available. For example, St Neots was the first town to have a Prospectus developed and has already attracted £41 million of funding to help deliver its ambitions.

Whilst the District Council is leading the delivery of this important piece of work, funding originates from the

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) in recognition of the fact that market towns like St Ives play an important role in both the existing structure and future potential of the Cambridgeshire economy. Twenty five percent of the county's population live within market towns such as St Ives.

St Ives town centre continues to enjoy a healthy footfall and our ambitions for its future rely on us supporting its continued success, ensuring that we can provide opportunities in the town for quality employment and creating a hub: a location of choice for people to live, work and invest. Together with the anticipated adoption of our Local Plan, the individual Prospectuses for Growth for our market towns are fundamental key actions we are taking to boost economic growth and prosperity in St Ives and across our District.



Cllr Ryan Fuller

District Councillor for St Ives West

Deputy Executive Leader

Executive Councillor for Housing, Planning and Economic Development

Huntingdonshire District Council



The Norris not just any old museum

41 The Broadway, St Ives, is a very special address. Not familiar with it? It is better known as The Norris Museum or more formerly The Herbert Ellis Norris Library and Museum.

Do not be misled by the very modest and unassuming façade – take a step through the wooden doorway and you will discover a gem.

Wander around the small but perfect garden complete with Roman stone coffins, sit a while on one of the benches and watch the Great River Ouse as it passes by or step through the arched doorway into the main museum building and explore the displays that tell, and celebrate, the fascinating stories of Huntingdonshire's past. It also has a lovely little gift shop.

You would be wrong to think that The Norris Museum is just like any other museum, solely focusing on the past. This museum is very much in the present and always looking to the future. It is a small museum with a big heart. New visitors to The Norris Museum would be wrong to anticipate finding dusty displays and tatty 'Do Not Touch' signs. It is a colourful, tactile and welcoming place for visitors of all ages.

The Norris Museum team, staff and volunteers, are very committed to using the collections and museum resources for the benefit of the local community – school visits, talks and temporary exhibitions are part of what they offer but they also go that one step further.

There are so many additional opportunities for people to get involved. Regular monthly activities include:

Coffee, Cake and Culture group First and third Tuesday of the month 10.30am – 12noon. A group for those who enjoy meeting new people, but who also enjoy sharing stories, object handling, and arts and crafts. Cost: a donation of £3 to cover the cost of refreshments and materials.

Men's Group Fourth Tuesday of the month, 2–4pm.

A group where men can meet and socialise with like-minded people and take part in an activity. Cost: a donation of £5 to cover the cost of refreshments and materials.

Norris Museum's Pop Up Café with SENSE

Every second Thursday of the month, 2–3.30pm.

Drop in for a cuppa and a piece of cake. All proceeds go towards supporting our work with SENSE.

British Legion Pop In Every fourth Monday of the month, 2–4pm.

Opportunity for veterans, serving personnel, and their families to meet or to access advice from the Legion.

Reminiscence at The Norris Museum First and third Wednesdays of the month, 10.30 – 11.30am. A group for those who live with dementia and their carers who enjoy reminiscing, sharing stories and handling objects from the past to stimulate memories and conversations.

Pebbles Club One Saturday morning a month – stories, play and creative crafts for children aged 3 to 6 years old. Cost: £2 per child.

Contact the museum about taking part with any of these activities, visit the website for information, or follow on Facebook for regular updates.

There are also plenty of one-off events; some complement the temporary exhibition programme. Sara Wilkinson, whose work is featured in the current exhibition *From Smoke & Flames: 100 Raku Pots* (until 30 June), will be running two clay evening workshops for adults to sign up to (Friday 10 May and Friday 14 June).

This summer, there will be children's activity days every Friday in August including a Family Archaeology Day (be prepared to investigate some artificial pool). There are lots more events planned throughout the year to interest all ages so do keep an eye out for posters around the town.

And finally... the museum team are proud to announce that *Visual Story*, a guide for autistic visitors, has just been produced. It is available from the museum and can be downloaded from the Norris Museum website. The new guide, a collaboration between the museum and students from Spring Common Academy; helps visitors with autism to prepare for their visit, containing pictures and information about some of the things they can expect to see and do at the Norris.

41 The Broadway is definitely worth a visit.

What's on?

TOWN COUNCIL, CIVIC AND RELATED EVENTS

JUNE

- 8 St Ives Choral Society present 'Feel the Spirit', African American Spirituals**, 7.30pm, the Free Church. Tickets £12 (£10 concessions, under 16s free). available from the Fair Trade Shop.
- 15 Adult Learning and Skills, St Ivo School**. Saturday Workshops, a wide range of courses available. Info at www.aclearning.org.uk or call 01480 495717.
- 16 Mayor's Civic Parade and Service** 11am, All Saints' Parish Church.
- 20 St Ives & District Flower Club Meeting** 2.15pm, Burgess Hall, St Ives. Admission £7 (visitors) "These are some of my favourite things", Clarissa Harris.
- 22 St Ives Regatta** Noble's Field.
- 23 Picnic in the Park** Warner's Park.
- 28 Board Games Group** 2-4pm, Seven Wives Public House. No charge, refreshments available to purchase. 01954 774801 Care Network Cambs.
- 29 Armed Forces Day** Slepe Hall Field. Flag raising at noon. Events until 4pm.

JULY

- 13-14 Carnival and Music Festival** Hill Rise Park
- 14 COSI Concert with FEST** 7.30pm, Free Church
- 18 St Ives & District Flower Club Meeting** 2.15pm, Burgess Hall, St Ives. Admission £7 (visitors). Speaker to be arranged.
- 26 Board Games Group** 2-4pm, Seven Wives Public House. No charge, refreshments available to purchase. 01954 774801 Care Network Cambs.

- 27 Summer on the Ouse** Norris Museum, 10 - 4pm, Family event £3 per child. 01480 497314

AUGUST

- 2 Castles and Creatures: Kite Making Workshop** Norris Museum, 3x 2hr workshops, 10am-12noon, 12.30-2.30pm, 3-5pm. £5 per child. 01480 497314
- 9 Summer Sewing and Weaving Day** Norris Museum, 10am-3pm, Family event £1.50 per child. 01480 497314
- 10 Pebbles Club Summer Party** Norris Museum, 3-6 year olds 10am-12noon, Story Times 10.30am, 11am and 11.30am. Please book in advance 01480 497314. £2 per child.
- 16 Children's Archaeology Day** Norris Museum, 10am-3pm. Family event. Free.
- 23 Board Games Group** 2-4pm, Seven Wives Public House. No charge, refreshments available to purchase. 01954 774801 Care Network Cambs.
- 23 Messy Painting Day** Norris Museum 10am-3pm, Family event £1.50 per child.
- 30 Introduction to Lace Making: Family Workshop** Norris Museum, 2x 3hr workshops, 10am-1pm, 1.30-4.30pm. £7.50 per child.

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Illuminated Boat Parade**
- 19 St Ives & District Flower Club Meeting**, 2.15pm, Burgess Hall, St Ives. Admission £7 (visitors), "Village Life", Bernard Collingsworth.

REGULAR EVENTS

Dementia Friendly Events (for those living with dementia and their carers)

MEMORY LANE SINGING CAFÉ every 2nd Monday each month, 10am-12noon. Crossways Centre, Ramsey Road. Contact: George 07725 588 145.

LOVE TO MOVE GYMNASTICS 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Mondays each month, 10.30am-12noon, Crossways Centre, Ramsey Road. Contact: Kim 07853 199 185.

CRAFTS AT THE CORN EXCHANGE Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month, 2-4pm. Contact: Sandra 07913 346 845.

DEMENTIA LUNCHES

1st Wednesday of every month, Slepe Hall Hotel. Contact: Heather Jones 01480 841043.

DEMENTIA CAFÉ

3rd Thursday each month, 10am, The Free Church, Market Hill. Contact: Pauline Meakins 07710 964 969.

Regular Events At The Norris contact info@norrismuseum.org.uk for further details

Coffee, Cake and Culture Group 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month, 10.30am-12noon

Reminiscence at the Norris Museum 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month 10.30-11.30am

Pop Up Café with SENSE

Every 2nd Thursday each month. Drop in for a cuppa. Proceeds to our work with SENSE, 2.00-3.30pm.

Men's Group

4th Tuesday of the month 2-4pm. Where men can meet and socialise and take part in an activity. £5 to cover refreshments and materials.

Farmers' Market

8.30am-2.00pm in the Sheep Market

June - 1st (Taster Day), 15th

July - 6th, 20th

August - 3rd and 17th

Sept - 7th and 21st

Regular Community Group Meetings

COPE (Cambridgeshire Older People's Enterprise) Every 2nd Friday each month, St Ives Free Church 10.30am-12.30pm. Speaker/free refreshments/raffle. £2 entry charge. Contact: gerald.collins1@ntlworld.com, 01480 370808.

St Ives in Bloom Regular work parties on Saturdays 10am-12noon, 1st Saturday of each month. Check for details www.stivesinbloom.co.uk, email siibinfo@gmail.com.

COUNCIL MEETINGS DIARY

JUNE

- 12 Planning Committee and Town Council Meeting
- 26 Planning and Amenities Committees

JULY

- 10 Planning Committee and Town Council Meeting
- 17 Personnel Committee
- 24 Planning, Property and Amenities Committees

AUGUST

- 21 Planning Committee

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Planning Committee and Town Council Meeting
- 25 Planning and Amenities Committees

OCTOBER

- 9 Planning Committee and Town Council Meeting
- 16 Personnel Committee
- 23 Planning, Property and Amenities Committees

PLEASE NOTE

You are welcome to address any Council or Committee Meeting as long as you are on the Electoral Register for St Ives. Meetings normally start at 7pm in the Town Hall. You may speak for up to three minutes, subject to the maximum provision of 15 minutes for all speakers.

Your questions at meetings must be relevant to matters in which the Town Council has powers or duties, or matters relating to the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the town.

Contacts:

Burgess Hall www.oneleisure.net

Corn Exchange 01480 496454 info@thecornexchange.org.uk

Crossways Christian Centre 01480 454220

HDC www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/healthwalks

Norris Museum 01480 497314 info@norrismuseum.org.uk

St Ives Gardening Club www.sigc.weebly.com

Town Hall 01480 388929 clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Team 01480 383612 www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk

Who does what?

YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Has your local street light gone out? It is sometimes difficult to remember which level of our local government – Town, District or County Council – is responsible for which service area. We hope that this guide steers you in the right direction. We take this opportunity to also list which of your local Councillors serve on which council.

ST IVES TOWN COUNCIL

Telephone **01480 388929** or visit www.stivestowncouncil.gov.uk

Responsible for:

- The Waits
- Warner's Park
- Slepe Hall Field,
- Children's play equipment
- Allotments
- Burleigh Hill Community Centre
- Seats
- Cemeteries
- Corn Exchange
- Town Hall
- Norris Museum
- Public toilets

Statutory consultee for planning matters.

Actively supporting the economic development and community well-being of St Ives.

SITC is currently composed of 17 Councillors who represent four wards. The composition of the Council is: Independents 15, Conservatives 2.

Your Councillors:



Angela Ayers-Wilson



Richard Bellamy



John Davies



Lynn Davies



Nick Dibben



Angie Dickinson



Tim Drye



Rianna D'Souza



Ryan Fuller



Abid (Pasco) Hussain



Margaret King



Brian Luter



Jonathan Pallant



Phil Pope



Carla Pegoraro



Daniel Rowe



John Tiddy

Please note that all Town Councillors' email addresses are in the following style
Angela.Ayers-wilson@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk

correct at the time of print

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Telephone **01480 388388** or visit www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Responsible for:

- Rubbish collection
- Street cleaning
- Planning and planning enforcement
- Housing improvement grants
- Environmental health
- Licensing
- Elections
- Parks and open spaces
- One Leisure Centre & Burgess Hall
- Housing
- Economic development
- Car parks
- CCTV
- Council Tax
- Wilhorn Meadow & The Thicket
- Building control
- Voluntary sector

HDC is composed of 52 Councillors who represent 29 wards across the District. The current composition of the Council is: Conservative 30, Liberal Democrat 7, HDC Independent Group 10, Labour 4, Independent 1.

Your Councillors:

Jason Ablewhite

Jason.Ablewhite@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Richard Bellamy

Richard.Bellamy@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

John Davies

John.Davies@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Angie Dickinson

Angie.Dickinson@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Ryan Fuller

Ryan.Fuller@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Telephone **0345 045 5200** or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Responsible for:

- Education
- Roads and traffic
- Footpaths,
- Libraries
- Social Services
- Park and ride
- Recycling
- Street Lighting
- Trading standards

CCC is composed of 61 Councillors who cover the five District Council areas across Cambridgeshire.

The current composition of the Council is: Conservatives 36, Independents 1, St. Neots Independent Group 2, Labour 7, Liberal Democrats 15.

Your Councillors:

Kevin Reynolds

Kevin.Reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Ryan Fuller

Ryan.Fuller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

St Ives Town Council

Town Hall, Market Hill, The Old Riverport,
St Ives, Cambs PE27 5AL
Telephone: 01480 388929
Email clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk
Website www.stivestowncouncil.gov.uk



Farmers Market of the Year Winner 2015



Gold Award Winner 2016, 2017 & 2018

