

The Bridge



News, views and events from your Town Council

November 2017

St Ives Riverport heritage • Beautiful location • Community spirit • Exceptional shopping



Highlights...

We win GOLD again! 6

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Christmas fun 14

INCLUDES
BUS-USER
SURVEY

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FRONT COVER

All the fun of the fair in one picture! The opening of the Michaelmas Fair is one of the highlights of the Civic season. In time-honoured fashion, after reading the proclamation and rolling newly minted coins to the children, the Town Mayor Cllr Phil Pope led Councillors on a walk round the stalls. Here he shows off his spoils with Deputy Mayor Cllr Tim Drye in valuable support role.

Photograph by Allan Bennett/Media Imaging Solutions

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE THOUGHTS FOR NOVEMBER

Hello again to all you wonderful residents of St Ives and our many visitors. The year is passing fast: Christmas is just around the corner and the nights getting longer. However, we've had a great year in the town so far with an increase in visitor numbers and events throughout the town keeping people flocking back for more.

Highlights

I would like to say a huge thank you to all

“... one of the proudest days of my life.”

the Cadet and Community Groups, the 42nd Engineer Regt (RAF Wyton), the RAF Wyton Voluntary Marching Band and everyone else who attended my **Civic Parade and Service** - one of the proudest days of my life. To see pictures from the day check out the Mayor of St Ives Facebook page @stivesmayor.

This past couple of months have seen the Norris Museum throw open its doors once again following a £1.4 m refurbishment. The opening was grand and lasted all weekend: children and adults enjoyed fun activities and there



Photograph by Allan Witherick/SITC

were parades throughout the town. If you've visited already, I'm sure you'll agree that the project is worth every penny - if you haven't, then get on down. It's still free to enter and there's loads to see and do for all the family. On page 10 the Director offers a fascinating insight into the development of the new displays.

I'm also delighted to acknowledge the tremendous achievement of the St Ives in Bloom committee for the second year running in gaining another Gold award from Anglia in Bloom for our town. My congratulations go to all those hard-working volunteers, plus our Ground Maintenance Team, for their efforts. See page 6 for more on this triumph.



Photograph by Simon Webb

Our Mayor - here, there and everywhere! Formal in the Civic Parade ...



Photographer unknown

... informal back stage with boy band

We have once again welcomed the traditional **Michaelmas Fair** to the town for three days during part of which we hosted fifteen representatives from our twin town Stadtallendorf in Germany. This included the Burgermeister, Christian Somogyi and his wife Ilona. During their stay, among other activities, our guests visited St Ivo School and spent a morning with students who have been studying German - a real treat for all involved. We hope this

... We hope this experience will lead to firm links ... in both towns.

experience will lead to firm links between both German and English language students in both towns. Our Promotion & Publicity

Committee is also developing similar 'bridging links' with Sospel, a town in the south of France.

So, what else has been happening in our lovely town since the last edition of *The Bridge?* Well, the Council held a **Public Meeting** to discuss the latest version of the District Council's Local Plan. Residents, councillors and visitors had their chance to ask questions and make comments - these included concerns about lack of sufficient new houses, infrastructure, rapid growth and building on green sites. These were compiled and sent on to HDC (see page 11).

I have held two charity fundraisers for my charities: the Mayor's

Gala Night of *Wind in the Willows* at Floods Tavern, performed by Momentum Theatre Company, and which raised £400; and *A Show Fit for The Mayor* at the Burgess Hall, performed by members of the Centre Theatre Players, and which raised a whopping £2,500. I send a massive thank you to everyone involved in both shows.

We have also enjoyed a four-day Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival which brought many people into the town (see page 14).

Objectives

In the last issue I set out my objectives which included building on the relationship between St Ives and all tiers of local Government. So far, I have strengthened ties with the District and County Councils and consider both Chairmen friends. I am, however, yet to formally meet with the new Mayor of the Combined Authority representing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. I propose to set up a meeting soon to discuss local issues and to see whether we can help each other move forward so that the needs of our town are properly addressed.

I have become increasingly concerned about the disgraceful state of the pavement in Crown Street which has become dangerous. Following complaints from many members of the public, which have been followed up by Town Councillors, we understand that the County Council now has remedial works in hand. Selfish parking is also

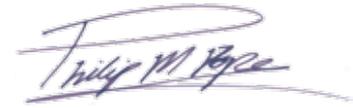
a continuing issue and Sgt Street gives us his views on this in his *Policing St Ives* article on page 12.

Looking ahead

Please don't forget two significant dates in November. There will be an **Armistice Day Commemoration** service on Saturday 11th and a full **Remembrance Sunday Service** on Sunday 12th at the War Memorial (see *What's On?* on page 15). These events are important: they not only allow us to remember the fallen of the two World Wars and other conflicts since, but they also allow us to show support for those currently serving in Her Majesty's forces.

As always there will be lots to do in St Ives over the Christmas holidays including the annual Snowman Festival and the Christmas Lights Switch On. Two notable dates from myself are my Charity Christmas Concert with the RAF Wyton Area Voluntary Band at the Free Church on Friday 8 December, and on Tuesday 19 December the **Civic Service of Lessons and Carols** at the Parish Church. For more information check the Mayor's Facebook page, visit the Council website or pop in to the Town Hall.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



CLLR PHILIP M. POPE,
TOWN MAYOR



... and solo with Queen Elizabeth I at the Norris Museum reopening ...



... then with a group of Civic visitors from Stadtallendorf at St Ivo School ...



... and finally with rather large vegetables and Norma Head at the St Ives Show. Truly a Mayor for all seasons.



Five ...

Photographer unknown

Photograph by Chris Thomas

Photograph by Adam King

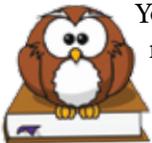
NOTICE BOARD

FAIR AND FAMILY FUN DAY

Pop along to All Saints Church Fair and Family Fun Day on **Saturday 4 November** between 10 am and 3 pm at the Corn Exchange for an hour or two of family fun.

This family friendly event will raise money for the local Parish Church through stalls with cakes, crafts, a raffle and the sale of Christmas gifts. There will also be soft play kids' games, sing-a-long music and entertainers plus a volunteer-run community café selling refreshments and light lunches. Come along and join in the fun.

HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE QUIZ NIGHT



You've been on the Island, walked round the reserve and love all things natural? Think you know something about animals and plants? Now come and support the Friends by testing your

knowledge in a great night out with one of Dan Rowe's legendary quizzes. Bring a few friends, make up a team and enjoy the competitive atmosphere. What is the difference between an African and an Indian Elephant? What is Britain's smallest bat? Why was willow grown on the Island?

There's a pizza supper included in the entry ticket price and a bar. And remember: the Quizmaster is always right, even when he is wrong!



Rugby for young players



St Ives Rugby Club runs teams for young players from Under 7s up to Under 17s. Under 7s and Under 8s play non-contact Tag Rugby, with which many children at primary school may already be familiar. At Under 9s we start to introduce the contact game and the children learn how to tackle safely, before progressing through the age groups and learning new skills each year. Boys and girls can join from the age of five and can play in fixtures from the age of six. Training is on Sunday mornings at our Somersham Road rugby ground from 10 am until 12 noon. Fixtures are also on Sunday mornings at 10 am and can be at home or away.

All age group coaches are DBS checked and trained for their specific age group, but also undertake training in safety and safeguarding too. The core values of Rugby Union (Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship) are what make the game of rugby special, and a great game for children to enjoy.

If you think that rugby might be right for your child, please do come along to the club on a Sunday morning for a look around (bacon rolls and hot drinks are always available for the adults while the children play) and your child is very welcome to join in for a taster session.

For more information and to check dates for the next training sessions, please contact Nigel West on 07787 470500.

WOULD YOU PREFER AN E-EDITION?



Copies of *The Bridge* are distributed to every resident letterbox in the town, to the Corn Exchange, Norris Museum, Library and St Ivo School, plus town-centre businesses. The magazine is also available electronically to read from the Town Council website.

However, if you would prefer to receive an emailed pdf version and will provide us with an email address for this purpose only (plus your name and address to enable us to remove you from the hard copy delivery list) then please let us know.

We are aware that some people are happy to read a magazine from their computer, phone or tablet, while others still prefer to flick through real pages! We'd love to know your preference. Please email the Clerk at clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk or call **01480 388929**.

Friends of Holt Island Nature Reserve

? Quiz Night ?

St Ives Corn Exchange - Saturday 11th November
6.30pm for 7.00pm start

? PIZZA supper ?

Teams 4 - 8 people • £10.00 per person • Bar

Contact: Daniel Rowe 07748 157702 Daniel.rowe14@virginmedia.com

BUS-USER SURVEY

TELL US WHAT YOU WANT



Following the decision by Whippet Buses to end local bus services between St Ives and surrounding villages, the County Council arranged a one-year contract to continue the majority of these services and is now carrying out a review into the longer term provision of services.

To provide input into this review we are asking residents to indicate the regular journeys that they make and what bus services they use or would like to see.

Please fill in one survey for *each person* in your household. Return completed surveys to the Town Hall by **24 November 2017**. Alternatively you can type this link into your browser <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stivesbussurvey>, or scan the QR code on your smart phone to connect you with the online version on the Town Council website. Or you can pick up a hard copy of the survey from the Town Hall, Corn Exchange or Library.

Thank you for helping us help you by completing this survey.

1. Travel Patterns: how often do you travel to the following destinations by any means? Indicate in the last column which destinations for which you use the bus on the majority of your trips.

Destination	Frequency					Use the bus?
	3-5 times a week	1-2 times a week	1-2 times a month	Once a month	A few times a year	
St Ives town centre						
St Ives industrial estate						
Huntingdon town centre						
Huntingdon industrial area						
Hinchingbrooke Hospital/ railway station						
Cambridge city centre						
Cambridge Science Park						
Addenbrookes Hospital area						
Cambourne/St Neots						
Villages around St Ives (please state which)						
Other regular work/ shopping trips to places not listed - specify						

2. Overall how often do you use the bus?

5 or more times a week 3-4 times a week
 Twice a week Once a week Once a fortnight
 Once a month Less often Never

**3. What are your main purposes for using the bus?
(tick all that apply)**

Commuting School/college Shopping
 Visiting friends/relatives Leisure Healthcare
 Other: _____

4. In which of these age groups are you?

Under 16 yrs 17 -25 yrs 26-65 yrs over 66 yrs
 Bus Pass holder

5. Are you.....?

Employed In full-time education Unemployed
 Retired Carer/homekeeper

6. For bus users, do you have alternative means of transport available? Please specify

7. Are there any improvements needed that would encourage you to use the bus or use it more often?

8. Name and address (optional). A village name if you don't live in St Ives would be helpful. Information will not be passed on to others.

Name

Address

BLOOMIN' GOLD AGAIN! ST IVES IN BLOOM TRIUMPH



We were thrilled to hear this news from Marney Hall, chair of the St Ives in Bloom Committee. Here is her report.

...this is incredibly difficult to achieve.

Once more, St Ives has been awarded a gold medal by the Anglia in Bloom judges. Having won Gold last year, we were concerned that we retained that 'golden glow' but, as any of the committee will tell you, this is incredibly difficult to achieve. Anglia in Bloom is no longer just about our floral displays - the judges look at everything from our conservation areas and their management to our graveyards. They look at recycling in the town and the way we teach horticulture and respect for the environment to our children. They also look at the many other projects with which we are involved in and around the town.

The awards

This year we won special awards for the Park-and-Ride beds which were designed by members of the St Ives in Bloom committee and are maintained by volunteers. This effort won the top award in East Anglia for sustainable, drought tolerant beds. We also won a top award for the beautiful planting at the top of Houghton road, which anyone driving in to St Ives will have noticed. This was awarded the 'best garden planting by a private individual' that is on view to the public.



Photograph by Harpreet Hansi

St Ives in Bloom volunteers weed the beds at the Park and Ride.



The SIIB team (and their dogs) proudly showing the awards with Cambridgeshire County Councillor Ian Bates (third from right).

Photograph by Harpreet Hansi

One of our allotment holders, Bernard Rackham, was nominated in the 'best grow your own' category, and Holt Island Nature Reserve was nominated in the 'best special needs facilities' category.

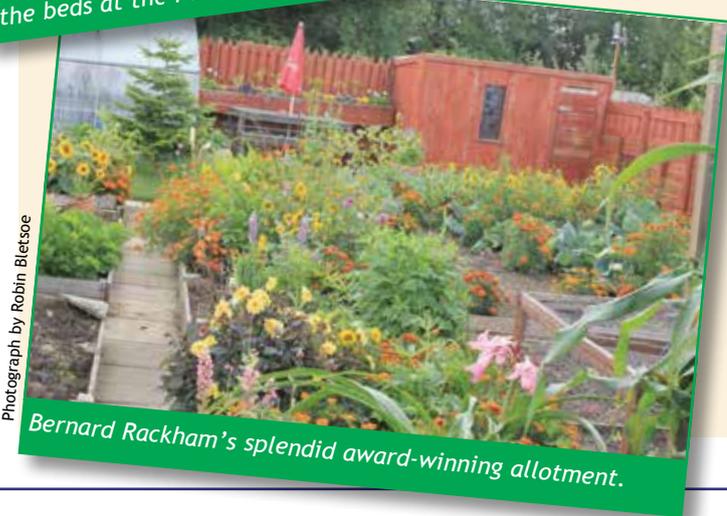
These nominations come with their own award certificate and it means they are in the top four in that category in the entire region. With over 50 entrants it is a tremendous achievement just to be nominated in any category, let alone to win an overall prize. A Silver Gilt medal was awarded to Westwood Road Cemetery which has undergone a complete transformation over the last two years with help from the Eco Ivo group of students. When last judged it was given a Commended rating. So a huge jump for them and a just reward for much hard work. These awards illustrate the range of projects we are involved with and the high esteem in which our town is held - **now one of the best in the East Anglian region.**

My thanks go to everyone involved with the facilities, activities, schools, clubs and committees that make our town such a wonderful place to live. However, my greatest vote of thanks goes to the St Ives in Bloom Committee and volunteers who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to make St Ives a better place.

...helping make St Ives a 'golden' place to live!

I never forget that we are only as good as the worst member of the team. This award demonstrates that we have a wonderful group of gold medallists helping make St Ives a 'golden' place to live!

MARNEY HALL, CHAIR ST IVES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE



Photograph by Robin Bliesoe

Bernard Rackham's splendid award-winning allotment.

COMMUNITY BUILDING MATTERS

MAYOR OPENS CORN EXCHANGE DOORS!

The Corn Exchange continues to go from strength to strength ...



The day the doors opened themselves. From l-r Cllr Ian Dobson ACE chairman, Debbie Windsor Corn Exchange manager, Cllr Phil Pope Town Mayor and Gordon Walker CIC director.

On Monday 14 August the Corn Exchange opened its doors as usual - but that week with a difference! The newly automated double doors had just been formally 'opened' by the Town Mayor, Cllr Philip Pope.

Automatic operation of the inner front doors will make access into the Corn Exchange much easier and safer for everybody,

especially the more elderly and less mobile members of the community and parents with babies and young children. A substantial saving in heating costs is also expected - we now do not have to keep the doors open at busy times on colder days.

These access improvements were jointly funded by the Corn Exchange Community Interest Company (CIC)

and Friends organisation ACE. CIC director Gordon Walker and ACE chairman Ian Dobson commented:

'We are delighted to have been able to fund this significant enhancement. This is one step in our new plan to improve still further the excellent facilities of the Corn Exchange. Next on our agenda, in the Charter Hall, are acoustics optimising measures and a further upgrade of our community film and TV screening capability.'

Corn Exchange serves the community

The Corn Exchange continues to go from strength to strength, attracting increasing numbers of hirers and visitors including community organisations, exercise and martial arts groups, families for celebrations and parties and local companies for staff parties, awards functions, training and conferences. In one typical week in May the total number of people counted through the doors topped 3,500. On the Monday alone the number was over 1,300!

CLLR IAN DOBSON

Photograph courtesy Hunts Post

DESIGN A LOGO FOR THE BURLEIGH HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE!

Fancy winning a competition to design a logo for another significant local community building? The Burleigh Hill Community Centre in Constable Road serves a wide part of our community in the north of the town and is busier than ever. The managing committee has decided that the time has come for this important building to have its own logo. It needs to be something distinctive, instantly recognizable and obviously related to the name of the centre. The logo will then be part of the 'personality' of the centre and used wherever the name appears to help promote all the events and facilities it provides.



... the time has come for this important building to have its own logo.

What to do

All you need to do is have a think about the centre and what it does and draw your design on a piece of plain white card 15 x 10 cm or 6 x 4 in (that's postcard size). It can be in colour or black and white and needs to be bold enough to reproduce well at various sizes. Add the words 'Burleigh Hill Community Centre'.

Post or drop it in to the Town Hall (see back cover) in an envelope marked BHCC COMP with your contact details. Alternatively send a hi-res scan (1 mb) by email to Sue.Rawlinson@stivestowncouncil.org.uk. Closing date for entries is **15 December 2017**.

Need some help?

Here's a couple of ideas to get you thinking. 'Burleigh' is an Old English name which can be broken down into **burh** meaning a fortified place and **lēah** meaning a forest, wood, glade, clearing or pasture, meadow. So we could say that *Burleigh Hill* has the meaning: a fortified clearing on top of a hill that commanded a view of the Saxon village of Slepe and its river crossing over the Great Ouse. Or you could just look for an image that suggests 'community' to keep it simple!

What's the prize?

Well, fame of course from publicity but also a book token and a complimentary river trip for two courtesy of the St Ives Electric Riverboat Company. Good luck!

CLLR IAN DOBSON
BURLEIGH HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE



Photograph by Tom Rawlinson/SITC

HEALTHY LIVING

HEALTH, CARE AND WELLBEING

Our local District and County Councils are currently promoting initiatives to encourage us to keep fit, healthy and feeling good. We decided to find out what's already on offer in St Ives, and so we asked our Chairman of Amenities, Cllr Dan Rowe, to find out.

Walk yourself fit!

Some say regular walking is the easiest way to keep fit and so promoting health walks is included in our Strategic Plan 2015-2020 as part of our commitment to endorsing healthy living. Health walks are a key initiative from Huntingdonshire District Council, and are either guided or self-guided with guides published on each available from the Town Hall.

We have chosen a particularly attractive self-guided walk from the town to tempt you to don your boots. It crosses the magnificent Hemingford Meadow and returns via Hemingford Grey. It is reproduced from *St Ives Health Walks* with thanks to Huntingdonshire District Council.

The Hemingford Meadow Walk

This is a fairly long walk taking between 75-90 minutes but is flat all the way and with refreshment available at The Cock gastro pub in Hemingford Grey. Views of the meadow and river are spectacular.

- 1 Start at the chapel on the bridge and enter the meadow at the Dolphin Hotel
- 2 Bear right towards the river. Walk along the bank to the top l-hand corner of the meadow.
- 3 Go through the kissing gate and follow the path to Meadow Lane.
- 4 Bear left into Mill Lane and continue to Church Street.
- 5 Turn right here for The Cock, or left into High Street to head back. Then left into St Ives Road and past the school on the left.
- 6 Turn left into Filbert's Walk which leads to London Road. Turn left and return to the chapel.



Image courtesy of HDC

The Lean Team Bootcamp was successfully launched in April 2016 at Slepe Hall Field with support from the Council and encouraged adults off the sofa twice per week. Since then the Bootcamp has grown in popularity and there are now 30-40 people regularly attending per exercise session. It is the perfect advertisement for good use of the field and brings the local community together. Members are able to keep fit, have fun and make friends at the same time. Leaders Ollie Ritch and Catherine...

Team

Bootcamp

with permission
 20-30
 per week.
 has grown

Brooker run the sessions and ensure each session is fun and tailored to suit all levels of ability. You can contact them via hello@leanteam.co.uk. Sessions on the field run from April to September and then transfer to the Outdoor Centre at One Leisure until March. Come on - get off that sofa!



Photograph by Carl Brooker

Bootcampers in action on Slepe Hall Field.

Cycle Routes - The Town Team act!

We know that one of the most popular ways many of us like to keep fit and healthy is by cycling - perhaps to work, to the shops or simply for pleasure. How's this for a statistic: over 1,000 cycles enter and leave St Ives during a 12-hour period each day, that's around 2 % of the total traffic! These figures from Cambridgeshire County Council's 2015 traffic monitoring report show an increase from the 2014 totals and St Ives appears to have many more cyclists than St Neots and Huntingdon.

Recognising this trend, the St Ives Town Team has conducted a survey of the existing main cycle paths in and around the town. Not all are official cycle paths but are used by cyclists. The survey considered the state of the paths, signage and the provision of dropped kerbs at road junctions.

Whilst there have been improvements in recent years, and the new route along Houghton Road is currently being worked on, the Town Team considers that there is still room for more. One of the obvious suggestions made to CCC is to provide additional signage. Many routes run along the ends of various streets but there is nothing to indicate to the cyclist where he or she is. The Town Team is also hoping to develop a full cycle routes map for the town including distances to key destinations.

It is hoped that all these ideas and plans will encourage more of us to get on our bikes, leave our cars at home and keep healthy. Thank you Town Team.

But where can we park our bikes?

In response to a number of pleas to the Town Hall

to increase our cycle racks, we asked for your opinion in the last issue as to where they might be located. We are grateful to all those who responded.

You will be delighted to know that our research is now gathering pace and is being returned as a report to the Amenities committee, which will decide on which suggested sites are most suitable for the town. Popular locations such as Kings Hedges and the Garner Drive bus stops are likely to feature on the list and options are also being sought in the town centre.

Neighbourhood Cares

As we get older and less able to get out and about to help us keep healthy we can begin to lose contact with our neighbours and others.

This can lead to isolation within our community, but a new team is determined to not let this happen.

Neighbourhood Cares is a pilot project initially

working with the patients of the Spinney Surgery with a focus on older people.

The Neighbourhood Cares workers are Alison Bourne, Beatrice Brown, Jillian Hall and Sophie Terrill and they are based locally in the Broad Leas Community Centre. Alison reports that they aim to build on people's existing networks and strengths and to work with communities to develop solutions where there are gaps. They recognise that people want control over their own lives and will support people to make choices for themselves to enable them to lead healthier, happier and independent lives. They are focused on preventive solutions which enable people to remain in their own homes.

If you have ideas about what you would like to see in St Ives to bring communities together to support each other, or want to find out more about the team and their work, please email them on neighbourhood.cares-stives@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or phone **01480 379680** to have a conversation - they would love to hear from you.

“We are grateful to all those who responded.”

“They are focused on preventive solutions which enable people to remain in their own homes.”



Neighbourhood Cares workers from l-r: Alison, Sophie, Beatrice and Jillian.

Photographer unknown

CLLR DAN ROWE

NOTES FROM THE NORRIS

NEW DISPLAYS - THE INSIDE STORY

The first thing you notice as you enter the museum is the stunning new displays. We asked the Director, Sarah Russell, how they came about.

Working with exhibition designers PLB we first looked at what objects we had in the collection, considering what they are but also what they could tell us. For example, a Roman pot doesn't just tell us that the Romans were in this area. It can also tell us the influence they had on local life and the influence local life had on them. The pot might be made or shaped in a way not seen previously in Britain, demonstrating that new pottery methods had been introduced, or even new foodstuffs that required different vessels. A blend of local and Roman styles shows that the two communities mixed and shared ideas, practices and even beliefs.

All this built a picture of what the life around our objects was like. This then formed the backbone of the story of Huntingdonshire. We then started to work on how to present this material, based on what we know about how people like to interact with collections and stories in a museum setting. Some like to read something, some like to listen to something, do something or touch something. Most people actually like a combination of all of these!

What you told us

We also did a lot of research with our existing audiences prior to the project so we could understand what they liked and disliked about the old displays and what they wanted to see in the new ones.

“We also aim to meet standards of best practice in the museum sector.”

We also talked to people who had not been to the museum before but whom we wanted to encourage to visit in the future. Modern standards of access and health and safety and building regulations also have to be taken into account. These have an impact on both the spatial and intellectual form of the

design. We also aim to meet standards of best practice within the museum sector.

What we found out from all this research was that many of you loved the collections that were on display before and the special feel of the museum. You also told us that you wanted it lightened up and opened out; for there to be more opportunities for families to explore the displays together and for there to be more variety in the way things were laid out and the way stories could be explored.

Building the stories

With all these influences and audiences in mind, we worked to bring the gallery to life. With the extra space created in the main building we had room to

“...we worked to bring the gallery to life.”

expand the displays and get more objects on show than before. However, it still proved a challenge to fit 160 million years' worth of history into the gallery!

Using 2D and 3D design programmes, PLB was able to start coming up with ideas about the structure of the units. The two key influences on this were the objects - creating displays that showed them off to their best - and the

existing architecture in the space - designing the units to follow the shapes of the windows and sit below the cornices to allow you to see the beautiful building behind.

With the areas established and the objects taking centre stage the work then began to build the Huntingdonshire stories around them. A variety of different methods was used to suit the stories and to take into account the visitors who would be interacting with them. This approach is called 'layering'. For example, you might visit the museum and not have much time so by just reading the first paragraph or so of each area you would be able to gain an understanding of the story of Huntingdonshire. If you had lots of time, or were particularly interested in a certain era, you might read all the text, look at the objects in detail and read some of the 'Find Out More' folder to fully explore the stories in that area. We have also included elements for children and elements where adults and children can discover things by playing a game, weighing items in a medieval market, or by watching a film.

Bob returns!

The final element of the process was considered throughout the project but really came into its own towards the end - the graphics. We were very pleased to invite Bob Burn-Murdoch, curator of the museum from 1980 to 2012, to draw many of the illustrations. Through his drawings we have been able to bring the past to life in a way that is unique to the Norris. The graphics link all the elements of the gallery together and with them in place the transformation was complete. Check out the reactions opposite.

SARAH RUSSELL, DIRECTOR



Some visitors like to listen.



Visitor comment

Under the Jurassic Sea - a new showcase.

All photographs courtesy of The Norris Museum

VISITOR COMMENTS FROM THE END OF JULY

'A fantastic transformation! My fears that it would be dumbed down are unfounded!'

'Love the interaction for the children and the new exhibits.'

Would love to come back without the children to see it properly. The only downside is the ringing phone'

'Well-designed displays both interesting and educational'

'Crisp, clear and informative. A massive improvement'

'A wonderful visit, a thought-provoking glimpse of our county's addition to history'

PLANNING POINTS

LOCAL PLAN UPDATE AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Chair of the Planning Committee, Nick Dibben, writes:

Local Plan updated

Huntingdonshire District Council has issued the latest version of their Local Plan to 2036. This identifies sites where new development will take place and the planning policies that will guide these developments. To help guide the Town Council's response to the document, the Town Council arranged a public meeting in the Corn Exchange to get the views of local residents. A full copy of our response can be found on our website www.stivestowncouncil.gov.uk but here are some of the key points we raised.

- The new housing proposed for the St Ives area is likely to be delivered in the next few years and will result in no new housing for the remaining 15 years of the plan. The public meeting supported the view that some additional housing will be required. The Town Council would like to work with HDC to consider possible new sites and the new infrastructure required to make them viable. Such work will help the town develop ideas for a Neighbourhood Plan or Local Development Framework document. Developers have already suggested new sites around St Ives but the Town Council wants to be proactive in establishing requirements rather than wait for developers' proposals.
- An update on the status of the new housing at RAF Wyton is required.
- Policies to protect the town centre need to be strengthened with defined limits on non-retail units.
- There is a need to include bungalows in the housing mix to cater for people with mobility problems.
- There is a need to maintain the green space between St Ives and Houghton.
- There is concern over the lack of funding allocated for 'critical new infrastructure' identified for St Ives in the plan.
- There is a need for additional secondary school and pre-school places in St Ives and for existing temporary accommodation to be replaced.

The Local Plan and all the comments made can be found on the HDC website <http://consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/portal/pp/hlp2036/cd2017/cd2017>

HDC will consider all the comments made before issuing a formal version of the plan early in 2018. This will be subject to further comment and review by the Planning Inspectorate.

Improving our town road network

Each year Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) invite towns and parishes to submit ideas for local improvements to the road network. The schemes are then assessed and those with the greatest benefits are taken forward with the local council providing part of the funding.

This year the Town Council considered nine schemes at its September Council Meeting and two schemes were selected. Both schemes are at locations where there have been several road accidents and near misses in recent years and the proposals are designed to improve safety for all road users.

The first is for **speed reductions on Marley Road** and the top of Hill Rise from 40 mph to 30 mph. This scheme has been considered before but the CCC proposal included other measures to change the road layout which made the scheme too expensive. This time we hope it will succeed.

The second is for the **reduction of the width of the Needingworth Road and St Audrey Lane junction**.

This proposal, brought to a Council Planning meeting by resident Adam Safford, will slow down vehicles making this turn and make it easier and safer for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road.

These schemes will be developed over the coming months and CCC will make a final decision on which projects across the county will be implemented in the New Year.



It is difficult to pull out of Norfolk Road on to Marley Road due to speeding traffic.



The dangerous width of the Needingworth Road and St Audrey Lane junction makes this an accident hotspot. The measures proposed (above right) will make it safer.

Photograph by Tom Rawlinson/SITC

Screen grab and photograph by Adam Safford

BLUE LIGHT SERVICES POLICING ST IVES



For this, our third Blue Light Services feature, we invited Sergeant Andy Street, from our Neighbourhood Policing Team, to comment on the concerns of many in our community on the apparent reduction in policing to tackle our parking, street drinking and anti-social behaviour issues, among others. This is his response.

Contrary to what some people believe, there is still a police station in St Ives. Stationed here are myself and a small team of Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) - we are the Neighbourhood Policing team. We are ably supported by our colleagues, the Response teams and Investigation teams based in Huntingdon. Our main focus of work is driven by the eight Cambridgeshire Police priorities which are: counter terrorism, emergency response, dwelling burglary, serious sexual offences, domestic abuse, child abuse, child exploitation and modern slavery. We also have many other policing responsibilities.

Working with partners

As a Neighbourhood Team we spend a great deal of time dealing with on-going local problems such as anti-social behaviour, shoplifting and parking problems. In order to make sure that we can deal with these problems in the most effective way possible we work very closely with local partners such as local Councils, housing providers and youth service providers. In doing this we have had some very good results recently. In May we worked together with Luminus to target an address in St Ives that was known to be sheltering drug users and criminals. The comings and goings at the address were causing a great deal of distress to the neighbours. As a result of our partnership work the occupier was evicted from the address and the court imposed an injunction on this person, banning him from the town.

We have also been targeting a group of teenagers that have been causing anti-social behaviour in and around the town centre. They have been causing a nuisance in shops and shouting abuse at staff, throwing objects at front doors and shouting abuse and threats at residents. Working with the District Council we are now using legislation in the 2014 Anti-Social behaviour Act to make the parents responsible for their children's behaviour, and in some cases have fined the parents for acts committed by their children.

Need for dedicated parking policing

It is our responsibility to prioritise those areas which are causing the most harm and in the examples above the behaviour described was having a significant impact on the



Inconsiderate (and illegal) parking can cause serious problems when delivery lorries cannot turn and emergency vehicles are obstructed and delayed.

quality of lives of the victims. However, the area of our work about which I receive the most complaints is parking. This is an age-old problem which we have been trying to get to grips with for many years. I believe that the most effective way to deal with this problem would be to have full time members of staff whose sole responsibility would be to enforce parking.

Unfortunately our current resources do not allow that and, as I have already stated, we have to prioritise our workload towards those issues that cause most harm. That said, we will not ignore the problem and officers on the team and I often carry out patrols in the town centre issuing parking tickets. In doing this I have made several observations; the first is that many people don't seem to know where they can and can't park and some chose to ignore the regulations. The biggest area of confusion is Bridge Street. Many drivers don't seem to understand the concept of a loading bay and disabled parking. On 25 September PCSOs went into Bridge Street and placed advisory leaflets on cars explaining the parking restrictions in detail for drivers. They also issued several parking tickets. They also issued tickets to vehicles in Station Road, Priory Road and The Broadway.

Illegal use of Town Bridge

Another area of regular complaint is that of vehicles using the Town Bridge in Bridge Street. Again there is a lot of confusion, this time about which vehicles can and cannot go over the bridge. It is usually the case with old and potentially weak bridges that there is a maximum weight limit. In St Ives it is a minimum weight limit, so only lorries and very large vans weighing more than three tonnes may cross the bridge. Cars and small vans cannot go over the bridge under any circumstances. The reason for the minimum weight limit is that it would be too difficult for the larger vehicles to turn around and drive back along Bridge Street. This is another area which we do enforce periodically and drivers caught crossing the bridge illegally can expect to be fined. It could be a replacement large sign saying simply 'No cars allowed!' would help drivers understand the regulations.

It is always a difficult balancing act in deciding where to put our resources and the priorities on which officers should be concentrating. I'm not saying that we get it right all of the time but please be assured that we will always do our best to keep your town safe and make sure that it remains a pleasant place to live.

THIS AREA IS A PEDESTRIAN ZONE



The sign states **NO VEHICLES** between **8 am and 6 pm**. The exceptions are **EXCEPT FOR LOADING, DISABLED and LOCAL BUSES**.

There are **NO WAITING** restrictions **AT ANY TIME**.

Disabled Bays are provided and a Blue Badge **MUST** be displayed.

Loading Bays are provided for the loading/un-loading of goods **ONLY**.

Loading/un-loading Bays **DO NOT** mean shopping or Blue Badge holders.

Failure to adhere to the above may result in a **PENALTY TICKET**.

SCREEN ST IVES BRINGING CINEMA BACK TO OUR TOWN

We invited Amanda Randall to bring us up to date with developments for this initiative in the Corn Exchange.

Screen St Ives sprang into life more than six years ago, the dream of a group of film enthusiasts who wanted to bring cinema back into the town. Every month since then a growing audience has watched an amazing array of the best cinema in the world. Last year audience numbers grew and, aided by our wonderful band of volunteer helpers, we moved downstairs to the Charter Hall which provides seating for 120 people and space for a giant six-metre screen.

... an amazing array of the best cinema in the world.

SSI is part of a substantial nationwide community cinema movement. These are run on a not-for profit basis by volunteers, often in makeshift cinemas, and are responsive to the local environment. Community cinemas provide a safe, affordable, and friendly place to experience watching films with other people, which is really what cinema-going is all about. Readers may be surprised to know there are at least 1,500 community cinemas in this country and that number increases every month. It's a community of community cinemas if you like!

Choice of two screen sizes

This year Screen 2 (S2) launched upstairs where it all started in 2011. The programming is the same but we've found people like the different atmosphere in the smaller room as much as they like the bigger space

downstairs; it's cosy and low-key for chatting about the film and even connecting with directors. On opening night we screened the award-winning British rom-com *Dead Cat*, directed by a long-term friend of SSI, Stefan Georgiou. He introduced the film and talked about film making. For the second show the celebrated Argentinian director sent us a personal video message from Buenos Aires!

People often ask how the SSI programme is chosen; it's the result of much film watching and some intense discussions around a pub table. Each committee member proposes a handful of films they've seen and that will work for SSI. The season is then crafted carefully from a shortlist, choosing for quality, balance and variety. Many more are rejected than 'make the cut'. We mark

anniversaries (World War 1 Centenary for example) and national celebrations (such as LGBTQ month), as well as hold fundraising shows for local charities; in March this year Ken Loach's devastating film *I, Daniel Blake* screened to a full house as a fundraiser for St Ives Food Bank. We make sure the programme is diverse, so we'll avoid having all male directors, or all white faces on the screen and behind the camera. This is a really important part of programming for a multi-cultural community like we have in St Ives. Part of our role is to reflect the place we live in as well as bring different communities together.

The new programme for S1 and S2 has just launched and we hope everyone will find some titles that take their fancy. The guarantee is that we always show high-quality films that bring something different to the town's entertainment scene in a friendly, welcoming setting. Join us on the first Thursday (S2) and the third Friday (S1) of every month for a great night out.



Introducing the 1916 epic *Battle of the Somme* on S1 in the Charter Hall.

Image © Mike O'Brien



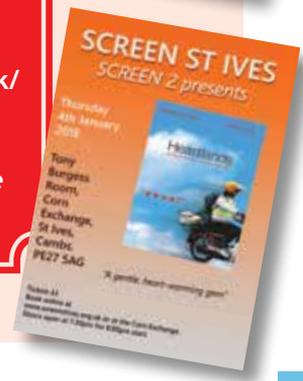
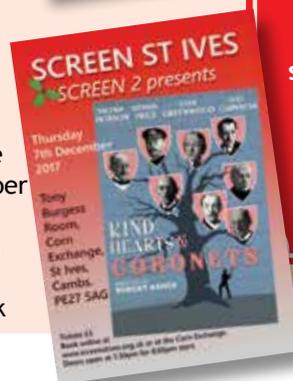
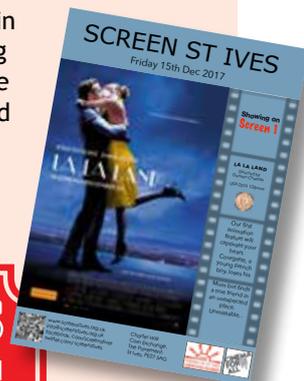
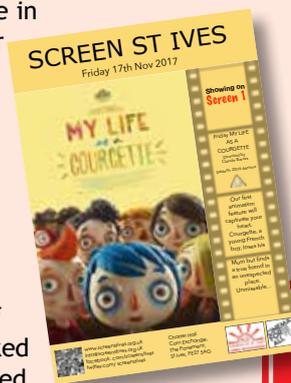
Screen St Ives committee: left to right Rob Zanconato, Marilyn Zanconato, Gavin Midgley, Mike O'Brien, Allan Davis, Amanda Randall.

Image © Mike O'Brien



Stefan Georgiou introduces *Dead Cat* at the launch of S2.

Image © Chris Boland



TICKETS

Find out more and book tickets online at www.screenstives.org.uk/ or pick up a programme and buy tickets at the Corn Exchange.

TOWN TEAM UPDATE

LIVELY, VARIED, FUN!

St Ives is blessed with many groups who work tirelessly to ensure there is always something to do. The Town Team is just one of those organisations. Here's a look back - and also forward - this year to prove the point.

Chapel Arts Season

In June we launched the *Chapel Arts Season* which ran until late October. The aim was to use our fabulous Bridge Chapel as a new venue and encourage different art and music events in St Ives.

Caroline Wendling and Sally Stenton approached the Town Team to see if we could help unlock Arts Council funding for them which could be used to stage their project, *An Invitation to Travel*, on and around the river and bridge. A £500 grant from the Town Team helped secure the funding and St Ives has seen three fantastic events: a week-long *Floating Walk* in July, the *Bridge Walk* in August and in September the *Island Walk on Holt Island*. The fourth and final part *Crossing Bridges* is on 23 October.

The season also included monthly poetry sessions and virtuoso music concerts. In August Argentine born Daniela Rossi amazed a full house with her brilliant classical guitar concert. September continued with a sell-out folk concert from Acoustics Anonymous. In October there was an Art Exhibition *Difficult Women* by Town Team member Sandra Souter.

Another riotous play!

At the end of July *The Mill Wives of St Ives* played to a full house in the Corn Exchange. It should have been performed on The Quay. It was a difficult decision to move it indoors at the last minute but it proved to be correct as heavy rain fell throughout the evening. And judging from the many compliments received the audience enjoyed going back in time to the 1970s when St Ives was a world leader in technology, thanks to Sir Clive Sinclair's offices being in our Old Mill.

We're Dreaming of a fun Christmas!

Still to look forward to this year is the Old Riverport Retail Group's *Snowman Festival* supported by the Town Team. As well as a much-enhanced Snowman Trail with a fabulous prize for the winner - a £200 John Lewis Voucher, courtesy of La Muse - there will be a Snowman Wonderland on The Waits with a giant Snowman as the centrepiece. You will be able to see him at our unveiling ceremony at The Waits on Saturday

Snowman Festival

Christmas shopping in St Ives is so much fun and you can win a £200 John Lewis Gift Voucher on the Snowman Trail starting Monday 20th November!

Festive Highlights

- 25 November The Waits 5.30 pm Giant Snowman appears & Carol Singing
- 26 November Corn Exchange Snowman Festival Day and Christmas Gift Fair FROM 10.30am FREE CHILDREN'S CRAFT ACTIVITIES PLUS 20 STALLS OF FABULOUS CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS
- Somersham Town Band - Carol Singing - Christmas Cheer followed by the Christmas Lights Switch-on and fireworks
- 2 December The Day 11 am Santa & Chief Snowman arrive by boat

JUST 30 MINUTES AWAY ON THE GUIDED BUS

The Old Riverport St Ives

For details of what is happening in St Ives visit www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk

STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS

Feedback from the recent *Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival* - from festival goers, venues and bands alike.

'Thanks for organising the weather and all the other necessary jobs that are needed for a successful event over the four days. Thoroughly enjoyed themselves.' JACK

'Thanks for putting us on again, it was a cracking gig, and a great audience. Hope the rest of the festival goes well.' Johnny, Split Whiskers

'Just a note to say thanks for the concert this morning. Car parks bursting, crowds of folks in town, warm sunny weather, superb music - St Ives at its very best!!'

'Loved the opening night of the Jazz and Blues weekend! Danced the night away!'

'Once again The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues weekend proved very popular. In fact we had the best takings for a Saturday ever and we were busy all weekend.'

'The standard of musicians was so high. There was an amazing vibe in town. We loved it and so did our visitors. They would move here if possible!'



25 November at 5.30 pm where you can enjoy Christmas Carols, festive refreshments and even give the Snowman a name.

Snowman Festival Day and Christmas Gift Fair

Once again we present this popular day of FREE activities for children. Thanks to the support of ACE, FESt and the Town Team, there will also be a Gift Fair, refreshments and new activities to keep the young ones amused. Look out for the fun game in our Festival Igloo. In addition, there will be fabulous Christmas music and carol singing with the Somersham Town Band, a great way to get into the Christmas spirit. Note the date **26 November**.

The Old Riverport Boxing Day Hobby Horse Hunt

Now enjoy a Boxing Day with a difference. Anyone can enter the Boxing Day Hunt - all you need is a hobbyhorse. This is a fun family Christmas event which supports the *Save our Spire* Free Church fund. Full details can be seen on the Town Team website at www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk.



JOHN SOUTER, TOWN TEAM

WHAT'S ON?

TOWN COUNCIL, CIVIC AND RELATED EVENTS

All details of the events listed were correct at the time *The Bridge* went to press.
Please check organisers/venues for final details.

All Saints Parish Church 01480 384334 • Corn Exchange 01480 496454 info@thecornexchange.org.uk
• FESSt 01480 385999 • Free Church 01480 468535 • Norris Museum 01480 497314
• Screen St Ives www.screenstives.org.uk • SITI clerk@stivestowncouncil.org.uk
• St Ives in Bloom www.siibinfo@gmail.com • Town Team 01480 383612

November

- 2 **Screen St Ives** Screen 2 *Frantz* Tony Burgess Room Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. £5
- 4 **Farmers' Market** Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm
- 4 **Saints Crafters Fair** Free Church Hall 9.30 am- 4 pm. Free
- 11 **St Ives in Bloom** Help plant daffodils. Meet at the corner of Hill Rise and Old Ramsey Road 10 am - noon
- 11 **Armistice Day Commemoration** War Memorial 11 am
- 12 **Remembrance Sunday** War Memorial 10.30 am Market Hill
- 13 **Snowman Festival** Snowmen start appearing around town. An Old Riverport Retail Group event
- 17 **Screen St Ives** Screen 1 *My Life as a Courgette* Charter Hall Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. £5
- 18 **Farmers' Market** Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm and Councillor Surgery 10 am- noon
- 25 **Giant Snowman Switch-on** and carol singing The Waits 5.30 pm. A Town Team event

- 26 **Snowman Festival Day & Christmas Gift Fair** with Somersham Town Band and fun for children upstairs. Corn Exchange 10.30 am. An ACE, Old Riverport Retail Group and Town Team event
- 26 **Christmas Lights Switch-on and Christmas Market** Market Hill 5.00 pm. A Christmas Lights Committee and SITI event

December

- 2 **Farmers' Market** Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm
- 2 **Santa arrives by boat** The Quay 11 am. A FESSt event
- 2 **Saints Crafters Fair** Free Church Hall 9.30 am- 4 pm. Free
- 2-17 **Santa's Grotto** Corn Exchange every weekend 12 noon - 3 pm. Each child receives a gift. Free. A FESSt event.
- 2 **Frozen Christmas** Children's ice-related arts and crafts. Norris Museum 10 am - 4 pm. Free
- 7 **Screen St Ives** Screen 2 *Kind Hearts and Coronets* Tony Burgess Room Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. £5

- 8 **Mayor's Charity Christmas Concert** with RAF Wyton Area Voluntary Band Free Church 7.30 pm. Tickets from Town Hall.
- 9-10 **ArtsFESSt** Art and Photography exhibition Corn Exchange 10 am - 4 pm. Free. A FESSt event
- 15 **Screen St Ives** Screen 1 *La La Land* Charter Hall Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. £5
- 16 **Farmers' Market** Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm
- 19 **Civic Service of Lessons and Carols** All Saints Church 7.30 pm

January

- 4 **Screen St Ives** Screen 2 *Heartlands* Tony Burgess Room Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. £5
- 6 **Farmers' Market** Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm
- 19 **Screen St Ives** Screen 1 *Things to Come* Charter Hall Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. £5
- 20 **Farmers' Market** Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm

COUNCIL MEETINGS DIARY

NOVEMBER

- 8 Planning Committee and Full Council Meeting
- 22 Planning, Promotion & Publicity Committees

DECEMBER

- 13 Planning Committee and Full Council Meeting
- 20 Planning Committee

JANUARY

- 10 Planning Committee and Full Council Meeting
- 17 Property and Personnel Committees
- 24 Planning 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 7 pm 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.

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 - deals with each particular

responsibility. 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

Responsible for The Waits, Warner's Park, Slepe Hall Field, Children's play equipment, Allotments, Seats, Cemeteries, Corn Exchange, Town Hall, Norris Museum, Public toilets, Statutory consultee for planning matters. Sponsor of the Town Team, actively supporting the economic development

and community well-being of St Ives.

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

Your Councillors Please note that all Town Councillors' email addresses are in the following style Angela.Ayers-wilson@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk. Details are correct at the time of printing.



Angela Ayers-Wilson



John Davies



Nick Dibben



Ian Dobson



Rianna D'Souza



Tim Drye
Deputy Town Mayor



Ryan Fuller



Jon Hunt



Ian Jackson



Roger Kuch



Brian Luter



Jonathan Pallant



Phil Pope
Town Mayor



Daniel Rowe



Jen Spencer



John Tiddy



Debbie Townsend

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Responsible for Rubbish collection, Street cleaning, Planning and planning enforcement, Housing improvement grants, Environmental health, Licensing, Elections, Parks and open spaces, One Leisure Centre and Burgess Hall, Housing, Economic development, Car parks, CCTV, Tax collection, Standards Board, Countryside Services (Holt Island,

Wilhorn Meadow and the Thicket), Building control, Voluntary sector. Telephone 01480 388388 or visit www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk

HDC is composed of 52 Councillors who represent 29 wards across the District. The current composition of the Council is Conservatives 32, UKIP 3, Liberal Democrats 6, Independents 2, Independent Conservatives 7, Labour 2.

Your Councillors

Jason Ablewhite
Jason.Ablewhite@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
John Davies
John.Davies@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Angela Dickinson
Angela.Dickinson@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Ryan Fuller
Ryan.Fuller@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Deborah Reynolds
Deborah.Reynolds@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

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

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 Bridge will be published in February 2018. If you would like to suggest an item for publication please contact the Town Hall.

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