

The Bridge



News, views and events from your Town Council

November 2016

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

THE UNIQUE HORTICULTURAL
AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT
SUSTAINMENT INITIATIVE
THE EAST



Highlights...

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**INCLUDES PULL-OUT
COMMUNITY
SURVEY**

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FRONT COVER

The picture we have all been waiting for! From l-r: Moreen Wells (St Ives in Bloom), Bob Ollier (Chair Anglia in Bloom) and Marney Hall (Chair St Ives in Bloom). This was the moment at the Anglia in Bloom 20th Anniversary Gala Awards Ceremony held at Gorleston-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth, on 6 September that Marney and her team and the Town Hall could bask in the satisfaction of at last winning the coveted GOLD award in the category large town in the East Anglia region. Well done to everyone involved in bringing this prestigious award home to St Ives - another feather in our cap to reflect the strong community spirit and pride we have in our town. Photograph by Jeff Taylor

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE THOUGHTS FOR NOVEMBER

First, I must congratulate the St Ives In Bloom Committee for winning a long overdue Gold Award for St Ives in the Anglia In Bloom competition. It has been a pleasure to see over the summer months the beautiful flower displays throughout the town, particularly around Kings Hedges and the bus station. The hard work and dedication of the committee and many volunteers has finally come to fruition. Well done! See pages 4 and 5 for details.

I have been invited to attend many events held in St Ives over the summer period. One special invitation was to visit the St Ives Army Cadets at their training camp at Nesscliffe, Shropshire. I was able to see first-hand the many activities that the cadets experience during their week at the camp - from the barracks and air rifle range, signals training, the drill square, tower climbing and camp food!



Photograph by Peter Townsend

St Ives is one of the largest Army Cadet Forces in the county and that is achieved because parents and volunteers give up their time every week to ensure that the cadets have a great time. Well done St Ives and please continue to support all our cadets whenever you can.

Chocolate wafer biscuits galore
We were delighted that the Mayor of our Twin Town in Stadtallendorf, Christian Somogyi and his wife Ilona, visited St Ives in July to personally hand-deliver boxes of chocolate wafer biscuits for *The Merrie Wives of St Ives* play held on The Quay. The 'Hanuta' biscuits



Photograph by Media Imaging Solutions

Front row twinning at the *The Merrie Wives* of St Ives outdoor play: the Burgermeister of Stadtallendorf, Christian Somogyi (centre) and his wife Ilona (left) with our Mayor.



Photograph by The Hunts Post

Some of the surplus chocolate wafer biscuits were eagerly accepted by Ward, Hinchingsbrooke Ho

were kindly donated by Ferrero who have the largest chocolate factory in Europe situated in Stadtallendorf. We had so many left over we were able to make presentations to Holly Ward in the children's unit at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, and to the Bangladeshi Mosque in The Broadway to help their community celebrate the traditional second Eid festival.

A small group including myself, recently visited Stadtallendorf to enhance twinning links between our two towns. We met with teachers

“we will be working to follow-up these links ...”

and musical representatives who are keen to foster links with similar groups in St Ives, and we will

be working to follow-up these links over the coming months.

Devolution developments

During the summer the Town Council discussed the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution proposal at a special Council meeting. The discussion followed a presentation of the proposals by Cllr Robin Howe, Executive Leader of HDC and Mrs Joanne Lancaster, Managing Director.

The majority of Members supported the principle of devolution and the idea of transferring powers and funding down from central

government. However, the title of 'Mayor' caused confusion as a number of towns have traditional Civic mayors. It was felt that the proposed elected

It was felt that the proposed elected Mayor and Cabinet structure will be unlikely to deliver what the Council believes is required for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Mayor and Cabinet structure will be unlikely to deliver what the Council believes is required for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Members were also concerned that a person of the right calibre and skills might not find the Mayoral position attractive. Accountability is essential and an independent Scrutiny Committee should have the power to ask the Mayor to attend a meeting to answer questions.

Our comments along with others will be discussed at a District Council meeting at Pathfinder House on the 19 October.

More news - and a wedding!

Over the summer, the Norris Museum Trust appointed Andy Knott Construction Ltd based at Witchford, near Ely to deliver the new Heritage Lottery Fund development project at the Norris Museum. I hope you will now

start to see more activity at the Museum. The proposed opening is scheduled for Spring/Summer 2017.

Michaelmas Fair is back in town with the traditional opening on the 10 October at 3.30 pm with distribution of coins to children by the Mayor and Town Councillors. Please do come along to witness this long standing St Ives tradition.

The Mayor's Christmas Charity Concert with RAF Wyton Area Voluntary Band is being held on the 9 December at the Free Church. If you need any further details on these two events, please contact the Town Hall on (01480) 388929.

Lastly, our Town Clerk Alison recently married her partner John and returns from her 'Familymoon' as Mrs Benfield. Congratulations to them both and we wish them all the best for the future.

Debbie Townsend

CLLR MRS DEBBIE TOWNSEND, TOWN MAYOR

MACE BEARER REQUIRED

The Council currently has a vacancy for this important role. If you have a love of tradition and enjoy ceremonial events please be in touch with the Town Hall.

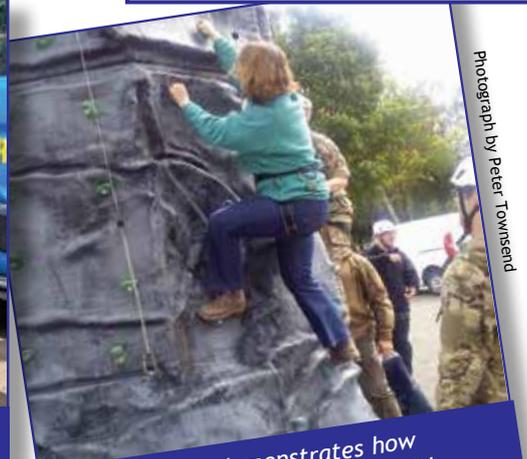


Chocolate wafer biscuits by the children in Holly Hospital.



Photograph by Peter Townsend

The Mayor poses with the St Ives Army Cadets in Shropshire ...



Photograph by Peter Townsend

... and then demonstrates how she can cope with obstacles with determination and a good grip.



GOLD AT LAST! ST IVES IN BLOOM TRIUMPH

After many years of trying, the St Ives in Bloom team and all the volunteers working with the Town Hall maintenance team have at last managed to win a coveted Gold award from the Anglia in Bloom judges.

How pleasant it is to be writing these words after falling short by just a few points on previous occasions. This award is so difficult to win. For the last three years we have won Silver Gilt but this year we pulled out all the stops and everyone's hard work has finally been rewarded.

There's more!

Not only did we win Gold but Holt Island Nature Reserve won the award for 'Best Conservation Project in East Anglia' and now also possesses a beautiful trophy. But perhaps more than anything I was so proud that the town was runner up in the best 'Environmental Quality' award category. This new award is decided by all of the judges. We were up against 40 other entries so to be in the top four is quite an achievement. And, Broad Leas cemetery won a Silver Gilt award. It was one of our major projects this year and one for which we were highly praised.

I am immensely proud of the entire team and everyone who has contributed to making St Ives a Gold medal winning town. I would also like to thank our many sponsors, without

...everyone's hard work has finally been rewarded.

whom we could not have carried out all the projects that we have been involved with this year. Just a few are mentioned here in the panel below. We are always looking for new ideas and new members and volunteers, so do come along and help us win more gold next year.

St Ives in Bloom receives funding from the Town Council to enter the Anglia in Bloom competition, and has also received generous sponsorship from many shops and businesses in the town. This has enabled us to undertake several major projects this year, and we hope readers agree that they have made a big difference to the town! The judges visited on the morning of 21 July, followed by a peaceful lunch on Holt Island Nature Reserve (thank you to Yeldon Wedding Hire for the 'taxi' service and Delish for donating the pizzas).

Our busiest year!

Many people have noticed our Troughs project, with troughs and tubs potted up by volunteers and cared for by local shopkeepers at the following locations: Kings Hedges; East Street; Market Hill; and Free Church Passage - and all paid for from the sponsorship of local businesses (see panel).

Meanwhile, the Park and Ride project continues into its third year with sponsorship from S. P.



I am immensely proud of the entire team...



We thank all our sponsors: A and B Taxis, Accident Specialists (St Ives), A'Diva Hair Design, Amore, Anglia Tax Help, Antechs, Armando Barbers, ATS (2016), Broadway Cycles, Budgens, Cambridge Building Society, Cherry Valley, Chloe's Jewellers, Citrus Rooms, Copleys Solicitors, Costcutters, County Windows, Crop Shop, Curry and Pizza House, David William Hair, Delish, Denise Flowers, Dragon Boat, Fat Face, Fish'n Chick'n, Floods Tavern, Flower Bar, Forget-Me-Not, Gathercole and Ward, Genesis Hair, Gibbs and Dandy, Graham Handley Architects, The Haywain, Homequest, Hunters Tax, Hyperion Auctions, IT Solutions, Janet Church, Just Sharing, Kapilli Hair Design, K. D. Hair Design, Kings Hedges Post Office, Kleanco Dry Cleaners, La Cuisine Royale, La Muse, Lloyds at Kings Hedges,

The Local Café, Lucid Hair Co., Marney Hall Consultancy, Marshalls, May Garden, MegaPlants (Doddington), Mick George, Montagu Clinic, Montaz, Nero Hair, Nuts Bistro, Old Riverport Grill, Oliver Cromwell, Optimum Beauty, Pizza Town, Poundland, P. R. Massala, Premier Convenience, Ravens Upholstery, Revel, Turner and Wass, River Tea Rooms, Rockabilly's Café, Rumbles Fish Bar, Shades of White, S.P. Landscapes, St Ives Chinese and Thai, St Ives Motors, St Ives Rotary Club, St Ives Town Council, Stagecoach (East), Star Dancewear, Sweet Treats, Taproom, Terrys Heel Bar, Thingy-majig, Tookeys, Townrow, Uppercut, Vaper Trails, Waitrose St Ives, Welcome Restaurant, West End DIY, White Hart, Woof and Brew, Wyevale at Garden and Leisure, Yeldon Wedding Hire.

Landscaping, Marshalls, Stagecoach and Mick George. The three low beds nearest the bus stop to Cambridge have been replanted. St Ives in Bloom volunteers continue to maintain the large curved raised beds and removed over 20 bags of litter from our end of the busway!

There were two added areas of daffodil planting this year: the Wheatfields schoolchildren helped with the verge outside their school, and volunteers and local residents planted at the junction of Pig Lane and Warren Road. On the north side of The Waits we help maintain the small garden by the post box so that it remains colourful throughout the year.

We have continued two projects at the closed cemeteries of Broad Leas and Westwood Road. At Broad Leas Cemetery we were busy through the autumn and winter cutting back ivy and holly trees to

reveal graves that had been long covered. In the spring we trialled planting small areas of colourful wildflowers in both cemeteries. We were so pleased that the Eco Ivo group of students from St Ivo School helped us at Westwood Road Cemetery.

The Primary Schools competition is now in its fourth year and involves all four schools in the town: each class of children, with the advice of committee member Robin Bletsoe, nurtures its own crop for a whole school growing competition. The judges visited Thorndown this year and were most impressed with the progress made by their gardening club. The St Ives in Bloom Garden competition had a boost of publicity and many more entries than usual, especially from the Berkeley Park residents,

who won the award for 'Best Community Garden' competition this year.

A new Station Road project is to be undertaken in the autumn, sponsored by Waitrose, to clear brambles and plant bulbs along the verge to Harrison Way. Please get in touch if you would like to help with this (or any gentler weeding sessions!). Our email address is siibinfo@gmail.com or check on our website or at the Town Hall for details of our AGM in October.

MARNEY HALL, CHAIR
ST IVES IN BLOOM



Volunteers get down to it at the Park and Ride (left) and the results are stunning (above).



Tackling the ivy in Broad Leas Cemetery last November paid off with a Silver Gilt Award.

Photographs by SiIB

HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE

The Best Conservation Project in East Anglia award is another pat on the back for Paul Claydon, our HDC Ranger from Countryside Services and his volunteer team, plus the Friends Group and its members. Both groups have worked tirelessly together over the years to make this special place what it now is – the 'jewel in the town's crown' – and an asset to be treasured.

IAN JACKSON, CHAIR FRIENDS
OF HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE



THE WIZARD OF OZ

CENTRE THEATRE PLAYERS CELEBRATE 40 YEARS

The Centre Theatre Players were formed in 1974 shortly after the opening of the St Ivo Centre - as it was then known. The Centre Management wanted its own drama group to utilise the purpose-built Black Theatre by presenting small-scale productions and also providing theatre workshop activities for the area. However, it wasn't long before the management asked the Players to consider staging larger-scale productions using the Burgess Hall, and also to provide the town with some kind of seasonal entertainment.

That request has resulted in the Players performing a whole variety of seasonal entertainment for the last 39 years including rock nativities, classics like *The Wizard of Oz*, *Peter Pan* and of course the much-loved traditional pantomime. Indeed they have gained quite a reputation for their standards of performance and have won the NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) award for best pantomime in the district six times out of the last eight years.

Repeat of a classic

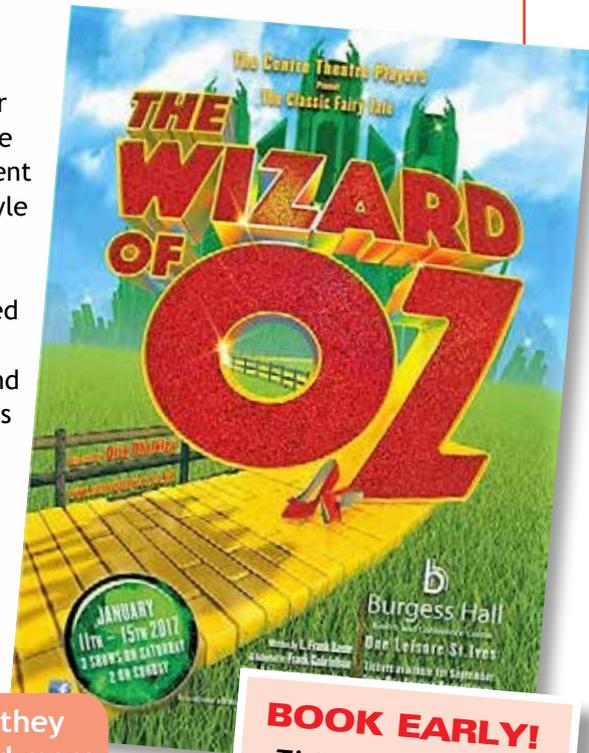
To celebrate the Players fortieth seasonal production they have chosen one of the most well-known classic fairy tales *The Wizard of Oz* which they will be staging in the Burgess Hall of One Leisure St Ives on 11 - 15 January 2017

Directed by Dick Chalkley, the cast will include several of the Players' regular performers and a few new faces. John Finch is the Musical Director with choreography by Norma Terry.

Scenes from past performances:
Beauty and the Beast,
Sleeping Beauty and *Mother Goose*

Supporting charities

In September each year the Players present a cabaret-style show with all proceeds being donated to charities, both local and national. This September they supported the Acorn Cancer Support group.



To date they have raised more than £65,000 ...

To date they have raised more than £65,000 and benefited over 30 different charities.

BOOK EARLY!

Tickets on sale now obtainable from One Leisure on 01480 388500 or online www.burgesshall.net.

The Centre Theatre Players are a thriving, unique, friendly group and are always looking out for new talent, whether to perform on stage or to get involved with any of the back-stage activities. If you are interested in finding out more about the Players then visit their website www.centreplayers.co.uk or contact Dick Chalkley on 01480 381184.

DICK CHALKLEY, CENTRE PLAYERS



HOW ARE WE DOING? COMMUNITY SURVEY

Four page
pull-out section

In September 2015 the Town Council adopted a five-year strategic plan on how it should develop the services it provides. Three important actions are:

- *‘to consult residents using cost-effective methods proportionate to the importance of the issue’*
- *‘to communicate with residents in a variety of ways to ensure they are informed of the Council’s plans’*
- *‘to provide, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance services in the town that are valued by the local community’*

To start working on these three actions we agreed to use this edition of *The Bridge* along with other methods to seek your views on a range of topics. Based on your responses we will start to plan future expenditure to meet your needs – when all’s said and done we work for you as residents. Please take the time to complete it – five minutes of your time will give us much invaluable information and help us to serve you better.

The survey has been designed to pull out. Please complete it by hand and return it to the Town Hall. Alternatively you can complete it on-line at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D86PMFH>

How is the survey organised?

Part 1 is to gather your views on consultation – how much do you want to be asked, when and how? Using

online surveys and social media is a very quick and cheap method of asking people questions but is it appropriate in all instances? When should we use what are now becoming ‘old fashioned’ methods of communications such as postal surveys? How much and how often should the Council ask you your views, or should we just leave it until the next round of elections to find out what you want?

Part 2 is to gather your views on how we should communicate with you. The cost of producing, printing and distributing four editions of *The Bridge* annually to all houses in St Ives is around £12k – do you consider this value for money or should the council consider moving to an e-magazine like some other local authorities, or reducing the number of copies produced? If we do this, however, it is likely that far fewer people would read it and some of the design and editorial cost would remain. Councillor surgeries are now held quarterly at either the Farmers’ Market or at the Rainbow Centre or Kings Hedges. Should these be more regular and where should they be? Other information such as meeting minutes, events and our accounts can be found on the web-site. Is the Town Council website fit for purpose? Do you want to be able to access more services online? Should we improve and increase our use of social media?

Part 3 concentrates on service delivery and covers four services provided by the Town Council: Play equipment, Parks and green spaces, Farmers’ Markets, Public toilets. Each section has an introduction explaining the extent of the Town Council’s role and what the staff and running costs for each element are (these figures do not include overheads).

Part 1 Consultation

Q1. Which of the following information items do you feel you should be consulted on?

- Strategies for the future Services Financial Information Community matters

Other please state

Q2. What is your preferred method of being consulted?

- Don’t want to be consulted *The Bridge* Online survey and social media Street surveys

Part 2 Communication

Q3. Which best describes your overall impression of information from the Town Council?

- Keeps us fairly well informed Does not give me the information I want

If you consider that the Town Council is not providing the information you want please use the box below to tell us what you would you like to know?

Q4. From which of the following do you receive most of your information about what the Town Council is doing?

- Town Hall Notice Board Attending Town Council Meetings Word of mouth
 Town Council Website Facebook or other social media *The Bridge*

Other please state

Q5. How would you prefer to receive communication from the Town Council?

- Attendance at Meetings *Bridge* or similar Magazine Website Facebook or other social media

Other please state

Part 3 Services

Play equipment

The Town Council owns and operates eight play areas in St Ives:

- Warner's Park • Slepe Hall • Russet Close • Wheatfields
- Thorndown • The Crescent • Burleigh Hill • Beech Drive



Photographs by Tom Rawlinson/SITC

The areas are cleaned and the equipment checked normally twice a week, with an annual check on the condition of the equipment carried out by a ROSPA accredited inspector. This costs approximately £10k annually. Over the last few years most of the climbing frames and slides have been replaced and at the moment there are no plans to replace further equipment.

Q6. How often do you or your family use the play equipment provided by the Town Council?

- Never Monthly Weekly Daily

If 'Never' please state reason (select all that apply)

- Do not have children/children not of appropriate age Equipment is difficult to access
 Use other play areas Wrong sort of equipment provided Equipment or sites considered unsafe

Q7. As a user of the Town Council's play areas, please indicate your view of the range of equipment provided?

Circle as appropriate.

- Limited range of equipment 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Good range of equipment Don't know/Not a user
 Suitable for a narrow age range 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Suitable for a wide age range Don't know/Not a user

Q8. What do you think of the condition of the equipment provided? Circle as appropriate.

- Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent Don't know

Q9. What should the Town Council's priority be for future expenditure on playground equipment? (Select one only)

- Continue to update equipment as funds allow Provide play equipment in new locations Increase the age range of the equipment we provide Don't know

Suggest location:

Suggest age range:

Q10. Would you use gym style work out equipment if provided?

Yes No Maybe

Q11. In your view does the Town Council spending represent value for money? Circle as appropriate.

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent Don't know

If you have any other feedback regarding play equipment please state here:

Parks and green spaces

The Town Council owns The Waits, Slepe Hall Field and Warner's Park. It also plants up and maintains all the hanging baskets within the town centre, the three circular beds on Sheep Market and the barrier baskets along The Quay, Market Road and The Quadrant. The cost of maintaining these is approximately £28k per year.



Photograph by Mike Wells

Q12. How often do you use the town's parks and green spaces?

Never Monthly Weekly Daily

Q13. What do you use the parks and green spaces for? (Select all that apply)

Exercise Walk the dog Quiet place to relax Play games Do not use

Q14. What do you think about the quality of the town's parks and green spaces? Circle as appropriate.

Grass Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent No comment

Paths Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent No comment

Flower beds/baskets Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent No comment

Trees Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent No comment

Q15. What should be the Town Council's priority for the future? Tick as appropriate.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improve planting			
Improve paths			
More litter bins			
More seats			
Improved lighting			
Other please state			

Q16. Do you think the current facilities provide value for money? Tick as appropriate.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Grassed areas			
Paths			
Flowerbeds/baskets			
Trees			

If you have any other feedback regarding parks and green spaces please state here:

Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market operates on the first and third Saturdays of each month on Sheep Market and has been in operation for nearly 14 years. In 2015 it won the national FARMA Farmers' Market of the Year Award. **At the current time the Town Council subsidises the market annually and it is a major attraction in the town bringing in many visitors.**



Photographs by Tom Rawlinson/SITC

Q17. How often do you visit the St Ives' Farmers Market?

Not aware of markets Never Sometimes Attend most markets

Q18. What do you think of the following aspects of the Farmers' Market?

Range of products available

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent (circle as appropriate) No comment

Quality of products available

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent (circle as appropriate) No comment

Ambiance of the market

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent (circle as appropriate) No comment

Value for money

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent (circle as appropriate) No comment

Diversity of events linked to the market

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent (circle as appropriate) No comment

Q19. What could we do to enhance the market?

Q20. Do you consider the market should be self-financing?

Yes No

Please give any other feedback regarding the St Ives' Farmers Market:

Public toilets

St Ives Town Council took over the operation of the public toilets in 2010 following a cost-saving decision by Huntingdonshire District Council to close them. Public toilets in tourist areas are important and encourage visitors to come to the town. The cost of providing these toilets is £34k and is now fully funded by St Ives town residents. It is known that the smell in the male urinal at the bus station has not been pleasant and much work and money has been spent in the last two years in trying to improve this situation. Having poor public toilets can have a negative effect on repeat visits by tourists.



Photograph by Ian Jackson

Q21. How often do you use the public toilets in the Town Centre?

Not aware of toilets Never Sometimes Often

Q22. What is your view of their quality? Circle as appropriate.

Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent (circle as appropriate) No comment

Q23. What should be the Town Council's priority for the Town's public toilets in the future? Select one only.

Keep as existing Improve quality Open for longer hours Close toilets at Globe Place Don't know

Q24. How important is it that the Town Council continues to fund the opening of the public toilets in St Ives? Circle as appropriate.

Not important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very important No comment

Please give any other feedback regarding the public toilets in St Ives Town

COMMITTEE FOCUS AMENITIES

CLLR DAN ROWE REPORTS

People often ask what a Town Council does for the people it represents - this cannot be more clearly defined than by the work of the Amenities Committee.

St Ives has a number of great facilities that are maintained and managed by the Council. The allotments, public toilets, cemeteries, parks and our award-winning Farmers' Markets are the most noticeable contributions that the Council makes to the town. It is the job of the Amenities committee to control the inevitable challenges that come from managing these resources and to do their utmost to achieve the best solution for residents.

Reviewing costs

As part of the Council's Strategic Plan the way that costs are calculated has been changed in order to incorporate many of the overheads, such as staff time, that had previously been accounted for in other ways.

Completing this exercise has allowed the committee to see true costs of the amenities under its control. In this current age of belt-tightening and the continual need to save money the Committee is now reviewing the way it manages these facilities. We need to increase their efficiency and remove waste - without reducing the essential services that they provide. New techniques, such as paperless billing, are all part of helping to achieve this. Each area is being scrutinised and audited for its efficiency and effectiveness, with

the goal to achieve the best result for all.

Smells, benches and cemeteries

The Council is committed to providing high quality services to the people in St Ives across all of its facilities. These have included the new treatments in the public toilets at the bus station which have begun to have tremendous effects on the odour problems of recent years. See Q22 in Part 3 in the pull-out survey in this issue and tell us if you agree! We have also installed stunning new WWI and WWII memorial benches in various locations around the town and, last but not least, made big improvements in in the cemeteries.

We are delighted to say that a new inscription, honouring citizens from St Ives Workhouse who are buried in unmarked graves in Westwood Road Cemetery, is now in place. New facilities for the scattering of

ashes at Hill Rise cemetery, with the purchase of engraved 'mushroom' memorials to mark their location, have been introduced. Further work has also gone into the upkeep in order to keep it in perfect order. Please see Notice Board on page 14 for a reminder about using the designated areas for tributes in both the Ramsey Road and Hill Rise cemeteries.

The committee's work is continuous and never easy but it is the most satisfying and rewarding of the Council's duties. We are proud of what we have, and will continue to achieve, on your behalf.

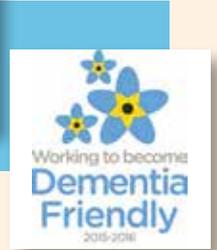
“... it is the most satisfying and rewarding of the Council's duties...”

PLEASE OFFER A PRAYER
FOR ALL WHO ARE BURIED
IN THIS CEMETERY
ESPECIALLY THE MEN
WOMEN AND CHILDREN
OF ST IVES WORKHOUSE
WHOSE GRAVES ARE
UNMARKED
MAY THE SOULS OF ALL
FIND PEACE IN
THE LOVING ARMS
OF GOD



The Council members of the Amenities Committee are: **John Davies, Ian Dobson (Vice Chair), Ryan Fuller, Jon Hunt, Brian Luter, Philip Pope, Daniel Rowe (Chair)** and **Jen Spencer**. Please contact the Town Hall if you have any queries or comments about any aspects of Amenities Committee responsibilities.

MAKING IT HAPPEN ST IVES DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY



Over a year ago I became aware of the dementia crisis in the UK. I saw how in St Ives our voluntary groups were trying to raise awareness about the needs of those living with this debilitating brain disease for which there is still no known cure. Just about everybody I spoke to had a story to tell about a confused relative or a family at the end of its tether. It became clear to me that we needed to change the way we think, speak and act about dementia.

Then I became Mayor and in this prestigious role I was able to raise funds for The Memory Lane Singing Café, become a Dementia Friend myself, and recruit others. I aspired to make our town officially recognised as a dementia friendly community, which I hoped would be a legacy that would last long beyond my term of office.

I aspired to make our town officially recognised as a dementia friendly community ...



The Alzheimer's Society invited me to head up a Steering Group to achieve this goal. I now have a Committee and I've opened a bank account for our expenses with some of the funds I raised last year. By the time you read this, we will have launched the first stage of our campaign - to seek a commitment from the town centre businesses.

forward the work (we do - me!); have a plan to raise awareness in key organisations and businesses (we do); develop a strong voice for people with dementia in our community (we will); raise the profile of our work (we are); focus our plans on key areas of maximum benefit (we are - banks, shops and local transportation); update progress in six months and in a year (we will).

Once the Steering Group receives recognition that we are truly 'Working towards a Dementia Friendly Community' we will receive stickers and logos indicating dementia friendly services. These will be issued to those businesses where staff have taken dementia awareness sessions and have agreed to implement changes, where appropriate, to facilitate improved staff-public interaction for those living with dementia.



The Café helps me to understand the nature of the condition.

Finally If you are a business in town we have not yet spoken to, and you are interested in supporting our campaign, do please contact me. Free Dementia Friend awareness sessions for all are available on 10 October at 7 pm and on 17 October at 1 pm and 7 pm at the Fire Station. Contact me to book on 01480 385999/07836 248360 or ianjackson@ntlworld.com

CLLR IAN JACKSON



Memory Lane Singing Café session in full flow. These are held monthly in Crossways Christian Centre.

What do we have to do? Currently we have registered our intention to work towards meeting the foundation criteria to become dementia friendly. We have committed to taking each criterion, interpreting it from our local perspective and describing this for the Society with the actions we propose to make.

What are the criteria? They are: making sure we have the right local structure in place to sustain the dementia friendly community (we do); have a person to drive

STOP PRESS! • STOP PRESS! • STOP PRESS! DEMENTIA FRIENDLY GYMNASTICS



A new *seated* exercise and movement programme packed with fun, music and laughter is now available FREE at the Crossways Christian Centre, Ramsey Road. It is designed for mind- as well as body-fitness and so is particularly beneficial for those with dementia.



Full sessions (one hour) begin at 10.30 am on **24 October** and **28 November**.

Contact sam.c@britishgymnasticsfoundation.org or 0773 951 2167



YOUR CORN EXCHANGE AN UPDATE

The spirit of the Corn Exchange is, as we know, rooted deeply in the community of St Ives. A team of 50 volunteers work tirelessly to help manage the venue and keep it in tip-top condition.

The Corn Exchange is financially robust and economically viable. Our priorities and focus remain absolutely clear. They are to encourage and widen the use of the Corn Exchange for diverse community activities and events and to provide improved facilities for the Community of St Ives. We are proud of the considerable help which the committee and members of the Friends organisation ACE and FES (Festival Events St Ives) provide towards this.

Since April this year over 100 groups and organisations have booked the Corn Exchange. Regular hirings include fitness and martial arts and children's and adult dance classes; indoor markets; senior citizen groups; *Screen St Ives* films; Youth Theatre rehearsals and productions and U3A clubs. The venue is also used by the healthcare sector, to host Mayoral and civic events and for dances and formal dinners. The Corn Exchange is popular with families for parties and celebrations and with local companies for their business meetings and conferences, awards events and staff parties.

Our latest projects are to install permanent cinema equipment in the Charter Hall and to automate the inner double doors to the front of the building.

Come along with us! The Corn Exchange belongs to you.

ED GOODMAN, CHAIR CORN EXCHANGE COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY



Photographs by Tom Rawlinson/SITC; Ros Pascoe; Town Team

The Corn Exchange accommodates a wide range of community activities: formal Civic occasions (above right); the Snowman Festival and Snow Dome (top right); the Book Jam (above left); and balls (top left) to mention just a few!

MEET YOUR NEW COUNCILLOR JONATHAN PALLANT

I was elected to St Ives Town Council for the first time in May 2016. I wanted to join because it seemed to be a good way to find out who to talk to in order to get things done!

As a bus user (usually in bad weather), I'm keen to explore ways the bus stops can be improved. I'd also like to see improved pathways for cyclists and better signage around the north end of town as it's so easy to get lost.

I live just off Stirling Road with my wife Carrie and our two girls Scarlett (5) and Amelia (2). I grew up not far away in Hardwick but after spending a few years away in the Midlands we moved to St Ives in 2013. I needed to be closer to my job as an Embedded Systems Engineer at a well-known consulting firm on the Cambridge Science Park.

Most days you'll find me taking a relaxed cycle ride through town and out along the Cambridge Guided Busway on my electric bike to work. However, I've been known to stop down by the river, looking out at the Old Mill

(which was used by my employer back in the 1970s), or perhaps grabbing a cheeky breakfast roll from the Friday market. If you see me with my bike and bright blue jacket

do say hi! Our house is only a short walk across the playing fields to Wheatfields School, so in the evening you can often find us walking Bella, our Labrador-Collie cross.

Outside of Council and work I'm a member of the Cambridge and District Classic Car Club, regularly taking the family to car shows in our classic Jaguar Sovereign saloon. I also enjoy sharing my love of engineering, regularly speaking at events, including the very popular Cambridge Raspberry Jam - an event celebrating Cambridge's very own 'Raspberry Pi' microcomputer.



Trusty electric bike, blue jacket - it must be Cllr Jonathan Pallant!

NOTICE BOARD

PRESERVING OUR LAWNED CEMETERY

Residents visiting the Ramsey Road/Hill Rise cemeteries will have seen the notice requiring that all items placed on graves, other than in the designated area, be removed. This is to ensure that the cemeteries remain neat and tidy and to make it easier and safer for grounds staff to strim and mow the plots. We will be monitoring the cemeteries over the next month and any items placed in unauthorised areas will be removed by Council staff at the end of October and can be collected from the Town Hall. *Thank you for your co-operation.*



BE A 'NOTSPOTTER'

Cambridge Ahead is leading a crowdsourcing initiative asking local people to gather vital data to help plug gaps in fixed and mobile coverage across Cambridgeshire. They are asking all residents to help identify 'notspots' (areas of low or no connectivity).



The aim is to identify areas of poor coverage and encourage providers to take action to improve them.

Further information at <http://www.cambridgeahead.co.uk/our-projects/connecting-cambridge/cambsnotspotter/>

IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY HIGHWAYS

The Highways Service at Cambridgeshire County Council is exploring ways in which community volunteers can carry out work to improve the highways in their area.

A Local Highway Officer will visit interested groups to advise the way forward.

An Information Pack is available from www.local.highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



GRANTS TO LOCAL GROUPS



The Council has changed its arrangements for awarding grants under £1,000 to local groups. Applications will now only be considered in April each year so any groups wishing to apply should ensure that they submit forms by the

beginning of March in order to be considered.

Forms are available from the Town Hall, via email clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk or from our website www.stivestowncouncil.gov.uk under the Policies tab.

A14 COMMUNITY FUND LAUNCHED

Highways England has launched its A14 Community Fund. Grants of up to £10,000 are available to local groups which must be grant ready, able to start work on their projects immediately and demonstrate matched funding of between 10 and 20%. Established themes are environmental improvements, promotion of walking or cycling, art and culture, leisure and tourism and developing skills. The greater challenge will be demonstrating a link with the A14 project itself.

Further details at www.cambscf.org.uk



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
• Free Church 01480 468535 • Methodist Church 01480 462293 • Screen St Ives www.screenstives.org.uk

October

- 1 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 10 Michaelmas Fair The Broadway 3.30 pm. Traditional opening ceremony. Fair until 13 October
- 15 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 15 Tony Akers Quiz Corn Exchange 7 pm £5 per person, bring drinks and nibbles. An ACE event
- 21 Screen St Ives *Mustang* Corn Exchange 8 pm. Tickets £5
- 25 Norris Museum Family Art Workshop Methodist Church Hall 11 am to 3 pm. Call 01480 497314
- 27 Darby and Joan Club Corn Exchange 2.15 pm

November

- 5 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 11 Armistice Day Commemoration The War Memorial 11 am
- 12 Screen St Ives *The Battle of the Somme* Corn Exchange 2.30 pm. Special First World War Centenary event
- 13 Remembrance Sunday War Memorial 10.30 am

- 14 Snowman Festival Snowmen start appearing all over town until Christmas Eve. An Old Riverport Retail Group event
- 18 Screen St Ives *Embrace of the Serpent* Corn Exchange 8 pm. Tickets £5
- 19 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 20 Christmas Lights Switch-on and Christmas Market Market Hill. A Christmas Lights Committee event
- 24 Darby and Joan Club (Including the Haigh Draw) Corn Exchange 2.15 pm
- 25/26 Hunts Art Group Annual Exhibition Free Church 10 am to 4.30 pm. Free
- 27 Snowman Fun Day Corn Exchange 10 am to 4 pm. An Old Riverport Retail Group event

December

- 3 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market Christmas Taster Day 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 4 Santa Arrives by boat The Quay. Santa will be accompanied by the Chief Snowman to be met by the Town Mayor. He will process to the Corn Exchange for the first of his six sessions in his Grotto. A FESSt event
- 3/4 Santa's Grotto at the Corn Exchange 12 noon to 3 pm. A free

- event and each child receives a gift. Charity coffee shop. A FESSt event
- 9 Mayor's Charity Christmas Concert with RAF Wyton Area Voluntary Band The Free Church 7.30 pm. Proceeds to Mayor's Charities. Tickets from Town Hall.
- 10/11 Santa's Grotto at the Corn Exchange 12 noon to 3 pm. Details as 3/4
- 10/11 ArtsFESSt Weekend Corn Exchange 10 am to 4 pm An exhibition of art and photographs. Coffee shop. A FESSt event. Free entrance
- 16 Screen St Ives *Populaire* Corn Exchange 8 pm. Tickets £5
- 17/18 Santa's Grotto at the Corn Exchange 12 noon to 3 pm. Details as 3/4
- 17 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 20 Civic Service of Lessons and Carols All Saints' Parish Church 7.30 pm

January

- 7 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm
- 11 Distribution of the Langley Bread Corn Exchange 10 am until noon
- 20 Screen St Ives *Adult Life Skills* Corn Exchange 8 pm. Tickets £5
- 21 St Ives Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am until 2 pm

COUNCIL MEETINGS DIARY

OCTOBER

- 13 Town Council Meeting and Planning Committee
- 19 Property, Personnel and Promotion and Publicity Committees
- 27 Amenities and Planning Committees

NOVEMBER

- 9 Town Council Meeting and Planning Committee
- 23 Amenities and Planning Committees

DECEMBER

- 14 Town Council Meeting and Planning Committee
- 21 Amenities and Planning Committees

JANUARY

- 11 Town Council Meeting and Planning Committee
- 18 Property, Personnel and Promotion and Publicity Committees
- 25 Amenities and Planning 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 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber. 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 angie.ayers-wilson@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk



Angela Ayers-Wilson John Davies Ryan Fuller Nick Dibben Ian Dobson Rianna DSouza Tim Drye Jon Hunt Ian Jackson



Roger Kuch Brian Luter Jonathan Pallant Phil Pope Daniel Rowe Jen Spencer John Tiddy Debbie Townsend Alison Benfield
Deputy Town Mayor Town Mayor Town Clerk

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 34, UKIP 3, Liberal Democrats 6, Independents 6, Independent Conservative 1, 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

Your Councillors Paul Bullen Paul.Bullen@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Kevin Reynolds Kevin.Reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

CCC is composed of 69 councillors (with one vacancy) who represent five Districts across Cambridgeshire. The current composition of the council is Conservatives 30, Liberal Democrats 14, UKIP 12, Labour 8, Independents 5.

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 2017. If you would like to suggest an item for publication please contact the Town Hall.

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



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