

# CROSS *talk*



## Annual Souvenir Issue

### A Year Like No Other...

I find myself writing my Chairman's address for the end of another Council year, and it would be fair to say that 2020 did not turn out as we had originally planned. The global pandemic has forced us to cancel, postpone, change, adapt and reinvent the plans we had as a Council in order to respond to urgent and ever-changing needs.

During 2020 our local residents, businesses, community groups, retailers, volunteers and Councillors have had to fundamentally change. High Street businesses have been in stop-start mode all year and despite this we have seen an unprecedented level of resilience and adaptation. Our Risborough Basket scheme has helped sustain businesses and has also met the needs of residents who have been shielding or simply do not want to venture out.

As a Council we have worked hard to continue with our long-term plans. We have successfully purchased and let the former NatWest building, ensuring a vibrant tenant who will enhance our night time economy. We have put in place a significant renewal scheme to enhance and expand our Community Centre at Wades Park, coming on the back of the expansion of Risborough Springs. We have developed our popular Farmers Markets and have ensured the town continues to be well maintained and attractive for visitors and residents alike.

Since we were elected in 2015, your Town Council has instigated one of the biggest and most successful development and renewal programmes for the Town ever seen. Over the last six years our Councillors have overseen the restoration of the iconic Market House; the development of economic assets such as 39 High Street; the establishment of Free Parking every weekend to encourage trade; the adoption of significant green policies that govern our town events and the rebuilding of the Community Centre; the re-establishment of a highly successful and appreciated events programme including a week-long Festival, Christmas lights events, Farmers Markets, outdoor cinema events, town trails and promotions and family events; the continued support of the Thursday market, despite challenging trading conditions; the development of income for the town through hiring out our maintenance team for grass cutting and maintenance; and much, much more.

But we still have ambitious plans for the future. We will have significant funds to enhance and build infrastructure over the next few years. We want to ensure that

investments that we make as a Town Council will both enhance the town and provide the vital services that it requires as it grows. Our experience over the last six years makes us ready to tackle these new challenges, so that we are able to continue our ambitious programme of activities.

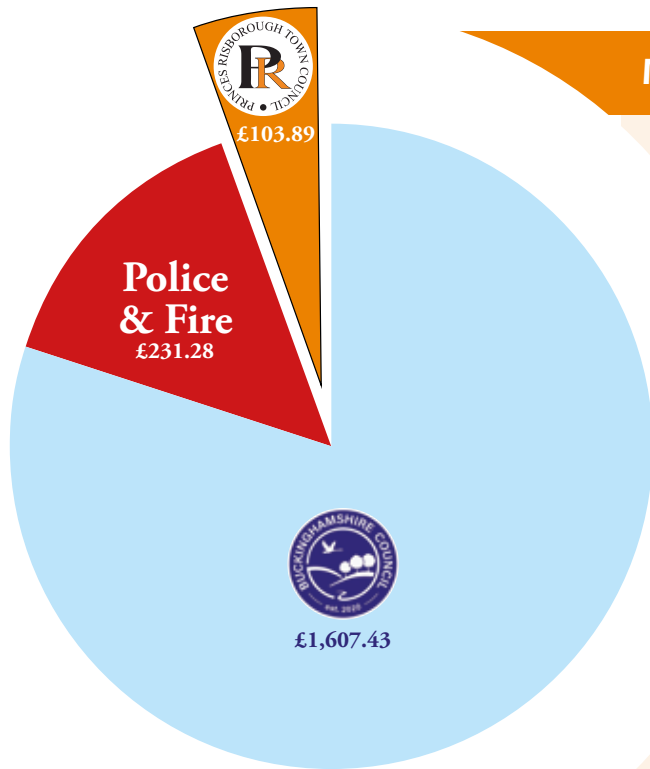
It has been an honour and privilege to serve you as Mayor and Council Chairman over the last five years – I look forward to serving you in the future.

*Cllr Matthew Walsh  
Mayor and Chairman*





# In 2021 your £8.66 each month brings all this



## MANAGING PARKS & OPEN SPACES

- 22 Acres Of Parks
- 114 Trees
- 6 Playgrounds & Equipment
- 18 Dog Waste Bins
- Green Recycling
- Stratton Memorial Garden (SMG)
- Community Wildflower Garden

## MAINTAINING OUR TOWN

- 6000 Plants For Beds & Borders
- 551 LED Street Lights
- 13 Noticeboards
- 15 Benches
- 7 Defibrillators
- Bike Pump, High Street
- Water Drinking Station, Wades Park

## MAINTAINING BUILDINGS

Risborough Community Centre And Café  
 Dovecote, St. Dunstons Park (Grade II Listed)  
 Market House (Grade II Listed)  
 War Memorials

## OPERATING COSTS

Staff  
 Training  
 Machinery & Equipment

## COMMUNITY

High Street Trail Events	Senior Tea Dance	Website
Summer Festival	Thursday Market	Grants to Schools, Churches & Local Organisations
Christmas Lights switch on	Farmers Market	Town Centre revival
Easter Egg Hunt	Risborough Basket	Support for Retailers
Outdoor Cinemas	Crosstalk Newsletter	
Annual Town Meeting	Social Media Promotions	

Follow our timeline through this momentous year

MARCH  
**16<sup>th</sup>**  
 National  
 Lockdown

## Risborough Basket

The award-winning Risborough Basket has brought attention to our town for all the right reasons!

The Risborough Basket was set up by Princes Risborough Town Council in March 2020 to enable residents to shop with local retailers during lockdown and receive free, same day delivery.

Unable to visit local shops in person, residents could instead visit the Risborough Basket website to find the telephone numbers of participating businesses. These businesses, operating behind closed doors, would take telephone orders, pack up the goods and hand them to a team of volunteers, co-ordinated by the Town Council, who would deliver them the same afternoon.

In September 2020 the Town Council went one step further to launch a new and improved Risborough Basket online shopping platform believed to be the first of its kind in the UK and in January 2021 the basket free delivery catchment area was increased to include Wendover and many outlying villages.

The Risborough Basket has been commended in the House of Commons for its ability to support the viability of local businesses while serving a vulnerable community during the pandemic. The initiative has featured multiple times on local news programmes and the whole delivery team, including a bank of volunteer delivery drivers, received the Proud of Bucks Award for Local Community Impact.

The High Street remains buoyant, new businesses are opening and joining the Basket and participating businesses have benefitted from the additional income the Basket generates at this very difficult trading time.

**26k** users have accessed the basket so far

[www.risboroughbasket.co.uk](http://www.risboroughbasket.co.uk)



## Same Time - Same Place!

Clap for Carers began a regular 8pm slot all over the country, a movement to unite to applaud the NHS workers on the frontline in the battle against coronavirus. 100's of you stood on your doorsteps, in your gardens, or hung out of the window to show your weekly appreciation of our brilliant NHS. A timely opportunity to check in with our neighbours and to encourage children to make as much noise as possible.



**MARCH  
20<sup>th</sup>**

Risborough  
Basket  
created

**APRIL  
5<sup>th</sup>**

Boris admitted  
to hospital



**APRIL  
16<sup>th</sup>**

Captain Tom  
walks 100  
laps

## Marking VE Day despite the lockdown



wreath at the Market House - which had been adorned with flags an advance of the day itself. Attended by Reverend David Williams from St Mary's Church, Cllr Alan Turner representing the Royal British Legion, and our Mayor, Cllr Matthew Walsh, the event was a fitting tribute to the sacrifices made by many. Livestreamed on our Facebook page, residents were invited to join virtually rather than attending in person.

High Street retailers marked the day with wonderful Red, White & Blue window displays and many local residents enjoyed street parties and social distanced gatherings to mark the event, recreating the spirit of 1945, many in 40s themed fancy dress.

May saw the residents of Princes Risborough mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

Sadly, our original plans for celebrating VE Day had to be cancelled, however, we made sure that the event was marked in an appropriate manner and that respects were paid to those who gave their lives to safeguard the freedoms that we enjoy today.

The Town marked the occasion with a 2-minute silence at 11am on 8th May. The silence was followed by prayers and then the laying of a



## The Virtual Farmers Market

The Virtual Farmers Market and online food festival was a vibrant initiative designed to support our farmers market traders during the Spring lockdown in 2020.

Lockdown prevented the quarterly Farmers Market from trading in the town centre, so all traders were invited to feature on the Risborough Basket website in the week leading up to the May Farmers Market day. Customers could buy produce which was delivered to their doors through The Basket volunteer delivery service.

An online food festival was aired throughout the day where local and celebrity chefs demonstrated how the ingredients sold at the Farmers Market could be used to make a range of recipes. The show was funded by the Town Council and filmed across the town inviting participation from the whole community.

Over 600 people participated in the festival as customers, viewers and contributors.



MAY  
8<sup>th</sup>

Risborough  
Basket 2000th  
fruit & veg  
order



MAY  
14<sup>th</sup>

Market  
House turns  
blue for NHS



## Kop Hill Award

June 2020 saw our very own Kop Hill Climb Festival receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. The Queen's Award was created in 2002 to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee and it is the highest honour that a local volunteer group can be awarded. The Award recognises the 300+ volunteers who run the historic hill climb revival weekend every September, and the volunteers who plan all year round to create the event. The festival hosts 12,000 visitors who enjoy watching a wonderful array of cars and motorcycles from over a century ago to the present day, take on the ascent of Kop Hill.



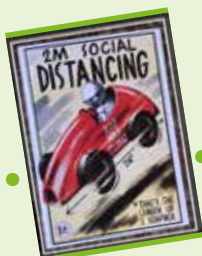
Since the first revival in 2009, the event has raised over £765,000 for local charities and good causes. Kop Hill is one of only 230 volunteer groups to receive the award in the UK this year. And, the Kop Hill volunteers are in good company, being the second organisation in Princes Risborough to receive a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, following the Princes Centre in 2019. Congratulations to everyone involved in Kop Hill Climb Festival for this amazing achievement; from us all at PRTC.



## Hampers for Keyworkers

Following on from the huge success and publicity around the Risborough Basket, the Town Council were approached by Buckinghamshire Council to provide a small gift hamper for people working in social care across Bucks. Two of our brilliant retailers, that have been with The Basket since the start, Tracey Mann Cakes and Anton Hazelle, provided some lovely hot chocolate, home-made biscuits and coffee. With the help of volunteers, the Town Council packed up 250 hampers ready for collection in a little under four hours. The team were grateful to the Trustees of The Princes Centre who allowed them use of their facilities to create a central production hub.

It was lovely to think of carers across the County, that have been working so hard looking after our most vulnerable, sitting down for a few minutes with a Risborough Basket hamper enjoying a nice local hot chocolate and a homemade biscuit. It is a credit to everyone that helped and supported Risborough Basket that were asked to deliver this important project.



JUNE  
4<sup>th</sup>

Ben Jennings  
posters  
commissioned

JUNE  
15<sup>th</sup>

Retailers  
re-open

## Community Centre Nearing Completion



If you have visited Wades Park recently you will have seen how the new extension to the Community Centre has really taken shape. The Café area has been broadly completed and our agents have been showing prospective tenants round.

We are behind schedule at the moment due primarily to the delays of the archaeological dig, the final report from which is now available on our website. The new toilets have been installed and the new function room is taking shape. Throughout the extension the priority of the Council has been the protection of the local environment. The entire extension is underfloor heated, powered by an air source heat pump. All hot water is provided by electrical heaters so there are no fossil fuels used in the new part of the building. When combined with the Town Council having a green electricity supply this really is a building fit for the future.

As the restrictions due to Covid-19 are loosened we are confident that once the extension is opened it will be a great asset for our community. First use of the extension will be for the Local Elections which are due to be held on 6th May. So when casting your vote, in a Covid-19 secure manner, have a quick glance at your new community building, an asset this town can be very proud of.



## Parks Old and New

July's easing of Covid-19 restrictions saw the parks in Princes Risborough reopen. And what timing... fantastic summer weather made their return even more welcome and gave us the chance to rediscover their beauty.

2020 also marked 200 years since the Risborough Inclosure Act which formalised the boundaries of Shard Field as it was then known, later to become King George V Recreation Ground.

The KGV, as it is affectionately known locally, has a wonderfully long and fascinating history which spans these 200 years, including Ernest Turner's 1936 donation of five acres to the Town Council for "the children and old people of the town".

The playing field was formally opened on Saturday 19th June 1937 and on 26th May 1938, the future of the field was finally secured by a Resolution of the Parish Council, '...the Recreation Ground... shall be preserved in perpetuity as a Memorial to His Late Majesty King George V under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation and shall henceforth be known as King George's Field'.

2020's 200-year anniversary was marked by the opening of Risborough's latest park at Kite's Meadow, and we hope this new space will enjoy the same success as the KGV, providing outdoor enjoyment for local residents for generations to come.

*Special thanks to Sandy Macfarlane.*



© Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust



JULY  
8<sup>th</sup>

The Basket  
celebrates  
100 days

JULY  
24<sup>th</sup>

Face masks  
mandatory  
in shops



## Community Safety Measures Completed

August saw the completion of a large project to improve road safety along the A4010 between Princes Risborough and High Wycombe in advance of the construction of HS2.

The A4010 between Stoke Mandeville and the M40 at High Wycombe is an HS2 construction traffic route and there will be a noticeable increase in lorries using the route when the main HS2 construction works commence in the coming months. Up to 140 lorries plus 220 cars and vans associated with the project are expected daily.

£560,000 was secured from HS2 Ltd by the A4010 Group, to deliver road safety mitigation work along the A4010 route, including through Princes Risborough. The Group comprises of Princes Risborough Town Council, Bradenham Parish Council, West Wycombe Parish Council and the former Wycombe District Council; and the funding was agreed following the presentation of technical evidence in 2015 to the HS2 Parliamentary Select Committee and subsequent technical negotiations with HS2 Ltd.

The road safety works in Princes Risborough included:

- Two 'state of the art' zebra crossings in Princes Risborough using the latest LED light technology (Aylesbury Road and Wycombe Road).
- Upgrades to provide LED belisha beacons and yellow backed warning signs at three existing zebra crossings in Princes Risborough (Longwick Road, New Road, St Teresa's).
- Traffic calming features at the three main entry points to Princes Risborough, including red high skid road surfacing and Vehicle Activated Signs (A4010 Wycombe Road, A4010 Aylesbury Road and A4129 Longwick Road).
- Buff coloured, high skid road surfacing outside Monks Risborough School and St Teresa's School.
- Central islands at the Station Road junction to channel traffic and encourage slower speeds.



There were also improvements in Bradenham, West Wycombe and Cressex. A further round of HS2 Road Safety Funding was announced by Buckinghamshire Council on 23rd February 2021 and bids are being invited from Parish and Town Councils for further improvements.

We will be making an application for some of this funding, but competition will be fierce, so fingers crossed!

*Special thanks to Jim Stevens.*

## High Street Trail

August provided something fun (and educational!) to entertain the families and it was a chance to say hello to the wonderful retailers on our High Street. The first High Street event of the year and it was lovely to see so many taking part in a fun word trail.

With over 80 entries and two winners, a fun time was had by all involved!



**AUGUST**  
Eating Out  
scheme  
launched



## Farmers Market Goes Live, Again

As the country came out of lockdown we were able to return to our more familiar format Farmers Markets. Although held in the new venue of King George V playing fields and including strict social distancing and safety measures, it was a chance for residents to get out of the house and see each other, even if from a distance. The event attracted a significant number of visitors, but with overall attendance capped for safety, it never felt too busy to feel unsafe. We were able to welcome back our familiar traders such as Brockleby Pies and Anton Hazelle's chocolate as well as welcoming some of our High Street traders. Cooking demonstrations were led by Dean Edwards and included contributions from Councillors Knights (pictured) and Walsh. Fantastic folk music was played by Black Dog and the event provided a highlight in what had been a disappointing time for town events, due to restrictions.



### Alice Smith

The Town Council welcomed a new councillor in October. Alice Smith graduated from The University of York last July, after studying Politics and International Relations. Due to Covid-19, Alice moved back to Risborough earlier than anticipated, and after a couple of sunny months was grateful to be surrounded by the rolling hills and fields.

Although Alice has a passion for travelling, Princes Risborough will always be her home. From working in Tesco's and for Risborough Carers, she is never far from a familiar face.

Alice now works for the Trust that runs Princes Risborough School and hopes to bring a voice to the Town Council for the young people in the area.

## Art in the Park

Art in the Park ran again for the seventh year running. 2020's contest saw 41 artists compete to be crowned as the winner. That honour went to Ian Austin and his photograph "Derwent Isle & Catbells, Keswick". Becky from Cymbeline (the contest sponsor) picked the winning entry and described it as "completely captivating", recognising that the quality of entries was so high this time.



The entries cover a diverse collection of styles and media, including textiles, ceramics, photography, pyrography as well as the more traditional paintings and drawings. A number of pieces have clearly been influenced by the current pandemic. The art is on display in Wades Park along the back fencing. Please make time to see this amazing collection of artworks, and enjoy the talent that exists in our local community and surrounding area.

SEPTEMBER  
24<sup>th</sup>  
NHS Tracing  
App is  
released







## Basketball Court

A project on the Town Council's wish list for a few years finally came to fruition in October. The Council is thrilled that following a £20,000 investment, the basketball court in St Dunstan's Park has been fully resurfaced, complete with new backboards and nets. In addition, the Council decided to keep the very well-used, cycle proficiency markings. This is a well-received project that is a hive of activity at the weekends.



## Rob Powell

It was with great sadness we announced the passing of Rob Powell, our Maintenance Team Leader, in October. Rob joined the Town Council in May 2017 as a summer operative and quickly progressed his way to Maintenance Team leader. Rob played a huge role for the Town Council; no job was ever too difficult and every challenge was enthusiastically embraced. Rob took so much pride in his work and was so popular amongst his team. We miss him very much.



**SEPTEMBER**  
Regional Tiers,  
Bucks in  
Tier 2

**OCTOBER**  
**31<sup>st</sup>**  
Family  
Halloween  
Trail



## Small Grants

Princes Risborough Town Council is delighted to be able to offer small grants to support various organisations in the Town.

Over £2,300 has been awarded so far, including £500 to the Elim Food bank and £500 to the Risborough Food Cupboard run by Churches Together.

The members were also able to support the wonderful Princes Risborough and Surrounding Areas Elderly and Vulnerable Support Group that was set up by local residents Siobhan Jackson & Marnie Logan.

Details regarding available grants can be found on the Town Council website.



## Malcolm Cloult

Captain Sir Tom Moore was a great inspiration to the Country, a source of great pride for us all. We have been so lucky to have our own local hero in Malcolm Cloult.

A veteran of D-Day, family man, regular attendee of St Mary's Church, our Town Mayor, Matthew Walsh had the privilege of joining him on his final day of walking where he has raised over £11,000 for the Poppy Appeal.

When it came to the Town Council's search for a local hero to turn on the Christmas lights, the response was overwhelming, it had to be Malcolm. Jolly as ever and a complete professional, Malcom was escorted by the Mayor and Malcolm's daughter Pauline, and he delivered a flawless performance with the lights across the town shining bright to bring some light to the end of a challenging year.



## Tree of Light

Sadly, due to Covid-19 restrictions the Princes Risborough Rotary Club, in conjunction with the Rennie Grove hospice weren't able to stage their annual Tree of Light service.

This event has been running for many years and normally sees hundreds attending the ceremony.

We are pleased to confirm that despite the change to the normal format, over £5,300 was raised, with a record number of dedications received.



NOVEMBER  
**5<sup>th</sup>**  
National  
Lockdown 2

NOVEMBER  
**8<sup>th</sup>**  
Remembrance  
Sunday



## Christmas Celebrations

Will it go ahead? Won't it go ahead? Those were the questions that organisers of Risborough's Christmas events were asking as the country was moving between tiers in the lead up to Christmas. Luckily a large Farmers Market with Christmas stalls was allowed to take place safely at the KGV field in a safe and socially distanced way. A large team of volunteers from the Council and Rotary Club facilitated a safe market layout to allow social distancing with a one-way system and a limited capacity.

The weather was fine and over 1,000 people attended the afternoon event. Many stayed to watch our 100 year old resident Malcom Cloutt flick the switch to light up the town for the festive period. All traders sold out most of produce and thanks to the huge effort of all involved, the event provided a positive end to a challenging year.

## Reindeer Trail

The team of window artists from our business support programme spent three very cold days painting reindeers onto our shop windows. Each reindeer held a number, and families were invited to find all the numbers as part of a festive reindeer trail. 120 people completed the trail and each won a chocolate reindeer.



## Covid-19 Community Champions



Our Town Mayor had the pleasure of driving around Risborough on Christmas Eve with Cllr David Knights, presenting the winners of Covid-19 Champion Awards. Nominated by our residents these individuals were true heroes in supporting our community during the 1st lockdown. A framed certificate, along with a bottle of bubbles, a Dundee cake made by the Council's resident chef Sue Coombs and some Risborough Basket cupcakes from Tracey Mann Cakes were presented to the winners.



Whilst a few people were surprised to receive a knock on the door from the Mayor on Christmas Eve, despite visiting over 20 homes we only found one resident still in their pyjamas mid-afternoon!

*Pictured from the top: SP Supermarket, Monks Risborough; Will Knights - Risborough Basket Volunteer; Siobhan Jackson - PR Elderly & Vulnerable Support*

DECEMBER  
2<sup>nd</sup>

1st vaccine approved



DECEMBER  
19<sup>th</sup>

Bucks moves to Tier 4



DECEMBER  
24<sup>th</sup>

Lease signed with The Manor

## Vaccinating our Community

Despite being in the midst of both a pandemic and a large extension project, the Community Centre owned by the Town Council has been the hub of the community during the successful roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccinations both locally and across Buckinghamshire.

The Community centre team led by our Mayor & Chairman, Cllr Matthew Walsh, has worked closely with Lesley Munro-Faure the Managing Partner of Unity Health, Dr Michael Mulholland and Dr Martin Thornton, to transform the community space, installing heaters, seating and lighting to create and implement an effective and approved layout to enable the delivery of over 11,000 vaccinations to date, that began prior to Christmas.

The Town Council has produced a video, showing the work of everyone assisting with the vaccination programme in Risborough. Visit the Town Council Facebook page to have a look.

On behalf of the Town Council we want to thank everyone involved in this programme. To have ensured our most vulnerable were protected ahead of schedule has without a shadow of doubt saved lives in our community. We are proud to have helped play a small role in supporting this programme and we will continue to support this roll-out for as long as it is needed.



## Risborough Retail - A Brighter Future

So, as we waved our (not so sad) goodbyes to 2020 and started to look forward to 2021, the prospect of a third National Lockdown due to Covid-19 became reality on 5th January.

With January being a difficult trading month for retailers in the best of years, this was not welcome news for Risborough's retailers and hospitality businesses, particularly when following hard on the heels of the challenging trading conditions of 2020.

Despite the current difficult conditions (with Lockdown 3 still in place at the time of writing) we hope that 2021 offers far better prospects for our retailers and businesses. One example of the positive nature of our traders was the January Sale activity that was hosted on Risborough Basket to help drive post-Christmas sales. Supported by the Town Council, it is the sort of event that has made Risborough's High Street one of the very few to have not lost a single retailer during the last 12 months.

Other shoots of positivity as we started the year were the signing of the lease to 39 High Street with The Manor – who are on track to open their amazing new bar, restaurant, and roof terrace in May. We also saw the arrival of Days to Remember cards and gifts, the confirmation of a new tenant for The George which will be reopening after lockdown and the announcement of Princes Risborough Nursery opening its doors to children aged 3 months to 5 years old in May.

Please continue to support our local our local businesses, and shop, eat and drink local.



JANUARY  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**

Free parking  
starts again



JANUARY  
**5<sup>th</sup>**

National  
Lockdown 3

## Tree Management

As a Council we take an active role in managing and curating our trees and plants in order to ensure longevity and sustainability. The Town Council is proud to be a signatory of the Tree Charter and with all planning applications we receive for tree removal we ask that a new tree is planted in its place.

Unfortunately, some of our more mature trees are coming to the end of their natural lives, or have become badly diseased, which can make them unsafe or unstable. In such cases, we have no choice but to have them felled or significantly reduced. You may have noticed that we recently had to fell a tree in the KGV. Our aim is to always replace them with the same or more trees, and where possible, with native species. To recognise the role of trees in our environment we have managed to find a further £10,000 for next years budget to continue the work to enhance and protect our wonderful trees.



## Community Gardening

The Stratton Memorial Garden has taken on a new life with the addition of fruit trees and community wildflower areas. In a desire to increase biodiversity, the community greening scheme is bringing swathes of wildflowers and encouraging new insects to this haven of peace. In addition, a number of the conifer trees, that have reached the end of their lives, are being replaced with native species more suited to the chalk escarpment setting. Planning is underway for the second phase of the site which will greatly increase the number of burial plots and niches to meet the continued need for more space. Do take time to visit these beautiful gardens as Spring comes – they are a hidden gem in the town.



## Bill Bendyshe-Brown

The Town Council was saddened to hear of the death of Buckinghamshire Councillor Bill Bendyshe-Brown. Over the course of his political career Bill had been a member of the Town Council, Wycombe District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council and since April 2020 Buckinghamshire Council. Bill held the role of Chairman of the District Council between 2010-11 and for many years was the Armed Forces Champion for Buckinghamshire County Council and the President of Buckinghamshire Branch of the Royal British Legion. Bill was a founding Trustee of the Princes Centre and was presented with the Peter Robinson Award by the Princes Centre in recognition of his hard work and devotion. The thoughts of the Town Council are with his wife Eugenie and his two sons Alistair and Simon and their families.

FEBRUARY

15<sup>th</sup>

Top 4 priority  
groups  
vaccinated

## Citizen Awards

Each year the Town Council issues a number of awards in recognition of individuals, organisations and businesses that are doing extraordinary things in our local community. These awards are given out each year as part of our annual town meeting. Sadly, as with many of our events last year, the meeting was postponed. However the Town Council plans to recognise these winners, together with our 2021 winners at our virtual Annual Town Meeting on March 18th – see facing page for further details.

### 2020 winners:

Citizen of the Year:

*Mr Andrew Quigley*

Business of the Year:

*The Bird in Hand Pub*

Young Citizen of the Year:

*Hannah Gage*

Community Group of the Year:

*Risborough Friendly Social Club.*

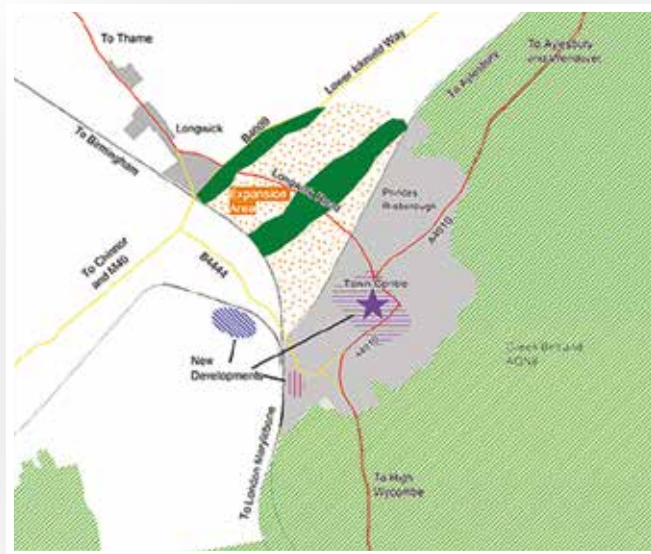
Please join us on the 18th to hear all about our 2021 winners.



## Risborough Expansion Update

As we gradually ease our way out of the current pandemic the planned expansion of Risborough as part of the Local Plan is beginning to move forward once again. Work has continued on the technical process required for the “Southern Link Road” in order to speed up its delivery. It is also expected that the first detailed housing planning applications may be presented later this year.

The value of the new infrastructure accompanying the Town’s growth is in the region of £130M and we continue to work with the new Buckinghamshire Council to ensure the timely delivery of the benefits that are to come with the new development. The Town Council will continue to keep residents updated as matters progress.



## Heritage Trail

As Princes Risborough is packed with history the local community will be invited to provide content to help the development of a new heritage trail.

A Facebook page will be set up to collect the shared memories, knowledge and photos of our residents past and present. The ‘memory banking’ exercise will galvanise the community at this difficult time and help the council to develop a new heritage trail app.

More details will be forthcoming in the Spring.

MARCH  
18<sup>th</sup>

Annual  
Town  
Meeting

MAY  
6<sup>th</sup>

Local  
Elections





## INVITATION

# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

(meeting to be held remotely via Zoom)

## 18th March 2021 @ 7.30pm

Join us at 7.30pm for an insight into the refurbishment works at the Community Centre and a chance to see what's going on behind the doors at 39 High Street.

We will be also be announcing our 2021 Citizen Awards and holding a Q&A session with our Councillors. Please email any questions to the address below by noon on Wednesday 17th March.

Zoom Meeting ID: 847 4376 4279

Passcode: 315374

For further information please contact [towncouncil@princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Or visit [www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Princes Risborough Town Council

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**f** @Risboroughtowncouncil

**t**: @Princesris

**i**: princesrisboroughtc

### Councillors

Mayor & Chairman: Cllr Matthew Walsh

Chairman of Finance Cttee: Cllr Alan Turner

Chairman of Events/PR Cttee: Cllr David Knights

Chairman of Planning Cttee: Cllr Andy Ball

Chairman of Commercial Services Cttee: Cllr Andy Ball

Cllr Lee Byrne

Cllr Gary Hall

Clerk to the Council:

Susanne Barter

Deputy Clerk:

Mrs Kirsty Pope

Administration Officer:

Jayne Mylchreest

Bookings Officer:

Cate Holloway

Deputy Chairman: Cllr Andy Ball

Chairman of Admin & HR: Cllr Iain McLauchlan

Chairman of Town Cttee: Cllr John Coombs

Chairman of Economic Regeneration Cttee: Cllr Ian Pearce

Cllr Tapashya Murali

Cllr Stewart Baxter

Maintenance Team Leader:

Barney Hefferman

Maintenance Team Operatives:

Karen Quigley

Peter Quigley

**Office Hours** - Monday – Friday 9.30am – 3.30pm

The full Town Council meets at 7.00pm on the last Tuesday of each month. Meetings are currently held by video link via Zoom, as per The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panel Meetings (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. There is a 10-minute slot at the beginning of each meeting when the public can express a view or concern relating to town matters, provided that they have notified the clerk in advance. Please check the website to confirm how to do this.

The next meetings are: **Tuesday 30th March** **Tuesday 27th April** **Tuesday 18th May**

The Town Council aims to be as accessible as possible, and welcomes the views, comments and concerns of the Princes Risborough electorate. Although the views of the whole Council are given wherever possible, for constitutional and legal reasons we must state that the views expressed herein *Crosstalk*, and in any personal correspondence received from individual Councillors, are those of the author concerned and do not necessarily express the opinions or policy of PRTC unless explicitly stated.



# #MAKING IT HAPPEN

## THE COUNCIL



**13**

unpaid  
**Town Councillors**



**5**

full-time equivalent  
**Staff Members**



Quality Gold Status for excellence in governance, leadership and development  
Held by only 53 out of over 10,000 Town/Parish Councils in England & Wales



**410**

Town Council and Committee  
**meetings**  
held in the past six years

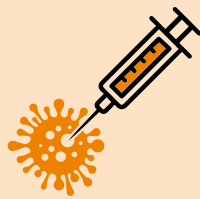
## DID YOU KNOW...



All of our

**551**

street lamps are lit by energy efficient LED bulbs and powered by renewable electricity, as is our new extension to the community centre, which incorporates the latest heat and light energy saving technology



Over

**11,000**

vaccinations delivered in our Community Centre\*

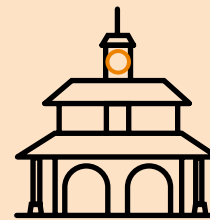
\*as of March 11th



We've awarded...

**£73,915**

grants in the last six years to local churches, organisations & community groups



We've invested...

**over £1m**

**in infrastructure**  
Market House restoration, Community Centre refurbishment and 39 High Street property investment



We've enabled...

**£100,000**

to stay in the local economy as part of the Risborough Basket scheme

## KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR...



The opening of a new

**Function Room and Bar at the Community Centre**



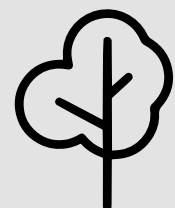
The opening of a new

**60 seater café at Wades Park**



**Town Heritage Trail**

to recognise the history of our Town



**£20,000**

**investment**  
to enhance and protect the Trees in our Town over the next two years