

MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021



JOINT MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR



As you read this newsletter both myself as Mayor and Cllr Lambeth as Deputy Mayor after completing 2 terms of office will have stepped down to make way for a new Mayor and Deputy. For the last 2 years it has been an honour and a privilege to represent you and serve the Malvern community. Although it would be hard to imagine two more contrasting years! The last 12 months have been a particularly difficult period for everyone. It is however, encouraging to see the shops reopening and to see areas of Malvern bustling with people again. It is important that we keep our high street alive and that we keep supporting our local shops and cafes as we slowly come out of lockdown. The Town Council have continued to meet on a regular basis through Zoom to help and support charities and community projects during this vital period.

With lockdown restrictions still in place, the Town Council has run its first ever online events and thanks must go to the staff, volunteers and local experts who helped to make these two events a success. Our first one was Earth Day on 22 April and the second was our usual Health and Wellbeing fair held over the May bank holiday weekend, to coincide with the well dressing. This year's theme was stars and planets, organised by the Spa Association and we hope you managed to see some of the dressed wells, which involved local schools and community groups.

Looking forward to the summer months - starting on 27 June with military style music to mark Armed Forces Day, the popular "Bands in the Park" programme will re-commence bringing back some of your favourite bands such as Lydbrook Band, Malvern Chase Brass Band and many more. We also hope to hold a scaled down version of the Mayor's Bonanza in August with something for all the family to enjoy. The programme will end in September with Alternative bands the Red Hot Chilli Peppers Experience and Gene Genie and the Lemon Squeezers.

The Deputy Mayor and I, would like to thank all those that have helped and volunteered in their communities and supported our charities Malvern Hills Foodbank and Heartstart Malvern. We have raised nearly £6,000 which is an amazing achievement and will support the excellent work of these two local organisations.

Thank you for all your hard work and support

Your Mayor, Neil Morton and Deputy Mayor, Lynne Lambeth



**Online Earth
Day Event**



**Online Health &
Wellbeing Event**

Note: The new Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be elected at the Annual Council meeting on 26 May 2021.

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Rewilding - Tree Planting in Malvern

As part of the work of the Town Council's Environmental Panel, four Town Council sites have been identified and allocated as areas for wilding. In February the Town Council's Operations Team planted 500 trees in green and open spaces at Greenfields Road and Yates Hay Road. These trees are a mixture of British native woodland species such as oak, hawthorn, ash, birch, beech and willow. The saplings are already well established, and are settling into their environment quickly. Three sites have been identified where mowing will cease in certain areas to create wilding areas also for wildlife and insect communities to thrive.



Tree Planting at
Greenfields Road

Station Road Gardens Lighting

The Town Council is planning to upgrade eight of the Elgar electric gas light Grosvenor lanterns during the summer of 2021. The last major refurbishment of the lighting columns and luminaires was in 2013 and these gas lamps are now due for major refurbishment. The work carried out on gas lamps is highly specialised and the Town Council employs a local contractor who carries out work on heritage lighting in all areas of Malvern.

Bus Shelter Refurbishments



We have two bus shelter refurbishment projects underway: one in Great Malvern, by Rose Bank Gardens and the second bus shelter which is a listed art deco building is in Barnards Green. Both bus shelters are of architectural interest and are well used and these works will help to ensure that they remain both well maintained, and in keeping with their original designs.

Victoria Park

Whilst most Town Council projects have continued despite the pandemic, unfortunately the opening of the two new basketball courts has now been delayed by about a year. The world class flex court surfacing is being supplied and installed by a Belgian company and they are still awaiting the relaxation of travel restrictions to be able to lay the surfacing. The Council is hopeful that this may happen later this summer.

There is also a project underway to replace the pavilion at Victoria Park. The current pavilion has come to the end of its life and is no longer fit for purpose. The Council plan to build a new pavilion to improve the park's facilities for its many users.

Rose Bank Gardens

As summer approaches, the Town Council's Operations staff have been turning their attention to Rose Bank Gardens and getting up to date with general maintenance and planting so that it will soon be looking at its best. Sadly, the tree in the entranceway bed was showing signs of decay and needed to be removed and Town Council staff have been busy planting some bedding plants in this area to brighten up this gateway to the hills. Later in the year, works will begin on a new fountain for the gardens, with works also planned to improve some of the pathways and path edging.



Entranceway Bed to
Rose Bank Gardens



New Chipper

The Town Council has recently bought a new woodchipper. This machine will enable the council to recycle much of its prunings, and arboriculture arisings that occur throughout the year as well as reducing the need for contractors costs in taking waste away. The woodchipper will be used around Malvern in various locations.

EVENTS UPDATE

Earth Day 22 April

The Town Council held its first ever online event on Thursday 22 April. Earth Day was streamed live from 10am to 8pm over YouTube, and so far we have had over 800 views. The day was well supported by local experts from various specialist fields. You can still view our Earth Day event at the following YouTube links <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjWRsDNkrRI> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41SF_RCC6Ks Talks included understanding reptiles, building an insect house for your garden, reduction of energy in your home and recycling, amongst many other interesting topics. We were also delighted to be joined by a number of local schools who wanted to learn about Earth Day. A big thank you to everyone involved in our first online event.



Health and Wellbeing 1 May

The Health and Wellbeing Fair is usually held in Rose Bank Gardens in combination with Malvern Hills District Council's Water Festival and the Spa Association's Well Dressing. Not wanting to cancel this popular annual event, the decision was made to hold it online. The programme was packed full of useful advice from stress and anxiety management, nutrition, cooking demonstrations to yoga demonstrations. In Malvern we are very fortunate to have so many wellness centres and advisers, if you missed the event on Saturday 1 May, you can still look back at our event online, at the following YouTube links <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaeoWS6Gwt0> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnmUvNrS1xM>



VE Day 8 May

Saturday, 8 May marked 76 years since Victory in Europe Day as the United Kingdom commemorated the end of the Second World War in Europe. VE Day is the day on which Allied Forces formally announced the surrender of Germany, which brought the Second World War to a close in Europe. The Chairman of the Remembrance Committee Anthony Hartley-Woolley, the Mayor Neil Morton and Deputy Mayor Lynne Lambeth attended a short flag-raising ceremony, where a wreath was laid for all those who fought for our freedom.



Band Concerts 27 June to 12 September

The Town Council is delighted to welcome back band concerts in Priory Park, starting on 27 June, when we will be joined by Malvern Hills Concert Band with military style music in honour of Armed Forces Day. Other brass bands will follow, as listed below and then there will be two weeks of Alternative bands.

Band	Date
Malvern Hills District Brass Band	27 June
Band TBC	4 July
Worcester Concert Brass Band	18 July
Lydbrook Band	25 July
Stourport-On-Severn Brass Band	1 August
Avonbank (Evesham Brass Band)	8 August
Malvern Chase Brass Band & Poolbrook String Orchestra	15 August
Nailsworth Band	22 August
Red Hot Chilli Peppers Experience	5 September
Gene Genie & The Lemon Squeezers	12 September

For further information please contact Clare Lawrence on clawrence@malvern-tc.org.uk

HELP AND SUPPORT DURING COVID-19

**HERE 2 HELP
WORCESTERSHIRE**



A reminder that the Here 2 Help Community Action Response to Coronavirus (Covid-19) is still available if you require help or support. You can contact them either via the website or by phone. Details and opening hours below: worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help or 01905 768053.

Opening hours are Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 5.00pm and Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm.

COUNCIL INFORMATION

Council meetings are now returning to being held in person.

Please check our website for details of upcoming meetings and where they will be held.

Council meetings start at 6pm. The next Full Council meetings are: 16 June & 4 August

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