

SEPTEMBER 2021

I will be updating my blog every month so please come back next month to read more news.

Welcome to the first blog of the Mayor of Malvern

It has been a strange first few months of being Mayor due to the issues around large gatherings but we seem to be getting back to a more normal state.

Malvern Town Council held the Mayor's Bonanza on the August Bank Holiday when I also opened the new basketball courts. We saw around 500 people visit the court opening and it was a great success. These are currently the only basketball courts in the UK to have the new flooring and are proving very popular.

The Bonanza was also a great success and raised £3,000 for the Mayor's chosen charities and also provided a free day of entertainment for Malvern residents. It was the first year we held the event in Victoria Park and I think we will continue to do so.

Also in Victoria Park, work continues on designing and building a new Pavilion to replace the existing one, which no longer met the needs of the community. Full Council approved a budget for a two storey building to be built and this will mean we can relocate the Town Council offices and also have a community space for local groups etc. We will also be able to provide much needed public toilets for users of the park.

The subject of no toilets at Victoria Park is a constant issue raised with me as Mayor and the council is currently looking at options to provide toilet facilities whilst we work on the new Pavilion.

We will be holding public consultations soon on what you, as residents, want to see in the new Pavilion. As a council we have approved this project subject to a satisfactory business case and, of course, we would welcome your ideas on what we should have inside the building.

Over the past few weeks I have met with MHDC to understand how we can work better together, Malvern Town Council works very well but of course there are always things that could improve our partnership with other local councils.

I have met with the Police to look at how we can address the ongoing issue of anti-social behaviour in the town. This is not an easy thing to resolve but taking advice from the Police means we can learn from what is really happening and what we can do to try to reduce this type of behaviour; it is not something that we can stop altogether but at least we can attempt to reduce it.

This month, I enjoyed playing football with Newtown Sports CP football club and I took part in the Crossbar Challenge, managing to hit it once during the session. The ultimate aim of this project is to raise funds to help people within the local area fuel their homes during the winter months, be that the elderly, vulnerable or families who attend the foodbank.

Bands in the Park has been as popular as ever and we have seen a great turn out for these Sunday afternoon events. This year's social distancing restrictions have resulted in a larger variety of bands playing and this has been very well received by audiences. Sadly, the season has finished now for 2021 but will be back next year. Look out for the programme and further information on this website.

I am busy planning fundraising events, so please watch this space as I hope you will be interested in attending some or all of them and helping to raise valuable funds for my two chosen charities which do fantastic work in the local community. Keep an eye out for my Peaky Blinders-themed Charity Casino Night which is being held on 19 November.

“I cannot solve every problem in Malvern, but I will listen and do what I can. We are a council of 20 councillors and all are working hard to support our community.”

Cllr Nick Houghton, Mayor of Malvern



Newtown Sports CP FC (and the Mayor of Malvern!)

