

Newsletter

 **Malvern Town Council**

Winter 2023

Mayor's Message



Cllr Clive Hooper

Since the last newsletter, I have had the opportunity to visit more people and groups in our town. I have been greatly impressed with what I have seen and been able to appreciate even more how much Malvern is a caring and welcoming community. I particularly recall the invitations I have received from care homes with the chance to talk to residents and staff, and also to see some of the work local charities do for us. Much of this work is heavily dependent upon volunteers who give their time so generously but who feel that by doing so, they can help those who need it. Citizens Advice is an excellent example of this, and I was privileged to be invited to the Malvern branch when Princess Anne (their patron) visited recently. It is good to see such community spirit, and that is something I feel we should nurture. I believe that The Town Council is supportive, and it does offer grants to community groups and encourages applications to promote initiatives.

I was delighted that Malvern received another gold award from the Heart of England in Bloom judges and had such a favourable commendation. The competition does engage the community and adds to the sense of pride we have in our town and its surroundings. The hard work put in by the Council's staff did not go unnoticed, and I much appreciate the time and effort individuals contributed to the result.

The services for Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday were well attended, and for the first time on the Sunday, there was a joint Service of Remembrance held at Great Malvern Priory. Those to whom I have spoken felt that it was a worthwhile initiative, and I hope it will be repeated in subsequent years.

There will be a charity concert for St Richard's at St Matthias Church on Saturday 16 December, starting at 1.30pm -- and a Sunday lunch is also planned at St Richard's on 4 February 2024, details of which (including booking arrangements) should be on the Council's website when you receive this newsletter. I hope you will be able to come along to both events.

As ever, I am grateful to all the Council's staff for their conscientiousness and hard work. I thank them and you for your continued support, and wish everyone a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year.

Cllr Clive Hooper, Mayor of Malvern



Christmas Charity Concert

Featuring
**Malvern Hills District
Brass Band &
The Hills Singers**

Saturday 16 December 2023

1.30pm - 3.30pm,

**St Matthias Church, Church Road,
£5 per ticket, under 16 free of charge**



News Roundup



Buzzards lit purple

Purple Lights for Pancreatic Cancer - Malvern Town Council has been supporting pancreatic cancer awareness month by lighting some of Malvern's landmarks purple during November. Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival rate of all cancers and early diagnosis is vital. Laura Todd and Helen Willis sadly lost their dad to pancreatic cancer earlier this year and after contacting the Town Council, it was agreed that the Buzzards in Rosebank Gardens, the North Malvern

Clock Tower and also the clock on Barnards Green Bus Shelter would be lit up in purple to raise awareness of this disease and to help remember lost loved ones. #purplelights

Remembrance Commemorations - Despite a rather wet day, Remembrance Sunday commemorations were well supported this year. A joint service of Remembrance was held in Great Malvern Priory at 10am, after which a parade of over 200 people including youth groups, veterans and dignitaries, and led by parade marshal Lindon Lloyd, marched from outside the post office down to the War

Memorial at Great Malvern Library. The last post was played, with a two minute silence observed at 11am and then wreaths were laid on behalf of a wide range of local groups and organisations.



Boys/Girls Brigade

Plan of new Community Hub



New Community Hub at Victoria Park - Planning permission has now been granted for the new community hub building at Victoria Park and, following a meeting of Full Council on 8 November, an order has now been placed with the aim of completing building works by Autumn 2024. The new building will contain a café with both inside and outside seating, public toilets, lockers, a meeting room, as well as space to relocate the Town Council administration staff, making the

offices more accessible to members of the public.

Heart of England in Bloom - Malvern has struck GOLD again, in the Heart of England in Bloom awards for 2023. The Mayor, Cllr Clive Hooper and Malvern in Bloom Chairman, Cllr David Watkins attended the awards ceremony to pick up the award on behalf of the town, with an impressive score of 94 out of 100 marks being achieved. The judges David and Lesley Pritchard commented that there was a floral delight around every corner especially in the town centre, and that numerous agencies, organisations and volunteers have contributed to the success of Malvern in Bloom.

Environmental Matters

Vehicle Replacement - In line with the Council's environmental policy to reduce carbon emissions where practical the 2015 Mitsubishi pick up has been replaced with an electric Corvus Terrain EX4 utility vehicle, arriving shortly.



News from the Ground

Early Autumn has been a busy time with a number of operational projects being undertaken.

Play Area Refurbishment - A new basket swing has now been installed at Michael Crescent, the Clatterbridge at Victoria Park has been refurbished and repairs undertaken to improve the wetpour surfacing at Dukes Meadow.

New Basket Swing



Bus Shelter on North Malvern Road - The Town Council's operations team have undertaken works to spruce up the bus shelter on North Malvern Road by installing new guttering and giving the shelter a lick of paint to smarten it up.

Netball Court at Victoria Park - Following the purchase of new netball posts for Victoria Park, new lines have now been painted to improve the playability of these courts.



Making way for new roses

New Roses in Rosebank Gardens - The Town Council Operations Team have been undertaking improvement works to the entranceway bed just inside the gates of Rosebank Gardens. This bed has for many years put on a wonderful display of peach coloured roses, but these are now looking tired and the plants require quite a lot of individual care. The bed has now been dug out, refilled with new soil and 75 precious amber, bare rooted roses are being planted. These roses will be more resilient and more suited to this area and will hopefully provide a colourful display for many years to come, as well as

being a good home for multiple insects.

Christmas Lights - Town Council staff have been working alongside the Christmas lighting contractor to ensure that Malvern is looking festive this year. For the first time, there will be Christmas trees lit up in Great Malvern, Malvern Link and Barnards Green as well as new lights on Belle Vue Island. Thank you to Leigh Sinton Farm and Nurseries for providing the Christmas tree for Great Malvern.

Christmas Tree Malvern



Save the Dates!

Saturday 16 December - Charity Christmas Concert at St Matthias Church, Malvern Link

This eagerly awaited annual charity Christmas concert is run in partnership with Malvern Hills District Brass Band who will be performing with The Hills Singers. Tickets are available from the Town Council website at a cost of £5 for adults (children under 16 years go free). Join us for an afternoon of festive music and friendship in aid of the Mayor's Charity St Richard's Hospice and Malvern Hills District Brass Band. There will be a singalong section when everyone can join in, as well as mince pies during the interval.

Mayor's Peaks Challenge

This popular event will be back on Saturday 4 May 2024 with funds raised going to the Mayor's charity. As before, there will be a choice of two routes to cater for a range of abilities. Dogs are welcome too, and will receive a rosette on completion, whilst all walkers will receive a t-shirt in their entrance pack and a medal at the end. Please check our website and social media pages in the New Year.

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Malvern Town Council Meetings

Next Full Council meetings - Wednesday 13 December 2023 and Wednesday 14 February 2024

These are public meetings and you are welcome to attend.

Please check the Town Council website for the full details.