

## CONTACT YOUR TOWN COUNCILLOR

### TOWN WARD



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# Gillingham Town Council

Autumn 2019

Quarterly Newsletter Issue No. 24

## Gillingham Town Council

**Address:** Town Hall, School Rd,  
Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4QR

**Telephone:** 01747 823588

**Email:** [GTC@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](mailto:GTC@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](http://www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)

**Mayor:** Cllr Barry Von Clemens

**Deputy Mayor:** Cllr Paul Harris

**Town Clerk:** Julie Hawkins

**Deputy Clerk:** Clare Ratcliffe

**Mayor's Executive Assistant:** Jill Ezzard

**Responsible Financial Officer:** Debra Edwards

**Works Manager:** Simon Dobie

## Meetings

**General Purposes:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month

**Planning Committee:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

**Finance Committee:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month

**Full Council:** 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

## Please visit the Town Council website

**[www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](http://www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)**

If you have an event you would like to publicise in Gillingham we can add it to our Calendar. Email your details to us at the address above.

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



It has been another positive few months for Gillingham, with so much happening. The Town Council has a new website. Please do visit it. I was privileged to be invited to NorDDIS, as they marked their 25th anniversary and I was honoured to present flowers to one of our residents, who celebrated her 100th birthday at St Martins Grange.

My congratulations go to the organisers of another successful Gillingham Walking Festival, and to those involved with the White Hart Link who marked it's completion in early September. We really are lucky to have so many wonderful walking routes to explore.

Gillingham Library hosted a number of events over the summer holidays, including the making of a film, focusing on the moon landing. I do recommend visiting the library, in October and November, as they have so many exciting things planned for our young people to enjoy.

I was delighted to hear the Malthouse care home in Gillingham, has become the first dementia 'safe haven' in North Dorset, and only the fourth in the county. A 'safe haven' is somewhere the police or members of the public can take someone who is found in a public place, in a confused state. This really is a great achievement for Gillingham, which is already recognised as a dementia-friendly town.



On Saturday 26th October, I will be holding a charity quiz night, to raise funds for Green GANG and The Gillingham Home Lunch Service, two groups that I am supporting this year as mayor. Tickets can be purchased from Scenes in the Square. It should be a great night, with a guest quizmaster and also some fabulous raffle prizes to add to the evening's excitement.

I wish you all a happy and safe autumn!  
Cllr Barry Von Clemens



## A NEW WEBSITE FOR GILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

In February 2019 the town council agreed to enter into a 3 year contract with a local company to build a bespoke website for the Town Council with full back-up support.

Design Jam, a local company based at Brickfields Business Park in Gillingham, worked closely with the Town Hall to create a modern, vibrant and engaging website.

The new website went live on 1st September 2019 and the feedback we have received has been very positive.

We have incorporated bright modern colours and an easy to use format designed to appeal to all age groups.



## THE HOME PAGE

You will note that the headings on the home page fall into 5 categories:

**Your Town Council** provides councillor details, minutes and agenda, policies and financial information.

**Your Community** provides information on the services the town council provide, such as allotments, cemetery, room hire, play areas and public open spaces.

**News** is where our press releases and newsletters are located.

**Calendar** lists the town council meetings and any future events in the town. Please contact us if you would like to advertise an event

**Contact us** shows our contact details and location on a map along with how to report problems on the highway, faulty street lights and missed bin collections to name a few.

At the bottom of every page the council's opening times are clearly shown.

## A NEW WEBSITE FOR GILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL CONT....

Mr Mark Logan a local resident has kindly donated local aerial photographs of Gillingham for use on the website. If you have any photos of Gillingham you would like to donate, we would like to hear from you.

Please do visit the new website and let us know if there is other information you would like us to include.

[www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](http://www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)



On 26th October 2019  
At The Olive Bowl

Doors open at 7pm  
Quiz starts at 7.30pm  
Tickets £10 per person  
(which includes a lasagna supper, vegetarian and gluten-free options available please advise when booking)

Teams of 6

Bookings contact:

[cllrison.gale@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrison.gale@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)  
or

Scenes, The Square Gillingham

A "FABULOUS" prize for the winning team  
A "FABULOUS" Raffle.  
A special guest quizmaster.

The Mayor is supporting, Green GANG & The Gillingham Home Lunch Service

## COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

If you would like to discuss an issue with one of our Town Councillors they will be holding an appointment only surgery on the last Friday of the month. To book an appointment please contact the Town Hall.  
Tel: 01747 823555 or email: [gtc@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](mailto:gtc@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)

If you would like an appointment with one of your Dorset Councillors, then please call them directly using the contact details below.

Cllr Val Potheary  
Cllr Belinda Ridout  
Cllr David Walsh

Tel: 01747 826089  
Tel: 07496 413114  
Tel: 07973 228620



## CIVIL CEREMONIES AT GILLINGHAM TOWN HALL

Formally the Magistrates Court, the Civic Hall accommodates 60 people. There is wheelchair access, a small car park and a walled garden suitable for photographs.

For further details please contact:  
Gillingham Town Council, Town Hall,  
School Road, Gillingham Dorset SP8 4QR  
Tel: 01747 823588 or  
Email: [gtc@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](mailto:gtc@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](http://www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)

## FACEBOOK



Look out for the Town Council's new Facebook page going live in October.



FESTIVE LIGHTING EVENT  
Friday 29th November 2019



Entertainment starts on the Town Meadow at 5.00 pm

Come and meet Santa's Reindeer.

There will be entertainment on the stage provided by children's entertainer Mr Merlin and Oakey Dokey the Dragon, The Gillingham Area Schools Partnership, and carols with Gillingham Community Choir accompanied by Gillingham Imperial Silver Band.

Father Christmas will parade along the High Street at 6.00pm and is looking forward to meeting the children in his grotto following the tree lighting.

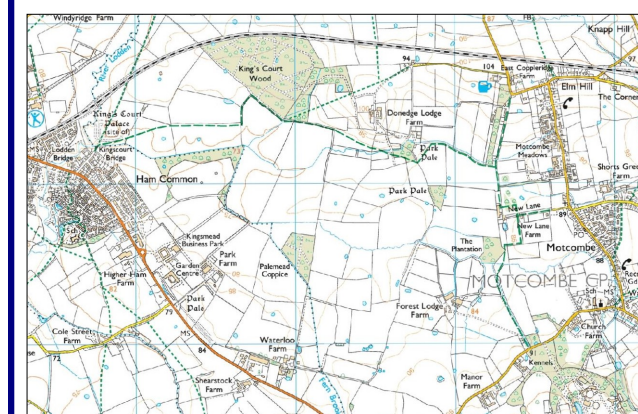
The Anonymous Travelling Market will be in the High Street car park selling tasty treats and crafts, the Scout have a burger stall and Gillingham Methodist Church will be serving refreshments

For more information please contact:  
Gillingham Town Council,  
Tel: 01747 823588 Email: [GTC@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk](mailto:GTC@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk)

## GILLINGHAM ROYAL FOREST PROJECT SECURES NATIONAL LOTTERY SUPPORT

Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) and partners are delighted to receive £61,900 of funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, for the Gillingham Roylea Forest project. The project will run for three years and aims to engage the local community with the natural history of this historic landscape.

In June 1204 King John arrived in Gillingham to stay at a hunting lodge which was set within a royal deer park, surrounded by extensive forest, known as the 'Royal Forest of Gillingham'. Later the lodge was to become known as 'Kings Court'. The remains can still be seen today.



Nicki Brunt from DWT said "Thanks to money raised by National Lottery players, we will be able to improve access along two walking routes, with leaflets and interpretation about the heritage. The funding will also enable us to work with partners to run a series of events such as walks and talks and to provide opportunities to learn rural skills and take part in practical conservation work".

## Moon Landing Anniversary

Gillingham celebrated the 50th anniversary of the moon landing with a luna inspired flower bed and an astronaut on the Station Road crossroads over the summer. This fantastic display was created by our own grounds team and was admired by many.

The spaceman has now taken off from his summer base and after a brief detour has touched down at Gillingham Library.

