



Biggleswade News

September 2023

In this edition...

Page 4



The Mayor's Quiz Night

Page 5



Remembrance Sunday

Page 5



Christmas Light Switch On

Photography by Adam Eldrett, showcasing Biggleswade in Autumn.
Winner of the Town Council's Autumn Photography Competition.

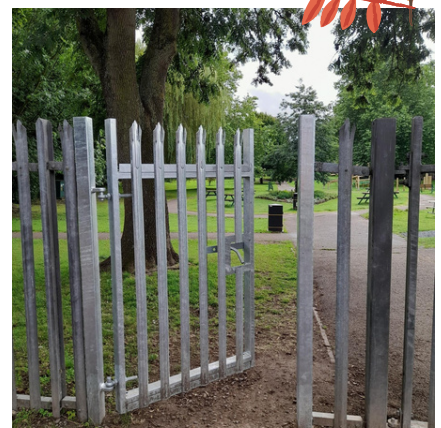
INVESTING IN BIGGLESWADE

Drove Road Chapel

Phase Two of the Chapel restoration works began in August 2023.

This second phase of work will involve window repairs, repointing work, and the implementation of a cutting-edge French drain system. This will enhance the visual appeal of the Chapel and improve its overall resilience and longevity.

The Town Council will provide residents with regular updates via its social media channels and website, ensuring that residents remain informed about the progress, timelines, and any relevant developments relating to the project.



Franklins Play Area

A number of new benches have been installed at Franklins Play Area to offer comfortable and inviting seating for all visitors. These refreshed benches provide a welcoming space for individuals to relax and enjoy the area.

Additionally, the Town Council are excited to announce the installation of new accessible gates at Franklins Play Area. The accessible gates provide easy entry and exit points, ensuring that everyone can experience the recreational opportunities that the Play Area has to offer.

THE MAYOR'S NEWS & EVENTS



Saturday 3rd June 2023

The Mayor of Biggleswade, Cllr Mark Foster, provided a speech at the re-opening of Franklin's Recreation Ground.



Saturday 8th July 2023

The Mayor showed his support for the arts in Biggleswade by attending the summer concert of East Beds Concert Band at Stratton Upper School.



Friday 7th July 2023

The Mayor and other councillors attended the official launch of Biggleswade's new Bike Hire Scheme.



Monday 10th July 2023

The Mayor recently met with Eloise Adger, Fundraising and Engagement Officer at Mind BLMK, one of the Mayor's chosen charities for the financial year 2023-24.



Sunday 16th July 2023

The Mayor had the pleasure of meeting local resident Sylvia Shephard on her 100th birthday. A birthday card and flowers were presented to Sylvia on behalf of Biggleswade Town Council.



Saturday 19th August 2023

The Mayor attended a Veterans Breakfast Club meeting at the Yorkshire Grey.

UPCOMING EVENT: THE MAYOR'S ELVIS CURRY NIGHT

Wednesday 4th October 2023

The Mayor, Cllr Mark Foster, will be hosting a Curry Night on Wednesday 4th October 2023. The event will be held at Biggles Lounge where attendees can enjoy a mouth-watering selection of Indian cuisine. The event promises to be a fun-filled night of delicious food, great company, with entertainment from "Elvis".

All proceeds from the event will be equally donated to the Mayor's three chosen charities: Sue Ryder St John's Hospice, Mind BLMK, and Tourettes Action.

To book your place, please click [here](#).



NEWS & UPDATES

Football Pitch Update



Biggleswade Town Council would like to inform residents that a fee will now be required to book the football training pitches.

To view this fee and all other football pitch hire costs, please navigate to the following link:

<https://biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk/services/recreation-grounds-and-open-spaces/football-pitches/>

Bigg Eats

On 10th August 2023, the Town Council launched the Bigg Eats Street Food Festival. The event was a resounding success featuring live music and a range of cuisines.

Save Thursday 14th September 2023 in your diaries as Bigg Eats returns to the Market Square, promising another evening of flavours, music, and a vibrant community spirit.



Commemorative Benches and Plaques



Biggleswade Town Council have recently adopted a comprehensive policy regarding Commemorative Benches and Plaques in Biggleswade. This will ensure fairness and consistency for all requests. The policy can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Car Park Machines

The car parking machines within the Town Council managed car parks are set to be upgraded in Autumn 2023. The machines will be replaced with modern Flowbird technology which will enhance usability.



Bike Hire Scheme



Friday 7th July 2023 saw the launch of App-Bike, a new cycle hire scheme in partnership with BRCC and Central Bedfordshire Council.

Twelve bicycles are now docked at five locations across the town, which are available for members of the public to hire at any time. This makes it easier than ever to hop on a bike and explore.

PAST EVENTS



Duck Race

Sunday 11th June 2023

The annual Duck Race event, organised by Biggleswade Community Carnival, brought the community together to race plastic ducks along the River Ivel. The event also included a mini fair and a variety of stalls offering everything from sweets to a tombola. Biggleswade Town Council's Public Realm Team worked hard to set up gazebos and support the Duck Race event, which was once again very well attended and enjoyed by members of the community.

Next year's Duck Race will take place on Sunday 9th June 2024.

Biggleswade Community Carnival Parade

Saturday 17th June 2023

The Community Carnival once again took to the streets of Biggleswade, involving over twenty organisations parading the streets of the town. The parade featured business trailers, vintage vehicles, and people on foot, bikes, and scooters. The Town Council would like to congratulate the parade organisers and volunteers who made the event possible.

Next year's Parade will take place on 22nd June 2024.



The Mayor's Quiz Night

Wednesday 2nd August 2023

The Mayor's Pub Quiz, hosted by the Rose Pub, brought together 79 participants who put their knowledge to the test with fun-filled trivia, whilst supporting the Mayor's chosen charities.

Biggleswade Town Council are pleased to report that £1,105.50 was raised for the Mayor's chosen charities.



UPCOMING EVENTS

What's happening in Biggleswade in the coming months?

Walk the Green Wheel

23rd September 2023

Time: 9:30am - 12:00pm

Route starting point: The Dan Albone Car Park, Royal Oak Close, Biggleswade, SG18 0BQ

Route end point: The White Hart Car Park, 36 High St, Biggleswade, SG18 8AR

This charity walk will take you on a 4-mile journey along the Green Wheel, with all proceeds being donated to the Mayor's chosen charities.

[Please click here to purchase your ticket](#)

Images of The Green Wheel



Vintage Vehicle Day

29th October 2023

Biggleswade's first Vintage Vehicle event will be held on 29th October 2023, 10.30am - 3pm in the Market Square.

The event will be held by The Berkeley Enthusiasts Club and United Counties Preservation Group who will be showcasing their impressive collection of vintage vehicles.

There will also be a free shuttle service running between Broom, Old Warden, Southill, Sutton, Wrestlingworth and Dunton.

Images of The Vintage Vehicles



Remembrance Sunday

12th November 2023

The Parade and Service provides an opportunity for our community to come together and pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We encourage all residents to attend and show their respect and gratitude for British service members who died in the two world wars. More information on the event and how you can participate will be shared closer to the date.

Images of the previous Remembrance Service (2022)



Christmas Lights Switch On

24th November 2023

Biggleswade Town Council is delighted to announce that the annual Christmas Light Switch On will take place on Friday 24th November 2023 from 12pm-8pm. This event is a highlight of the year for our community and the Council can't wait to see the town light up with Christmas cheer. The Council are currently planning a fun and exciting programme of activities for the whole family to enjoy, so be sure to mark your calendars and attend this magical occasion. For further information, please visit the Town Council's website and social media pages.

Images of the previous Christmas Light Switch On (2022)



THE ORCHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE



WHAT IS THE ORCHARD CENTRE?

The Orchard Community Centre has a range of facilities available to the community.

From celebrating a birthday, to ballet for babies, the Orchard Centre is the place to be.

Check out our social media for regular updates on what goes on at the Orchard Centre @biggleswadeTC.

FACILITIES & ONLINE BOOKINGS

The centre offers a Main Hall and a Training Room, both available for hire.

The Main Hall is approximately 13 x 20 metres, with vinyl flooring and a high ceiling at 5 metres. Its maximum capacity is 120 people depending on use, making it perfect for classes, meetings, functions, and parties.

The Training Room is approximately 7.5 x 9 metres, with a maximum capacity of 40 people depending on use. It is available to all organisations and businesses in and around Biggleswade for training purposes and meetings.

The Town Council are also pleased to announce that an online booking system is now available by clicking navigating to the following link:
<https://TheOrchardCommunityCentre.as.me/>

Residents can easily book the facilities they need for their events, meetings, and activities.

Printable hire charges from April 1, 2023, can be found by clicking [here](#).

Address: The Orchard Centre, Sullivan Ct, King's Reach, Biggleswade, SG18 8SZ



BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL'S AUTUMN PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



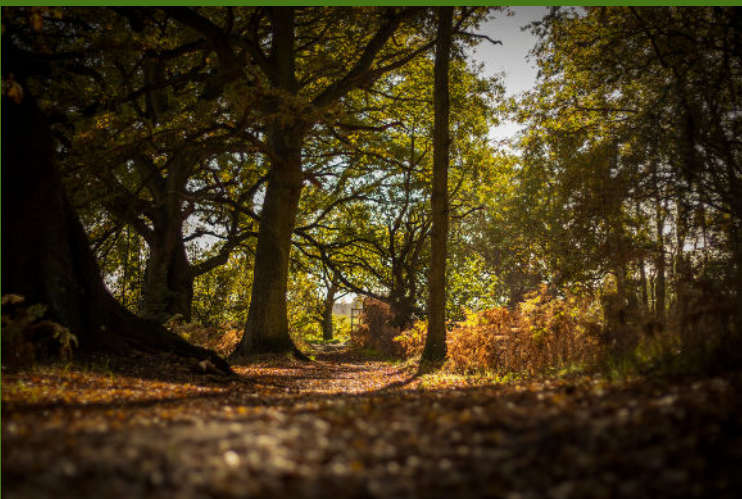
Biggleswade Town Council would like to thank everyone that entered the photography competition. Please find below the shortlisted submissions that showcase the beauty of Biggleswade in Autumn.



Photography by Linda Franklin of Fairfield Sports Ground gates and the weeping willow at the Mill

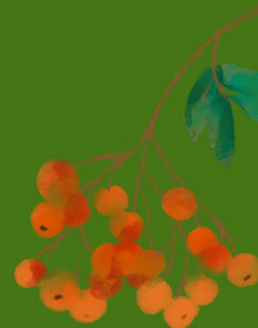


Photography by Mohamed Zihar of Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote Fields, the River Ivel and the railway line, Furzenhall Road



Photography by David Murphy of Biggleswade Common

BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCILLORS



SABEEL SAJID
07779 528777
Email: sabeel.sajid@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
HOLME WARD



MICHAEL NORTH
01767 600715
Email: michael.north@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
HOLME WARD



DUNCAN STRACHAN
01767 225919
Email: duncan.strachan@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
HOLME WARD



COLIN THOMAS
07940 053496
Email: colin.thomas@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
HOLME WARD



JONATHAN WOODHEAD
07719 888476
Email: jonathan.woodhead@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
HOLME WARD



INESSA AGNEW
07833 103690
Email: inessa.agnew@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
STRATTON WARD



**DEPUTY MAYOR
MARK KNIGHT**
07753 250584
Email: mark.knight@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
STRATTON WARD



**MAYOR
MARK FOSTER**
07812 208684
Email: mark.foster@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
STRATTON WARD



PIERRE GUILCHER
01767 313134
Email: pierre.guilcher@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
STRATTON WARD



GARY BARRETT
07740 565575
Email: gary.barrett@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
STRATTON WARD



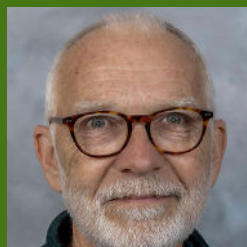
SARJU PATEL
07795 014731
Email: sarju.patel@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
IVEL WARD



ANDREW SKILTON
07572 581472
Email: andrew.skilton@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
IVEL WARD



MADELINE RUSSELL
01767 312966
Email: madeline.russell@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
IVEL WARD



DAVID ALBONE
01767 221385
Email: david.albone@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
IVEL WARD



JO JONES
07958 300247
Email: jo.jones@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk
STRATTON WARD

Please note that councillor email addresses are all @biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk

For further information on Councillors, meetings and many other Council services please visit:
www.biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk

If you are unable to visit the website please visit or contact the Town Hall:
enquiries@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk

Biggleswade Town Council, 4 Saffron Road, Biggleswade SG18 8DL.
Telephone: 01767 313134

