

# Crewkerne Town Council

## NEWSLETTER

September 2017 – Issue 53



Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LN  
Tel: 01460 74001 Email: [towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk) Website: [www.crewkerne-tc.gov.uk](http://www.crewkerne-tc.gov.uk)

### Townsend Cemetery Open Day



**Sunday 10 September**

**1 – 4 pm**

**Crewkerne & West Crewkerne  
Joint Burial Committee**

**Annual Open Day**

**to be held at**

**Townsend Cemetery, Mount Pleasant  
(free admission)**

Please join us for the open day and look around the chapel and the beautiful and tranquil grounds of the cemetery, which was established in 1874. Councillors and the Clerk will be in attendance to assist visitors and the burial registers will be available to enable family history research to be carried out. In addition, **Tracey Warren, a local funeral director, will give a talk at 3 pm, on some of the notable graves in the old part of the cemetery and the insight this brings to the social history of the local area and the development of the cemetery in the town.**

### Community Safety Event

Crewkerne's annual Community Safety Event will take place on Friday 8 September at Market Square from 10 am to 1 pm. This event, organised by Crewkerne Town Council's Community Safety Group, is an opportunity for members of the public to talk with safety experts and with Town Councillors on matters which might cause them concern.

A range of exhibitors including Somerset Fire and Rescue, Avon & Somerset Police, Trading Standards and Somerset Road Safety Partnership, will be attending to offer advice on personal and home safety.



**DEVON &  
SOMERSET**  
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

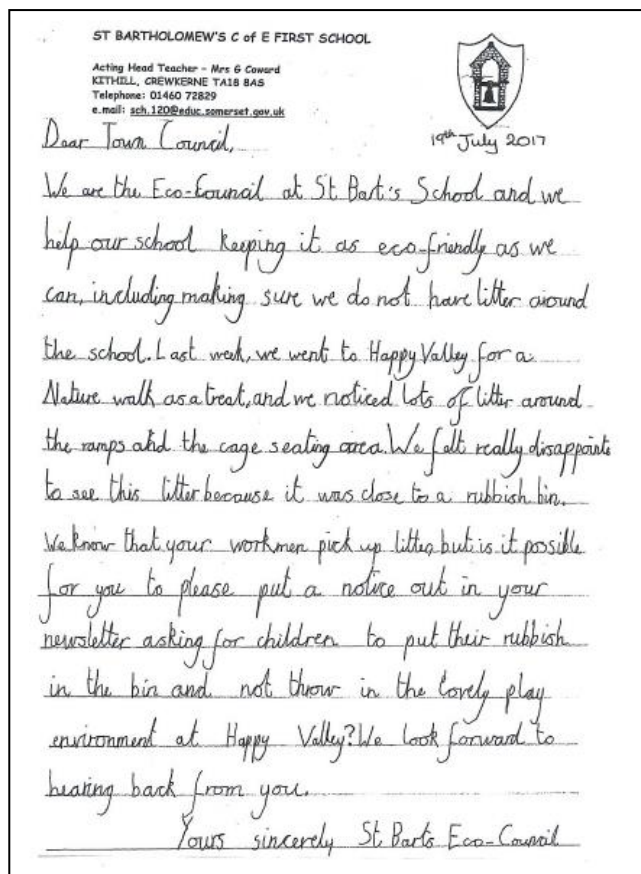


**SOMERSET**  
Road Safety

Chairman of the Crewkerne Community Safety Group, Cllr. Mike Best, says "This event is always very popular with the residents of Crewkerne. It is an excellent opportunity to meet with safety specialists who can offer advice on a wide range of safety issues".

## Please use the bins provided!

The Town Council received this letter recently from the children at St. Bartholomew's School.



The children make a very good point about litter in Happy Valley, especially around the skatepark. There are litter bins nearby and yet the Council's grounds staff are constantly having to pick up litter strewn around the area. Please use the litter bins provided and encourage others to do so also.

**Have you looked at the Town Council's new website?**

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

**It's bigger and brighter than the old one,  
and hopefully more user friendly.**

**Please let us know what you think.**

## Bincombe Beeches Volunteer Dates



Regular monthly volunteer days are run on Bincombe Beeches by the Council's Grounds and Amenities Supervisor. Forthcoming volunteer days:-

**Thursday 21 September & Thursday 19 October**

*Everyone welcome, just turn up from 10 am onwards  
Please meet at the entrance by Beechwood Drive*

## Henhayes Playground Update

Work has been continuing to improve the playground at Henhayes, with the latest additions being two new picnic benches, kindly donated by the Crewkerne Action for Disabled community group. Looking ahead, the Town Council is planning to establish a new play area in the centre "moat" section of the playground. This exciting play equipment will have lots of play value for both younger and older children, and is specifically designed to be disabled-friendly. The Council is currently working hard to seek out grant funding to support the purchase of the equipment, to minimise the use of Town Council funds.



The Town Council has been investing a considerable amount of time, effort and money into improving the playground. So it is sad and frustrating to report that there has been a spate of vandalism to items in the playground over the summer months. This is your playground, paid for by your Council tax. Please help us keep the playground as a facility that everybody in Crewkerne can be proud of. If you spot any suspicious behaviour, please alert the police.

## Alternative uses for Severalls Tennis Courts

The Town Council manages a set of tennis courts at Severalls, but use of the courts has been gradually dwindling over recent years. So the Town Council are considering future options for the site.



Should the tennis courts be refurbished? Or would it be better to replace the tennis courts with a different recreational facility, such as a playground area?

Please let us know what you think.



### Bincombe Fayre Success

On Saturday 10 June, the Town Council held a country fayre in and around the Bincombe Beeches nature reserve. This was the first time that the Town Council had held such an event and, despite the hit-and-miss June weather, it was hailed a success by everyone who attended. The fayre was opened by Crewkerne's Town Crier and stalls around the Town Hall offered demonstrations of wood turning and spinning wool, along with some interesting stalls for shopping. A jazz band provided some foot tapping music and, for those who found the walk up to Bincombe a little daunting, the Community Bus was on hand to provide transport.

Up on Bincombe, there was tree climbing on offer, along with a chainsaw artist who created sculptures of woodland creatures from tree stumps. Chris Sperring MBE introduced his Tawny Owl and discussed the habitats that owls need and Paul Burkhardt of Bushwhacker Tours, entertained groups with his knowledge of local plants and their uses.

The next Bincombe Fayre will take place in 2019.

Photos taken by Jeff Hutson



### "Beating the Bounds" Walk

"Beating the bounds" is an ancient tradition, dating back to a time before maps, when the custom was to walk around the boundaries of the parish and "beat" the stones which marked the parish boundary, although often it was the children of the parish who were beaten!

Here in Crewkerne, the Crewkerne District Rotary Club has recently revived the tradition (but not, of course, including the beating of children!) and this year Town Councillors will be joining with members of Rotary and the Community Rail Partnership to walk the parish boundary. The walk will take place on Saturday 2 September, starting at 2 pm from the library at Falkland Square. Please contact Cllr. Rusty Jackson (on 01460 75400) for further information. Please be aware that the town will be busy on that day as the St. Bartholomew's Street Fair will be in full swing.



Ville d'Igny



Crewkerne Town Council

### Crewkerne & District Twinning Association

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Crewkerne has been twinned with Ville d'Igny in France for over 40 years and with the neighbouring town of Bures-sur-Yvette joining 10 years ago.

The Crewkerne & District Twinning Association is very active, with regular visits organised to our twin towns in France and reciprocal visits hosted for our French friends. The Association is very keen for more people to get involved with the town's twinning activities. Would you like to become a supporter of the Twinning Association? If so, please contact Cheryl Newman on 01460 75025.

## Badgers at Happy Valley



If you walk around Happy Valley, you can't have failed to notice that there is lots of evidence of badgers.

Unfortunately, the badgers and their setts are gradually undermining the pathway running up from St Bartholomew's School. The Town Council is keen to ensure that the pathway is properly maintained, but is sensitive to the fact that badgers are a protected species. The Council has therefore taken

advice from Natural England, which is the government's adviser for the natural environment.

At a recent site meeting at Happy Valley, the Natural England representative was able to see for himself the state of the pathway and the evidence of badger activity, and discuss with Council staff options for the way forward. As a result, Natural England has now granted the Town Council a license to undertake remedial work to the pathway, provided that the work is overseen by an ecologist, to ensure that there is no disruption to the badger setts.

## Diary of Forthcoming Town Council Events

### Community Safety Event

Friday 8 September

### Townsend Cemetery Open Day

Sunday 10 September

### Lighting Up

Friday 24 November

### Christmas Market

Saturday 9 December

## Christmas Lighting Up Volunteers Needed!

The Christmas Lighting Up night is one of Crewkerne's most popular events, but it only comes about because of the hard work and dedication of a small group of volunteers. The Crewkerne Community Christmas Committee do a sterling job each year, but they urgently need more volunteers. Would you like to help in the organisation and the running of the Christmas Lighting Up event? If so, please get in touch with us at the Town Council.

## Recycle your Household Batteries



There is a recycling box located in the Local Information Centre at the Town Hall, for household batteries only. For more information, please visit [www.recycle-more.co.uk/batteries](http://www.recycle-more.co.uk/batteries)

## SPEAK TO YOUR COUNCILLOR

Forthcoming Town Council Surgeries in the Community Office at the Town Hall, Market Square  
Saturday 16 September and Saturday 21 October

10.30 am to 12 noon

*Opportunity for informal conversations with District and Town Councillors*

If you have any comments or concerns about issues which affect Crewkerne, please contact:

Crewkerne Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LN

Tel: 01460 74001 Email: [towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk)

Councillors	Tel No	Email
Sylvia Allman	01460 72875	<a href="mailto:sylvia.allman@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">sylvia.allman@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Mike Best (Vice Chair – Amenities)	01460 74245	<a href="mailto:mike.best@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">mike.best@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Paul Bradly	01460 76761	<a href="mailto:paulbradly3@gmail.com">paulbradly3@gmail.com</a>
Kathy Head (Deputy Mayor)	07704 197469	<a href="mailto:kathy.head@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">kathy.head@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Ben Hodgson (Mayor)	01460 351189	<a href="mailto:ben.hodgson@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">ben.hodgson@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Rusty Jackson (Chair – Amenities)	01460 75400	<a href="mailto:rusty.jackson@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">rusty.jackson@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Robin Pailthorpe (Chair – Planning & Highways)	07835 711073	<a href="mailto:robin.pailthorpe@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">robin.pailthorpe@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Katy Pritchard (Vice Chair – Policy & Resources)	01460 271697	<a href="mailto:katy.pritchard@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">katy.pritchard@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Angie Singleton	01460 74846	<a href="mailto:angela.singleton@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">angela.singleton@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Andrea Stuart	07776 414267	<a href="mailto:andrea.stuart@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">andrea.stuart@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Neil Sturtivant (Chair – Policy & Resources)	01460 78602	<a href="mailto:neil.sturtivant@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">neil.sturtivant@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>
Dan Wakeman (Vice Chair – Planning & Highways)	07808 030818	<a href="mailto:dan.wakeman@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk">dan.wakeman@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk</a>