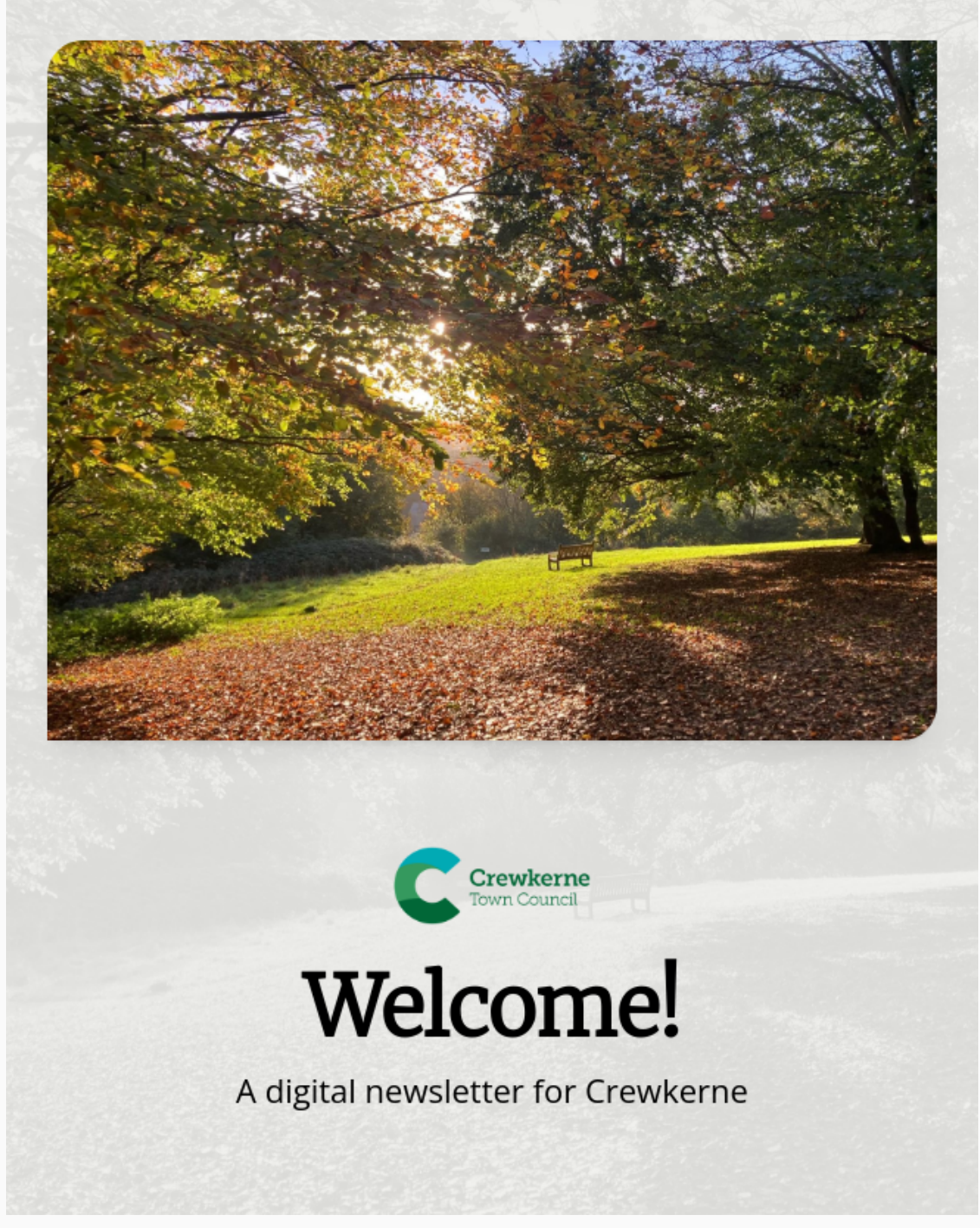


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Crewkerne Town Council Winter E-Newsletter

Welcome to your Winter Round-Up, bringing you the latest updates from across our community. In the past, you may have received our printed newsletters through your letterbox (for those living in Crewkerne). The Town Council will continue to publish these hard-copy editions twice a year, but we are now trialling digital newsletters via email in between. We welcome your feedback on this new format, and anyone is invited to subscribe—whether you live in Crewkerne or elsewhere.

Acts of Remembrance



Memorial Post Box

Townsend Cemetery now has a dedicated white memorial post box, created as a quiet space for reflection and remembrance. You are welcome to place letters, cards, or messages inside in memory of someone special—whether to share your thoughts, express your feelings, or simply mark an important moment.

All submissions will be collected and respectfully burned, offering a symbolic and meaningful tribute to those we have loved and lost. We invite you to take a moment to pause, reflect, and send your words of remembrance. Let your messages carry forward the love, memories, and connections that continue to live on.



Memorial Bench

We are pleased to share that a second commemorative bench marking VE Day and VJ Day has now been installed outside the Town Hall. Generously donated by the Crewkerne branch of the Royal British Legion, the bench serves as a lasting tribute to all those who served and sacrificed in the Second World War.

This new installation sits alongside the first memorial bench donated earlier in the year. Featuring silhouettes of soldiers, red poppies, and the words "Lest We Forget - We Will Remember Them", together the benches provide a poignant space for remembrance.

The Town Council extends its sincere thanks to the Royal British Legion for this continued support and meaningful contribution. We hope residents and visitors alike will pause, sit, and reflect. Lest we forget.



Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday started at Severalls Memorial with a short service led by Rev. Andrew Longshaw, followed by a parade through the avenue. Those taking part included members of the Royal British Legion, veterans, serving members of the Armed Forces, and representatives from many groups across the town. The Parade Marshal, John Morini, led the parade to the memorial. Three wreaths were placed at the memorial by RBL President Tony Smith, Crewkerne Town Mayor Alice Samuel, and Ann Broly on behalf of Severalls Bowling Club.



Thank you to everyone who took part in the parade, attended the service, laid wreaths, and joined in the two-minute silence. It was a moment of reflection, unity and remembrance.

Photos by Jeff Hutson

Crewkerne Town Council oppose Sunday parking charges

Crewkerne Town Council has formally submitted its response to Somerset Council's consultation on Sunday parking charges, having resolved to object at the Planning and Highways Committee meeting on 13 October. The Council raised concerns that many town centre households lack off-street parking and rely on local car parks, that recent parking price increases may reduce visitor footfall for local businesses, and that comparisons with much larger towns and cities are unrealistic.

Since the consultation, Somerset Council has announced a delay to the introduction of Sunday parking charges in currently free car parks across the county. The decision follows strong public opposition and a recommendation from the Climate & Place Scrutiny Committee.

Instead of implementing charges immediately, the Council will develop a comprehensive county-wide parking policy covering tariffs, payment methods, accessibility, and more. This new framework is expected to be reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee in January 2026.



Christmas Comes to Crewkerne!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Christmas Lights Switch On. The evening brought a wonderful atmosphere to the town centre and marked the start of the festive season in true Crewkerne style.

Falklands Square was filled with music from Phoenix Brass Band, while local community groups and charities hosted stalls to raise funds and showcase their work. The Fire Service, Brownies, Majorettes, and the Lantern Parade provided a fantastic escort for Father Christmas as he made his way to the Town Hall for the all-important lights switch-on.

On the main stage, seasonal music from St Bartholomew's Primary School Choir and CUDOS added to the festive spirit, delighting the crowd. After the countdown, Father Christmas headed to his grotto, where he spent the evening meeting excited children from across the town, whilst PhoenixVoices performed alongside the illuminated tree, creating a truly magical moment.

Upstairs, Victoria Hall once again hosted the popular Christmas Craft Fair, with stallholders offering a range of handmade gifts, decorations, and festive treats.

This year, the celebrations also centred around Crewkerne's beautifully lit Christmas tree. The Council extends its warm thanks to the local resident who kindly donated the tree, and to local farmer John Wyatt and P H Hardwills, who—as they have done for many years—volunteered their time and expertise to install it. We are also grateful to Taylor Wimpey for sponsoring the new tree lights, which added an extra sparkle to the evening.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the event, the street collection raised £354.97 which will go towards more Christmas lights for the town.

Photos by Jeff Hutson



Crewkerne Christmas Market

The festivities continued the following day with the annual Christmas Market. Nearly thirty stallholders attended, offering handcrafted goods and delicious produce. The market was well supported, with plenty of Christmas purchases made throughout the morning.

A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone involved. Each year, a large number of volunteers help bring Christmas magic to Crewkerne, and the events are a testament to the town's strong community spirit. We are always keen to welcome new volunteers—whether you can help in the run-up to the event (from July onwards) or on the night itself. If you would like to be involved, please contact towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk.

Photo by Jeff Hutson

Speak to Your Councillor

Do you have a question, idea or concern you'd like to raise with the Town Council? Our monthly Councillor Surgeries are a great opportunity to come and chat informally with one of your councillors, share your thoughts, or find out more about what's happening in the town.

The next surgeries will be held from 10.30am to 12 noon in the Local Information Centre on:
Saturday 24th January
Saturday 28th February
Saturday 28th March

Everyone is welcome, your councillors are here to listen.



Tennis Courts –available to book

Tennis courts are available to hire for only £6 per hour. If you don't have a racket or balls, you are welcome to use the equipment provided in our 'borrow box'.

[Learn more](#)

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