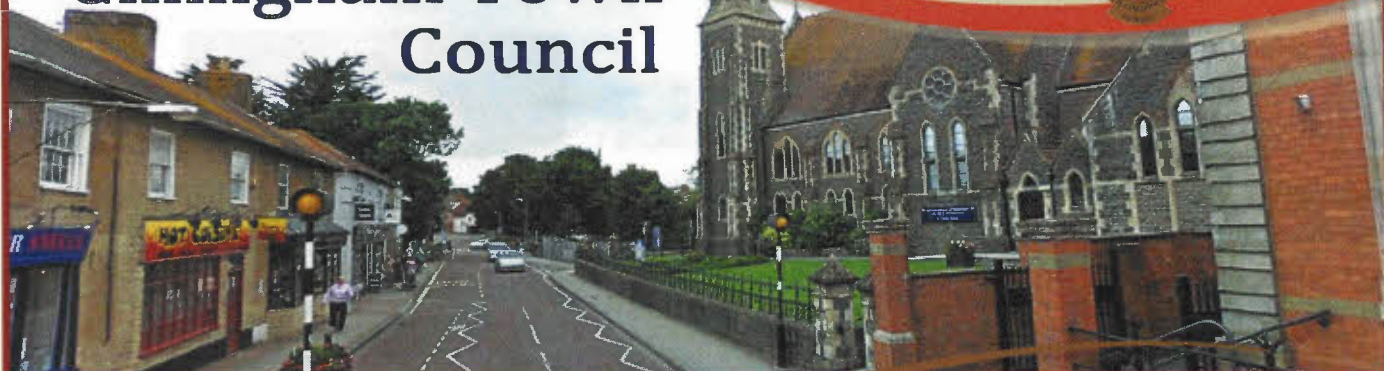


Gillingham Town Council

Issue 7



December 2014

Quarterly News

Gillingham Town Council

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

Telephone: 01747 823588

Email: GTC@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Mrs Sylvia Dobie

Deputy Clerk: Mrs Clare Ratcliffe

Customer Service Officer: Ms Julie Hansford

Customer Service Officer: Mrs Jill Ezzard

Councillors:

Cllr David Milsted (Mayor) - Town Ward

Cllr David Walsh (Deputy Mayor) - Wyke Ward

Cllr Richard Arnold - Milton Ward

Cllr Mrs Anne Beckley - Lodbourne Ward

Cllr Mrs Eileen Booton - Ham Ward

Cllr Rupert Evill - Wyke Ward

Cllr Alan Frith - Wyke Ward

Cllr Dennis Griffin - Lodbourne Ward

Cllr Mrs Su Hunt - Milton Ward

Cllr Stephen Joyce - Milton Ward

Cllr Roger Monksummers - Lodbourne Ward

Cllr Ms Linda Phillips - Town Ward

Cllr Mrs Val Potheary - Wyke Ward

Cllr Mrs Janet Robson - Town Ward

Cllr Mrs Belinda Ridout - Wyke Ward

Cllr Barry Von Clemens - Wyke Ward

Vacancy - Rural Ward

District Councillors: Cllr Richard Arnold, Cllr Mrs Su Hunt, Cllr David Milsted, Cllr Mrs Val Potheary, Cllr Adrian Shaw and Cllr David Walsh

County Councillors: Cllr Andrew Cattaway and Cllr David Walsh

MP: Mr Bob Walter, tel: 01258 452585

MEP: Please visit: www.dorsetforyou.com for further information.

Meetings

General Purposes: 1st Monday of the month

Development Management Recommendations Committee: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month

Policy and Resources: 3rd Monday of the month

Full Council: 4th Monday of the month

Quarterly newsletters are published in March, June,

Would you like to:

Play a part in making decisions affecting your area

Get more involved in your community

Influence the way local services are provided

Then why not become a

TOWN COUNCILLOR for the **Rural Ward**

Send a letter of application explaining the reasons why you would like to be considered for this vacancy

For further details contact: Town Clerk

Email: s.j.dobie@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk

Closing date for applications:

Wednesday 21st January at 12noon

The Mayor and Mayoress of Gillingham

Cllr David Milsted and Mrs Annie Milsted

Cordially invites you to

**Gillingham Town and Parish
Civic Carol Service**

on

Sunday 21st of December 2014 at 3.30pm

in the

**The Parish Church of
St Mary the Virgin
Gillingham**

GILLINGHAM ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE & FESTIVE LIGHTS SWITCH ON

On Friday 5th December Father Christmas and two of his reindeer came to Gillingham. The Christmas Parade left the Town Hall at 6.30pm and proceeded to the High Street Car Park led by Gillingham Imperial Silver Band. Nick Baker drove his steam engine and towed his recently renovated trailer carrying Gillingham's Carnival Princess and her attendants. However, the highlight of the parade was Father Christmas and his reindeer drawn sleigh.

Following the parade, the festive lights were switched on by The Mayor of Gillingham, Cllr



David Milsted and carols were sung with Gillingham Community Choir, accompanied by Gillingham Imperial Silver Band. On the Town Meadow the Anonymous Travelling Christmas Market were joined by Hidden Pizza and visitors were tempted by a wonderful selection of stalls. The Methodist Church served refreshments throughout the evening and The Royal British Legion served mulled wine.



Father Christmas was very busy meeting children in his grotto and was assisted by his elves.



The event is organised each year by a small working party set up by Gillingham Town Council, and planning starts in April each year. Gillingham Town Council Grounds Staff erect over 100 small trees each year as well as the large tree on The Town Meadow.

Gillingham Town Council

**THANK YOU
TO OUR SPONSORS**

ASDA
GILLINGHAM CHAMBER OF TRADE
GILLINGHAM CARNIVAL COMMITTEE
GILLINGHAM & SHAFTESBURY GUIDE
LIDL
NICK BAKER
UP IN SMOKE
WAITROSE
WE DO VANS

Gillingham Town Council
Tel: 01747 823588 Email: GTC@gillinghamdorsettc.gov.uk

MILESTONES

Earlier this autumn Gillingham Town Council's grounds staff began renovating the milestones in the Town. There are four milestones within the Town: one just west of the junction of Stock Lane on the B3081; one located at the junction of Milestone Way and Wyke Road; one east of the junction of New Road and Newbury and one southeast of the junction of Cole Street Lane and Shaftesbury Road.

From 1767 mileposts were compulsory on all turnpikes, not only to inform travellers of direction and distances, but to help coaches keep to schedule and for charging for changes of horses at the coaching inns.

In 1888, the new County Councils were given responsibility for main roads and rural district councils for minor routes. As motorised transport developed so the importance of the milestones waned. Around 9000 milestones are thought to survive in the UK. Most were removed or defaced in World War II to baffle potential German invaders and not all were replaced afterwards. Many have been demolished as roads have been widened, or have been victims of collision damage, or have been smashed by hedge-cutters or flails.

Unfortunately the County Council does not have any funds to restore milestones. Gillingham Town Council decided at their General Purposes Committee held on 6th January 2014 to restore the milestones in the town at a cost of £190 for paint and materials.



OPENING OF HAM FARM BMX TRACK

It was with great pleasure that the Mayor of Gillingham, Cllr David Milsted, escorted by Cllr Mrs Su Hunt opened the BMX track located on the public open space at Ham Farm last Thursday, 16 October.

The idea for a BMX track was originally put forward to the Town Council by an ex-pupil of Gillingham School, George Hill, who lives on the housing estate. The bike track was funded by a small grant George obtained from the Blackmore Vale Creamery with the remaining funds being made up from developer contributions specifically for play equipment at Ham Farm.

The track is intended for children and young people up to 12 years old. This new facility will provide an opportunity for the children and young people who live near Ham Farm to enjoy the outdoors and perfect their bike skills.

The track was designed by Gillingham Town Council and civil engineering contractor J H Hammond and Son Ltd carried out the work.

FUNDRAISING FOR GILLINGHAM RECREATION GROUND PROJECT

Thank you to the following who have raised money towards Gillingham's Recreation Ground Project: Darren Keirle, George Cadman and Julie Hansford who completed a sponsored walk and raised approx £600.

Judy Watts, Laura Curtis and Gaynor Lightfoot who organised a Christmas Craft Fayre and raised £473.

The Mayoress, Mrs Annie Milsted who has raised £560 from the sale of her handmade owls.

Clare Ratcliffe, Sylvia Dobie and Su Hunt who raised £150 by holding a tombola stall.

Michelle Watling and The Focus on Youth Group who organised a music event and raised £ 120.

FREEDOM OF THE TOWN

Gillingham Town Council awards the honour of Freeman of the Town every four years. A celebration lunch and award ceremony took place at the Olive Bowl in Gillingham on Sunday 23rd November. The following were awarded Freeman of the Town:

Mr Sam Braddick received his award in recognition of his forty years' continued service as a member of the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Agricultural Show and for the last twenty years as Show Secretary; his support for many years with Gillingham Carnival, serving as Carnival President and as a Chief Marshall and as a bell ringer, for over twenty years, at St. Mary's Church, Gillingham.

Mr Robin Hussey received his award in recognition of his long record of public service to the town as one of the first retained Gillingham fireman, a member of Gillingham Town Council and District Council and former Mayor; his continued support of the Rotary Club; and as President of the Gillingham & Shaftesbury Show and currently president of the Gillingham Imperial Silver Band, Chairman of the Read's Charity and Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors at Gillingham School.

The Kemp family received the award on behalf of their mother, **Mrs Jackie Kemp**, who tragically died before the award ceremony. Jackie was nominated for the award in recognition of her long service to the town's natural environment, the work that she carried out in respect of the 1997 Draft Gillingham Plan, her involvement with Gillingham Action for Nature Group and as Company Secretary of the Three Rivers Partnership, and later years as Company Secretary of the Gillingham Community and Leisure Trust Ltd which has led to a thriving RiversMeet Leisure and Community Centre.



Mr Chris Rose received his award in recognition of forty years' continued service as a member of the Dorset Fire and Rescue Service; first as a retained Fire fighter and in later years as Gillingham's Station Manager.

Mr Sam Woodcock received his award in recognition of his long and continuous service to the town as an active member of the Gillingham Museum and as a past Chairman and now President of the Gillingham History Society; his continued involvement within the community and his support as Church Warden at St. Simon and St. Jude Church, Milton-on-Stour and as a long serving member of Read's Charity and the Society of Dorset Men.

Their names have been added to the Freeman Board at the Town Hall. The board lists the following names of people and organisations who have been awarded Freeman of the Town:

1996

A Coobes, T Suttle, F Tranter,
Brenda Wathen, Gillingham A.T.C.

1997

P Crocker, P Bailey, H Green.

1998

Devonshire and Dorset Regt.

2000

F H Evill

2001

D J Wathen

2002

M J Fricker

2006

Dr Barbat, Former Mayor of Le Neubourg, C Dann,
Elizabeth Kendall, N Baker, Janet Robson,
M Hebditch, G Hine.

2007

The Rifles.

2010

Gillingham Platoon of the Dorset Army Cadet Force,
Su Hunt, M Lenarduzzi, C Westbrook, Sylvia Dobie.

2012

J Radford



Gillingham Direct is an amalgamation of joint services from the Gillingham Town Council, North Dorset District Council and Dorset County Council available at the Town Hall from Monday to Friday 9 – 1pm. In addition the following services are available:

- **Housing services**

Available by appointment only on a Tuesday and Friday 9-1pm. Please phone 01258 484358 to book an appointment.

- **Housing and Council Tax Enquiry Service**

Available as a drop in service every Tuesday 9.30-1pm & 2pm—3.45pm.

- **Registrar**

Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons by appointment only, for those wishing to register births, deaths and marriages. Please tel: 01305 225153 to book an appointment.

- **NDDC– Building Control**

Every Thursday 2-4pm. Ensures Buildings are designed and constructed in accordance with Building Regulations and associated legislation.

- **Gillingham Job Club**

Every Friday 10-1pm in the Jubilee Room. This is a resource for helping people get back into employment. No appointment necessary.

- **Action on Hearing Loss**

First Tuesday of every month 10.00-12.00pm, Civic Hall. Free service for people with hearing loss. Supply and fit new batteries and tubing. For further details tel: 01722 580014.

- **The Macular Disease Society**

Third Monday of every month 10.30-12pm in the Civic Hall. Open to anyone affected by central vision loss. For further details tel: 01747 826691.

- **Singing for the Brain**

Every Wednesday 2-4pm in the Civic Hall. Group activity carefully designed for people with memory loss. For more information tel: 01202 716393.

- **Lip Reading**

Every Tuesday 2-4pm in the Civic Hall. This group offers learning skills for people with hearing difficulties. For further details tel: 01300 348580.

- **First Dorset Credit Union**

Every Wednesday 12-2pm and every Saturday 10.12pm in the Community Office opposite the Waitrose Café.

Winter Weather

When there is severe ice or snow conditions, Dorset County Council focus on gritting the key routes to keep traffic moving safely around the county. With more than 2,500 miles of road in the county, it would be impossible to treat each and every single mile. Therefore, gritting is planned according to the roads that carry the vast majority of traffic around Dorset. Gillingham Town Council has provided grit bins at various locations around the town. Please note that this salt is only to be used on the highway authority maintained road or footway. It is not provided for use on private drives or car parks. You can clear snow and ice from pavements yourself. It's unlikely that you'll be sued or held responsible if someone is injured on a path or pavement if you've cleared it carefully.

When you clear snow and ice:

- **Do it early in the day - it's easier to move fresh, loose snow.**
- **Don't use water - it might refreeze and turn to black ice.**
- **Use salt if possible - it will melt the ice or snow and stop it from refreezing overnight.**
- **You can use ash and sand if you don't have enough salt - it will provide grip underfoot.**
- **Pay extra attention when clearing steps and steep pathways - using more salt may help**

Community Grit Bins for the use on highway authority maintained roads or footways are situated at the following locations in Gillingham:

Newbury Roundabout

High Street at side of Connell's Estate Agents
The Square

Entrance to Lidl's Car Park

Front of High Street Car Park

Junction of Lodbourne Green and Bay Road

Queen Street, Front of St Martin's

RiversMeet, Hardings Lane

Junction of Gylla's Way and Honeyfields

Junction of Bay Road and Shreen Way

Junction of Milestone Way and Orchard Mews

Junction of Broad Robin and Maple Way

Junction of Wyke Road and Broad Robin

Marlott Road, Entrance to Surgery

Milton-On-Stour, Forge Garage

Common Mead Lane, Thorngrove Footway

School Road, Town Hall

Spectrum Housing have Grit Bins at the following locations:

Hyde Road Green

Stour Court, Hyde Road



Local Organisations:

Action on Hearing Loss	01722 580014	Gillingham Town Team	01747 821341
Age Concern Gillingham & Shaftesbury	01747 853966	Gillingham Town Twinning Association	01747 821604
Alzheimers Society	01202 716393	Gillingham Trotters Running Club	*
Athletics Academy (Gillingham)	07729 177472	Gillingham Walkers	01747 821269
Blackmore Vale Amateur Boxing Club	07989 036623	Gillingham WI	01747 824540
Bridge Club - Gillingham and District	01747 823310	Gillingham Youth Centre	01747 822267
Chess Club	01747 823387	Girl Guiding Gillingham	01747 823263
Devonshire and Dorset Regiment Association	01747 823258	Lions Club of Gillingham, Mere and Shaftesbury	01747 835468
Embroiderers Guild	01963 364327	Marnhull and Gillingham Badminton Club	01747 834013
Gillingham Action for Nature	01747 821269	Milton on Stour WI	01747 821041
Gillingham & District Angling Association	01747 821218	Multiple Sclerosis Society Gillingham and Shaftesbury	01747 876032
Gillingham & Shaftesbury Agricultural Show	01747 823955	Norddis	01747 821010
Gillingham and Shaftesbury Air Cadets	01747 855885	Nordic Walking	07745 413194
Gillingham Area Voluntary Car Link	07599 311443	North Dorset CAB	0844 245 1291
Gillingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry	01747 821341	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	01747 822748
Gillingham Arts and Craft Market	01747 825161	Pipes and Drums of the Wessex Highlanders	*
Gillingham Arts Workshop	01747 822746	Rotary Club of Gillingham	01747 860809
Gillingham Bowling Club	01747 822651	RSPB Blackmoor Vale	078257 47546
Gillingham Cancer Research UK	01747 823379	Short Mat Bowling Club	01747 835938
Gillingham Carnival Committee	01747 823365	Gillingham Singers	*
Gillingham Community Choir	07841 840919	St Mary Gillingham Scout Group	01747 825482
Gillingham Community Leisure Trust	07952 801061	St Mary's Mother Union	01747 821598
Gillingham Country Market	01747 824378	The Three Rivers Partnership	01747 824327
Gillingham Detachment, Dorset Army Cadet Force	01258 821096		
Gillingham Evening WI	01747 825881		
Gillingham Flower Club	01963 371130		
Gillingham Folk/Country Dance Club	01747 822329		
Gillingham Gardening Club	01963 362475		
Gillingham Gardening Society	01747 823533		
Gillingham Hockey club	07791 857257		
Gillingham Imperial Silver Band	01747 823364		
Gillingham in Bloom	07539 974916		
Gillingham Local History Society	01747 826235		
Gillingham Neighbourhood Plan Group	01747 823588		
Gillingham Photo Group	01747 824359		
Gillingham Royal British Legion	01747 825161		
Gillingham Seniors Club	01747 823106		
Gillingham Singers			
Gillingham Tae Kwon Do	07767 668304		
Gillingham Town Cricket Club	07917 075398		
Gillingham Town Meadow Group	07900 493036		

If you would like to add your local organisation, group or society to the list, please contact Mrs Jill Ezzard Customer Service Officer, on tel: 01747 823588 or email: gtc@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk.



dorsetforyou.com
Dorset councils online