



The Official Newsletter of Bovey Tracey Town Council



www.boveytracey.gov.uk

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Bovey Buzz



Spring is here and what better way to celebrate its arrival than planting wildflowers to encourage more wildlife into our lives. Over the next couple of months the Town Council, with help from volunteers, will be sowing some of the parish verges with a mixture of native perennial wildflowers and some colourful annuals. Grassy turf has been removed from a few of the verges and sown with seed that in late spring and throughout the summer, will provide fantastic blooms that will have Bovey buzzing.

Since the 1930s the UK has lost 97% of wildflower meadows. The loss of flower rich habitat has resulted in a dramatic decline in our native wildlife with birds and insects being particularly affected. Wildflower rich meadows are also crucial in combating climate change with unimproved meadows acting as a carbon store. The Town Council with support from local residents have been busy developing plans to create pollinator friendly verges across the parish which will bring benefits to people and the natural environment.

Last year a verge along Molay Littery Way was sown with wildflower seed but the subsequent very wet weather in the winter and then extremely dry spring saw only a few seeds germinate which was very disappointing. This year we are trying again but going harder with the ground preparation with the same verge being stripped of the grassy turf and then sown with a mixture of annual and perennial plants, fingers crossed the weather will

be kind. We have also sewn a verge near the fire station roundabout that will provide a wonderful display as you enter the town from the moor.

Throughout last year volunteers have been growing perennial wildflower plant plugs and 900 plugs were planted on the bend of Bradley Road and a further 300 were planted this month. The early planting has been a great success and within this verge, if you look carefully, you can see the first leaves of oxeye daisy, knapweed, birds foot trefoil, wild carrot and lots of other pollinator friendly plants pushing through the sward. This verge will be left uncut for the plants to grow, flower and set seed, before it is cut in late summer. The Brimley Women's Institute have kindly adopted this verge and they will continue to enhance the verge with wildflower planting and keep it free of litter, thank you ladies.



The town council hopes that the verges will inspire the residents of Bovey Tracey and Heathfeld to try some wild gardening themselves and join in with Bovey Buzz.

Encouraging wildlife to your garden can be as simple as just leaving an area of grass unmown to allow the flowers to bloom and seed, which provides a food source for lots of animals like butterflies and birds. For the more adventurous and energetic digging over an area of lawn to create a fine tilth and then sowing some wildflower seed this spring will provide a stunning display and attract new wildlife to your garden.

The town council would love to hear about your wildlife friendly gardening projects so please send pictures of your blooms whether they are growing in a meadow or just a small planter to info@boveytracey.gov.uk and [#actionforinsects](https://twitter.com/actionforinsects).

Tree and Wildflower Seed Giveaway

To help encourage wildlife to your garden,
the **Devon Wildlife Trust** and the **Climate Emergency Bovey/Heathfield group**
will be providing free trees and wildflower seeds for residents to collect at the Riverside community centre on
22nd May 2021 from 9.30am – 12.30pm

Please remember to wear masks and keep appropriate social distance
- the give away will happen outside to limit the Covid-19 risk -

Councillor and Police Zoom Surgery

Whilst it remains difficult to meet
face to face inside, we wanted to offer
another zoom surgery for you to have
the opportunity to talk to our Town
Mayor and our PCSO Paul Wilson.

They will be available to answer
any questions and hear any of your
thoughts, concerns, or ideas.

If the date and time is not convenient
for you but you want to talk to the
council please contact us on
info@boveytracey.gov.uk

Wednesday 19th May 2021, 7pm-8pm

**General opportunity to chat to our
Town Mayor and PCSO Paul Wilson**

Log on and meet the Town Mayor and PCSO Paul Wilson
and share any ideas, thoughts or concerns you have.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81061731164?pwd=ZDM0NkVhSE1UyYxbWNEeHhwYVVSZz09>

Meeting ID: 810 6173 1164

Passcode: 760477

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdpJol26aM>

Community Champion Award 2021

The judging panel felt that all five nominations were top class, and all deserve recognition by the community for the extra miles they have gone during the past year to meet the varying needs of sections of our community in these difficult times.

We would therefore like to say a big “Thank You” on behalf of the people of Bovey Tracey to all of you who have been nominated. You are all indeed a great credit to our town.

RUNNER UP: JOHN STEER & JARED WRAY (BOVEY TRACEY SWIMMING POOL)

John and Jared were nominated because of the hard work put in by them both to open Bovey Tracey Swimming Pool in July just days after the Government announced pools could re-open. In addition to preparing the pool area, they ensured all required operating procedures were to be followed, including track & trace, cleaning rules, outdoor

changing facilities, social distancing, booking and ticketing systems, all aligned with the rules set out.

There were over 6,600 swims registered while the pool was re-opened, providing a much-needed boost to those seeking a place to exercise and maintain mental health wellbeing.

RUNNER UP: LEAH COWELL (FOR BOVEY TRACEY SPAR)

Leah and her colleagues at Spar, which operates in both Bovey Tracey and Heathfield, are nominated because of how they took the initiative as long ago as March last year to set up arrangements for enabling shielding, vulnerable and socially isolating customers in the parish to receive home deliveries of food and groceries. Spar established a team of volunteer deliverers they were able to recruit for

whenever needed during daytimes or evenings. Many have said Leah and her colleagues and volunteers were a true lifeline for them, as without their service they would have been totally lost.

Leah and her colleagues at Spar have shown they are a true asset to the town.

RUNNER UP: MIKE STONE (BOVEY TRACEY PTA)

Mike is Chair of the Bovey Tracey Parent Teacher Association. He is instrumental in raising much needed funds for the Primary School. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 rules and lockdowns have restricted Mike's ability to carry this on as normal, with big events and the Summer Fayre not being possible.

Mike is an avid quizmaster, and during lockdown he has off his own back organised 25 or so online Zoom quizzes for people in our locality to take part in. The quizzes have raised £2,000, which has been shared out between the school (£1,500) and the swimming pool (£500).

RUNNER UP: JONATHAN & JOHANNA WHITE (WHITE'S QUALITY GREENGROCERS)

White's Quality Greengrocers has been nominated for this award because it has excelled in supporting the community during these difficult times. The way the White family has stepped up during the whole of the pandemic has been exceptional. They were quick to recognise that there were vulnerable and immobile people in our wider community who would require a personal service for fresh fruit, vegetables, and associated groceries, because

otherwise these people would struggle to obtain what was needed to feed themselves. Because of this, White's implemented its own order and delivery system out of both of its shops (Bovey and Moretonhampstead).

What they have done demonstrates the spirit of what is needed in a small town such as ours.

WINNER: GARY NAISBETT-JONES & KEVIN BASTOW (BOVEY TRACEY CUBS)

Gary and Kevin are the volunteer leaders of Bovey Tracey Cubs. During the pandemic, both have enabled the cubs programme to continue remotely without restrictions.

The children have remotely learned to cook, had virtual sleepovers, built dens, learned about the environment, seasons and wildlife, while completing their badges, and having loads of fun. The programme has made a massive difference and has enabled them to remain in contact with their friends, which has helped them with their mental health and happiness.

Gary and Kevin have given up much of their own time, while still having work and families of their own to look after. Without their efforts in planning, setting up, organising, and running the various activities, many young children across Bovey would have lost out the opportunity to be just children for an hour each week. This is the prime reason for making this nomination, so that Gary and Kevin (and the volunteer leaders) should receive recognition by the community for their valued efforts for these young people during the pandemic restrictions.



Riverside Community Centre - Open for Business!

FACILITIES AND SERVICES AVAILABLE

If you are not already aware, services that operate from the building include:
The Information Centre, The Library and the Town Council.

There are also 4 Individual Offices available for hire as well as the main hall which can be partitioned for small or larger use.

Public Toilets and a Changing Places Cubicle will hopefully be open very soon

ROOM BOOKING

Either call **01626 834217**
or email **nicky.elford@boveytracey.gov.uk**
to enquire about or book a room. If you would like
to check availability for the rooms/hall please visit
www.boveytracey.gov.uk

NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDING FOR THE RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Council has successfully gained a National Lottery Community Grant of £140,435 that will enable the Council to fund the solar panels, additional storage and bike hubs, as well as employ a part time Centre Manager and a part time Caretaker, which will be fully funded for four-years from the grant. Beyond that period the centre should be self-sufficient using the rental and lease income to cover costs.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

We are currently in the process of obtaining estimates for the supply and installation of Solar PV panels and we have reinforced the fabric of the roof to accommodate these panels. The area of Solar PV is to be confirmed; however we are advised that 90 square meters will provide sufficient coverage to ensure the building is carbon neutral. Other developments in the pipeline are to host secure bike storage pods and to utilise the outside space at the rear of the building for some additional storage, which will accommodate equipment etc from those wishing to hire the facilities on a regular basis. There will also be some clearer signage on external walls to better promote the services provided within.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENING HOURS:

Town Council:

Monday - Friday 9:30am - 2pm

Library & Information Centre:

Tuesday & Thursday 10am - 4pm | Friday & Saturday 10am - 12pm

Town Councillors Contact Numbers:

Town Mayor-

Sheila Brooke 830596

Deputy Town Mayor-

Debbie Fletcher debbie.fletcher@boveytracey.gov.uk

Bovey Tracey Councillors

Tony Allen 836239

Jon Arnold 830340

Ulli Arnold 833376

Robert Bradshaw 07941 808534

Sheila Brooke 830596

Jason Cole jason.cole@boveytracey.gov.uk

Debbie Fletcher debbie.fletcher@boveytracey.gov.uk

George Gribble */** 832764

Eoghan Kelly 833495

Avril Kerswell * 832923

Oliver Mills olly.mills@boveytracey.gov.uk

Kate Morgan-West 07967 286388

Heathfield Councillors

David Elphick 832125

Stuart Light 07980 154690

Town Clerk:

Mark Wells 834217

* District Councillor

** County Councillor

Forthcoming Town Council Meetings

You are welcome to join any of the council's meetings.

Committee meetings will resume in the Riverside Community Centre, please email info@boveytracey.gov.uk if you would like to attend, as attendance will be limited.

All Friends of Mill Marsh Park meetings and Climate Emergency meetings will be held over zoom in the short term whilst Covid restrictions remain in place.

Tue 13th May 2021	Climate Emergency Bovey Tracey & Heathfield	7.00pm
Mon 17th May 2021	Planning & Environment Committee	6.00pm
Tue 1st June 2021	Planning & Environment Committee	5.30pm
	Recreation, Parks & Property Committee	7.00pm
Wed 2nd June 2021	Friends of Mill Marsh Park	6.00pm
Tue 8th June 2021	Climate Emergency Bovey Tracey & Heathfield	7.00pm
Mon 14th June 2021	Planning & Environment Committee	5.30pm
	Finance, Resources & General Purposes Committee	7.00pm
Mon 28th June 2021	Full Council	7.00pm
Wed 7th July 2021	Friends of Mill Marsh Park	6.00pm

Don't forget to visit **www.boveytracey.gov.uk** for the latest news and events in and around the parish