



Easingwold Town Council

2018



Autumn Newsletter



Easingwold blooms in the summer sun

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EASINGWOLD TOWN COUNCIL

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A Message from Council Chairman Peter Nottage

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter 2018 after a long, hot and glorious Easingwold summer. It has certainly been a scorching time and we have all benefitted greatly from the café culture that has become firmly established in our town centre. As a Council we are continuously promoting our town centre, with its markets, retailers, hostelrys, cafés and businesses. With modern commercial pressures as they are, if we want to have a vibrant market town, then it really helps if we all support our local businesses. We need to tell all our friends, families and potential visitors about how great they are, and how welcome and well served they will be when they visit.

Any visitors will be helped even more by the recent upgrade of the Easingwold Tourist Office and garden. We must also praise the work of our general contractor Andrew Nelson who has, once again, brought Easingwold to life with our red, white and blue planting scheme in honour of the Great War Centenary. We will be holding special events for this on Remembrance Day, Sunday 11th November, so please come and join in the parades and services in the town centre, and the lighting of the beacon in Millfields Park.

Speaking of Millfields Park, many of you will note that we have fully replaced the fence around the wetlands with a dog-proof one. We have also cut and drained the rough grassland that lies between the wetlands and Millfields Woods to make it useable by the community, so getting rid of the willow-herb monoculture that had taken it over. For now we will just keep it cut, as how the area is developed will follow on from our consultation on our Council vision for the future of Millfields. Throughout September we are seeking the public's perspective on a variety of ideas we have drawn up to enhance its benefits for different groups of our population. Proposals include things for the active (lit jogging track, exercise trail, bike skills, dog agility); things for the environmentally conscious (wetlands dipping station & boardwalk, improved woodland paths, wildflower borders and wildflower meadows); and for those looking for tranquillity and calm (friendship garden). We trust that you will like the ideas and add more of your own; the Council will decide what to do after the results have been considered.

Finally let me wish you all a successful Easingwold end to 2018.

Millfields Drainage

Many of you will have visited Millfields and seen that the rough grassland area that was inundated with willow herb, docks, nettles and willow has been cut and drained so that it can be brought back into active use for the community.



Millfields Consultation – throughout September



Years on improving the current Millfields Park/Open space as well as on a vision for how it might be developed. This has generated ideas for the park that could provide benefits across our community and have been visualised in these three charts.

The Council wishes to hear everyone's thoughts about these ideas and of any they may wish to add. There was an exhibition in the Galtres Centre on the 7th and 8th September. However, a consultation package is available on-line on the Council website all of September as well as on paper at the Galtres Centre and Town Library. Please look at this and tell us your thoughts by answering the questionnaire.



Easingwold in Bloom Winners



The Council is delighted that Easingwold has now been listed as a Dementia Friendly Town.

The Easingwold and Villages Action for Dementia Alliance has organised a series of awareness events across the area. Training has been delivered by Dementia Forward to many local businesses and has been well attended and received.



Easingwold Tourist Centre



12 Oxenby Place



13 Manor Road

From the Council and Our Committees

Town Council



The 15 seat Community Mini-Bus

The Town Council is delighted to see the Easingwold & District Community Care Association (EDCCA) community minibs, for which it is a co-sponsor, come into such active service. It will often be seen around the town, picking up passengers and taking them on their adventures. EDCCA are providing regular days out to many locations. The 15-seat minibs with a wheel chair lift is available for hire to voluntary and community groups and schools. Should you be interested in using it, then please call 01347 822598 or email carscheme@edcca.org.uk.

In a similar vein the Council has agreed to help sponsor the Scouts in their bid to re-develop their Dawney facility. So if you feel you can help them in their quest, then please contact them directly.

The Council has noted a summer increase in anti-social behaviour, especially around the town centre and parks. If you become aware of any disturbances please notify the police on their 101 non-emergency number.

The Council is particularly pleased to be presenting the results of the working group on Millfields for public consultation and looks forward to hearing their views.

The Council Office in the library is now fully established and we have recently invested in a refreshment of our IT equipment including a new laptop.

Over recent times there have been significant changes in the local markets. The market stalls have all been repaired and re-covered improving their appearance.

On the regular Friday market we lost a trader and others had holidays. This gave an opportunity for more flexibility and has allowed guest traders to broaden the mix of goods on offer. In conjunction with the HDC Vibrant Market Towns Initiative there has been increased advertising; including local radio adverts. Please come along any Friday and enjoy the ambience and quality products on offer. If you can't make that, then the third Wednesday in every month brings the Farmers Market to the cobbles. They're a great place to get Yorkshire's finest products.

Alongside this we have encouraged the evolution of the town centre café culture with an extension to several street furniture licences. Whilst this sacrifices a few parking spaces it greatly enhances the ambience of the town. It has been very much welcomed by our visitors and townspeople alike during a very long, hot and enjoyable summer.

Following the completion of the Gentlemen's toilet facility, it has been agreed to refresh the ladies and we are tendering for the work to be done.

Whilst you are around the town you will hopefully notice that we have been doing lots of work on our public benches. We've refurbished those that we could, but have replaced those we couldn't save with new versions in recycled plastic, that we hope will give us long years of service.

Operations Committee



The Farmers Market



The Friday Market

Recreation & Open Spaces Committee



Memorial Park Children's Play Area



Claypenny Children's Play Area

Much of our news from this committee has been highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter – especially the extensive work that has been underway in the Millfields Park/Open Space. We do hope that you will all take the time to look at our information packages and respond to our questionnaire. When we have assessed your responses then they will be considered as the Committee recommends to the Council what aspects it should invest in and how.

We have continued our programme of investment in the towns play parks and completed the summer round of inspections and maintenance to assure that the equipment is always safe and in good condition.

With the huge benefit of *TESCO* sponsorship and grants, we are pleased to tell you that our refurbishment of the fence around the wetlands with a dog-proof version (as recommended by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust) has been completed. Along with this we have bought maintenance equipment to be used by the Easingwold Green Spaces Group.

We have undertaken a considerable amount of work to the various trees we have responsibility for. This is largely part of our on-going maintenance programmes and is most visible with the pollarding of several trees along Uppleby.

Social & Events Committee

The Council sponsors many local events and facilitates their use of the town centre. Sadly the Lions Summer Fayre, Fun Run and Marching Band Competition was challenged by the weather, although it didn't dampen our spirits or the fun to be had. The Town Band had much better luck. As did the organisers of *'Rockin' all over the Wold'*, a huge turnout and great generosity achieved an amazing £1,500 of much needed funds for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance charity.

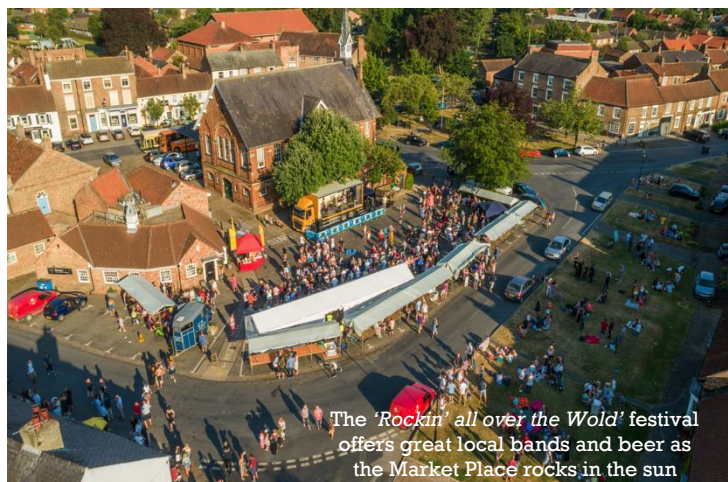
Please join us in our important Remembrance Day events on November 11th. Coming after will be the Light-up-a-Life Christmas Tree and more Christmas lights than ever (7pm, 28th November in the Market Place please come along). Continuing the Christmas theme December 1st brings a Christmas Market to the Galtres Centre; and Sunday 9th December a Christmas Farmers Market to the town square.

A group of local organisations including Millfields Surgery, EDCCA and the Galtres Centre sponsored by the Town Council are developing an Easingwold & District Community Day on Saturday 11th May next year. We hope that this will give local organisations and clubs the opportunity to present themselves to the whole community and raise awareness, membership, funds, and undertake fun activities etc. If you would like your organisation or group to become involved please contact the Town Clerk by email.

We have been working hard on the Town Council website in conjunction with Puro Design. It includes many new features and will hopefully be simpler to operate and improve. We will be launching it after the Millfields Consultation has been completed to assure that the change over does not affect that activity.



Easingwold Town Band enjoy the summer sunshine as they perform in the Memorial Park



The 'Rockin' all over the Wold' festival offers great local bands and beer as the Market Place rocks in the sun