



Henry Smith Playing Fields
Venue for the Big Weekend

Party on Potton's BIG Weekend 2018 24th – 27th August



Your 6-page guide to the events taking place at Party on Potton is in the centre of this newsletter!

Four Seasons Market



Sat 15th September

9am – 1pm



For more information visit
pottontowncouncil.co.uk/four-seasons-market

Dates for the Diary

August

Fri 24 th – Mon 27 th	Party on Potton The Big Weekend	Page 10
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September

Sat 8 th – Sun 9 th	Potton Show	Page 23
Sat 15 th	Four Seasons Market	Page 1
Sun 30 th	Potton Apple Day	Page 19

October

Sat 13 th	Autumn Litter Pick	Page 19
Sun 14 th	Civic Service	Page 3





Chairman's message

Hello and welcome to the Autumn edition of the Town Council quarterly newsletter.

This is the business end of the year for most in the town, the time when a number of events give everyone the opportunity to get out and about and appreciate the best of Potton. The Potton Show and Potton Apple Day come along at the end of summer, however first up, with this being an even year number, we welcome the extravaganza that is Party on Potton! For those of you who are new to the town and have not yet experienced this event you are in for a treat!



Carlton and the team have been working tirelessly since the 2016 event, providing pop up bars for weekend functions, supporting the seasonal market and other events such as the Christmas Lights switch on and participating in numerous events to fund raise for the Big Weekend. Can I therefore encourage each and every one of you to come out and support this excellent event? I'm sure you won't be disappointed. See the programme in the middle of this newsletter for more details of the events on offer over the four-day August Bank Holiday period.

The current heatwave, whilst enjoyable for most, has helped gardens bloom and trees and shrubs reach for the skies. I would therefore encourage you to ensure that your plants and shrubs don't block the highway. Footpaths can be narrow in

this old Georgian market town so please ensure they are not restricted any further than they need to be. Likewise, please let us know if and where the Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Highways team is required to trim or tidy up any verges out of town to improve visibility on the roads. We can ask on your behalf.



Overgrown Path



Blocked Drain

Additionally, if you see a blocked drain and can provide photographic evidence of this, we can pass this on to CBC for resolution. Flash thunderstorms can be a problem if the water cannot drain away sufficiently and it seems our friends in CBC are under the illusion that there are no blocked drains in Potton and surrounding areas, despite what we report to them!



New Housing

To planning matters and it was encouraging to see CBC refuse the latest speculative planning application for land off Sutton Road that would have added additional housing in the town over and above the 471 new houses already approved in recent years. Although this application was refused by CBC, the developer will try again to push development onto this particular part of town by appealing an original planning application for land off Sutton Road (refused by CBC) with the Government Planning Inspector in early July. The Town Council maintains the belief that all development needs to be sustainable and we are aware of the pressure that some of our services are under already before any more houses are built. We will keep opposing unnecessary development where it is shown to impact sustainability and particularly those applications that seem to be more about financial gain for a developer than quality planning and local consideration.

Finally, as you will see on page 24, 2019 is an election year when your local Town Council and Ward Councillors are up for election. The Town Council will only have an election if there are more applicants than positions on the council, currently 15. Therefore, if you are over the age of 18, live within three miles of the town, have the time to volunteer for such a role and want to participate in shaping your town in the future, consider coming along to our monthly meetings to get an idea of the work that is done by the Town Council. We are always happy to be joined by members of the public. Meeting dates are always advertised in advance on the Town Council website and the notice boards around the town.

I'll be back in the Winter edition with an update on events later in the year, including the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. In the meantime, please enjoy this edition of the newsletter and enjoy a warm and relaxing summer.

Best Wishes

Angus

Cllr Angus Macdonald



Potton Civic Service

The Chairman of the Council, Angus Macdonald, will be holding his Civic Service this year on Sunday 14th October at St Mary's Church, Potton.



It has been confirmed that HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Helen Nellis will be attending. Helen was appointed by HM The

Queen as the Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire and began her term of office on 22nd February 2012.



Other dignitaries will be invited and Potton residents will have the opportunity to attend. We hope that attendance at the event will surpass previous years.



Cllr Adam Zerny's report.

Keeping you up-to-date on what Central Bedfordshire Council is doing

For those of you who don't know me, particularly new residents of Potton, I am one of the two Central Bedfordshire Councillors for the town.

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) is a unitary authority which is a bit like a county council except it covers all of Bedfordshire except Bedford or Luton who have their own borough councils. It's a big area, all the way from Caddington in the south west to Potton in the north east.

I am an Independent which means I don't represent a political party and am free to represent you based on the wishes of the local community and do not have to follow party lines.

I live in Potton and have - since I was first elected in 2011 - provided residents with a monthly email newsletter which goes out to more than 1,000 households in the local community. It attempts to keep you up to date with local issues. For example, recent editions have covered:

- **Waste collection**

Plans by CBC to reduce general waste collection to only once every three weeks from the current fortnightly pick-ups.



General Waste

- **Planning applications**

Updates on the plans by developers to gain permission to build in and around the town and how you can have your say.

- **Quarry** The company which runs the quarry to the north of Potton are seeking to expand the site.

- **Potholes** The roads have been particularly bad this year and I have been taking steps to ensure the Council take action to sort it out.

Central Bedfordshire

BREEDON



Pothole

Shaping where you live 2035



- **Local Plan** - CBC are planning 30,000 new houses across the county over the next ten years, many will be in our area.

My next report will feature news on the local trains, changes to parking restrictions in the town and plans under consideration by CBC to sell-off some of the farms it owns.

If you would like to start receiving the email or did not get the June edition

(it may be due to GDPR as you need to opt-in to receive it) or if you have any issue you'd like to raise with me, please drop me a line at adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk.

Alternatively, I also post information on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/adamzerny

Keep in touch!



Potton Neighbourhood Plan 2018 - 2035

Thank you to everyone who provided consultation comments. We have started to respond to everyone who has commented and all the responses to comments will be published on the pottonneighbourhoodplan.co.uk website. The draft Neighbourhood Plan will be amended in the light of the comments you submitted.

What next...

The Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Central Bedfordshire

Council where it will be assessed by an independent examiner, and any changes that are needed made.

And finally...

The Neighbourhood Plan will go to a local referendum where all residents of Potton Parish will be asked to vote on whether or not they want to adopt the Plan.

**Planning
for the
Future**

Town Council Information and Office Opening Times

For enquiries regarding the following: Cemetery, Allotments, Henry Smith Playground, Mill Lane Playground, Recreation Fields, Public Conveniences, Brook End Car Park, Mill Lane Pavilion and Community Centre. The Town Council office is open for drop-in visitors as follows:

Monday	9.30am – 12.30pm
Tuesday	9.30am – 12.30pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	9.30am – 12.30pm
Friday	9.30am – 12.30pm

If you want to be sure of seeing a specific member of the team, please ring ahead to make an appointment.

Tel: 01767 260086

E: pottoncouncil@btconnect.com

W: www.pottontowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Contact details

Chairman Angus Macdonald	262006
Vice Chairman Denis Ellison	261925
Adrian Bell	260641
Geoff Emery	261710
Andrew Gibb	260067
Richard Harris	262596
John Hobbs	260710
Les Ivall	261559
Jonathan Lean	262404
Alan Leggatt	260001
John Lewis	260726
Jonathan Price Williams	07981 350359
Chris Temple	262535
Rex Whitfield	262246
Adam Zerny	261319

Town Council Meetings

Held in the Main Hall of the Community Centre starting at 7pm.

Tuesday 4th September

Tuesday 2nd October

Councillor Surgeries

Held in the library starting at 10am until 12 noon.

Saturday 11th August	Cllr Lean and Cllr Whitfield
Saturday 15th September	Cllr Lewis and Chairman Cllr Macdonald
Saturday 20th October	Vice Chairman Cllr Ellison and Cllr Leggatt

Get your local news into the Town Council Newsletter

The next edition is planned for delivery at the end of October. If you would like information to be included, please email: pottoncouncil@btconnect.com by midday on Monday 17th September. Please be aware that the Town Council reserves the right not to include articles and photos. Please recycle this newsletter when you've finished reading it by putting it in your green recycling bin.

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Potton Town Council Hall Hire

The halls at the Community Centre, Brook End and the Pavilion, Mill Lane can be hired by private individuals, community groups and commercial hirers.

Please contact the office to check on availability and make a booking. You can call 260086, email **pottoncouncil@btconnect.com** or pop in to see us. Check office opening times on page 6.



Allotments

Potton Town Council manages an allotment site at Everton Road, Potton. There are 44 full size allotment plots, three of which are currently vacant.

If you wish to grow your own fruit and vegetables, have a more active lifestyle and eat healthily, there is a thriving allotment community with tenants of all ages helping and advising each other.

The Potton Allotments Association is back up and running with its own Facebook page.

You can find out more information, including allotment charges, from The Town Clerk by calling **01767 260086** or email **pottoncouncil@btconnect.com** giving your name, address and a contact telephone number. Please note that the Council has resolved that tenants must be resident in Potton.



Housing development in Potton update

Number of dwellings in Potton at 31 st March 2017	2,297
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Central Bedfordshire Council has **approved** the following to be built in Potton.

Planning application reference	Name and address of site	Total residual number of dwellings under construction, permitted/allocated (net)
HA9	Land to the South of 'The Paddocks', Potton	90
MA5 16/00436	Land at Biggleswade Road, Potton	120
MA5 15/01263	Land at Biggleswade Road, Potton (Phase 1)	31 Number complete at 31 st March 2017 (7) = 24
16/02590/OUT	Land to the South of Sandy Road, Potton	90
16/04460/OUT	Land opposite the Playing Field, Mill Lane, Potton	62
16/03943/OUT	Land at 64 Biggleswade Road, Potton	85
Total Approved Planning Applications		471
		20.5% increase
Total New Number of Dwellings in Potton		2,768

Submitted Planning Applications **still to be decided** by Central Bedfordshire Council.

Planning application reference	Name and address of site	Total residual number of dwellings applied for by the applicant
17/06069/OUT	Land South of Sandy Road, Potton	60
18/01424/OUT	Land to the West of Everton Road, Everton Road, Potton SG19 2PD	30
18/01635/OUT	Land North of Sandy Road, Potton	170
Total Submitted Planning Applications		260
		11.3% increase
PLUS Approved Planning Applications		471
		31.8% increase
Total New Number of Dwellings if all Approved		3,028

Planning application 17/01096/OUT, Land off of Sutton Road, Potton, was refused by the Local Planning Authority, Central Bedfordshire Council. The applicant has appealed, and a Public Inquiry was scheduled for 3rd – 6th July 2018. Information correct as of 6th July 2018.



Junction of King Street & Gamlingay Road

Grass - the long and short of it!

John Day and Cllr Andy Gibb

Grass is a common feature of our everyday lives. Mostly we spend many hours excessively cutting it or when we tire of that, replace it with artificial grass – neither is good for our well-being or nature.

During community workshops for the Potton Green Infrastructure Plan, an aspiration was put forward to improve the greens and verges around the town by making changes to the mowing. The driver was not to save money; instead it was led by those attending workshops and responding to Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires to improve the environment and well-being for residents and for the wildlife we share our town with.

Over the coming years, you will see gradual changes in the way Potton Town Council manages the greens and verges around the town. The first change will be a small increase in the minimum height of grass after cutting. This will not only help reduce erosion when it rains and help the grass survive droughts, but also allow some flowers to bloom and brighten verges making them more attractive to us and our declining pollinators such as bumblebees.

In future years, it is hoped selected areas can be enhanced with wildflower seed. They will take a while to establish once sown and you might not see much immediate difference. But in time with changes in mowing they will provide an attractive summer splash of colour and help our pollinating insects survive.

More detail on the benefits of this will be posted on the Town Council and Neighbourhood Plan websites. Future changes to the appearance of greens and verges will be posted beforehand on the websites while leaflets will be available from the offices and library and temporary signs erected at the chosen sites.





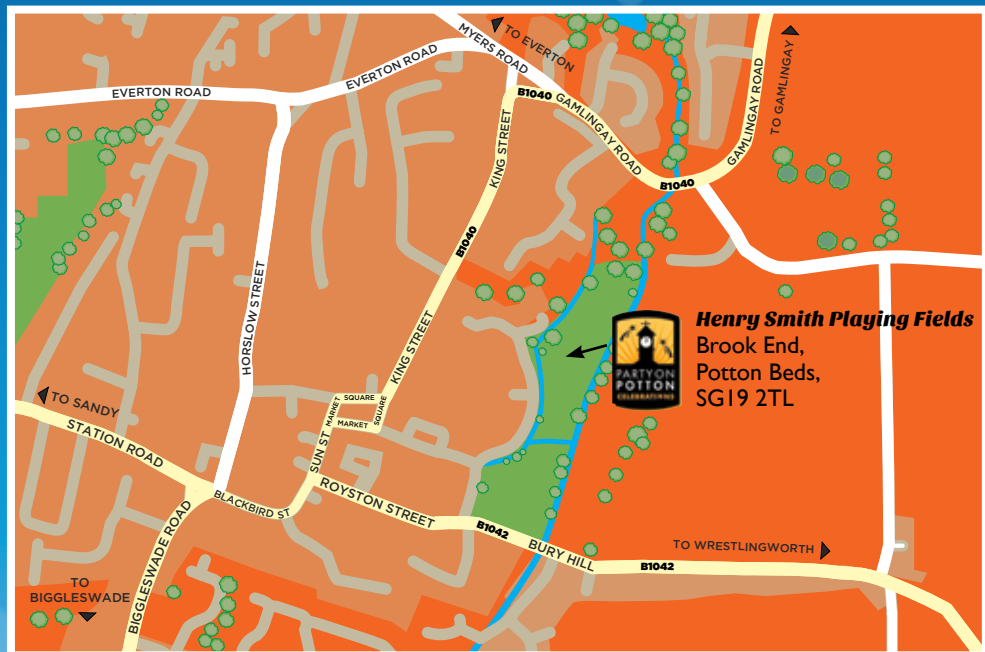
10th **BIG WEEKEND**

***3 days & 4 nights of
fun for all!***

***August Bank Holiday
Fri 24 - Mon 27 August 2018***

Henry Smith Playing Fields, Potton, SG19 2TL

The Big Weekend *starts here!*



Friday evening - 24th Aug

6.30 – 9pm	Junior Boogie Fun for the whole family. Under 12s to be accompanied by an adult.
9.30pm til late	Boogie Wonderland 16yrs+ night, DJ Jay from 3D Events
7.30pm til late	POP Licensed Bar and Food catered by Claytons (Strictly no drink other than that purchased at the bar will be allowed into the Marquee) Adult £5, Child (under 16) £3, Golden Ticket can be used.



Junior Boogie



DJ Jay from 3D Events



LICENSED BAR
serving throughout
the evening

Saturday - 25th Aug

12noon

Carnival the theme this year is '**Big Screen/Little Screen**'. Accompanied by **Biggleswade Sea Cadets** and **Sound Express** and setting off from Willow Road at 12 noon passing through the square and down to the park for 1pm.

1pm

Fancy Dress Competition in the Arena. Open to everyone and prizes for the winners!

1.30pm

Teddy Bear Picnic in the Marquee
Little ones bring your packed lunch and teddy and come and have some fun.

NEW

1 - 3pm

Potton Bake Off Day 1
Registration (see programme for more details)

3pm

The Maddest & Biggest Dog Show See programme for more details (sponsored by Awesome Dogs).

All Day Events

From 1pm

Community stalls
Come and see what's available in your area.

Wrayfield Dog Agility Club
Bring your pooch or borrow one of theirs!

Scarecrow Hunt Such a hit last year its back for another! Based on this year's theme 'Big Screen, Little Screen' grab a trail map and entry form from the 'Ticket Booth' at the park. Prize draw Monday.

Kid Zone Amazing free activities inc. a theatre tent, dressing up area, arts and crafts, 'racing track', stories from Potton Library & of course Face Painting! Activities will change daily.

Activities for all Climbing Wall, Bar Fly Velcro Wall, Bouncy Castle and not forgetting the fabulous Human Hungry Hippos.

Live music throughout the day inc. 'Dodo bones' plus Beds Brass Band & Phoenix Ladies Choir.

Saturday Evening

7.30pm til late

Sound Express Big Band back for their 10th year (they are that good!) Buy your tickets early - this is always a sell out night. **NO TICKET NO ENTRY**

POP Licensed Bar and Food catered by Claytons
(Strictly no drink other than that purchased at the bar will be allowed into the Marquee)

Adult £15, Child under 16 £6
Golden Ticket can be used.



LICENSED BAR AND BBQ

serving throughout the day



Scarecrow Hunt



Teddy Bear Picnic



The Great Potton Bake Off



Sound Express

Sunday - 26th Aug

NEW

10am

Car treasure hunt (See programme for more details)
A 2 route treasurer hunt around the local villages ending back at the Marquee.

10.30am

Churches Together A combined service of local churches in the Marquee.

11.30am

History Walk So popular last time we had 2 walks. Come and learn about where you live. Meet at the Marquee.

From
1pm

Posh Picnic Bring your tables, chairs and chandeliers! Poshest pic wins a prize. Accompanied by **Space Goat** and **Poppy Frances**.

Widdershins Puppet Theatre Experience some fabulous stories performed by wonderful handmade puppets. Make sure you check out the story tent for timings.

1 – 3pm

Potton Bake Off Day 2 (see programme for more information.) Meet at the Bake Off Tent.

2pm

Jodie Robinson School of Dance
A mini showcase of tap, modern and ballet routines performed by children of the Potton Dancing School.

All Day Events

From
1pm

Arts and Craft Stalls
Local craft people giving you your shopping kick.

Ark Petting Farm

The animals are here to meet you.

Zorball Come and play Zorball, British Bull Dog etc. in these fabulous Zorbs (just remember your trainers but no jeans please.)

Kids Zone Loads of free and fun activities with Woodentops Pre-School to keep your little ones entertained.

Activities for all Besides the above we still have the Derby Hoppas, Bouncy Castle and just remember its all free!

Sunday Evening

7.30pm
til late

COMEDY NIGHT – arranged by Custard Comedy
MC Paddy Lennox with Jonny Awsum and supported by Mandy Muden (fresh from the Britain's Got Talent) and Ian Stone

POP Licensed Bar and Food Catered by Potton Scouts

(Strictly no drink other than that purchased at the bar will be allowed into the Marquee)

Adult £15 over 18's only
Golden ticket can be used.

**LICENSED BAR
AND BBQ**
serving throughout
the day



Posh Picnic



Zorball



Ark Farm



Comedy Night

Monday - 27th Aug

9am

Registration for the following Races (meet at the Marquee)

10am

5k 'ish' Run & 5k 'ish' Family Run

Both races are sponsored by The Barns Fitness with some fab prizes up for grabs.

NEW

10am

5k 'ish' Dog Walk

Get to meet some fellow dog walkers and enjoy a jaunt through the countryside.

NEW

10am

Off Road Bike Ride & Road Bike Ride

3pm

onwards

Team Games Tug of War, flip flop throwing, wheelbarrow racing and so much more.

4pm

Prize Giving for all competitions

1-3.30pm

Potton Bake Off

Day 3 and the final 'Show Stopper'.

NEW

All Day Events

From 12pm

Groundworks Youth Club activities for all.

Activity Sessions from local clubs for all ages

Biggleswade Rugby Club, Potton Colts, Potton Bowls Club, John O'Gaunt Golf Club, Biggleswade Athletic Running Club and more.

Donkey Rides

Kids Zone Mini Cinema with Potton Pre-School schedule, Dressing-up area, Buggies Play area and loads more! Remember it is all FREE!

Zorball Day 2 (don't forget your trainers, but no jeans.)

Activities for all Besides the above we still have the Derby Hoppas, Bouncy Castle and just remember its all free!

Live Music throughout the Day with Dan Arnold, Sue Lock line dancing and Sandy Ukulele, plus an Open Mic Session, visit the music marquee to find out more.

NEW

NEW

Monday Evening: Potton Playhouse present

**Doors open 7pm
Curtains up at 8pm**

For one night only, not to be missed, come and see this fabulous rendition of Snow White and the 7 Pottonians. Written and performed by the very talented people of Potton.

POP Licensed Bar and Fish & Chip Wagon

(Strictly no drink other than that purchased at the bar will be allowed into the Marquee).

Adults £10, Children £6

Family Panto Ticket £30 (2 adults & 3 children)

Golden Ticket can be used.



**LICENSED BAR
AND BBQ**

serving throughout
the day



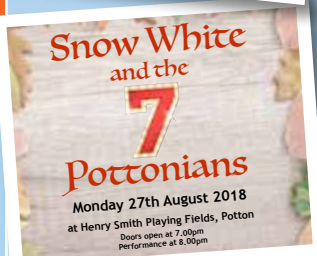
Off Road Bike Ride



Donkey Rides



Live Music



Panto

Ticket Prices

This year, the Golden Ticket can be used on any 3 nights, and once again we have a Family Ticket for the Panto night on Monday.



- Children must always be accompanied by an adult.
- Only drink purchased on the premises may be consumed.
- Under 18s are not permitted Sunday night.

Friday night	Adult £5, Child under 16 £3
Saturday night	Adult £15, Child under 16 £6
Sunday night	Adult £15, (Over 18s only)
Monday night	Adult £10, Child £6, Family (2 adults and up to 3 children) £30

Golden Ticket

£35
(can be used on any 3 nights)

P.O.P. needs YOU!

Party on Potton is a community-based organisation that relies on volunteers – people like you! It is a festival of entertainment which gives the good folk of Potton and beyond, the chance to come together and celebrate that great feeling of Pottonness.

For this local spectacular event to happen, Party on Potton needs to recruit new committee members to help organise the next event in 2020.

Why should you?

- To make lifelong friends
- You'll make a contribution to the community in which you live
- It's really rewarding, and you'll feel great!
- It means Party on Potton will carry on for its 12th event and we all want that!



We'd dearly love to have a chat if you want to join the fun.

Why not drop us an email (committee@partyonpotton.org.uk) or just tap one of us on the shoulder; we'll be wearing orange tops.

We'd love to meet you. Go on – you know you want to!

Calling all young budding artists!

Skatepark Repainting Design Competition



The town council has been aware that users of the skatepark have commented for some time that they don't like the concrete being painted yellow. So, we would like to receive creative designs for the repainting of the yellow parts of the skatepark and will then use the winning design as inspiration for someone to come and re-paint these areas. The winner may even be able to assist in the repainting.

The design must be appropriate for a public place.

Please submit your design by email by the **31st August 2018** to **pottoncounciladmin@btconnect.com** or submit a design by post to Potton Town Council, The Community Centre, Brook End, Potton, Bedfordshire, SG19 2QS.

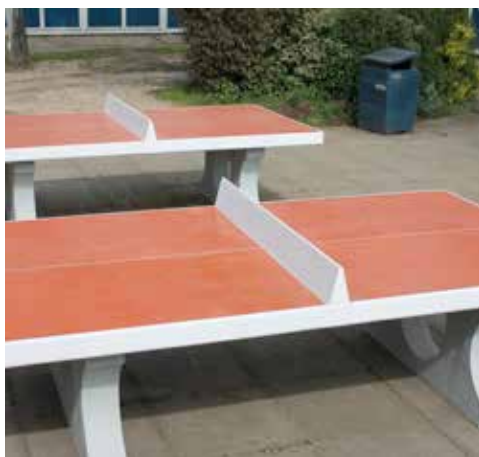


Table Tennis

The town council has been contacted about installing an external table tennis in Potton. The town council would like to know whether you think table tennis would be popular and frequently used, before considering as part of its 2019/20 budget process.

Please email your response by the **31st August 2018** to **pottoncounciladmin@btconnect.com** or submit a response by post to Potton Town Council, The Community Centre, Brook End, Potton, Bedfordshire, SG19 2QS.

Volunteer for Remembrance?

Potton Town Council is looking for people who can play the bagpipes and the bugle on **Sunday 11th November 2018**.

An individual piper at 6am will fill the air before dawn has broken playing Battle's O'er – a traditional Scottish lament played by pipers at the end of battle - heralding the start of the day's commemorations.

An individual bugler at 6.55pm will perform The Last Post.

Please respond by email by the **31st August 2018** to **pottoncounciladmin@btconnect.com** or by post to Potton Town Council, The Community Centre, Brook End, Potton, Bedfordshire, SG19 2QS if you can carry out either of the above.



Bagpiper



Bugler



Potton Youth Club Update

The town council has previously advised that Potton Youth Club will be closed at the end of September 2018 and that funding to continue the Youth Club for a further six months (March 2019) has been found, though only if attendance increases to an average of at least 20 youths per week.

Groundwork Luton & Bedfordshire who run the Potton Youth Club advised in June that numbers have been lower than the target.

The town council met on the 3rd July 2018 to discuss the Youth Club. Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC) Youth Support Service have agreed to match fund the youth provision

with Potton Town Council (PTC) until the end of March 2019. PTC agreed at the meeting to enter into a Grant agreement with CBC Youth Support Service.

CBC Youth Support Service and PTC will review the Youth Club in early 2019. CBC and PTC are wanting regular weekly attendance at the youth club to meet the target of 20 young people. If you are aged between 13-18 years old and want Potton Youth Club to continue, please attend the Youth Club which takes place on Thursday between 5pm and 7pm, Mill Lane Pavilion.



Potton Community Orchard

Since the first 20 trees were planted in Potton Community Orchard at Easter, the weather has been about perfect for young fruit trees. Several weeks of rain were followed by good spells of sunshine and no late frosts this year. But while the trees are in their element, so are the nettles. The orchard site was previously used to graze cattle and horses and the sediment from the brook is spread on the land, fertilising it even more. For a good wildflower meadow, the soil shouldn't be too fertile so much of our effort in the first few years will seek to replace the nettles and rank grasses with a more varied mix of wild flowers.

In mid-June, volunteers strimmed paths between the trees and around them to reduce competition and enable maintenance. Cut grass is raked off and will be used as mulch and composted. Despite the guards put on to protect the trees, there has been a little damage from muntjac deer, but nothing the trees can't cope with. The guarding will need to be beefed up to stop these particularly pesky pests.

Access to the orchard is only with permission from the developer at present,



but hopefully in a year or so the land will be in the ownership of the Town Council and we will be able to invite public access. If you would like to get involved with the orchard, please contact the Town Council on **01767 260086**.

Potton Speedwatch needs volunteers



Please contact the Potton Speedwatch Co-ordinator Denis Ellison on **01767 261925** for details.

For information on Community Speedwatch visit
www.bedfordshire.police.uk/information-and-services/Get-involved/Watch-Schemes/Speed-watch

Autumn Litter Pick



The Autumn Litter Pick is back

The meeting point for volunteers will be at the old telephone exchange in Brook End (next to the Community Centre) where routes to be cleared will be allocated and all necessary equipment provided.

This will include gloves, refuse bags and litter pickers. We also have some Hi-Vis vests we can loan, but if you have your own it would be helpful.

Refreshments will be provided in the Community Centre throughout the session for returning helpers.

If you have not been involved with the litter pick before why not consider joining us for a couple of hours and have a bit of fun to see if you can come back with the strangest discarded item. Your efforts really do make a difference to the town. At the Spring pick-up the number of bags collected was just short of sixty!

You are **coredially** invited to Potton Apple Day



Apple pressing – take
juice home

Real Cider from CAMRA

Live, fruity music!

Have your own apples
identified



Sunday 30th September

**St Mary's Church Hall,
Potton 12 – 4pm**

A fun, free, family day out



The Potton Hall for All Support Committee



Potton Hall for All is delighted to announce that The Tall Trees housing development on Biggleswade Road is progressing well and it is expected that the land for the Hall and Community Orchard will be signed over to Potton Town Council in due course. The Town Council have agreed to grant the Trustees of the Potton Hall for All Community facility a lease of 199 years to allow the Hall to be built and fully functional within a few years. This is great news!

Meanwhile the Trustees continue with a number of funding applications to add to the current committed monies already agreed and are really grateful to those of you who have signed up to select us in the Co-Op's Local Causes Scheme for 2017 – 2018. Your help is a click away on membership.coop.co.uk/causes/14886. We have received £318 so far. EVERY penny matters! The scheme for this year ends in October.

The Committee continue to play their full part in local activities and recently, thanks to Judy Oliver, who with members of the Cricket Club, made a major contribution to the organisation, and running of the May Day Fete. Our volunteers organised and ran the Dog Show, baked a mass of delicious cakes for us to sell on our cake stall, whilst Roz Smith supervised a successful "Pick-a-Lolly" stand. We also took the opportunity to have an information desk for people to learn more about the project, including buying a brick.

In the coming weeks and months, we shall also be supporting Party on Potton and Potton Apple Day. Information about these and future activities, indeed anything relating to the Hall, can be found at our website www.pottonhallforall.org.uk. We are pleased to inform everybody that we have a new volunteer on the Committee. Holly Heslop is a new resident and a professional marketer and we are absolutely delighted that she is joining us. If, like Holly, you wish to offer your services to the Committee, please contact David Tall on dandrtall@gmail.com. He would be very happy to explain what we are seeking from our volunteers. We are particularly looking for people with experience or interest in marketing, as we seek to maximise interest in, and future use of, this brilliant project.

The Hall for All will be just that. Keep supporting us and spread the word, please. Thank you.

Potton Community Agent News

Supporting the over 60s in Potton

Tel: Andrea on 0300 555 5949 mobile: 07590 359 630 (working, Weds, Thurs only)

See www.pottoncommunityagent.co.uk for information about how I can help you.

Back in April the Friendship Group had a jolly day out on a riverboat trip and in May we held an Indoor Street Party to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Great fun was had by all!



Fancy a day out? – Potton Friendship Group has organised a 'Mystery Trip' on **Thursday 20th September**. Tickets are **£20** and include travel by luxury coach and admission fee to our destination. Contact Andrea for more details.



Wanted!

Teenagers for newsletter delivery

Potton Town Council produces four Newsletters each year which are delivered to every household in Potton.

We are interested in hearing from 13–18 year olds who would like to deliver our newsletter. The rate of pay is **£20 for 300 delivered newsletters, pro-rata.**

A work permit is required from Central Bedfordshire Council; you can find out more information and download a Child Employment Application form by visiting centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/school/pupil-support/child-employment/overview.aspx

News from Potton Federation Schools

As I write, the Summer Term is coming to a close with all the exciting events and trips that take place when the sun shines. It is lovely to see the children so excited about their activities and the creativity and confidence which follows in their work when they return.

We are about to enjoy Key Stage 1's version of Tarzan and it is wonderful to hear them practice as I walk through school. We are so proud of our Year 4s as they leave the Lower School and move onto the Middle School. Their leavers' assembly is always an emotional event as we celebrate their personal growth in their time here.

One of the highlights of Potton Federation's calendar is Proms in the Playground – a summer singing festival performed on the school field to family and friends. This year, the theme was Songs from Musicals, so you won't have been surprised to have heard 500 voices resonating across the town on July 17th!



We are preparing to welcome the next intake of pupils into Reception in September and have seen an increase in pupil numbers in all year groups from age 4 to 13 years. If you are interested in sending your child to Potton Lower or Middle Schools, please do come and visit us. Our Lower School Open Day is Friday 23rd November 2018, 9am-11am and our Middle School Open Evening is

Tuesday 13th November from 7pm with an Open Day the following morning 14th November, 9am-11am. If you would like to arrange a tour at any other time, please contact either school office.

We await our 2017/18 academic results, knowing that we have prepared our children in the best possible way for the statutory tests. We are fiercely proud of our track record in continuing to help all our pupils achieve significantly above the local and national average. More details can be found online.

You may be aware that Sandy schools have changed their age ranges to suit the primary / secondary system, whilst Biggleswade schools remain committed to maintain Lower, Middle and Upper Schools. Here in Potton, we continue to work closely with all local school clusters. The Headteachers and Chairs of Governors meet on a regular basis to ensure transparency and a good working relationship. This also ensures that the transition for all children, whichever school they go to after Potton Federation, is as smooth as possible. Myself and the Governing Body are committed to offering the highest level of education for all of the children from Reception through to the end of Year 8 and our focus remains on ensuring that 'every child can' at Potton Federation and continuing to develop both schools for the local community.

Wishing you a happy summer holiday,



Cathy Smart
Executive Headteacher,
Potton Federation



The Potton Flower & Vegetable Show

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th September

Our 45th Show will be held on **Saturday 8th September** at St Mary's Church field in a marquee. If you are new to Potton please make sure you put the date in your diary to either exhibit your vegetables, fruit, cookery, handicrafts to name but a few classes, or just come along and enjoy a family afternoon of entertainment.



The Show is followed by a Barn Dance in the marquee.

On **Sunday 9th** there will be a craft fair with over 40 stall holders.

Please support us as we would like the Show to continue for many more years to come.



Potton Library

Opening Times:

Mon	closed
Tue	9-1pm
Wed	2-6pm
Thu	9-1pm
Fri	9-1pm & 2-6pm
Sat	9-4pm

The children's annual Reading Challenge is running from July until September. This year is themed on The Beano, as the publication is celebrating its 80th birthday. There will be events and activities running throughout the summer holidays. Visit the library for more information.

Tel: 0300 300 8063

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

or search for 'Bedfordshire Virtual Library'.

**Central
Bedfordshire**

Potton Town Council Elections 2019

In May 2019 a local election of all 15 places on Potton Town Council will take place. Potton Town Councillors will come to the end of their four-year term and will either re-stand for election or step down. So, there is an opportunity to become a Councillor and contribute to your community. Should there be more than 15 residents wishing to stand as a Councillor, then an election will be held. If 15 or fewer people come forward, they will automatically be 'elected' with no voting taking place.

Initially, a Councillor may have little knowledge of Council work but this will come, along with experience and confidence. As a new Councillor you will bring to the Council fresh enthusiasm, new ideas, a care for your community and a willingness to learn.

A town Councillor is unpaid and gives their time for free to the community on a voluntary basis. The role of a councillor is to bring local issues to the attention of the council and help it make decisions on behalf of the local community.

A candidate for the Town Council is qualified if at the time of nomination they are:

- A British subject or Irish citizen
- 18 years of age
- Either on the list of electors for the town or during the last twelve months you have:
 - occupied land or property in Potton as owner or tenant
 - had your principle place of work here
 - lived in, or within three miles of Potton.

Potton Town Councillors, on taking office, agree to abide by the town council's adopted code of conduct which is consistent with the Nolan principles of;

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| ■ Selflessness | ■ Openness |
| ■ Integrity | ■ Honesty |
| ■ Objectivity | ■ Leadership |
| ■ Accountability | |

The diversity of the town council is its strength. Diversity often arises because councillors have different backgrounds, enthusiasms and interests. Councillors have different skills and attitudes; for example, some work with ideas while others are very practical; some like accounts while others prefer reports. The town council needs a range of skills to work as a team.

