



# Berkhamsted Town Council Newsletter

**Autumn 2010**



*Angie Shute*

# Letter from your Mayor - Councillor Julie Laws

I would like to take the opportunity to formally introduce myself. I am a Town and Borough Councillor who has been elected Town Mayor for the year 2010/11. I have lived in Berkhamsted, with my family since 2000 and have enjoyed being involved in our local community. I am very honoured to be asked to become Mayor and wish to ensure that during my year I support the many businesses, schools, charities and organisations we have within the town. I have had the opportunity to represent the Council at a number of events since May and would welcome the opportunity to support your organisation. Please get in touch.



## **Parking Survey 2nd Edition – Open for Comment Have your say**

- *The Town Council has delivered to streets around the town a 2nd Parking Survey because, as residents are aware, parking in some streets in Berkhamsted, often by commuters or visitors to the town, is a problem which inconveniences many residents particularly those living within walking distance of the station.*
- *Following the receipt of a positive response from many areas of the town we have investigated schemes which might best fit the needs of residents and have identified one which would appear to satisfy the results of our 1st survey and which would be acceptable to Dacorum Borough Council, the parking enforcement authority for Berkhamsted. The aim of this consultation document is to outline the scheme to residents of roads where it could be introduced and obtain views on its acceptability.*
- *Detailed responses from all residents will enable us to judge if there is an appetite for restricted parking. More importantly the information will help to ensure that the proposed scheme is workable.*
- *A copy of the survey can be obtained from the Town Council's website [www.berkhamsted.gov.uk](http://www.berkhamsted.gov.uk) or by contacting the Town Clerk.*

## NEW PLANNING RULES

After the election of the new Government new planning rules were rapidly introduced:

Back gardens are no longer to be regarded as brownfield land, this will reduce pressure for their development.

New housing developments no longer have a requirement to build to a high density of 30- 50 per hectare.

Heritage Assets such as Conservation Areas will receive greater protection.

These changes should make it easier for local authorities to resist unwelcome and inappropriate development in the town. The first tests of these new rules will come with the Inspector's decision on the Pines and the planning applications recently submitted for the grounds of the Grey House and for the Bridgewater Boats site.

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## LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

This November Dacorum Borough Council will be issuing a consultation document on the proposed Core Strategy to form part of the new Local Development Framework. This draft document will, when finalised, form the basis of development control decisions in the future. It will suggest, among other things, housing targets for Berkhamsted. The Town Council will be responding to this in due course. We hope many members of our community will respond, we are all entitled to do so and decisions made will which take our comments into account.

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## PLEASE WRITE TO US OR EMAIL US WITH YOUR VIEWS

BTC is your Council, you are welcome to all meetings to let us know your concerns. We will always allow time for public participation and welcome your attendance at all meetings. You can check the agenda for each meeting on the web site [www.berkhamsted.gov.uk](http://www.berkhamsted.gov.uk) or on the notice board outside the Civic Centre. You can email your ward councillor via the web site or drop us a line to the Civic Centre. We can only help if we know about your concerns.

## YOUTH CENTRE

Dacorum Borough Council is working with Berkhamsted Town Council to rewrite the lease for the Youth Centre in Lagley Meadow so that it will continue to provide the BASH club and daytime nursery facilities. The Town Council would like to ensure that the management of the Centre remains in the hands of local people, providing a service that local people want.

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## BERKHAMSTED YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

The Berkhamsted Youth Town Council is going from strength to strength with their members delegated to attend Berkhamsted Town Council Meetings and report back to the Youth Town Council on issues they consider they need to address.

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### FESTIVAL OF LIGHT 2010 – a date for your diary

This year's event is to be held on 5th December 2010 starting at 3.30pm. The lights will be switched on by the Mayor at 5.20pm; various entertainments will take place throughout.

The Town Council and the Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following shops for their contributions towards the lights last year:

Boltons - The Regal - Lisa Kay - At Home Dot.Com - Vogue  
Austins Penny & Thorne Hospice of St Francis - Acorn Pharmacy -  
Regency Estates - Tesco - Vogue - Bailey & Son's - Home & Colonial - Muse

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### BERKHAMSTED FIREWORK NIGHT AND SANTA'S SLEIGH

We are sad to report that the Round Table in Berkhamsted has disbanded. Berkhamsted Rotary has taken on responsibility for FIREWORK NIGHT. It will be held on Saturday 6th November at Berkhamsted Sports Club aka The Cricket Club and they plan a great all weather event supported by the Town Council. There will be a BBQ run by Berkhamsted Raiders. Look at their web site for further details - [www.berkhamstedfireworks.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedfireworks.co.uk)

At the Festival of Light and throughout December, Santa's Sleigh is now to be driven by the Lion's Club of Berkhamsted and Father Christmas has promised to attend.



Brian Bennett FROI, MA (Oxon) Berkhamsted's own famous oil painter has an exhibition Oct. 30 to Nov. 13 in The Maltings Old Amersham at the Hawker Gallery

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*We would like to lend our support to the Save Your Berkhamsted Residents Association and are happy to include their statement below ...*

Over the next few months, Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) will outline plans for housing developments in Berkhamsted through to 2031 and beyond. The strategy is likely to be to construct around 400 new homes every year in Dacorum. There will also be proposals for some strategic sites where large numbers of houses would be built. These plans will directly affect our already congested town. We need your support to protest against unreasonably large numbers of high density houses.

The Save Your Berkhamsted Residents' Association has been formed to ensure that local residents are made aware of the proposals as they are published and to make strong representations to DBC during this process to make sure that any developments are in keeping with existing housing and that the special characteristics of our historic market town are preserved.

Of particular concern is the pressure on infrastructure including schools, doctors, dentists, care for the elderly, traffic, parking, water supply and drainage. We are also very concerned at the loss of Green Belt and agricultural land, loss of wildlife habitat and increased noise and light pollution.

Save Your Berkhamsted Residents Association needs your support to make the voices of Berkhamsted Residents heard. Please join us by using the membership form on the "Subscribe" page of our website.

[www.saveyourberkhamsted.co.uk](http://www.saveyourberkhamsted.co.uk)

## WHAT SHOULD LOCALISM MEAN TO US?

The devolution of greater powers to councils and neighbourhoods and give local communities control over housing and planning decisions.

### BENEFITS SHOULD BE:-

Empowering local people.

Freeing local government from central and regional control.

Giving local communities a real share in local growth.

A more efficient and more local planning system.

### SOME KEY ELEMENTS:

New powers to help save local facilities and services threatened with closure, and give communities the right to bid to take over local state-run services.

Require public bodies to publish online the job titles of every member of staff and the salaries and expenses of senior officials.

Give residents the power to instigate local referendums on any local issue and the power to veto excessive council tax increases.

Create new trusts that would make it simpler for communities to provide homes for local people.

TALK TO US ABOUT HOW WE CAN MAKE IT WORK FOR BERKHAMSTED



ROLAND EMMETT  
OBE

This wonderful Roland Emmett cartoon is one of many depicting Dacorum on a thirty foot square mosaic on the side of the NCP car park in The Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead. Sadly it is in a very bad state of repair and needs listing and preserving before it degrades further.



Berkhamsted Arts Trust Festival  
1 - 24 October 2010

**Bridgewater Sinfonia**

**Antiques with John Bly**

**Art Exhibition**

**An Evening with Richard Mabey**

**Dacorum Symphony Orchestra**

**Film Society Special Viewings**

**Graham Greene International Festival**

There are numerous exciting events that can be found on the Berkhamsted Town Council and Arts Trust websites

## Berkhamsted Town Council ~ 2007 - 2011

Ward	Councillor	Telephone	Affiliation
Castle	Allen, Malcom J	01442 865862	Conservative
Castle	Fairburn*, Andrew E	01442 865118	Conservative
Castle	Foster Weinreb, Lindy M	01442 385581	Conservative
Castle	Handy, Laurence	01442 873832	Conservative
Castle	Macdonald, Fiona	01442 862748	Conservative
East	Bateman*, Stephen J	01494 783501	Conservative
East	Gibbs, Philip G	01442 873597	Liberal Democrat
East	Laws*, Julie	01442 863411	Conservative
East	Lythgoe, John D	01442 866087	Liberal Democrat
East	Stevens, Garrick	01442 870066	Liberal Democrat
West	Collins, David J	01442 876368	Conservative
West	Cowie, Ronald M	01442 873375	Conservative
West	Green*, Mrs Carol	01442 871992	Conservative
West	Matthews, Peter B	01442 866738	Conservative
West	Reay*†, Ian M	01442 871798	Conservative

\* Also serve on Dacorum Borough Council as representative for Berkhamsted

† Also serves as Berkhamsted's representative on Herts County Council

### Town Council Officers

Name	Position	Telephone
Alan Kemp	Town Clerk	01442 228945
Bob Price	Assistant to Town Clerk	01442 228945
Ann McHugh	Secretary to the Town Council	01442 228945
Jim Watts	Town Warden (mobile 07762 916559)	01442 228943

The Civic Centre, 161 High St, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 3HD  
2nd Floor, disabled ramp at front door and life to office.

Hours: Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 4pm

Subject to staff availability we try to keep the office open at lunchtime.

t. 01442 228945 f. 01442 877910

w. [www.berkhamsted.gov.uk](http://www.berkhamsted.gov.uk) e. [berkhamsted.towncouncil@dacorum.gov.uk](mailto:berkhamsted.towncouncil@dacorum.gov.uk)

*If you have any ideas or subjects you would like to see developed in these pages, please contact Berkhamsted Town Council. Councillor Lindy Foster Weinreb presented and edited this newsletter.*

**Visit our website - it encourages you to contact us about all your concerns.  
We hope to hear from you! [www.berkhamsted.gov.uk](http://www.berkhamsted.gov.uk)**

**PLEASE NOTE THE NON-EMERGENCY POLICE NUMBER IS 0845 3300222**

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