



ROYSTON TOWN CRIER

News from your Town Council - September 2022

Royston Town Council is working for all the residents and businesses in the town. We are proud, and we want you all to be proud that you live or work in our wonderful town. The Council runs and works alongside a number of local groups – for example Royston Museum, Royston Community Association (Coombes Centre), Royston First BID, Palace Cinema, Town Twinning Association, Royston Market, Royston Allotments, and many other worthwhile groups in the town. It is you, the residents and workers, that we hold close to our hearts, making Royston a wonderful place to live or work in.

All of us became Councillors because we wanted to make and keep Royston a lovely town. There are Councillors from all political persuasions. No one party has overall control so we work together in harmony for the benefit of the town. We welcome anyone to our public meetings and hope that you will come along to speak with us and to find out what we are doing.

Cave update

We're approaching the final few months of our year-long celebrations to mark 280 years since Royston Cave's fateful discovery. We've had a bumper year so far at the cave with almost every tour sold out, an increase in private tours, and a significant uptake of outreach talks to groups across the county. As part of our 'Year of Discovery', we've published more articles, launched more resources, created more activities and held more events than any other year, so we can better share our story with you, our community, and make the cave more accessible to more people than ever before.

So far, we've seen the relaunch of the Royston Cave Virtual Experience, a 3D, 360 degree digital replica of the cave; the premiere of a piece of orchestral music specially composed for us; released two key conservation reports, to make information about our conservation work more readily available; and launched a new YouTube channel, to deliver bite-size, information videos for anyone for whom written articles aren't their thing. All of which can be found on our website. In August, we held an Open Day - an opportunity for the people of Royston, many of whom have never been, to visit the cave for free - and, in April, we commissioned the first ever geological report into the chalk bedrock in which Royston Cave sits.

Plus, we've transcribed and published rare documents and old books about the cave, and produced our own articles covering topics from Lady Roisia to King James to the Priory and the Ley lines, all of which are available to read for free in our online Archive.

And we have no plans to stop there. Over the next few months, we'll be launching brand new events, like a haunted halloween at the cave and a festive, underground Christmas grotto; we have even more articles and videos lined up; and we're in close discussion with archaeology and technology companies to perform groundbreaking research.

We're at a very exciting point in the cave's long history, and we want you to be a part of it. You can find out more about what we've been up to, and what's coming up, by following along on social media. We also have a newsletter which you can sign up to, to receive news and events direct to your inbox, and we have our very own article every month, right here in the Listing. So you never have to miss a thing. To book a tour of the cave, visit roystoncave.co.uk.

Climate crisis

Earlier this year Royston Town Council declared a climate and biodiversity emergency. This means that the Council will assess and take steps to reduce its own impact on the environment and climate change and also embark on a programme of communication and education, working with relevant groups in the town and area to achieve change across Royston. We will take the emergency into account in everything that we do. For example, the Council recently agreed in principle to a request from a member of the public to install swift nest boxes on any suitable council properties to help these migratory birds, pending confirmation of funding.

If you would like to be involved in this important programme of action please get in touch with the Climate & Biodiversity Action Working Group via the Town Clerk.

New noticeboards have been installed in Green Plantation and Stile Plantation, describing the wildlife and history of the plantations. We hope that the plantations will feature in the work we do on biodiversity.



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Mayoral activities

Our new Mayor, Cllr Mary Antony, has been very busy attending many events within and outside the town. Her activities shown below are a sample of the variety of things that happen in our wonderful town.

To find out more, please follow the Facebook page "Mayor of Royston".



News from the Market

Royston Market is enjoying an incredibly busy summer. With fantastic weather for several consecutive months now the market has seen very good footfall and happy shoppers make for happy traders who have turned out in consistently high numbers. The market is currently running at capacity of trader numbers, which should be the case right through until Christmas.



The Queens Jubilee was marked by stalls bedecked in Union Flags and bunting, with the markets' resident ukulele band (pictured) raising the already buoyant mood with a great set of rousing tunes.

In July the Royston Twinning Association joined the market celebrating French cuisine. Traders responded by theming their pitches accordingly, with Backstreet Catering putting on a Gallic inspired cooking demonstration, The Honest Fig specialised in French cheeses, all washed down with outstanding varieties of French wine courtesy of Cambridge Wine (Royston).

Enquiries from businesses wishing to work on the market have remained high. In the coming weeks we will welcome new craft stalls, a trader selling a huge selection of natural, preservative free doggy treats and Asian street-food served from an eye-catching converted Citroen Van, complementing the already excellent food offer for which the market is renowned.

ROYSTON TOWN COUNCILLORS

A list of all Councillors' names and contact numbers is given below, together with details of the wards they represent. All Town Councillors serve in a voluntary capacity and are elected for a 4 year term of office. Councillors are not paid and do not receive any allowance for attending meetings.

Town Mayor: Cllr Mary Antony Deputy Mayor: Cllr Ruth Brown

Palace Ward

Cllr Lisa Adams	07561 045044	dlr.lisa.adams@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Robert Inwood	01763 224 997	dlr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Bindi Jani	07737 639441	dlr.bindi.jani@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Lynsey Langdon	07984 495862	dlr.lynsey.langdon@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr John Rees	07958 654239	dlr.john.rees@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Meridian Ward

Cllr James Birch	07967 938811	dlr.james.birch@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Adam Compton	07788 483197	dlr.adam.compton@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Mike Harrison	01763 220055	dlr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Stephen Lockett	01763 246922	dlr.stephen.lockett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Royston South Ward

Cllr Mary Antony	01763 221316	dlr.mary.antony@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Carol Stanier	01763 220744	dlr.carol.stanier@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Royston West Ward

Cllr Elizabeth Beardwell	01763 242242	dlr.elizabeth.beardwell@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Ruth Brown	01763 230290	dlr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Emma Squire-Smith	01763 661701	dlr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Newsletter Supported by:

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YOUR GUIDE TO ROYSTON AND BEYOND

ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL

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www.roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Miss Caroline Mills
town.clerk@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk