

# ROYSTON TOWN CRIER

News from your Town Council – March 2020



## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Thursday 19 March 2020

7.30 pm Royston Town Hall

Royston Town Council would like to invite all Royston residents to attend this meeting where you will learn what your Town, District and County Councillors have been doing on your behalf over the previous year.

At the meeting you will have the opportunity to ask the relevant councillors questions that are of interest or concern to you.

The Town Mayor's Community Trust Fund awards will be made and special community awards presented to local residents who have made a significant contribution to the life of our town.

Please put this date in your diary and join us for an evening to celebrate all that makes Royston such a great place to live and work.

## Royston Town Council Budget 2020-21

The Royston Town Council precept for 2020-21 was agreed at the Full Council meeting on 20 January. The Royston Town Council Tax for a "Band D" property next year will rise from £47.29 to £48.49 per year, an increase of around 2.5%.

It includes provision for the nationally negotiated increases in staff salaries; a donation of £2,000 to the Youth Council and money allocated for property refurbishment and additional resources to move forward projects to introduce new facilities, which we believe, will benefit the community. The first of these will be the installation of bicycle racks. Investigation is continuing on ideas such as safe walking/jogging trails and a new bandstand/amphitheatre for Priory Memorial Gardens.

Royston Town Council has always been fiscally prudent. We will continue to manage and use your money with great care.

**John Davison - Leader of Royston Town Council**

## Updates from our Mayor, Cllr Robert Inwood

In May of this year, Cllr Inwood is planning to form Royston Youth Council. His aim is to give our young people a voice and a forum in which to express their ideas and suggestions to benefit their community.

It is intended that members of the Youth Council will be aged between 12 and 17 in the year that they apply to be on the council, and either live, or go to school in Royston. Further information can be found on the town council website: [roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://roystontowncouncil.gov.uk).

Our Mayor has also been attending many other events over the last few months and has thoroughly enjoyed every one of them.



He attended, along with other local councillors, the very successful Christmas market. The town council would like to thank Rob Mills, the market manager, for his usual excellent organisation.

The town council would also like to thank Royston Fire Station for their amazing Christmas Grotto, which our Mayor also visited. He said that it was a wonderful event for our community, and which went over and above their usual duties of keeping us all safe.

Cllr Inwood recently had a very positive visit to the King James Academy and was shown around the whole site during the course of the day. Mr Farquhar, the head teacher, demonstrated the school's new laser-



cutting machine, which creates a finished product from a CAD drawing.

We all know how supportive Cllr Inwood is towards our local army cadets and he is pictured here at the Dodkin Hut, Tannery Drift, along with



Cllrs Vera Swallow and Cllr Ian Coll. The open evening was for youngsters interested in joining the cadets and they watched demonstrations and took part in various activities. If you are interested in the cadets further information is available on their website: [www.armycadets.com](http://www.armycadets.com).

## ROYSTON'S MAY FAYRE

Please note change of day - Friday 8 May 2020

12 Noon – 4.30 pm in Priory Memorial Gardens

Royston's spectacular May Fayre in the Priory Memorial Gardens will mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day with special events taking place. Come along and enjoy all the attractions: Fairground rides, stalls and inflatables; Royston Town Band; Punch and Judy Show; Historic Vehicle Show; the Dog Show; Miniature Train; Charity Stalls and much more!

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YOUR GUIDE TO ROYSTON AND BEYOND



## Plastic Free Royston

A new initiative from the town council working group Naturally Royston, Plastic Free Royston, is now live. We would love to discuss how your business, home, school or community group could join in. Our team on the market on Saturday 25 January, collected pledges to give up items of single use plastic and talked to shoppers about how they could go plastic free.

The plastic free certification does not mean giving up all plastic – rather it rewards and recognises businesses that have stopped using up to three single-use plastic items. This should be eminently achievable for many businesses, with the multitude of alternatives now available. There are similar achievable goals for schools and community groups. The certification is a great way to show off your green credentials as well as doing your bit to help the local environment.

To achieve Plastic Free Town status for Royston we will work with several businesses, schools and groups within the town. Please do contact us if you are keen to be among the first to sign up. We will also be organising events such as litter picks that highlight how everyone can make a difference to their town.

Letchworth was awarded plastic free status last year by Surfers against Sewage and Hitchin and Baldock are also joining in now too. Let's make an impact on our local area.

If you are interested in getting involved with Plastic Free Royston or any other aspect of Naturally Royston's activities, please email [admin@roystontowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:admin@roystontowncouncil.org.uk) or look on the Naturally Royston Twitter (@naturallyroys) or Facebook @NaturallyRoyston feeds.

### 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 Robert Inwood Deputy Mayor: Cllr Mark Hughes**

#### Palace Ward

Ian Coll	01763 244595	<a href="mailto:cllr.ian.coll@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.ian.coll@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Mark Hughes	07860 108085	<a href="mailto:cllr.mark.hughes@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.mark.hughes@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Robert Inwood	07846 309896	<a href="mailto:cllr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Iain Leggett	01763 230978	<a href="mailto:cllr.iain.leggett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.iain.leggett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Vacancy		

#### Meridian Ward

Mike Harrison	01763 220055	<a href="mailto:cllr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Marguerite Phillips	07903 715533	<a href="mailto:cllr.marguerite.phillips@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.marguerite.phillips@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
F John Smith	01763 243082	<a href="mailto:cllr.fj.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.fj.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Philip Smith	01763 244775	<a href="mailto:cllr.philip.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.philip.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Vera Swallow	01763 222538	<a href="mailto:cllr.vera.swallow@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.vera.swallow@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Royston South Ward

Thomas Perry	07854 609201	<a href="mailto:cllr.thomas.perry@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.thomas.perry@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Carol Stanier	01763 220744	<a href="mailto:cllr.carol.stanier@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.carol.stanier@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Royston West Ward

Ruth Brown	01763 230290	<a href="mailto:cllr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
John Davison	07802 907700	<a href="mailto:cllr.john.davison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.john.davison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Emma Squire-Smith	01763 661701	<a href="mailto:cllr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>



## Saffron Screen at Royston Picture Palace

Saffron Screen has now taken over the management of Royston Picture Palace and is seeking to offer a greater range of screening times and films to our community. Over the next few months, you will have more choice of screenings than ever before with award-winning films, popular family favourites and some silver screen classics. We are also excited to bring you two foreign-language films, both of which have been showered in accolades - the brilliant thriller *Parasite* and the swooning period drama *A Portrait of a Lady on Fire*. We look forward to seeing you in the cinema.

A satellite dish has now been installed at the Town Hall so that we can bring you live and as live broadcasts from the Royal Opera House, National Theatre and other venues in London and around the world. We hope to announce our first events very soon so keep an eye on our Facebook page and website.

All this activity means we are also looking for more volunteers and (paid) Performance Managers. If you are interested in applying, or finding out more, please contact [viv@saffronscreen.com](mailto:viv@saffronscreen.com).



Royston Town Council is pleased to be part of the Hertfordshire Year of Culture 2020. The aim is to showcase creative and cultural opportunities in and around our town. Each month activities will be taking place around specific themes. To find out more information please visit the Celebrate Royston event in the market on Saturday 28 March and <https://www.visitherts.co.uk/whats-on/hertfordshire-year-of-culture-2020/>

## ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk: Miss Caroline Mills  
[town.clerk@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk)