



December  
2022  
edition

*This edition is dedicated to the late  
Former Town Mayor Barbara Long*

# Andover Town Council Newsletter

## A Round up of 2022 from Our Mayor

2022 has been a year of extremes of horror, sadness, joy and despair, but also one of hope. In February we watched Putin's brutal invasion of Ukraine unfold seeing the very worst in humanity. However, in such darkness the light of Andover residents rallying to support Ukrainian people in their darkest hour by their offering time, donations and opening their homes to displaced families. During such worrying times for us globally residents have enjoyed the huge variety of free-to-attend events organised by various community organisations, such as A-Fest, Soap Box Derby, Carnival, Summer Fayre and Festival of Motoring. We remembered the fallen at the Armistice & Remembrance service held on Sunday 13th November and reflecting on the sacrifices made for us to have a better future. Despite the extremes we have weathered this year, we can plan for a better 2023. We are looking at ways to better support our most vulnerable and to seek out new opportunities for all. The Town Centre Christmas Festivities have been a success with families coming along and enjoying themselves. The Council will soon take ownership of the remaining allotment sites, which will help reduce the waiting lists & offer more opportunity to those who want to grow who maybe don't have access to a garden at home. We are closely scrutinising next year's budget with the aim of identifying efficiencies, whilst further improving the lives of residents. We are looking forward to improving the offering of public open space furniture across Andover, independent access to town centre shops, support for our library, improving our allotment sites, expanding our Christmas Lights displays, updating our website, and awarding grants to community and youth organisations.



## Allotments

2022 saw us open the eagerly awaited Allotment site at The Ox Drove. We had a waiting list for this site so the plots filled quickly and we are over the moon with how the Allotments are looking thanks to the tenants who have done such good work so far! 2023 should see the launch of our two newest Allotment sites, 'Saxon Heights' & 'Picket Twenty'.

In the New Year we will be adding a new feature to the website which will allow Tenants to book meetings directly with the Allotment Officers. Please keep your eyes peeled for updates on this feature, it will be announced once it is live!

## Speed Indicator Sign on London Road

Finally, we saw the installation of the speed indicator unit on London Road which was a great success and well received by local residents. The Device is mobile and is currently on Winchester Road helping to regulate speeding vehicles. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this happen and keep an eye out for more...coming to a road near you soon!



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## Website Photo Competition

At the end of Summer, we launched a competition on our Facebook page seeking out a new photograph to add onto our website as we continue to update and develop the website. We can announce that 2 photos we just couldn't choose between have won!! Both captured by a very talented gentleman called Dan.

They are now on the website.



## Events

2022 has seen a wealth of free to attend events hosted within the Town Centre, some old, some new! We saw celebrations to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee across Andover which will be remembered for generations. Andover Summer Fayre, Andover Festival of Motoring, Andover Carnival and of course, the most recent was The Christmas Festival which was a rip roarer. We have never seen Andover Town Centre quite so busy and the feedback received from people who came to join us was incredible.

We look forward to 2023's Christmas Festival which we can't wait to start working on!! The Mayor has been busy at various events throughout the year representing Andover Town Council at very special events such as Andover Pride Awards, The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Launch and other special occasions.

Bottom left is a photograph taken of Mayor David Coole reading 'First Lesson' Psalm 23, at a Civic Service in Thanksgiving of her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 which he attended on Sunday 18th September 2022.



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2022 has seen us return to a form of pre covid 19 life which has been exciting and overwhelming in equal measures for some. People have returned to their offices full time, masks have become less prevalent in public and fear of being too close to a stranger in the shop has eased.

Let's hope 2023 brings us more 'Normality' with a touch more 'Humanity' than before.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Newsletter, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

The Team at Andover Town Council

