

# Your Billingham

## In the Spotlight...

Billingham Boxing Academy is a local community amateur boxing club based in Billingham. They provide boxing sessions for children from age 8 through to seniors, along with over 50's sessions, All Star sessions for children with SEN, Ladies Only sessions, Family Fit sessions and have also launched a Parkinson's Punchers session for people living with Parkinson's Disease.

The Academy is extremely passionate about providing a service to the community as a whole and regularly help us to deliver Sunday dinners to the vulnerable and isolated every week.

If you are interested in finding out more about the sessions that the Boxing Academy provide or the work that they do within your community, take a look at their social media pages.

www.facebook.com/BillinghamBoxing

http://www.instagram.com/bil lingham\_boxing\_academy





Well doesn't time fly! It feels like I blinked and 2021 was over. This may well be my last article as the chairman of the Town Council and it has been my absolute pleasure to serve the residents of our amazing town for three consecutive years. We have delivered so much in the last year. We may not have been able to hold our usual big events, but we have supported hundreds of residents. We have provided activities for children during the school holidays, delivered over 5000 hot meals to elderly residents, hosted household health checks and worked together with the

Billingham branch of the Royal British Legion to organise the Annual Remembrance Sunday Parade. Also we have supported the Billingham Community Partnership, delivering many projects within the town.

January is when we finalise our budget for the next year and you can read all about how we are spending your money in the middle two pages. We are delighted to have doubled the amount of money in our sponsorship fund from £10,000 to £20,000 as this money goes direct to local organisations. Our small grants of up to £500 for one-off projects are still available and we have committed £5000 to our grant fund for the coming year. We will continue to provide our Sunday Lunch Service for the next 12 months and we are all excited to be partners with the Billingham Legacy Foundation Supporters Group to bring the carnival back to Billingham after a two year absence in its new location in John Whitehead Park.

Finally, I'd like to thank our team of staff for their unwavering support and my fellow councillors for their dedication and commitment to you, our residents.

Councillor Clare Gamble, Chairman, Billingham Town Council

# **Community Cuppa!**

The newly refurbished Café in the Park in John Whitehead Park reopened its doors after the COVID-19 lockdowns at the end of June 2021 with a new interior, new staff, great food and beverages, service and the best value for money.



Come and join us for a range of delicious treats including cakes and homemade scones alongside tea and expertly made coffee from Caffe Vinci, also available to takeaway. Breakfast is served until 11.30am, then at lunchtime and throughout the afternoon we offer meals including homemade pies and quiches, jacket potatoes and panini along with much more.

The Café is also part of the Chatty Café Scheme which aims to get people chatting and reduce loneliness, so come along for a cuppa and meet our friendly team.

Email: info@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk Website: www.billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

# **Sunday Lunch Service**

This service was launched in May 2020 as part of the Covid-19 community support response. It was during this time that the Town Council identified a need within the community for support to some of our most elderly and vulnerable residents who are not in a position to be able to cook a hot meal for themselves.

Managed by the Chairman of the Town Council with support from staff, Councillors and volunteers, to date, more than 10,000 two-course meals have been prepared and delivered.

The service, funded through our precept and reserves budget, has now been extended until March 2023. This budget commitment over the next year will allow us to reach out to more residents and provide more meals.







# **Events**

The Town Council arranges a variety of events and activities for the enjoyment and benefit of residents and visitors.

This year's schedule will include Easter, summer and Hallowe'en activities, Billingham Carnival, Remembrance Sunday Parade, Christmas Lights Switch-on and a variety of smaller scale activities for children throughout the year, including half term.

There will also be an extended Bank Holiday weekend in 2022 from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June to mark the HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June the Town Council will be holding a beacon lighting event in John Whitehead Park.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for all of the latest event news.

# Holiday Enrichment Programme

Over the last 12 months, we have supported local organisations to deliver holiday enrichment projects across the town. In a year of financial uncertainty, this has been welcomed by residents more than ever and we have been inundated with positive feedback from parents.

As a result, we have committed funding to ensure that local children are able to access activity sessions which include a meal provision across all school holidays for 22/23.

















Administration Costs	£148,242
Running costs	£28,700
Events	£21,250
Community Projects	£43,100
Grants	£62,200
Other	£16,100
Total	£319,592

The table below outlines the cost for each property banding over recent years and read on for more information about the services coming this year to support our town and its residents.

	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	Cost per Month
BAND A	£19.92	£19.92	£22.04	£1.84
BAND B	£23.24	£23.24	£25.71	£2.14
BAND C	£26.56	£26.56	£29.39	£2.45
BAND D	£29.88	£29.88	£33.06	£2.76
BAND E	£33.20	£33.20	£40.41	£3.37

#### **Ward Community Fund**

This fund, introduced in 2020, allows Town Councillors to support local projects and initiatives or respond to local issues within their wards. Each of Billingham's five wards has £2000 available during 2022/2023.

If you are involved in a project in your area that needs some help or you have an idea about doing something for the community, please contact your local Town Councillor detailing how this support will benefit the ward and its residents.

# **Grants, Subsidies & Sponsorship**

The Town Council is committed to encouraging, supporting and promoting individuals, groups and local organisations delivering within Billingham for the benefit of the town and providing an easily accessible process of funding support. This year, the Council has increased its annual budget provision for community funding and is providing three separate funding schemes:

- Grants Scheme £5000 committed to fund one off projects that can be completed within a year, maximum individual grant value of £500;
- Subsidies Scheme set over a three year term to provide some financial stability. Applications can be made between 1st April and 31st August and will be considered as part of the budget setting process which takes place between September and January;
- Sponsorship Scheme £20,000 committed to supporting voluntary or not for profit organisations.

Application forms for all schemes are available from the Town Council website or by contacting the Town Council office.

# How Billingham Town Council began.

In 2002 it became known that Norton's campaign to establish its own council had failed. Would a campaign in Billingham succeed?

At Stockton Borough Council's first public question time Colin Pollard asked what steps were being taken to encourage the formation of a Billingham Town Council. Answer: no-one had asked before. This soon led to a well-attended public meeting, at which a Town Council steering committee was formed. The members of this committee asked Colin Pollard and Frank Crosby to act as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The successful campaign which followed is recounted in issue 12 of the Billingham Matters magazine. If any reader would like a copy of that article, please contact the Town Council office on 01642 551171.

## Councillor Sheila Smart 1951 – 2021



It is with great sadness that we share the news that Councillor Sheila Smart passed away on 28th September 2021. Councillor Smart has represented the Council since 2011 and was always passionate about our town and the residents she was so proud to represent. Sheila was devoted to her family and had the kindest heart. Our thoughts are with her friends and family at this sad time. As a long term supporter of Teesside District Society for the Blind, Billingham Town Council has made a donation in her memory.

## **Meeting Timetable**

All Town Council meetings will be held in Meeting Room C at Billingham Library & Customer Service Centre. All meetings commence at 6.30pm unless otherwise stated. Members of the press and public are welcome to attend.

# **MARCH 2022**

# Communications Sub-Committee

Tuesday 1st March at 11am

# Café Management Sub-Committee

Tuesday 1st March at 1pm

# Planning & Services Committee

Tuesday 8th March

# Finance & General Purposes Committee

Tuesday 15th March

# Community Wellbeing Committee

Thursday 17th March at 12 noon

#### **Full Council**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

## **BILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCILLORS**

#### **Central Ward**

Councillor Clare Gamble

Email: cgamble@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Gina McCall Tel: 01642 880999

Email: gmccall@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Ann McCoy Tel: 01642 533554

Email: amccoy@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

#### **North Ward**

Councillor Jennifer Shotton

Email: jshotton@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Colin Leckonby Tel: 01642 872896

Email: <u>cleckonby@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk</u>

Councillor Jayne Wallace

Email: jwallace@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

#### **East Ward**

Councillor Mick Stoker

Email: mstoker@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Michelle Bendelow Tel: 01642 650583/07854 414830

Email: mbendelow@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Royce Sandbach

 $\textbf{Email:} \ \underline{rsandbach@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk}$ 

## South Ward

Councillor Jim Scollen Tel: 01642 558755

Email: jscollen@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Maria Lacey Tel: 07751 703687

Email: mlacey@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Vicki Wrathmall

Tel: 07900 244423

Email: vwrathmall@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

#### **West Ward**

Councillor Colin Pollard

Tel: 01642 531647

Email: cpollard@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Helen Atkinson

Tel: 01642 360645

Email: hatkinson@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

Councillor Sandy Peebles

Tel: 07526 242490

Email: apeebles@billinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

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