



Sprowston Matters

LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD



www.sprowston-tc.gov.uk

Sprowston

Town Council

Issue 51

Get involved with The Sprowston Summer Get-Together!

When: 10am to 3pm on Saturday
13th July 2019

Where: The green outside the Co-op
on Cannerby Lane.

Better Together Norfolk is a new project led by Voluntary Norfolk that is helping people to be better connected and as a result address loneliness and social isolation in our communities. Better Together has teamed up with Sprowston Town Council, Sprowston Library, Sprowston Dementia Café, Sprowston Church and the Methodist Church to organise a community get-together in Sprowston.

This fun, informal event will be an opportunity for residents to find out more about all the fantastic groups



Creating Connections | Building Communities

and activities that exist in Sprowston, from baby groups to clubs for older people and everything in between. It will also be a chance for local people to get to know their neighbours a little better!

For further information please contact:

Amelia Worley, Community Development Worker
Email: amelia.worley@bettertogethernorfolk.org.uk
Mobile: 07384 110362

Praise in the Park 2019

Come and join Sprowston Community Churches as we gather in the Park for our fun praise in the park event. Fun, crafts, engaging activities, music, the ecumenical churches team and meat and vegetarian BBQ.

A great chance to join us in the park, have some fun and engage with a really accessible church praise event. Come and join the team and find out what is happening in the life of our community and/or churches.

Pray for sunshine.



Sporting Facilities at the Rec...

Sprowston Recreation Ground has two full size and three mini football pitches available for hire. Although used by local clubs on a regular basis, there is still some availability. Facilities include changing rooms, showers and plenty of adjacent car parking for both players and spectators.

There are two regular clubs who hire our bowls green but there is capacity for more clubs and casual play. Or you could consider joining Sprowston Recreation Ground Bowls Club new members are always welcome. The Bowls Club meets at Sprowston Recreation Ground Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6pm - 8.00pm (arrive at 5.30pm) and Saturday afternoons 2pm - 5.00pm (arrive 1.30pm) during the season, which runs from mid-April to mid-September. For further details contact June Felekkis on 01603 491410 or Trevan Tye on 01603 413227.

A non-turf cricket pitch is available for seasonal or for one-off bookings with 'spring back' cricket stumps available on booking.

Hire fees include use of the pavilion and changing rooms but there is now a pitch only evening rate.

There are also 2 all-weather and 8 grass tennis courts available free, just turn up and play.

For more information on our sports facilities and hire fees go to www.sprowston-tc.gov.uk or Tel: 01603 408063.



The Chairman of Sprowston Town Council Mr Ian Moncur, presented the Annual Report of the Council for the year ending 31 March 2019



"I am very pleased to be introducing this year's annual report. This is the fourth occasion that I have presented a report to you and it comes at the end of my term as Councillor and Chairman of Sprowston Town Council.

Starting with our parks and open spaces, Windsor Park Gardens has benefitted from a new enlarged play area incorporating a wider range of play equipment and new tarmac pathways.

The Council has taken over responsibility for the play area and open space at Blue Boar Lane from Norfolk Homes. Improvements include bull nosed railings incorporating an additional access point at the front, tarmac pathways and soft landscaping.

At Sprowston Recreation Ground an orchard, dedicated to preserve old and endangered varieties of fruit trees, has been planted in an enclosed area behind the tennis courts, which will be opened to the public when mature. And the pedestrian access,

Further improvements at Windsor Park Gardens

Further improvements have been made at Windsor Park Gardens following the refurbishment of the play equipment and resurfaced tarmac pathways. A wooden post and rail fence has been erected around the perimeter to restrict vehicles parking on the open space. This will improve safety for users of this designated play area and assist our grounds staff as their machinery is unable to cope with the ruts and uneven surfaces created by parked vehicles. In view of concerns expressed by residents regarding access to some properties it was agreed to install the fence 1m inside the area.

between the library and tennis courts, has been hard landscaped making it easier for wheelchairs, pushchairs and prams and safer for pedestrians.

A tree survey of all the Council's trees under its responsibility has been carried out including the newest acquired woodland at Gurney Drive where arboreal work has been undertaken however, further works are required before it can be opened to the public.

Moving on to the cemetery we anticipate that there is approximately 8 years of burial space available before moving into the extension by which time the planting will be well established.

Next door demand for an allotment has increased, probably due to housing development in Sprowston, and our waiting list now stands at 40 residents.

With regards to our streetlighting the council commissioned a safety survey of all 856 lamp columns and is now reviewing the results.

Since the last Town Meeting the Town Council has submitted observations on over 85 planning applications. When commenting on planning applications the Town Council seeks to improve highways and car parking arrangements and for developers to contribute to the provision of other benefits for the residents of Sprowston.

Over the past year the Town Council Cinema has continued to show, on a monthly basis, a variety of film genres to entertain the regular filmgoers and hopefully encourage new visitors. The films are booked on a four monthly basis so there is a little bit of a guessing game on the success of the titles towards the end of the booking period. Although well attended, moviegoers are always welcome.

As to financial matters, the Council makes every effort to ensure its funds are used wisely and that residents

receive a high level of service. It is always a difficult decision to increase the annual precept but this allows the Council to continue to maintain the facilities provided for all residents.

Having agreed the 2019/20 budget and to meet its funding requirements the Council has increased cemetery and memorial fees by 4%, allotment rent by £1.00 per annum and an increase of £2.00 on one room at Sprowston Diamond Centre to bring it in line with others available for hire. There was no increase on sports hire fees and use of the tennis courts continues to be free. The precept was set at £650.355 and the cost for services to the average band D property in Sprowston is £117.01 per year an increase of 1.99%.

The Town Council has continued to support local organisations with much needed grant funding and this year organisations supported included:

£2,500 to Sprowston Youth Engagement Project

£100 to Norfolk Age UK

£300 to The Royal British Legion

£100 to National Accidents Rescue Services

and £500 to Norfolk Citizens Advice Bureau

Moving on to buildings the roof at Sparhawk Park has undergone repair following vandalism, and the Council property at Sprowston Recreation Ground was refurbished in preparation for the relocation of the office in August. Our new offices are more accessible for all and enables a more professional public interface. It has also enabled Council meetings to be held in a dedicated meeting room allowing greater space for members of the public to attend; and freeing a room at Sprowston Diamond Centre for hire.

However, the highlight for me this year was to officially open Sprowston



Diamond Centre a fabulous new facility for the community. There has already been significant interest in hire at the centre and many activities are already taking place including yoga, pilates, ballet, band practice, sewing, badminton and fitness classes, to name but a few.

Now onto other matters of interest in the parish, to commemorate the 100 anniversary of WWI the Town Council, in collaboration with Reverend Canon Stokes, arranged and paid for the War Memorial at St. Cuthbert's Church to be refurbished and cleaned. A teak inscribed bench was also placed at Sprowston cemetery commemorating WWI.

Following complaints from residents about speeding the Council has been presented with two Westcote Data Equipped Signs (SAM 2), funded from Councillor John Ward and Councillor Karen Vincent's County Council annual Local Members Funding Scheme budget.

They are regularly placed in various locations around the parish on roads identified by Councillors and residents as hotspots.

As well as displaying the vehicle speed to drivers they record data including; daily, weekly and monthly vehicle counts, speed averages and maximum speeds amongst other statistics.

I would like to conclude my report by thanking Councillors who have attended meetings and especially those who have chaired and attended working groups, and all Council office and grounds staff for all they do to keep the town running well.

Most particularly, I thank our Town Clerk, June Hunt for her vision, dedication, expertise, diligence and sheer hard work at all times. On a personal note I thank June for her assistance, guidance and unfailing support to me during my term as chairman.

I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Council to wish June a long and happy retirement and to welcome Guy Ranaweera who was appointed in March and will take over the reins on 31 May 2019. I am sure we are in safe hands."

Sprowston Town Council

Income & expenditure budget year ended 31st March 2020

Function	Precept	Income	Expenditure	Transfer from reserves	Transfer to reserves
Administration	£170,000	£3,942	£206,850	£32,908	
Allotments	£4,500	£3,800	£8,300		
Cemetery	£32,550	£85,000	£119,050	£1,500	
Grants to Community Groups	£6,500		£6,500		
Sprowston Diamond Centre	£201,450	£72,500	£317,200	£43,250	
Parks & Open Spaces	£175,355	£19,250	£227,200	£32,595	
Streetlights, Dog & Litter Bins	£60,000		£72,600	£12,600	
Total	£650,355	£184,492	£957,700	£122,853	£0

New Town Clerk takes office

Guy Ranaweera took over as Town Clerk on 31st May 2019. Prior to joining Sprowston Town Council Guy was a senior leader at Norfolk County Council's Community Learning Service.

Speaking about his new role as Town Clerk, Guy said:

"Eight years ago, my family and I moved our home from Norwich to Sprowston. Whilst that journey was only a short one, the difference it made was significant; we were impressed by Sprowston's pleasant environment, good schools, open spaces and parks, low crime, and friendly people.

As the incoming Town Clerk, I couldn't be happier to help look after many of those community assets which help make Sprowston such a delightful place to live. Looking to the future, Sprowston is set to experience a lot of development and growth over the coming years, so a priority for myself and the Town Council will be to influence and manage that growth for the benefit of current and future generations of Sprowston residents."

PING Outdoor Table Tennis



The Town Council has, through Broadland District Council, acquired an outdoor Table Tennis table available for use free with this Council paying for installation. The table will be located adjacent to the Sprowston Recreation Ground Pavilion changing rooms with bats and ping pong balls available from the Council Office behind the Pavilion. It is hoped that the table will be installed before the start of the summer holidays.



Your New Town Council

The first meeting of the newly elected Council took place earlier this month where Mr J M Ward was elected Chairman and Mr W F Couzens Vice-Chairman.

As a parish which has the status of a town the Chairman of the Council is entitled to be called the Town Mayor and it was Mr Ward's wish to be known as Town Mayor.

As this was the Annual Meeting of the Council Members were appointed to serve on external organisations and it was agreed that Mr W F Couzens and Mr A J Barton serve on the Senior Citizens Welfare Committee, Mr W F Couzens and Mrs J Leggett on Sprowston Heritage Group and Mr W F Couzens, Mrs B J Lashley and Mrs J Leggett on the Grow Your Community Group for the ensuing year.

Sprowston Town Council comprises fifteen elected members representing four electoral wards. The Town Council meets at the Council Office, Sprowston Recreation Ground, Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston. Dates of the Council meeting can be viewed at www.sprowston-tc.gov.uk and on the Council's noticeboards located across the parish. Residents are entitled and welcomed to attend and have an opportunity, during Residents Question Time, to ask questions about any matters concerning the Town.



Your Councillors are:

Sprowston Central Ward

Ms D Coleman (Lab)
77 Cozens Hardy Road, Sprowston, NR7 8QG
Tel: 01603 429967
dawniel48@icloud.com

Mrs B Cook (*Lab)
39, Coot Drive, Sprowston NR7 8DW
Tel: 07867802387
breannecook52@outlook.com

Mr W F Couzens (Lab)
5, Church Green, Sprowston NR7 8BA
Tel: 414797
cllrcouzens@gmail.com

Mr R J Knowles (Con)
94, Proctor Road, Sprowston NR6 7PH
Tel: 788873
robin.knowles2@ntlworld.com

Mrs B J Lashley (Lab)
23, Neville Road, Sprowston NR7 8DS
Tel: 466007
barbara@thelashleys.com

Sprowston North East Ward

Mr J F Fisher (Con)
88, Yarmouth Road, Norwich NR7 0QZ
Tel: 432838 / 07714781479
johnfisherkbh@gmail.com

Mr N C Shaw (Con)
34, Firtree Road, Thorpe St. Andrew NR7 9LG
Tel: 435839
ncshaw@gmx.com

Sprowston South East Ward

Mr A J Barton (Con)
49, Branford Road, Norwich, NR3 4QD
Tel: 483900
tonybarton10@yahoo.co.uk

Mr J H Leahy-Mallen (Con)
178, Wroxham Road,
Sprowston NR7 8DE
Tel: 787251
jleahymallen@gmail.com

Mrs J Leggett (*Con)
30, Garrick Green, Old Catton NR6 7AL
Tel: 429986
cllr.judy.leggett@broadland.gov.uk

Mr I J Mackie (Con)
19, Lochhead Bank, Geoffrey Watling Way,
Norwich NR1 1GF
Tel: 454122
ianmackie_ma@hotmail.com

Ms C T Rumsby (Lab)
38, Falcon Road West, Sprowston NR7 8NX
Tel: 485892
crumsby63@gmail.com

Mr J M Ward (*Con)
15, White Farm Lane, Norwich NR7 0BP
Tel: 431146
cllr.john.ward@broadland.gov.uk

Sprowston West Ward

Mr M G Callam (LD)
138, Moore Avenue, Sprowston NR6 7LQ
Tel: 343508
martincallam@yahoo.co.uk

Mr S C Walker (*Con)
188, Spixworth Road, Old Catton NR6 7EQ
Tel: 07807516708

(Con) = Conservative (Lab) =
Labour (LD) = Liberal Democrat (*)
= Also Broadland District Councillor for
Sprowston

Venue Hire

Are you looking for somewhere to hold a children's birthday party, exhibition, training event or exercise class? Sprowston Diamond Centre might be the venue to use. With a range of spaces from small meeting rooms to a large sports hall at comparative prices, available on enquiry.

The centre also has two badminton courts and two table tennis tables with associated equipment. Whilst we cannot accommodate casual play at the moment, we can offer regular hire.

Court hire fees are £10.50 per hour plus VAT per court/table. Whilst availability is very limited weekday evenings there is lots of availability mornings, early afternoons and weekends.

Alternatively, Sprowston Pavilion on the Recreation Ground, ideal for younger children's parties or smaller events. This hall also has an external verandah and enclosed play area perfect for the summer.

Enquiries to
SDC@sprowston-tc.gov.uk or
Tel: 01603 408063

Office opening times and tel. enquiries Mon - Fri 9.30am - 1pm & 2pm - 4.30pm (after hours answerphone)

Town Clerk: Guy Ranaweera t: (01603) 408063 e: townclerk@sprowston-tc.gov.uk

'Sprowston Matters' Editor: Evelyn Elliot t: (01603) 408063 e: evelyn.elliott@sprowston-tc.gov.uk

Town Council Offices: Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston, Norwich, NR7 8EW



Sprowston Town Council and Sprowston Diamond Centre