

Sprowston Matters

www.sprowston-tc.gov.uk



The official newsletter of Sprowston Town Council

Join us for Movie afternoon at Sprowston Diamond Centre in conjunction with Creative Arts East

We are delighted to announce the reopening of our cinema at Sprowston Diamond Centre on Monday 9 May 2022.

Screenings of a current or award-winning full-length movie will be held on the first Monday of each month, unless a bank holiday when it will show on the following Monday.

May (Monday 9th) - Spencer

June (Monday 6th) - The Electrical Life of Louis Wain

July (Monday 4th) - The Duke

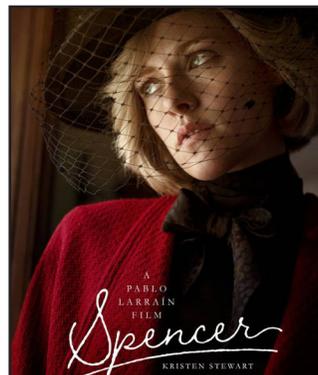
August (Monday 1st) - Death on the Nile

Doors open at the new time of 12.30pm and film performance starts at 1.00pm. Tickets are £5.00, including refreshments, just turn up on the day. No need to pre-book.

There is large car park at the rear of the building accessed from Neville Road.

We look forward to seeing you.

Films can be subject to change.



The Summer Fete is Back

Sprowston Town Council is busy planning a summer fete for Saturday 23 July 2022 on Sprowston Recreation Ground with traditional fun for the whole family.

Live Bands, Children's Activities, Variety of Stalls, Ice Cream Van, Bar, Bouncy Castle and much more.

If you would like to be a stallholder, please contact Toni on 01603 408063 or email tonijenkinson@sprowston-tc.gov.uk.

Free entry, gates open at 1.00pm.

Whilst we would encourage residents to walk, limited parking is available in the main car park off Recreation Ground Road and the Diamond Field on the corner of Neville Road and School Lane. The Edwards Road car park will be closed on the day as it will be used for skateboarding and activities for young people.



Sprowston joins the network of mini-forests being planted across the UK

Pictured left, Town Mayor John Ward planting one of the first of 400 trees at the community event to establish a “mini-forest” at Sprowston Recreation Ground.

The popularity of this event with residents proved overwhelming with places fully subscribed within just a few days of it being advertised.

One side of the new 200m² forest site was planted following the Miyawaki approach which will see dense planting of a wide range of native trees, into enriched, aerated soil.

The other half was planted following standard planting practice, which means that fewer trees are planted overall, and no supplements were added to the soil.

Trees in a Miyawaki forest absorb more carbon than trees planted in conventional woodland because they grow more quickly and are densely planted.

Over the years each of the sites across the UK will be carefully monitored to learn whether the innovative planting technique does bring greater success than the conventional planting.

The Tiny Forest is protected by a low wooden paling fence which, once the trees are established will be removed to allow visitors unrestricted access.

There was another opportunity for residents to further improve bio-diversity in Sprowston with the planting of 50 meters of mixed hedging at the Diamond Field on School Lane, part funded by a grant from the Broadland Community Tree Planting Scheme.

Over 60 residents of all ages took part planting 270 ‘whips’ of Beech, Crab Apple, Hazel and Hornbeam, sourced from a local nursery.

As the hedge matures it will improve the appearance of the area and create additional habitat for wildlife.

Councillor Dawn Coleman, who led the planting event said:

“It is wonderful to see so many residents keen to get involved in the community planting events the Council is organising in Sprowston. Hedgerows are an extremely valuable habitat for our wildlife.”

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Join us in the grounds of St. Mary and St. Margarets Church, Church Lane to celebrate the historic event of HRH Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee on 2 June 2022.

Music by Helleston and Sprowston Brass Band, address from Reverend Cannon Simon Stokes and a reading of the Proclamation by the Town Mayor John Ward followed by lighting of the beacon.

The beacon will be lit at 9.45pm at the same time as over 1,500 beacons across the country and you are invited to sing the National Anthem accompanied by the band.

Event opens at 9.00pm.
Refreshments available.

We would encourage people to walk to this event however, there is free parking in the Church Lane car park adjacent the cemetery.

Book your free ticket at <https://sprowstonjubileebeacon.eventbrite.co.uk> or phone the council office on 01603 408063.



Rewilding Pilot

Two roads in Sprowston have been identified to trial a re-wilding no mow scheme.

Sprowston Town Council and Norfolk County Council Highways are working together to run a 1-year opt-in trial scheme allowing residents to 'rewild' or plant-up selected verges in Sprowston.



The aim is to encourage insects, pollinators and birds by diversifying the plants in Sprowston's grass verges, where it is safe to do so.

Cozens-Hardy Road and Colindeep Lane were chosen for this trial as both have many grass verges on the 'inside' of the pavement, away from the road.

Participants will display an approved "No mow" sign in the verge or on their adjacent property.

Town Mayor John Ward said "This is one of many initiatives the Council is introducing to improve biodiversity, mitigate climate change and benefit the wellbeing and feel of our town."

If this trial scheme is successful, Sprowston and Norfolk Councils will explore the feasibility of extending the scheme to other roads in Sprowston.

If you live on either of these roads and are interested in taking part in the trial scheme, please see our website for more details (www.sprowston-tc.gov.uk) or telephone the office on 01603 408063.

Sprowston Senior Citizens Bowls Club

Wanted male and female experienced players or strict beginners of 55 years of age and over, who could enjoy three afternoons gentle exercise, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2.00pm till 4.30pm.

Everyone who lives in the local area is welcome and coaching is available.

We play on the excellent green at Sprowston Recreation Ground which has ample free parking.

The coming season starts 25 April 2022 and finishes 11 September 2022.

So, get active, have some fun, join us and play outdoor bowls.

For further information or to arrange a visit to look at our facilities, please contact:

Bob James on 01603 410200 / 07799403355

Barbara Lashley on 01603 466007



Viking Consultation

The Council would like to thank all those residents who braved the cold weather in January to attend drop-in consultations at the former Viking public house and Royal Bengal Restaurant on Tills Road.

Lots of positive comments were received on the plans to create two multi-purpose rooms, a central café / social community space and main hall on the ground floor and three offices for flexible hire on the first floor.

There was particular support for a social community space / café.

Suggestions included: gymnasium, youth base, social dancing, craft, keep fit and yoga classes, mobile bank visits, lunch club, advice mornings, toddler groups, outside seating and many other ideas.

As to environmental improvements there were suggestions to incorporate solar panels on the main hall extension, bike sheds and electric vehicle charging points. In addition to these, council plans to use air source heat pumps to heat the main hall.

Residents who frequented the building when it was a public house and then restaurant, shared their stories and fond memories. One local resident recalled a mural of a Viking displayed on one of the internal walls. If this mural is still intact, hidden under plasterboard or the like, Council would like to preserve it and welcomes any information on its whereabouts.

Plans are currently being updated to incorporate feedback from the consultation and will be submitted for planning permission in Spring 2022.



Sprowston Sports and Social Club

Open to members & Guests. New members always welcome. Wedding & Event hire available
Tel 01603 427 688.

Membership 2022. Single £18, Family £32, Senior £15.
Room hire £20 per hour with discount for members.

Home to Sprowston Football, Darts, Pool, Lawn Bowls,
Short Mat Bowls & Petanque Teams.

Annual Town Meeting

This year's Annual Town meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 April 2022 in the School Room at Sproston Diamond Centre commencing 7.00pm.

The Annual Town Meeting is the meeting where the Town Council reports to its electorate on what it has accomplished in the preceding year.

All residents are welcome to attend and speak on any matter of local interest to Sproston.

SCHEDULE OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

STARTING AT 7:30 PM (except the Annual Town Meeting)
Municipal Year 2022/2023

15 June 2022	11 January 2023
06 July 2022	01 February 2023
03 August 2022	22 February 2023
07 September 2022	15 March 2023
28 September 2022	05 April 2023
19 October 2022	26 April 2023 (Annual Town Meeting 7.00pm)
09 November 2022	26 April 2023 (Council Meeting to be held on the rising of the Annual Town Meeting)
30 November 2022	17 May 2023 Annual Council Meeting (Precept/Planning)
	14 December 2022

All meetings will be held in the **School Room, Sproston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sproston NR7 8TR**. Attendees are requested to wear Face coverings (except for those holding a valid exemption) and observe social distancing.

Multi-play Unit Sparhawk

Installed in March in preparation for the Easter holidays our brightly coloured Kompan Play Tower has four variations of climbing and crawling, a wide stairway, somersault bar, curved tower net for a more challenging way up and fireman's pole and slide to ride back to the ground.

Suitable for ages 4 to 12 with capacity of 15 users at any one time it is already proving very popular.



Commemorative Plaque Presentation

Councillors and members of the Sproston Supporting Our Community Together group (formerly the Sproston Coronavirus Help Group) gathered at an informal reception to mark the presentation of a memorial plaque commemorating the resilience of the community during the time of the pandemic.

The specially commissioned plaque was presented by one of HRH the Queen's representatives in Norfolk; Dr Marian Prinsley, Deputy Lieutenant.

Pictured community volunteer Carol Pennycook (top middle) who was the key organiser of the community volunteer response and Sue Ellingham (bottom middle) representative from Sproston Parochial Church.

The plaque was accepted on behalf of the whole community by Sproston Town Mayor, Councillor John Ward and will be displayed at the Council offices at Sproston Recreation Ground.



Running Track

A circular running track of approximately 400m will be mown into the grass at Barkers Lane to see if there is interest in this type of facility being located somewhere in Sproston. Please email your comments to townclerk@sproston-tc.gov.uk or telephone the Council office on 01603 408063.

Streetlights

To support our upcoming LED streetlight upgrade programme, residents are invited to send in any other ideas for improving or changing streetlighting in Sproston.

Email townclerk@sproston-tc.gov.uk or telephone the

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

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

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

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



Sproston Town Council and Sproston Diamond Centre