

# Flitwick papers

October/November 2020



Flitwick Town Council  
The Rufus Centre  
Steppingley Road  
Flitwick  
Bedford  
MK45 1AH



*Autumn Walk Through Manor Park*

 **01525 631900**

 **01525 631903**

 **info@flitwick.gov.uk**

 **www.flitwick.gov.uk**

 **/FlitwickTC**

 **@NewsFTC**

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Remembrance 2020

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Christmas Tree Project

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## Your Local Representatives

### Flitwick Town Councillors

Ward	Name	Contact
E	Keith Badham	630868
W	Ian Blazeby	634585
W	Jeremy Dann	713751
W	Paul Dodds	07841 908862
W	Patricia Earles	07929 638404
E	Mike Halligan	Contact TC Office
E	Ann Lutley	712837
W	Gareth Mackey	712537
W	Martin Platt	713017
E	John Roberts	716360
E	Russ Shaw	07784 867921
W	Andy Snape	07590 572440
W	Dan Toinko	01525 649992
W	Clare Thompson	07734 866479
W	Maureen Williams	714714

**Flitwick Town Council** deal with; Allotments, burial ground, grants, environmental improvements, events and activities, play areas, Youth Hub, parks and open spaces, Flitwick Manor Park and The Rufus Centre.

### Central Bedfordshire Councillors

Neil Bunyan	0300 300 8512
Charles Gomm	0300 300 8522
Gareth Mackey	712537

**Central Bedfordshire Council** deal with; Environmental Services, Grants, Grass Cutting, Highways, Industrial Estates, Planning, Recreation and Leisure, Refuse Collections, Litter Clearance, Recycling, Amenity Areas, Education, Libraries, Archives, Social Services, Street Lighting, Trading Standards, Traffic Management and Youth Services.

**Telephone 0300 300 8000**

## Tuesday 15th September

Councillors were pleased to hear that the new Town Council website was set to go live the following day. The site was upgraded with a fresh look with easy to navigate headings and pages. Councillors thought the website was impressive and noted that it would be promoted to residents and the wider community in the coming weeks after the testing period had taken place.

Councillors agreed their Surgeries Calendar for the coming year which detailed a range of dates, locations and times. Virtual sessions would be held regularly on Zoom, as well as at locations in the town following social distancing rules. This would keep dialogue between residents and elected Members going during the pandemic.

Full draft Minutes from this meeting can be found on the Council's website [www.flitwick.gov.uk](http://www.flitwick.gov.uk).

## Town Councillor Vacancy

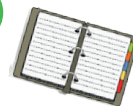
Do you want to make a difference to Flitwick? Help make decisions about what happens in the Town? We have a vacancy for a Town Councillor. Town Councillors volunteer their services to the local community.

The position is to be filled by co-option and Flitwick Town Council are seeking candidates in line with the Town Council's Co-option Policy which you can view on our website: [www.flitwick.gov.uk](http://www.flitwick.gov.uk)

If you are interested in becoming a Town Councillor you'll need to outline the reasons why you want to be considered for the position and send it to Town Clerk, Rob McGregor, Flitwick Town Council, The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, MK45 1AH or email [robmcgregor@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:robmcgregor@flitwick.gov.uk) by

**Friday 23rd October 2020.**

## Town Council Diary



Committee Meetings continue to take place online via Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to join any of the meetings.

Please visit [www.flitwick.gov.uk](http://www.flitwick.gov.uk) or email Deputy Town Clerk via [stephaniestanley@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:stephaniestanley@flitwick.gov.uk) for joining instructions.

### October

20th	Town Council	7.45pm
27th	Corporate Services	7.45pm
29th	Planning	7.45pm

### November

3rd	Community Services	7.45pm
6th	Planning	7.45pm
12th	Business Services	7.45pm
17th	Town Council	7.45pm
19th	Planning	7.45pm
24th	Corporate Services	7.45pm

## Basketball Comes To Millennium Park

A new Basketball Court on the hardstanding area at Millennium Park is taking shape thanks to a successful application for funding from the Town Council.

The basketball hoops and court markings have been funded by The Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Grant Fund and Team Beds & Luton which includes Sport England and the National Lottery.

4YPUK, who assisted in getting part of the funding, will be organising some coaching sessions with young people in the town in the coming weeks.

The hoops are in place and the court markings were completed on Friday 16th October.

We have had great feedback from residents on the new facility which has been put to use already. This is a fantastic addition to Millennium Park. The Council would like thank everyone involved in the project for making it happen.



## Chat To A Councillor

If you have any issues, concerns or ideas for the town your Councillors want to hear from you.

A series of 'Chat To A Councillor' sessions have been organised both online via Zoom and in person to give residents the opportunity to meet with the people who represent them in the town.

The next session is scheduled for **20th November** at Flitwick Market between 10am and 12 noon. Please come along if you can.

Dates for future sessions will be advertised on Flitwick Town Council's Facebook page.



Flitwick Town Council

## CHAT TO A COUNCILLOR

Come and say 'hello' and meet the people who represent you in Flitwick

*Opportunity to discuss any issues you may have in the town*



## Remembrance Events

On Remembrance Sunday this year, as we are unable to meet together and pay our respects at the War Memorial, a special service is being held at Flitwick Parish Church with a small number of invited guests.

The service will be streamed live via Facebook @FlitwickChurch on **Sunday 8th November at 2pm** to give everyone the opportunity participate in the service from home.

On Wednesday 11th November at 11am there will be a socially distanced wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial involving a small number of people to comply with the current Covid-19 restrictions that in place.

## Poppy Displays

Our Community Services Team have been busy waterproofing the beautiful poppy display that will be decorating the War Memorial and the individual stemmed poppies that will be placed on the roundabout at the top of Steppingley Road to mark Remembrance.

The poppies were all knitted and crocheted by members of our Stitchers Group and residents of Flitwick and surrounding villages last year. Having been safely kept in storage we are now getting them ready to be put on display for Remembrance 2020.

We are so grateful for all of the support we received from everyone who contributed to the poppy project and are really looking forward to seeing them on display again this year.

The Royal British Legion will be at Flitwick Market with their poppy stall on **23rd and 30th October and 6th November** if you would like to show your support.

You can find out more about the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and the National Service of Remembrance at The Cenotaph by visiting: [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)





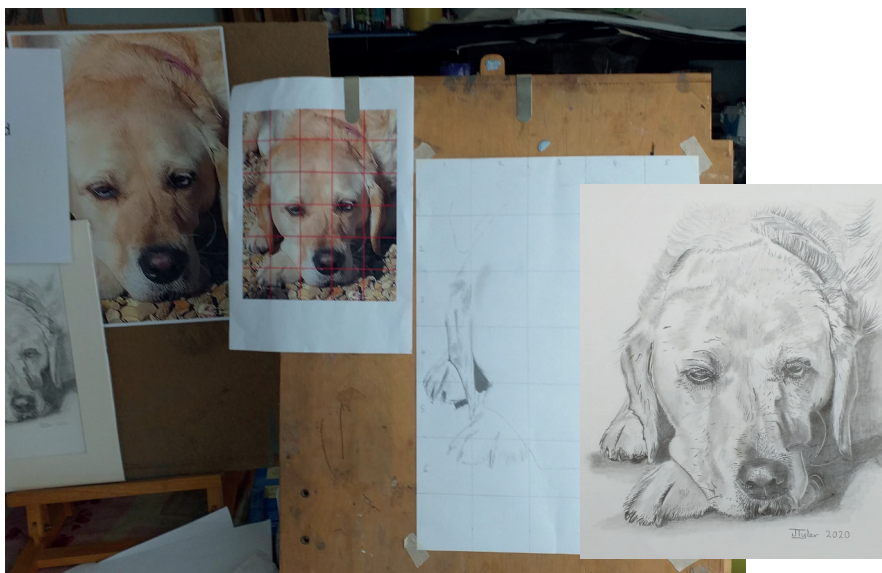
Fun Palace at the beginning of October was somewhat different to how it is normally as we had to organise all activities online due to Covid-19 restrictions but this did not stop the fun and creativity of the event.

Fun Palace is a nationwide initiative that takes place on the first weekend of October. It's all about getting involved with your community and having a chance to share your skills and learn something new.

Run jointly this year by Flitwick Town Council and Flitwick Library, residents had the opportunity to join online dance lessons with Imagination Arts, have a close-up animal encounter with Teaching Talons and get some fantastic drawing techniques and tips with local artist Julie Tyler. Flitwick Library also held a virtual game of Scrabble which proved to be very popular.

We received some great feedback from a Flitwick resident whose daughter attended the online art class:

*"Could you please pass on our thanks to Julie for the drawing class. My daughter, really enjoyed it. Taught her some great techniques! Julie is a very talented artist and it was lovely of her to give up her time. Thank you for helping to organise."*



## Cattle Settle Well Into Manor Park

The Limousin-cross cattle at Manor Park have settled in well to their new home in the paddock behind the lake.

The calves are growing fast and doing well and the cows are doing a great job of working their way through the rough vegetation creating clearings across the whole paddock.

As they are work their way through the long grasses and rushes they are becoming more and more visible from the main field so be sure to keep an eye out for them on your next visit.



***Thank you to Vince Vass from the FTC Grounds Team for these fantastic pictures. The cattle do look at home in Manor Park!***

## New FTC Website Now Live

The new Flitwick Town Council website is now live and we want residents and businesses in the town to get involved.

If you would like to promote your community event, club or business on our new website you will find easy online forms to complete to help publicise what is going on. We want to include information on community events happening in the town, all the local sports, clubs and organisations, local businesses, and stories and images of Flitwick past and present.

Visit our website at [www.flitwick.gov.uk](http://www.flitwick.gov.uk) for more information and to keep up to date with what is happening in the town. If you would like to know more please contact Beverley on 01525 631900 or email [beverleyjones@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:beverleyjones@flitwick.gov.uk)



## Get Ready For Christmas Outdoor Market

For the first time in Flitwick, this Christmas we will be holding a series of outdoor Christmas Markets in the Village Hall car park, with a wide range of festive produce, gift ideas and seasonal food and drink. The first market is on **Sunday 8th November**.

We have a few stalls available for hire on selected dates. Stalls are 2m x 2m and cost £15. If you are interested in having a stall and would like more information please contact Community Services Officer, Susan Eldred on 01525 631900 or email [susaneldred@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:susaneldred@flitwick.gov.uk).

## Christmas Tree Project

We've been overwhelmed with the response to the new Stitcher's project for a Community Christmas Tree made from knitted, crocheted, felt or square fabric to go on display in the town.

Everyone has been so creative with festive embellishments and beautiful squares of different shades of green.

There is still time to contribute to the Community Christmas Tree Project if you want to get involved. We need green squares measuring 6", 8", 10" and 12". The size of the final tree will be dictated by the number of squares so the more the merrier!

You can be as creative as you like as there are no patterns or parameters except for the sizes and the colour green.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. We are still collecting completed squares at The Rufus Centre during office hours if you are able to take part.

**For more information on the project please contact Zoe Putwain, Community Services Assistant, for more information on 01525 631900 or email [zoeputwain@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:zoeputwain@flitwick.gov.uk)**







# **FLITWICK CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**EVERY SUNDAY**

**8TH NOVEMBER - 20TH DECEMBER**

(EXCLUDING SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER)

**Open:  
10am - 2pm**



**FLITWICK VILLAGE HALL - CAR PARK  
DUNSTABLE ROAD, FLITWICK, MK45 1HP**

**Christmas Shopping with Local Produce & Gifts**

**Hot Food & Mulled Wine**

**FREE ENTRY**



**Organised by Flitwick Town Council**

For more information: 01525 631900 or [susaneldred@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:susaneldred@flitwick.gov.uk)



@NewsFTC



/FlitwickTC

[www.flitwick.gov.uk](http://www.flitwick.gov.uk)

## The Rufus Centre

Despite all of the restrictions in place due to Covid-19 we were delighted that we were still able to accommodate all the weddings we had booked here for the summer months. Numbers were restricted and original plans had to be scaled down but we were able to do everything we could to make the weddings as special as possible. It was lovely to see the Civil Ceremonies take place in the Lockyer Suite and beautiful wedding photographs taken in the Wedding Garden.

We are offering a special inclusive package for 15 guests to comply with the latest government guidelines for just £1,500 including the civil ceremony, room decorations and sit down wedding breakfast for a limited time only. You can read more about this fantastic offer on page 11.



### Rendezvous Café & Bar

Since the Rendezvous Café & Bar opened at The Rufus Centre at the beginning of August we have been overwhelmed by the support of the local community and already have regular customers who visit us weekly, if not more!

You can view the range of menus on the new Café section on our website [www.therufuscentre.co.uk](http://www.therufuscentre.co.uk). The Café also has its own Facebook page where you can keep up to date with the latest news and special offers.



Friday nights have been transformed with the Café's **Friday Nights@Rendezvous**, weekly entertainment with licensed bar and socially distanced tables for up to four guests. So far we have enjoyed live music from The Numbers (*pictured*) and Noel DaCosta. Next on the calendar is a Fish & Chip Night with live music on **23rd October**. There's something planned every Friday. Why not come along? Pre booking essential.

Tel: **01525 631905**

Email: [bookings@therufuscentre.co.uk](mailto:bookings@therufuscentre.co.uk)



[/TheRufusCentre](https://www.facebook.com/TheRufusCentre)

[/WeddingsAtTheRufusCentre](https://www.facebook.com/WeddingsAtTheRufusCentre)



[@RufusCentreFTC](https://twitter.com/RufusCentreFTC)

# The Rufus Centre



Meet, Work, Celebrate

[www.therufuscentre.co.uk](http://www.therufuscentre.co.uk)

# Special Wedding Package

Inclusive Civil Ceremony and Wedding Reception Availability

A complete package for up to 15 people including bride and groom with all social distancing measures in place so you can relax and enjoy your special day!



Civil Ceremony & Reception Room Hire

~~~~

Room Decorations including ceiling canopy & chair covers

~~~~

Choice of Three Course Meal

~~~~

Drinks Package\*

~~~~

Wedding Garden - perfect for photographs

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Live streaming for family & friends at home

~~~~

Background Music

## £1,500 inclusive

Exclusive use of room until 8pm, decorations package, three course sit down meal with choice of menu, drinks package and background music for up to 15 people.

\*Drinks package: (bottle of beer, glass of wine or soft drink x 2 per person)

Offer available for a limited time only. Additional extras available.

Call the Wedding Team to discuss availability on  
01525 631905 or email [events@therufuscentre.co.uk](mailto:events@therufuscentre.co.uk)

**The Rufus Centre**  
Celebrate in Style



/WeddingsAtTheRufusCentre  
[www.therufuscentre.co.uk](http://www.therufuscentre.co.uk)

### Flit Vale - Wildlife Trust

**Saturday 7th November**

#### **Geology Walk with Derek Turner, BNHS Geology Group**

Starting from Maulden Church Meadows

Two sessions: 10.00-12.00 or 13.30-15.30

Groups will be limited to six in total and booking ahead is essential. Social distancing will be observed but mask wearing will be optional. (If there are insufficient bookings then the two sessions will become one morning session)

To book: email [flitvale.info@gmail.com](mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com) or ring Ann on 07580 178889 between 6 and 8 pm or at weekends.

### The Flitwick Halloween Trail

**Saturday 31st October**

Don your costumes and follow the map to experience all the spooky stops on the Flitwick Halloween Trail.

Experience the likes of 'The Graveyard', 'The Sanderson Sisters', 'The Garage Door of Doom' and 'Kendal Drive Clive' on your travels. And collect your prize!

For more information and details on where to park and how to stay safe within the latest Government guidelines visit the Flitwick Halloween Trail Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Flitwick-Halloween-Trail-111317023797029>



### Face to Face For Flitwick Scouts

After not being able to meet face to face since March, members of Flitwick Scouts are delighted to be able to meet each other outside.

The adult volunteers have used their imagination and carried out lots of research to design games and activities for all of the children and young people to do whilst remaining socially distanced. This has also meant changing times and venues to ensure all of the activities are carried out safely. The activities have included the Athlete Badge, health and fitness, hoop football, making ballistas, hikes to Ampthill and around Flitwick and exploring the wildlife at Manor Park.

To find out more visit: [www.flitwickscoutgroup.org.uk](http://www.flitwickscoutgroup.org.uk)



*(Article sent in by Flitwick Scouts)*



# RENDEZVOUS

## Café & Bar

**NOW OPEN SATURDAY 8am - 2pm**

**Monday to Friday 8am - 4pm**

Join us for breakfast, lunch, freshly ground coffee and cakes. We have a wide range of refreshments and a daily 'Specials' board

**Cooked Breakfast 8am to 11am - Vegetarian Options Available**

### **Full Breakfast £5.50**

Egg (fried or poached)

Two Sausages

Two Rashers of Bacon

Two Hash Browns

Beans or Tomatoes

Mushrooms

Two Slices of Toast & Butter

### **Small Breakfast £3.50**

Egg (fried or poached)

Sausage

Bacon

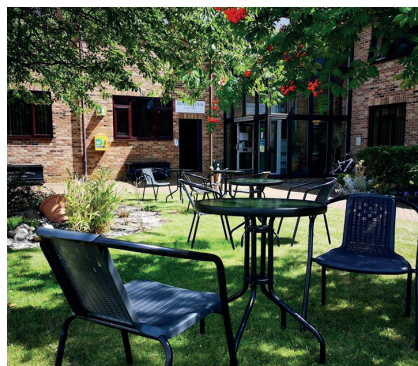
Hash Brown

Beans or Tomatoes

Mushrooms

Slice of Toast & Butter

*We're flexible if you want to swap items on the menu!*



**The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH**  
**Tel: 01525 631905** [www.therufuscentre.co.uk](http://www.therufuscentre.co.uk) [events@therufuscentre.co.uk](mailto:events@therufuscentre.co.uk)



/TheRufusCentre



@RufusCentreFTC



/FlitwickTC



@NewsFTC

# Get In Touch

You can call us on  
01525 631900 or  
email:  
[info@flitwick.gov.uk](mailto:info@flitwick.gov.uk)

Look inside for details of the  
live streaming via Facebook of  
the Remembrance Service from  
@Flitwick Church on Sunday 8th  
November at 2pm



## RENDEZVOUS

*Café & Bar*

### Friday Nights @Rendezvous

Join us at for an evening of Food & Music:

**Friday 23rd October**

**Doors open at 6pm Food served from 7pm**

### Fish & Chip Night

Tickets include Freshly Battered Cod or Haddock, Chips,  
Mushy Peas or Peas, Roll & Butter followed by Cheesecake

**Enjoy Live Background Music As You Dine**

**Tickets £15 | Licensed Bar**

Socially distanced tables for up to four guests

**Coming soon...**

**Cocktails & Canapés: 30th Oct Live Music: 6th Nov Themed Quiz: 13th Nov**

**Pre-booking  
essential  
01525 631905**



The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH  
01525 631905 [www.therufuscentre.co.uk](http://www.therufuscentre.co.uk) [events@therufuscentre.co.uk](mailto:events@therufuscentre.co.uk)

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[t/RufusCentreFTC](https://www.twitter.com/RufusCentreFTC)