



Edenbridge Town Council

NEWSLETTER Autumn 2021



New Town Council Chairman

Following the Annual Meeting of the Town Council on Thursday 6 May, Cllr Bob Todd was unanimously elected as the new Chairman of the Town Council. Cllr Angela Baker was voted in as Vice-Chairman.

Cllr Todd said, *'I am honoured to have been voted in by my fellow councillors. I look forward to leading the town into a better brighter future after lock down, and to be able to put in to place projects that had to be put on hold'*.

There have also been some changes to the following Committees:

Open Spaces: Chairman - Cllr Angela Baker;
Vice-Chairman - Cllr Stuart McGregor.

Planning and Transportation: Chairman - Cllr Alan Layland; Vice-Chairman - Cllr Jon Aldridge.

Finance and Governance: Chairman - Cllr Nick Lloyd; Vice-Chairman - Cllr Stephen Sumner.

Council and Committee meetings are held in



Rickards Hall and publicised on the Town Council's website and the notice board three clear days before meetings. Meeting dates are on the website.

The next meetings are:

September : 13 - full Council; 20 - Planning Committee; and Open Spaces Committee; 27 - Finance and Governance Committee.

October: 4 - Forward Planning Steering Group; 11 - Planning Committee; CIL Board; 18 - full Council; 25 - Emergency Planning.



FINALIST - Best Procurement Delivery: Edenbridge Town Council is delighted to have been shortlisted as a finalist at this year's UK National GO Awards in the category for Best Procurement Delivery - Local Government. This is in recognition of the new Outdoor Gym and Street Snooker multi games area at Stangrove Park, which was delivered for the benefit of the community last year during the pandemic. The winners will be announced at the UK National GO Awards evening on 15 September. Details are available on <https://www.goawards.co.uk/national/finalists/>.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Bids are currently being invited from community groups and infrastructure providers for projects that will benefit Edenbridge and meet the requirements in the guidance notes and CIL regulations.

CIL is a charge that local authorities can set on new development in order to raise funds to help fund the infrastructure, facilities, and services in their area. This money is collected and paid to the planning authority and a contribution is made to the appropriate town/parish council.

Bids will need to be received by the closing date Monday 20 September, 5.00pm.

How to make a bid? Visit the Town Council's website <https://www.edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk/meetings/committees/cil-board/> for copy of Edenbridge Town Council's CIL Guidance and procedures, and a copy of the *pro-forma* bid form.

**COMMUNITY
INFRASTRUCTURE
LEVY (CIL)
BIDS OPEN NOW**

Examples of some of the facilities the Town Council provides



www.edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk / or find us on Facebook

OTHER COUNCIL NEWS

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY WARDEN: I have resumed the litter pick groups. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have helped collect rubbish, one collection had 13 black sacks! Graffiti is an ongoing issue. I continue to endeavor to clean off as much graffiti as I can, including painting over some where appropriate. I have also used the bowser with the help of the ground staff. Graffiti is a persistent problem. Property owners who have been victims of graffiti can be slow to report incidents and therefore police resources go elsewhere.

A project which started prior to Lockdown in the beginning of 2020, to facilitate a scheme for retired men to meet, has started again with a couple of volunteers to help steer this, and preliminary talks. I am currently gauging the appetite for such a group and to find a suitable venue. Please do get in touch if you think this may be of interest to you. Email communitywarden@edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01732 865368.

I have been working closely with officers from two Police forces regarding various anti-social behaviour issues, and fly-tipping. Fly-tipping is a criminal offence and can carry heavy fines and up to five years imprisonment. Please report fly-tipping to Sevenoaks District Council on 01732 227000 or via its website. All anti-social behaviour should be reported on 101.

RICKARDS HALL TO HIRE: A spacious community hall just off the High Street, is available to book and is ideal for meetings, children's birthday parties, dance or fitness classes, events and more. Rickards Hall now has visual display facilities and wi-fi available for booking events including presentations.

For more details visit the Town Council's website <https://www.edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk/what-we-do-2/community-centres-and-village-halls-2/> or contact the office on 01732 865368.



COVID-19 - STEP 4 - What's changed and how to stay safe

While cases are high and rising, everybody needs to continue to act carefully and remain cautious. Testing when you have symptoms, and work places should continue regular lateral flow testing. Isolating when positive or when contacted by NHS Test and Trace.

Most legal restrictions to control COVID-19 have been lifted, including requirements for social distancing, working from home and wearing face coverings. The government expects and recommends that people wear face coverings in crowded areas such as public transport. All remaining closed businesses and venues, including nightclubs, can reopen, and all capacity limits at sporting, entertainment, or business events have been lifted. Hospitality venues such as pubs, restaurants and bars are also no longer required to provide table service or follow other social distancing rules. There are also no longer limits on the number of people who can meet, who can attend weddings, civil partnerships, funerals and other life events (including receptions and celebrations), or who can attend communal worship.

For more information visit [gov.uk https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do)

THURSDAY MARKET - stalls available

Contact the Town Council if you are interested in a stall on information@edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk.

The Market has some great stalls offering fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, cakes, specialist cheeses, great selection of plants for the garden or conservatory, greetings cards for all occasions and nik-naks. Lloyds mobile banking also attends every other week.

BUS ROUTE AROUND TOWN - Ride the Edenbridge

E1 Yellow bus for £1: Go-Coach in conjunction with KCC has introduced an Edenbridge Town service. It runs every half hour Monday to Friday from Edenbridge Post Office, then stopping at the Leisure Centre - Farmstead Drive - Lidl - Swan Lane - Hilders Lane - Crouch House Road St. Brelades - Crouch House Road - Pine Grove - Waitrose Car Park - Edenbridge Hospital - Edenbridge Post Office. Passengers can also hail and ride the buses from Hilders Lane, Little Browns Lane, and Crouch House Road.

Reporting anti-social behaviour and crime: Should you see any anti-social or suspicious behaviour or be concerned that a crime may have been committed, contact the Police using telephone number 101; alternatively contact Kent Police via their web-site at www.kent.police.uk. 999 (or 112) should be used if a crime is being committed or if you feel that you are under a threat of harm. This includes fast bikes, cars, quad bikes, which have increased in Edenbridge during the recent lockdown - if you witness any of these, and think there is an immediate danger call 999, alternatively report this on 101.