

May 2022

Belper Town Council

Community eNewsletter



The latest news from Belper Town Council

Latest News

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Friendship Orchard Tree Giveaway – February 2022

A lot has happened since our last edition so we would like to take the opportunity to update you on that, and what the Council is doing to continue to make Belper a lovely place to live and a great place to visit.

The Tea Rooms in the Rivers Gardens opened just before Easter and are a very welcome addition to the town's attractions. The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Town Council Meeting were held in early May, and we are delighted to welcome Cllr Katie Harris as our new mayor. Our sincere thanks go to Cllr John Porter, the outgoing mayor who has done such sterling work during this past year.

We have a great programme of events planned for the summer, but COVID 19 still represents a threat to community health, so we ask that people take precautions to safeguard their own health and that of others. We can all do our bit.

As always, we welcome any feedback on ways to improve this newsletter:

<https://www.belpertowncouncil.gov.uk/contact-us.html>

Belper Town Council
St John's Chapel
The Butts
Belper
DE561HX

01773 822116

#ASK FOR ANGELA

SAYING NO MORE
TO VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN



Ask for Angela

Councillors have visited town centre bars and pubs to talk about the 'Ask for Angela' safety campaign which Belper Town Council are promoting.

You could be on a date that isn't working out or something feels a bit weird. People who feel unsafe, vulnerable, or threatened can discreetly seek help by approaching venue staff and asking them for 'Angela'. This code phrase will indicate to staff that they require help with their situation and a trained member of staff will then look to support and assist them. This might be through reuniting them with a friend, seeing them to a taxi or by calling the Police.

This has received an extremely positive response with all venues keen to support safety in the town.

Thanks to everyone we spoke to, some of whom knew of the scheme already, for their enthusiasm to put up the posters, talk to staff and be part of making our town a safer place to come for a night out. If there are any other venues wanting to be part of the scheme and need posters and information, please contact Cllr Atkinson:

cllr.fay.atkinson@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk

[Ask for Angela - YouTube](#)

Derbyshire Domestic Violence Helpline 0800 0198 668

Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs)

We will soon be installing 12 electric vehicle charging points in the Coppice car park. There will likely be some disruption as they are installed, as the electricity supply to the car park needs to be upgraded. We are delighted to be able to bring electric vehicle charging points to the coppice car park but apologise in advance for any inconvenience whilst they are installed. Follow our social media channels for updates nearer the time.

Flood Watch Scheme

The last few years have presented huge challenges for us all, as we navigated our way through a global pandemic. It would have been inconceivable that we would have come through that and coped with three significant flood events, but the people of Belper and



Milford have done just that. Our most recent flood event started with an Environment Agency flood alert for the Lower Derwent on the morning of the 19th of February 2022 and was upgraded to a flood warning on the Sunday (20th) breaching overnight.

Over that weekend properties and businesses prone to flooding were visited and information packs, flood sacks and sandbags delivered. Despite this being a significant flood event, we understand that water only entered two residential properties in Belper and Milford. Businesses in the Mill and around Bridgefoot were flooded and their communities responded swiftly and effectively. Sports facilities along the river were under water creating an all too familiar scene.

But this flood event was different as we were better prepared. The Environment Agency gave us timely notice, staff from Derbyshire County Council closed the roads and staffed them to keep everyone safe and Amber Valley Borough Council staff delivered a huge number of sandbags to priority properties.

The community response was incredible, volunteers cleaned and cleared the mill, sports clubs, businesses, and homes. Except for one home, all properties are now clear, and businesses reopened. A huge well done and thank you to everyone who helped.

Work continues for the Belper Flood Watch Scheme by learning from this latest incident. We are undertaking regular training and working with other agencies to ensure we improve our preparations and recovery. For more information or support please contact:

cllremma.monkman@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk

Belper & Milford Community Speed Watch



Belper and Milford Community Speed Watch team is a group of councillors and volunteers, all members are provided with training from the Derbyshire Constabulary, Casualty Reduction Enforcement Team. We are alerted by the community to streets which have a speeding problem, these are then risk assessed by the Police prior to delivering a session, currently we operate on 29 streets using equipment funded by the Town Council.

We have a hand-held speed detection device which is used to monitor the speed of passing vehicles. These details are passed to the Police

who follow up on those who have exceeded the speed limit. Speed watch serves as both an awareness raising and road safety opportunity. We spend time discussing highways and road safety with passers-by who are eager to provide local knowledge on problems and times of day when they witness dangerous driving. If you would like to raise an issue or join the group, please contact:

cllfay.atkinson@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk

Accessibility Update

Many people in the town will be aware of the sterling work that Siobhan Fennell has done over the past decade in founding the campaigning organisation 'Accessible Belper', for which she was awarded the British Empire Medal. Together with a team of dedicated volunteers they have worked tirelessly to promote the need for a town that is more accessible for people who have disabling conditions. Through raising awareness leading to many improvements, Accessible Belper have now decided to close their doors, having successfully handed the batten for continuing improvements to the town's council, businesses, organisations, and individuals. You can access their final closing report by clicking on this link: <http://www.accessiblebelper.org>

Everyone can play their part in making Belper more accessible to those who love living in or visiting our town. If you want to contribute, start by completing the short on-line questionnaire by clicking on either the 'domestic' or 'business' link below:

[Accessible Belper Survey - Domestic](#)

[Accessible Belper Survey - Business](#)

And, if you have ideas, enthusiasm, and need some help or advice on these issues, please contact: Belper Town Council on 01773 822116 or email:

cllsimon.mallett@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk

The Friendship Orchard

Belper Town Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019. Planting trees is a positive way of improving the atmosphere and capturing carbon. The Friendship Orchard partnered with BTC to provide 28 bare-rooted trees for free over the last 2 years, to local people who





were able to plant them quickly. Everyone who took a tree was asked if they were happy to have it included on the Friendship Orchard Map.

Look on the website, 'www.belperpermaculture.co.uk/friendship-orchard' to find where you can pick free fruit in Belper. Three apple trees have been planted on the Butts, which will hopefully produce fruit soon. Feel free to pick this.

Thank you to Abi Clarke, Jennie Lindop, and Ryan Gosling for working with the Town Council on this project. They are looking for volunteers to be tree stewards for next winter. If interested contact them through the website. More trees will be available free from St John's next late next winter. The date will be published on BTC's website. See you then perhaps?

Youth Council Works with Fleet Arts

The Youth Council worked with Rachel Wayne-Creative Freelance Project Co-Ordinator- on making their own pieces of bunting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at a meeting in April. Everyone enjoyed being creative, using the hessian and collage pieces that Rachel provided. It was good practice for sewing skills and lots of fun. Thank you for setting this up for us Rachel. Lots of other Community groups in Belper have made bunting. All of this will be displayed around No. 28 for the Jubilee weekend. If you want to make some, contact Rachel at Fleet Arts as packs are available for individuals and small groups to create bunting independently.



The Outgoing Mayor's Comments

My year as Mayor of Belper has ended and my wife and I look back at what it meant to us. We sat looking at each other in our sitting room with mixed feelings; thankful that we made it through without letting the town down, or so we like to think, but the main emotion is a real pride in our town. We met so many wonderful people in all walks of life, workers who never ceased serving throughout the pandemic and volunteers who add the gloss of culture or provide help to those in need. We attended umpteen events, meetings, parades, and church services throughout our extensive parish. There was amazing support from our council team, the vital glue that underpins Belper life, keeping our town looking good and vital to the change from being a centre of manufacturing to our re-emergence as a traditional yet forward looking Derbyshire market town. Belper is a special place, a hub of small villages and communities, reaching far outside its boundaries. We honour the past yet look with confidence to the future. Belper is more than the sum of its parts.



What's On?

Event	Date
Jubilee Jukebox, 2pm No 28, Market Square	3 June
Belper Goes Green, Belper CC, Belper Meadows	10 – 12 June
Friday Flea Market, 10 – 4 pm Market Square	10 June
Monthly Farmers Market, 9am Market Square	11 June
Live Keyboard Music, 2pm, The Congregational Church	11 June
Margaret Keys in Concert, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church	11 June
Sunday Market, 10 – 4pm, Market Square	12 June
Larks in the Park, 2pm, River Gardens	19 June
Larks in the Park, 2pm, River Gardens	26 June
Food Festival, 9.30am Town Centre	3 July
Friday Flea Market, 10 – 4pm, Market Square	8 July
Monthly Farmers Market, 9am Market Square	9 July
Live Keyboard Music, 2pm, The Congregational Church	9 July
Sunday Market, 10 – 4pm Market Square	10 July
Larks in the Park, 2pm, River Gardens	10 July

TO SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS AND TO RECEIVE A COPY OF OUR NEWSLETTERS DIRECT TO YOUR INBOX PLEASE SIGN UP HERE:

<https://www.belpertowncouncil.gov.uk/newsletter.html>

Thank you for reading

economy@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk

What's
on?

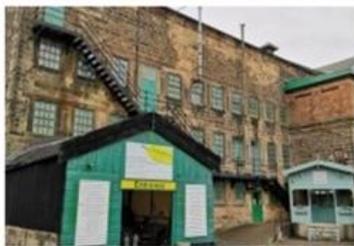
BELPER MONTHLY

FRIDAY FLEA

STARTING

13 MAY

ANTIQUES, RETRO, VINTAGE AND COLLECTABLES



**BELPER ANTIQUES CENTRE AND RECORD STORE
in Association with
DERWENTSIDE SHOPPING MILL - PRESENTS
MONTHLY FLEA 10-4PM ON THE MARKET PLACE**

2022 DATES

10 JUNE 10 to 4PM

8 JULY 12 NOON TO 8PM

12 AUGUST 12 NOON TO 8PM

9 SEPT 10 TO 4 PM

Bonus Sundays 12 JUN and 10 JUL 10 AM TO 4 PM

More info Call Dan on 07982919773

Timings subject to change

