



Biddulph Town Council Update

For those who might not have noticed, we now have new contact details. You can contact us at: 01782 498480 or email office@biddulph-tc.gov.uk

We also add regular updates to our Facebook page: 'Biddulph Town Council' or Twitter 'BiddulphTC'.

2021 Events

At this time of year, we usually write enthusiastically about the events in the coming months and our plans for the year. We're still a little cautious about this, but we are feeling more hopeful that some form of normality (however that looks) will resume towards the summer months. To this end, we're hoping that a May Artisan Market will be possible. If we are permitted to do this, it will take place on Friday 7 May, 9-3pm.



It's likely to be a small market, but we are working to try and bring footfall back into the town to support our traders, and we'll start to grow the number of people coming again. When you feel comfortable to do so, please come into the town centre and support local businesses.

As the year progresses, we hope to bring you the Classic Car Show during the September Heritage Weekend. We'll also bring back the Dementia Friendly Cinema and we're looking at what might be possible at Christmas.



New projects

August 2020 was a busy month for Biddulph Town Council. We took over the management of the Town Hall, Bus Hub with toilets and the Biddulph Grange Country Park Visitor Centre. Over the coming weeks, we will be completing a lot of electrical work at the Visitor Centre and then we hope to open the doors again in the early summer. We are looking for expressions of interest; please email for more information or see <https://biddulph.co.uk/vacancies-tenders/>



Do you think you could run a business from this building?

We have finished the first stage of the Pocket Park at Dorset Drive. We'll carry on with planting and other improvements throughout the summer and into the Autumn.



The first stage of the Pocket Park at Dorset Drive



We are delighted to welcome Churnet Sound to the Town Hall. They are a new radio station covering the Staffordshire Moorlands. You can find out more about them here: <https://www.churnetsound.co.uk/>

The Town Council is currently seeking your views on the future use of the Bus Hub in the town centre. This is not well used and we're wondering whether it could be used for a different purpose. People have talked about a



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pop-up shop, drop-in for young people or a coffee shop. What do you think? Tell us here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VWWTNPS>

The Town Council will be running the reception at Biddulph Town Hall when we are able to re-open. Keep an eye open for re-opening dates. We are hopeful this will be in April if the dates in the lockdown roadmap remain unchanged.

Don't forget the Biddulph Mayor Awards:

Nominations now open until 23rd April 2021. Nominate those unsung heroes who help make Biddulph a great place to live, work & socialise.

If you need any help with your form or have any questions please do contact us on 01782 498480 or email office@biddulph-tc.gov.uk <https://biddulph.co.uk/biddulph-mayor-2021/>

Meetings in 2021

At the start of the Coronavirus pandemic, the government permitted town and parish councils to meet virtually. We have been streaming our meetings on Facebook since May 2020 and we are awaiting new guidance from government to tell us whether this can continue. We're really pleased that the people of Biddulph and beyond have been able to see what happens in meetings, and we hope that some sort of hybrid meeting will be permitted when the legislation arrives. This will enable face-to-face meetings and allow people to listen from home.

Projects in our area

We are really pleased to support the County Council with the 'Lets Beat Loneliness Together' campaign.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's been evident that communities will take action when something is important to them. Over the past

year, the number of people volunteering, giving their time to support others, and doing small things that make a big difference has increased across our county.



We are pleased to support the 'Lets Beat Loneliness Together' campaign

Staffordshire County Council has worked with residents and local Town Councils including Biddulph to help understand our residents' concerns and what's important to them. One theme that was highlighted in these surveys was loneliness.

For more information please take a look at: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Newsroom/Articles/2021/03-March/Campaign-to-tackle-loneliness-in-Staffordshire-launches.aspx>

A reminder about Covid 19 Community Testing

Staffordshire County Council is asking all residents who need to be out and about during the lockdown to have regular Covid-19 tests.

For Biddulph Residents the closest testing centre is: Biddulph Leisure Centre, Thames Drive, Biddulph, ST8 7HL

Anyone with symptoms should not attend and instead book a test online through <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.



Useful Information

Here are the telephone numbers of the other Councils in the area:
Staffs Moorlands Council (Council Tax, bins, Environmental Health) 0345 605 3010
Staffs County Council (Highways, Social Services, Libraries) 0300 111 8000