



Biddulph Town Council Update



Contact details: call 01782 498480 or email office@biddulph-tc.gov.uk

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

This is a busy time of year for the Town Council, and we have lots of exciting projects to share with you.

You'll see a number of individual adverts alongside our article in this edition. Please add these dates to your diaries, and keep an eye out for more information. Also, alongside this edition are two separate leaflets. We are delighted to be supported by community groups in Biddulph to provide warm safe spaces throughout the winter months. Many of these will offer free refreshments, and the leaflet on 'Biddulph Works Together' contains lots of information about opportunities available. These groups also need volunteers, just for a couple of hours a week or month. If you have some time to spare, please get in touch.



Thank you for your continuing support in 2023. We really appreciate your feedback. It is so important that we are able to provide services and support that are valued by the community. We wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

The Christmas lights switch-on in the town centre will take place on Saturday 25 November, from 4.30pm. The town centre will

be packed with rides, market stalls and lots of free activities. We have also planned a visit from Santa!

We are looking forward to our second Singalong with the local school choirs on Friday 1 December. There will also be a Twilight Market to help you buy some lovely Christmas goodies. We will be turning on the Christmas tree lights on Biddulph Moor on Saturday 2 December at 5pm.

There will be a Dementia Friendly Cinema session on Wednesday 6 December (Christmas theme). If you haven't been before, these sessions start at 1.30pm, are free to attend and open to all. We have an intermission with tea and cake part-way through the film.

The second leaflet you will find within this edition is in relation to the project we are undertaking to gather information about the needs of people over 50 within our community. We have been granted funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. You will see that there is information about the questions that we want to ask and the venues where we will be. We will be out and about during November and December, and we really want to know what you like, what you need and what ideas you have to make life a little easier.

Those who are registered to vote will receive a poll card soon for the Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan and Neighbourhood Development Order. The vote will take place on Thursday 7 December. Please take some time to find out about these documents; we're happy to provide information in the Town Hall. Don't forget, you will need photo ID to vote.

The Town Council has been working with a Group of residents since 2015 on the development of a Neighbourhood Plan and Neighbourhood Development Order. If 'made', these documents will form part of the planning policy for the town, which must be considered for every planning application submitted to the District Council.



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The Neighbourhood Plan contains a number of policies that must be applied to all planning applications. The document seeks to:

- Diversify business enterprise and tourism uses.
- Support and enhance the town centre
- Develop Albion Mill
- Enhance existing community facilities
- Preserve and enhance the rural character of the area
- Incorporate sensitively designed boundary treatments and landscaping to create an appropriate transition to the rural environment.

The Neighbourhood Plan designates fifty local green spaces, which protects them for the use of the community.

The document also contains policies that protect the Biddulph Valley Way and local views, whilst also ensuring that the capacity of roads is considered.

The Neighbourhood Development Order considers how the town centre develops over the coming years.

Councillor Darren Price, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, said:

"Of course, we know people care about where they live and how their communities and neighbourhoods could, and should, develop in the future.

"This referendum is a real opportunity for Biddulph people to have their say and to help shape the future of their town. I would encourage everyone to take a look at these planning documents, and to take that opportunity to influence the services and amenities that are provided in the future by taking part in the referendum in a few weeks time."

It's time for wellies and spades again! We are planting 420 tree saplings from the Woodland Trust on Sunday 3 December. If you would like to be involved, please call or email for further information.

From November, you will be able to pick up a copy of the Biddulph Calendar 2024, printed this year in memory of our good friend Tony Lally. Our thanks to his family for allowing us to re-print some of his most beautiful images. Calendars are £4, while stocks last.



Biddulph Referendum Thursday 7th December



On Thursday 7th of December 2023 Biddulph Residents aged 18 and over who are registered to vote will be asked to vote YES or NO to two questions:

Do you want the type of development in the Neighbourhood Development Order for Biddulph to have planning permission?

Do you want Staffordshire Moorlands District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Biddulph to help it decide on planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

If you would like to know more about this, call into the Town Hall or take a look at the website.

www.biddulph.co.uk

