

RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL



Business Plan Review 2020





Introduction

This report reviews progress against the Council's business plan which was adopted in 2015 and summarises the work of the council over their term of office.

The Council consists of twelve Councillors, who are not paid for their work. They are supported by a team of eight staff, led by the Town Clerk, Kate Houlihan. The staff implement the decisions of the Council and manage the day-to-day running of Council activities. The positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor, together with the membership of the various committees, are decided each year at the Council's Annual Meeting held every May. The Council operates with five committees – Environment, Leisure and Recreation; Planning; Events; Personnel; Finance and Policy.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what we have achieved. Please remember that all committee meetings and the monthly meetings of the full Council are open to the public, and we welcome your attendance.

Your Town Councillors:

Saxon Ward

Cllr Helen Howell
Cllr Dudley Hughes
Cllr Bill Tirebuck
Cllr Bob Tyman
Cllr Lee Wilkes

Windmill Ward

Cllr Rosalie Beattie
Cllr Nick Beck
Cllr Oliver Curtis
Cllr Jamie Duff
Cllr Sylvia Hughes
Cllr Richard Levell

Facilities

Improved ALL Children's Play Area's

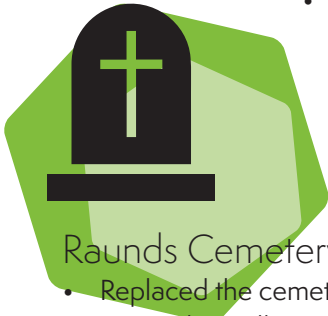
- new equipment
- painted existing equipment
- expanding the things for children to play on



Entrances to Amos Lawrence and Bassfords Improved

War Memorial

- Cleaned and improved
- New benches installed in the memorial gardens



Raunds Cemetery

- Replaced the cemetery gates
- Sympathetically improved and marked out the children's cemetery
- Re-connection of mains water

New benches and bins throughout the Town

Town Square

- New lighting
- New planters
- New covered seating area

Funding

Successfully applied for funding for

- Covered Seating Area
- Community Orchard
- Film Equipment at Saxon Hall
- Stage at Saxon Hall
- Lighting on the Square
- Webb Road Play Area
- Community Events



Events

Creation of Events Committee to include public participation



Introduction of Annual Mayor's Show



Improve the Christmas Light Switch-On Event with new lights and attractions

Creating the Children's Christmas Light Competition



Halloween

Party for younger Children

Support the Nene Valley Festival with Events in the Town

Created Raunds Summer Picnic



Produce a 'What's On' Postcard delivered to every household



Support local events organised by community groups with assistance and funding

Environment

Reduced litter, waste and dog mess nuisance

- 2 community litter picks per annum
- Work with “McDonalds Love Where you Live”
- New litter bins
- New dog bins
- Free dog bag dispensers
- Creation of off-lead dog park



Manage over 300 trees

- Survey them to make sure they are safe
- Planted over 100 new trees
- Creating a community orchard



Beautified the Town

- Bulb Planting
- Hanging Baskets and Planters
- Town Gardener
- Created, funded and installed a tribute to Ada Salter with Ada Salter Spinney



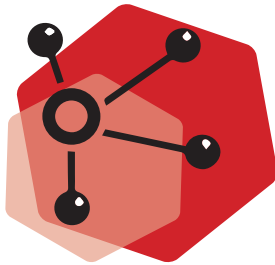
Health and Wellbeing

- Helping tackle social isolation with our film and coffee afternoons, over 180 attendees at our monthly film afternoons
- Free Fitness Classes in Saxon Hall, provided by Tanya Griffiths of First Free Fitness and supported by Raunds Town Council
- Adult Gym Equipment installed at Bassfords Recreation Ground, with free buddy sessions to support you
- Supported East Northants First Responders in providing Free First Aid training
- New sports wall at Amos Lawrence Playing Field



Community Safety

- New high definition, night vision CCTV around the Town
- Supplied free window and shed alarms to local community
- Took part in Community Speedwatch
- Participate in Joint Action Group with other local authorities and the police to tackle local priorities
- Introduced and funded youth work programs to help and support harder to reach young people and especially those at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour



Communications

- New website
- New noticeboards
- Increased newsletters
- Installation of 2 high tech digital noticeboards
- Welcome pack for new residents
- Hold public meetings to engage with residents
- Deliver event notices through every letterbox



Planning and Transport

- Neighbourhood Plan adopted in November 2017
- Over 450 planning applications and consultations considered and responded to
- Lobby for good public transport links



Raunds Goes Green



- Electric car charging points
- Water refill stations
- Working with environmentally friendly suppliers

Governance

- Raunds Town Council is the only council in Northamptonshire to be awarded the “Gold” level in the Local Council Award Scheme.
- Ensure that funding from developers is received and spent on appropriate projects
- No audit issues identified in the lifetime of the council

People

- Support staff development with staff training including:
- Equalities and Diversity
- Dementia Awareness
- Playground Inspections
- Cemetery Management
- VAT and Pensions



Ensure all staff have contracts
Staff supported through annual review process

Business and Community Groups



- Grant Funding introduced for local groups and businesses
- New business supported through Saturday markets
- Free “A” Frame boards for Town Centre businesses
- Created an online business directory

Ways to get in touch



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Email us at info@raunds-tc.gov.uk



Write to us or pop into our office at:
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Northants, NN9 6LT



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