

Spelthorne Borough Council
Summer Bulletin 2022

Do you still want to receive this?

You are currently subscribed to receive large print versions of Spelthorne Borough Council's Bulletin magazine. Your information is not shared with other organisations or used for any other purpose. If you no longer wish to receive this, please contact Louise King by email at l.king@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 444260.

Letter from the Leader

Dear Residents,

I would like to take the opportunity to say that it is an honour to have been elected as Leader of Spelthorne Borough Council for the second time.

Our main feature in this edition of the Bulletin is focusing on the public consultation for the new Spelthorne Local Plan. The Local Plan is an important planning document which guides decisions about future development. It affects everyone in the Borough as it is concerned with things such as housing, green spaces, community facilities and infrastructure such as education and healthcare. It also identifies where development should take place and areas where it should be restricted. The Local Plan really does shape the Borough, so it is vital we hear your views. You can read more about how to get involved on pages 13-22.

To help residents get more active following the Covid pandemic, we have opened 10 new outdoor gyms which offer a great way to exercise. They are free to use, have a variety of equipment, and are suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Read the article on page 10 to find your nearest gym.

I am pleased to present a summary of some of the Council's achievements for 2021-2022 on pages 28 and 29. This gives us an opportunity to reflect on our performance as a council and to illustrate the work we have carried out in support of our residents. We always welcome your views on our services and encourage you to contact us with any suggestions or concerns; you can also contact one of your local councillors to discuss any issues.

Cllr John Boughtflower, Leader of the Council

Are you registered to vote?

In the next few weeks, you will receive a communication from Spelthorne Council to update your electoral registration – please respond as quickly as

possible. Some residents will receive text messages or emails and others will receive paper forms. To help us reduce costs, please use the automated telephone or online response options if you can.

The revised Electoral Register will be published on 1 December 2022 and will be used for the elections to be held in 2023. The Electoral Register also proves where you live and credit agencies use it to check applications for mortgages, bank accounts, loans, mobile phone contracts and other credit facilities.

For more information, email electoral.services@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 444218.

Make your voice heard this summer

How would you like to see the Borough change and grow? How best should we progress with building new homes in Spelthorne?

This summer we are holding a series of consultations on these and other topics.

Our dedicated consultation web page www.spelthorne.gov.uk/currentconsultations will keep you updated and informed of the proposals, public event dates and how you can have your say.

If you require any documents in different formats, email news@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 446461.

A new Mayor for Spelthorne

Cllr Susan Doran was elected as the new Mayor for Spelthorne at the Annual Council Meeting on 26 May. Cllr Doran was first elected to the Council to represent Stanwell North in 2015. Over the last seven years she has served on various committees and has recently held the positions of Deputy Mayor and Vice Chair of the Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee.

Her chosen charities for her mayoral year will be Spelthorne Mental Health Association which runs a day centre for people aged 18–65 recovering from mental illness, and Stanwell Family Centre which provides a wide range of services for families with children.

Speaking after her election as Mayor, Cllr Doran said, "I would like to thank everyone who voted for me to be Spelthorne's Mayor for 2022/23 and who have put their trust in me. I really do appreciate it and hope that by the end of

the mayoral year you will feel that I have served you all - councillors, staff, and residents of Spelthorne - and that I have not let you down in any way. I am proud to have been elected to the prestigious position of Mayor of Spelthorne."

Before becoming a local councillor, Cllr Doran worked in the NHS for 36 years as a nurse, midwife and health visitor, gaining a wealth of experience in all aspects of health and community care.

Contact the Mayor's office by email mayor@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 446275.

Spelthorne's platinum party for the Queen

Spelthorne was painted purple as we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the Bank Holiday weekend in June. With picnics in the park, street parties and a 100 strong flotilla along the River Thames from Shepperton, residents were ready to mark this momentous occasion.

The Council put on musical picnics in Fordbridge, Laleham and Lammas Park over the course of the celebrations which saw many smiling residents enjoying the variety of games and musical performances. The bunting in the parks was created by 2,460 school children from local Spelthorne schools.

Spelthorne granted 68 road closures to allow street parties to take place, giving residents the opportunity to celebrate the Jubilee together, and councillors allocated Better Neighbourhood Grants for various street parties and events. The Council has also planted seven trees around the Borough, installing special plaques, as part of the Queen's Green Canopy planting initiative.

You can see the images which residents have shared from their celebrations at www.spelthorne.gov.uk/jubilee

Spelthorne In Bloom poster competition

More than 100 gardeners and pupils from local primary schools met at Squire's Garden Centre in Halliford in May to launch the annual Spelthorne in Bloom campaign and to celebrate the winners of the Children's Poster Competition for 2022.

The overall winner was Jessica Martin from Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School in Staines-upon-Thames whose design, which recognises the Queen's

Platinum Jubilee, will feature on this year's competition entry forms and posters. The Mayor presented Jessica with her prize.

Special mention was also given to Amy and Catelyn of Manor Mead School in Shepperton who were joint winners of the Special Educational Needs Category and received certificates from the Mayor.

After the ceremony, the winners and runners-up joined the Mayor and Mayoress for a group photograph in the gardens. Colin Squire OBE, Chairman Emeritus of Squire's Garden Centres, welcomed the guests and thanked them for their help in keeping Spelthorne looking beautiful.

For more information, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/SIB

Spelthorne Business Awards 2022

Spelthorne Borough Council is pleased to announce that entries are open for this year's Spelthorne Business Awards.

Each year the Spelthorne Business Awards celebrate the successes of Spelthorne's newest, brightest, most innovative and inspiring local businesses. There are 14 categories to choose from, including the new categories 'Best Construction/Property Business' and 'Best Sustainable Business'.

There categories are:

- Exporter of the Year sponsored by Heathrow
- Creative / Innovative Business of the Year sponsored by A2Dominion
- Construction and Property Business of the Year sponsored by Berkley Homes
- Healthy Business Award sponsored by Everyone Active
- Franchise of the Year sponsored by McDonalds
- Small Business of the Year sponsored by Federation of Small Businesses
- Sustainable Business of the Year sponsored by Sustainable2
- Corporate Social Responsibility Award sponsored by Worldwide Energy Logistics
- New Start Up of the Year sponsored by CoTribe
- Best Business in the Staines BID area sponsored by Staines Business Improvement District
- Best Business in Staines and Uxbridge sponsored by Enterprise Holdings
- Best Business in Ashford and Stanwell sponsored by The Powerhouse
- Best Business in Sunbury and Uxbridge sponsored by The Hazlewood Centre
- Best Business in Shepperton and Uxbridge sponsored by Shepperton Studios

Entries close on 2 October 2022 and a black-tie gala dinner to announce the winners will take place on 17 November at The Holiday Inn in Shepperton.

To enter or for more information and terms and conditions, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/SBA

Spelthorne Youth Hub

Working in conjunction with the Department of Work and Pensions, A2Dominion and Brooklands College, Spelthorne Borough Council's Youth Hub is helping to provide skills and opportunities for 16–24-year-olds. Focused on helping young people gain the essential skills they need to find employment and develop life skills, the Youth Hub can help with things like CV writing, finding work experience, employment matching, volunteering opportunities and funding for training.

If you are a young person looking to take your next step, or a business which can offer opportunities, visit www.spelthorneyouthhub.com, email info@spelthorneyouthhub.com or call 07770 481773.

Spelthorne Business Hub

Mighty oaks, from little acorns grow. In September 2021, Spelthorne's Business Hub was opened in Sunbury-on-Thames in partnership with CoTribe to provide a creative working space with a vibrant and friendly atmosphere for local businesses.

The Hub offers serviced office facilities with a choice of hot desks and permanent desks. Various packages are available with prices starting from £99 per month.

For more information about the Spelthorne Business Hub, visit www.spelthornebusinesshub.com

Cost savings advice

As part of the Council's business support services and in response to the impact of rising energy prices, the Council has launched a cost reduction service for Spelthorne businesses.

The scheme is designed to help businesses achieve the best value possible on their core contracts such as waste, water, telecoms, merchant services and insurance. In line with recovery plans, we are keen to add value wherever

possible and are also sourcing a range of green energy saving solutions. This service offers free and impartial expert advice to Spelthorne businesses at a time of heightened uncertainty.

To see if this project can add value to your business, contact the Economic Development team by email at e.development@spelthorne.gov.uk

Free coaching for businesses

Spelthorne Council has partnered with Pro-actions to deliver free coaching sessions for small and medium sized businesses on a range of topics from developing a business strategy to identifying marketing opportunities and structuring for success.

For more information, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/arg5

Meet the town centre manager

Andy Willmott, the Council's town centre manager for Ashford, Shepperton, Sunbury and all the Borough's shopping parades, is keen to meet and work with local businesses.

As well as being a visible presence on the High Street, Andy holds monthly drop-in sessions to give businesses the opportunity to discuss any ideas, concerns or suggestions.

These take place at:

Ashford: Tarla Café & Grill, 8.30am - 10am on the first Tuesday of every month
Shepperton: Jamz Cafe and Bakery, 8.30am - 10am on the first Wednesday of every month
Sunbury Cross: Golden Grill Cafe, 8.30am - 10am on the first Thursday of every month

Just drop by for a chat – the coffees are on Andy! Or to confirm a specific time, contact Andy on 07939 244548 or email a.willmott@spelthorne.gov.uk

Leisure centre update

Work is due to start soon on the Council's new Leisure Centre. The state-of-the-art facility will be located in Knowle Green in Staines-upon-Thames and benefit from a comprehensive range of facilities, including a flagship rooftop design with 3G football pitches and a 25m eight-lane swimming pool.

As well as being a modern design with all the latest facilities one would expect, the new leisure centre will also be extremely energy efficient as one of the first centres in the UK to be built to the ultra-low energy 'Passivhaus' standard. The Council expects the new centre to use between 60 and 70% less energy than a typical modern leisure centre - a major step in helping the Council achieve its aim of becoming carbon neutral in the coming years.

Key dates:

July 2022	Groundworks begin
August 2022	Groundbreaking ceremony
November 2022	Frame erection, utility services installed
April 2023	Internal fit-out
October 2023	External landscaping begins
2024	Leisure Centre opens

For more details, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/leisurecentre

Getting out and about this summer

Situated next the River in Staines-upon-Thames, Lammas Recreation Ground is one of the most popular spots in Spelthorne with a great range of facilities for a fun day out this summer including:

- Tennis courts
- New 9-hole mini golf course
- Boat hire
- Spray ground for children
- New outdoor gym
- BMX and skate park
- Children's play area
- Riverside Café for drinks, snacks, ice creams and park games
- Riverside seating
- Toilets and parking

Lammas Recreation Ground can be found on Wraysbury Road, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 4XZ.

For more information, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/lammas

New outdoor gyms in Spelthorne

To help residents get more active following the Coronavirus pandemic, 10 new outdoor gyms have been installed in parks throughout the Borough. Outdoor

gyms are a great way to enjoy the outdoors and exercise at the same time. They are free to use, suitable for all fitness levels and offer a variety of equipment for cardio workouts, strength, balance and flexibility, including parallel bars, weight systems, bikes, benches, health walkers, cross trainers and air walkers. The new gyms can be found at the following locations:

- Shepperton Recreation Ground
- Lammas Recreation Ground in Staines
- Ashford Recreation Ground
- Kenyngton Manor Park in Sunbury
- Staines Park
- Cedar Recreation Ground in Sunbury
- Stanwell Moor Recreation Ground
- Greenfield Park in Laleham
- Feltham Hill Road Recreation Ground
- Laleham Park

Course record smashed at Staines 10K

Blake Moore from Windsor Eton Slough & Hounslow Athletics Club smashed the course record for the Staines 10K on Sunday 15 May, finishing in 30 minutes and 6 seconds, knocking nearly 2 minutes off the previous course record of 31.57 which has stood since 2007. The women's race was won by Rose Penfold from Fulham Running Club in a time of 36 minutes and 40 seconds.

The event, organised by Staines Strollers and Runnymede Runners with support from Spelthorne Council, was held for the first time since 2019 due to previous Covid restrictions. 597 runners completed the course.

The full results of the 2022 race are available on the Staines 10K website at www.staines10k.co.uk

Spelthorne Resource Centre

If you enjoy arts and crafts, you could become a member of the Spelthorne Resource Centre which offers scrap materials such as card, plastics, paper and fabric. There is also a small art materials shop and craft workshops and open days are held throughout the year. The Resource Centre is open 10am - 2pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, including school holidays.

For more information, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/resourcecentre

Specsavers Surrey Youth Games

Young people from Spelthorne travelled to Surrey Sports Park in Guildford on 18 June to take part in the Specsavers Surrey Youth Games 2022. In the eight weeks leading up to the Games, young people in school years 2-11 attended free coaching sessions for a variety of sports including girls' football, go tri, street basketball, inclusive dance, swimming and tennis.

We would like to say a massive well done to everyone who participated in this year's Games, we hope you enjoyed the day as much as we did, and thank you to all the coaches and volunteers who helped run the training sessions

If you are interested in taking part in next year's Surrey Youth Games, please email leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk

Spelthorne Gymnastics celebrate two world titles

Congratulations to Spelthorne Gymnastics Club in Sunbury-on-Thames which picked up two world championship titles after being declared World Age Group Champions and Senior Men's Group World Champions in Azerbaijan earlier in the year.

Well done to both groups on these amazing achievements and for showing that Spelthorne Gymnastics is one of the leading clubs in acrobatics in the country.

To watch the winning routines, visit www.spelthornegymnastics.com

Music in the Park

Join us for an afternoon of music in beautiful surroundings this summer, at one of our free Music in the Park events. All performances start at 2pm and finish at 4pm on Sundays, at either the Walled Garden in Sunbury-on-Thames or Lammas Recreation Park in Staines-upon-Thames. Please bring your own chairs or picnic blankets. Refreshments are available to purchase at both venues.

Sunday 26 June

Walled Garden, Linden Wind Orchestra

Sunday 3 July

Walled Garden, Staines Lammas Band

Sunday 10 July
Walled Garden, British Airways Brass Band

Sunday 17 July
Walled Garden, Jake Fryer and All That Jazz

Sunday 24 July
Walled Garden, Magna Carta Chorus (2pm) / Rock Choir (3pm)

Sunday 31 July
Walled Garden, The Cobham Band

Sunday 7 August
Walled Garden, Saxophany

Sunday 14 August
Lammas Band Stand, Staines Lammas Band

Sunday 21 August
Walled Garden, Thameside Harmony Chorus

For more information, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/music

Spelthorne honours local volunteers

The work of 18 dedicated local volunteers was recognised at the Spelthorne Civic Awards Trust presentation ceremony in April.

Between them, this year's award recipients have given hundreds of years of service to the Borough in support of a range of charities and community groups.

The evening, which was attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Michael More-Molyneux, included the presentation of a specially commissioned embroidery to recognise the contribution of volunteers during the Covid pandemic. This was accepted on behalf of all the volunteers by Voluntary Support North Surrey.

Many congratulations to the following:

- John Brassington, Shepperton Remembrance Services
- Keith Anthony Goldson, Sight Impaired Services
- Brian Hewitt, Bronzefield Visitor Coordinator

- Cllr Vivienne Leighton, Shepperton Conservation
- Sheila Montague, Promoting Local History
- John Stabler, Shepperton Cricket Club
- Raymond Tanner, Village Allotments
- Clive Gervase, Tibbits Care in The Community
- Margaret Bennet, Halliford Rainbows and Brownies
- Diana Brown, Scout Active Support
- Claire Clare, Group Leader 7th Ashford Scouts
- Harvey Hieke, Leader Beaver Cubs and Scouts
- Rebecca Pembroke, Leadership in Brownies and Guides
- Gary Waters, Staines District Scouts
- Julie Waters, Division Commissioner Spelthorne Brownies
- Joanne Williams, 6th Sunbury Brownies
- Gwen House, Guide Movement
- Margaret Seager, 2nd Shepperton Guides

You can watch the full award ceremony on Spelthorne's You Tube channel.

Calling all landlords

Spelthorne Rentstart offers a Deposit Guarantee Scheme which offers peace of mind for landlords looking to let their properties. The main benefits include deposit and rent paid in advance, right to rent/ reference checks, ready-to-rent clients, inventory checks, tenancy reviews, minimal void periods and move out inspections.

For more information, email the Rentstart team on info@spelthornerentstart.org.uk or call 01784 446422.

Daybreak respite care

At Daybreak we provide respite care and support to older people in the community suffering from chronic illnesses, physical disabilities, mental health conditions and/or social isolation.

We aim to give carers a well-earned break for five hours on a Tuesday, while the person they look after receives respite care of the highest standard. We provide a happy and vibrant environment where people can enjoy some company and a home cooked meal. Our provision of care includes blood pressure/sugar monitoring, continence care, dietary needs, personal care and supervision of prescribed medication. Each guest has an individual care plan.

We are based at St. Peter's Church Hall, Laleham Road, Staines, TW18 2DX and are open from 10am - 3pm every Tuesday (excluding Christmas and Easter). The cost is £25 per day which includes a two-course lunch and all refreshments.

For more information, contact Care Manager Sally Kidd on 077610 47930 Monday-Friday, or email sallykdaybreak@gmail.com

Staines Parochial Charity

Staines Parochial Charity will be allocating their annual financial awards in the autumn to residents who are facing financial difficulties due to problems such as poor health, disability, low income or homelessness. Relevant charities can also apply.

To be eligible for an award, you must have lived in the parish of Staines for at least two years (or in the case of charities, been active in Staines for at least two years).

To request an application form, call June Stillwell on 07885 846840. The deadline for completed applications is Monday 17 October 2022.

Staines Park nature meadow wins national award

The Biodiversity Team for the Staines Park Residents Association (SPRA) have recently established a nature and wildflower meadow in Staines Park and are thrilled to announce that their project has won a Bees Needs Champions award in a competition run by Defra to recognise schemes which encourage pollinating insects.

Janet Redij-Gill, co-lead of the SPRA Bio team, said: "We're hoping that our efforts will result in hearing and seeing more bumblebees lazily buzzing and bumbling about on sunny afternoons, more butterflies fluttering by, and more wildflowers to stop and admire."

Fellow team leader, Sharon Morris-Mottasher, added: "We very much appreciate the support we've had working with Spelthorne Borough Council and the donations and grants that have enabled us to do this work. We've got lots more to do, so if you're looking to join a small and friendly group of dedicated volunteers, please email us at bio@stainespark.co.uk."

A plaque celebrating the award will be installed in Staines Park.

For more information on the Staines Park Residents Association visit www.stainespark.co.uk

Solar panels installed at Laleham Nursery

At Spelthorne Borough Council we are continuing to reduce the carbon footprint of our offices and buildings and have recently installed sixteen 345Wp solar panels on the roof of Laleham Nursery, the base for the Council's Parks team. These panels will generate around 15% of the electricity used on site and will save 1.26 tonnes of carbon each year.

For more information on the Council's sustainability strategy, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/goinggreen

Bonfire advice

We often receive complaints regarding smoke and smells from bonfires. Smoke can ruin people's enjoyment of their garden and stop them from opening their windows or hanging out washing. Bonfires can also be harmful to the environment. Repeated bonfires may be considered a statutory nuisance and you should never burn commercial waste, plastic or rubber. Materials such as paper and cardboard should be put in the recycling bin.

We offer a collection scheme for garden waste, or it can be taken to the tip or composted at home - visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/gardenwaste for more details.

For more information about bonfires visit, www.spelthorne.gov.uk/bonfires

Tips for a greener summer

Once the sun makes an appearance, millions of us Brits like to head outdoors for a BBQ. Many opt to use disposable BBQs but these can be very damaging to the environment. Around a million are sold each year in the UK, with the vast majority ending up in landfill.

Disposable BBQs also contribute to deforestation as they use charcoal, which in many cases is unsustainably sourced. More worrying is the rise in disposable BBQ-related wildfires in recent years, which have been made worse by the periods of drought. Gas or electric BBQs are safer to use, carry lower carbon emissions and can be re-used every year.

Another way we can reduce our impacts on the environment this summer is by buying locally produced and seasonal foods. Fruit and vegetables in season during the summer in the UK are cherries, strawberries, plums, runner beans, tomatoes, cucumber, chillies, aubergines and fennel. Off season produce has usually been grown overseas and transported over long distances.

Pests such as wasps can become more of a problem in the summer. Whilst it may be tempting to purchase a 'wasp catcher' to try and solve this, they are in fact vital for the health of the environment. Like bees, they pollinate our plants and crops and play an important role in the local ecosystem. Try natural repellents such as clove, geranium and lemongrass oil.

Do you need help getting from A to B?

Spelride is a door-to-door transport service run by Spelthorne Council. It uses specially adapted minibuses to carry passengers with mobility problems. You can use Spelride if you are elderly or disabled and cannot use conventional public transport.

You can go anywhere within the Borough such as the supermarket, shops, hairdresser, doctors' surgery or to visit friends. You can use the service Monday to Friday from 9am-11am and 2-4pm for transport to and from the Council's Community Centres and from 11am-2pm daily for other trips.

There is an annual membership fee of £22.15 plus £4.30 per single journey or £7.50 return.

For more information or to join Spelride, email neighbourhoodservices@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 446411

Providing a break for carers

If you are caring for someone with a condition such as dementia, sight loss or immobility, you may be interested to know that two of the Council's Community Centres run groups for people with support needs.

Our aim is to offer social interaction and stimulating activities, while you get some time to yourself knowing that your loved one is being well looked after. Daily OPAL groups run from 9.30am - 3.30pm at the Fordbridge Centre in Ashford and the Greeno Centre in Shepperton.

There is a daily charge of £40 to attend the group which can be paid privately or as part of a social care package if you are eligible.

For more information, email independentliving@spelthorne.gov.uk or call 01784 446389.

Community Centres

Our Community Centres in Ashford, Shepperton, Staines and Sunbury provide a wide range of activities including yoga, pilates, quizzes, art, bridge, computer classes, singing, bingo, dancing, book club and language classes. Some also offer hairdressing, chiropody and beautician services. They are a great place to have a bite to eat, meet new people or try some activities.

For information about opening hours, costs and your nearest centre, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/communitycentres or call 01784 446389.

Local disability organisation celebrates 30th anniversary

Local voluntary organisation, Spelthorne Committee for Access Now (SCAN), which works to improve access and facilities for disabled people in the Borough, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

The group is made up of volunteers who support and speak out for local people with disabilities. If you or a family member is disabled, they would like to hear about your experiences. SCAN also publish regular newsletters and hold quarterly meetings with representatives from a range of service providers and other Surrey-based groups.

Visit www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk or call/text Lesley Windle on 07859 639025.

Meals on Wheels

If you are struggling to prepare meals for any reason, our Meals on Wheels service can help.

They are delivered to your home on your chosen days and can be arranged for short or long periods of time. Dietary requirements can be catered for.

For more information, visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk/MOW or call 01784 444265.