

“2021 Tallest Sunflower Competition – Primary Schools in Burscough

The “Tallest Sunflower in Burscough Competition 2021” has commenced. Our five primary schools (pictured) are all competing for the coveted Burscough Sunflower cup and rosettes, the eternal glory of victory, plus the modest prize money.

In previous years this money has been ploughed back into gardening projects at the winning school. A crack team from Burscough Town Council delivered some sunflower seeds, growing canes and baby sunflowers to each of our five schools in early June. Some schools have already started the growing process with their own sunflower seed supplies.

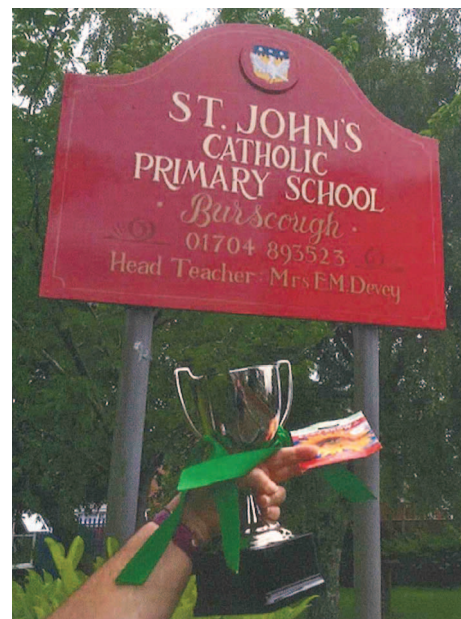
The competition ends in September when the tallest sunflower in each school will be measured by officials from the “Tallest Sunflower in Burscough

Competition 2021” prize committee. Last year the winning sunflower was just under seven feet tall and it was grown at Burscough Village Primary School, the current defending champions.

There are few rules to the competition, which has previously seen the liberal deployment of nitrogen rich plant feed and liaison between chemistry and biology teachers to provide the best growing medium for the sunflowers. Grandparents have also been known to offer the odd growing tip. Local celebrity gardener Basil Cucumber provided a top tip: “Sunflowers like sunlight so plant them in a sunny spot.”

The competition is on! Good luck to all our junior growers!

The competition results will be announced in late September in the BTC newsletter.”





Chairman's News & Views

Dear Residents


I trust that you are all well and have managed to cope with the very difficult circumstances that we have all found ourselves in during the past 15 months.

Since the publication of our last newsletter earlier in the year, the vaccine rollout has carried on at a pace and consequently the latest lockdown has been lifted, which has enabled our local businesses and recreational facilities to reopen. So hopefully with the support of Burscough residents they can get back on their feet.

The Town Council has now resumed face to face meetings for the monthly Council meetings and also the monthly Planning meetings and residents are welcome to attend either or both meetings.

The summer hanging baskets and planters have now been delivered and put into place. This year we have put up extra hanging baskets in position. The railings on the canal bridge have been painted and there are plans to give the pavements through the Village Centre a power wash.

The work to take on the lease of the Burscough Bridge Station is on-going and the drainage and environmental improvements to Crabtree Lane are 90% complete. Another project that the Town Council is progressing with is the acquisition of a piece of land within the Village for use as public open space. Hopefully this will be finalised in the near future.

Finally, I hope that we can all look forward to a more normal summer and Thank You for taking time to read this and please STAY SAFE. 

Brian Kennedy

Burscough Town Council Chairman.





Fairey Swordfish Scale Model

In December 2019, Burscough Town Council granted funds to local heritage group, “Images of Burscough and Surrounding Areas” to construct a scale model of a Fairey Firefly. A model of aircraft in use at HMS Ringtail Royal Naval Air Station Burscough. The scale model was completed by Burscough man Alan Birch and will be displayed at exhibitions and will also tour local schools, depending on restrictions.

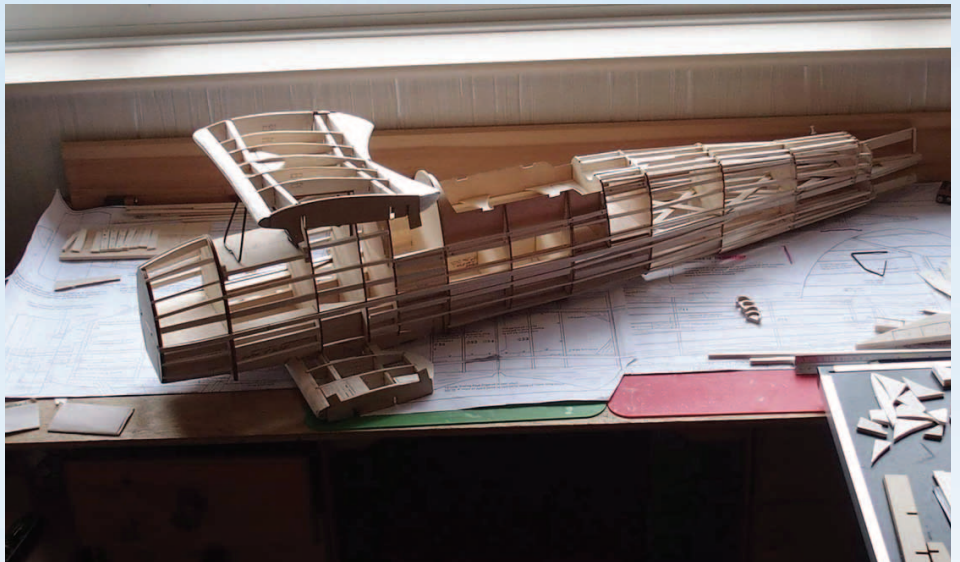
Earlier this year Images of Burscough applied to the Town Council and was granted a further £450 to build a second scale model, this time of the Fairey Swordfish. The Swordfish was another Royal Navy Aircraft that saw service throughout World War II, it was a fabric covered torpedo carrying bi-plane. This aircraft type was based with various squadrons at HMS Ringtail and used in radar training and other exercises. The model will again be constructed by Alan Birch and post pandemic will be on display to the public at exhibitions and also will tour local schools. The two aircraft together will be a wonderful educational resource and will also generate a lot of positive publicity for the area both locally and nationally.

A legacy of the Swordfish can be found on the Burscough Industrial Estate, the former HMS Ringtail in the name Swordfish Business Park. The logo of Ringtail Retail Park also features an image of the Pegasus engine which powers the aircraft.

Many residents will remember that there have on a number of occasions had Fairey Swordfish displays over the monument, a truly noteworthy event as there are sadly only two Swordfishes in existence and both have flown over Burscough in recent years.

Burscough Town Council were keen to support the naval heritage of Burscough by funding these two models so that the memory of HMS Ringtail can be kept alive for future generations.

Cllr C Ryley





Makeover for Village Street Furniture

With summer just around the corner and in an effort to remove algae, moss and general street grime which had built up over the years, Burscough Town Council committed to give the village street furniture a minor makeover. Up to 40 bollards, along with the benches and litter bins throughout the village underwent a recent power wash and general clean.

Also included was the cleaning of the canal bridge brick wall which is hoped will complement the newly painted canal bridge railings.

Report by Cllr. Derick Moss



BURSCOUGH IN BLOOM

With May firmly behind us Burscough Town Council, and their Street Scene Working Group, shifted focus to brightening up the village and the main thoroughfare in time for the summer sunshine.

With additional funding from the town council the usual annual order for 50 hanging baskets was increased by 20, making a total of 70 which will feature along the A59 extending from Moss lane all the way to Mill Dam Lane.



Along with the provision of the hanging baskets, a number prominently placed and newly planted 3 tier planters, plus a number of well appointed barrier rail top planters have been positioned on the canal bridge railings and opposite the wharf (canal side) and, along with the hanging baskets, when in full bloom will make the village a colourful and welcoming place to visit.



Report by Cllr. Derick Moss.

* COMPETITIONS * * PRIZES *

→ **Tallest Sunflower**

Either: -

- Individual child up to 16 years old.
- OR
- Primary School.

→ **Best Front Garden.**

OR

→ **Best Hanging Basket or Planter/s.**

Burscough Town Council will be holding their annual competitions this year, the categories as listed. The prizes are £100 per category for the winner and £50 for the runner up per category. There will also be trophies and rosettes also awarded.

TO ENTER: - any of the competitions you will need to complete an application form. These can be downloaded from our website, collected from the Town Council Office at Martland Mill, Mart Lane, Burscough or emailed by contacting the Town Council office for a copy.

Contacts: - jackie.maguire@burscougthc.org.uk or Sheila.gill@burscougthc.org.uk or telephone 01704 894914.



Town Council Traffic Group seeks your views

The Traffic Issues Working Group have been holding online monthly meetings this year, hoping soon to be back to meetings 'in reality' where we can invite residents to sit around the table with us and share in formulating plans for action. **Two years ago, speeding seemed to be top of everyone's list of problems and we are anticipating that this is still the case, so are thinking about how to shape our own local 'speeding' campaign with your help.**

The Working Group currently comprises Cllr Cynthia Derelli (Chair), Cllr Chris Ryley (Secretary), Cllr John Crawford, Cllr Neil Pollington and Cllr Alison Booth.

The group recognises that Traffic is becoming an ever-increasing topic of concern in Burscough and is likely to become significantly more of an issue in years to come.



We have already had some very constructive feedback from residents who have given us useful information and passed on the views of their particular areas. One particular point we have noted concerns pedestrians, that the highways and pavements are for them as much as for drivers and that this is often not given the consideration it should be.

Whether you are a car driver, cyclist or pedestrian if you would like to be involved and you feel you have something to contribute, please let us know.

The Traffic Issues Secretary can be contacted by email at chrisryley@gmail.com or he can be reached on 07517083405 if you prefer to telephone.

*Report by Councillor Chris Ryley
(Traffic Issues Secretary)*

Burscough Town Council grant helps Burscough Village Primary School develop their infant playground

Burscough Village Primary reported they were delighted to be awarded £8000 from Burscough Town Council's community infrastructure funding grant last summer to develop our infant playground. With the help of the Year 2 class (seen in the photo) the school worked with the local company Eden Play to design and install a new playground area.

On Tuesday 8th June 2021, we welcomed the Chairman of the Town Council, Brian Kennedy and the members of the council to officially open the new infant playground. Miss Smith, Headteacher, commented "it is important that we listened to what the children of our school wanted from their new playground and therefore, we asked the Year 2 class to be heavily involved in the design to ensure that it was right. We are thrilled with the end result and the children love the treehouse and I have already seen several

puppet shows performed on the stage!" A huge thank you goes to Burscough Town

Council for the funding, without this the school would not have been able to fund





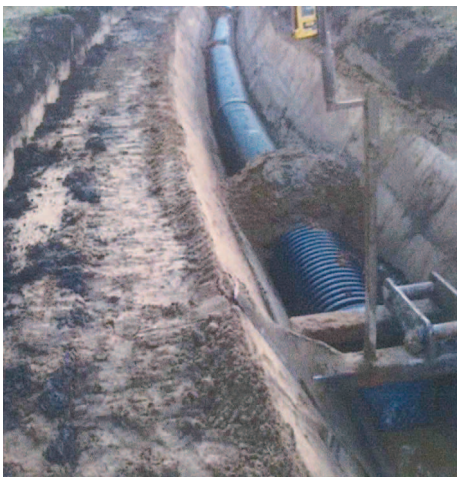
Crabtree Lane drainage & environmental improvements

This project has been financed by the Town Council. It has been brought to fruition by the joint efforts of the Town Council and Burscough Flood Group (BFG), along with the co-operation of the landowners Mr Wilson and Mr Webster.

The scheme has entailed the installation of some 300 metres of pipework to divert the excess water from Crabtree Lane and the adjacent properties into a drainage ditch in the field behind the affected properties.

The work has greatly reduced the likelihood of these properties being flooded again, which has been the case over recent years.

Report by Councillor Brian Kennedy.





UPGRADE and CLEAN FOR MERE AVENUE PLAY AREA



Following a commitment by Burscough Town Council to improve play provision in the local area, funding of £16,785 was approved to enhance and upgrade the Mere Avenue play area by providing a further 3 pieces of play equipment, plus an additional picnic bench, all of which will hopefully be in situ in time for the summer holidays.

This popular and well-loved play area will feature a Rotating Spring Seesaw, a Cyclone Swing and a 30m Aerial Runway. The bespoke additional play equipment has been created to be dynamic, offer a high level of challenge and the entire play area will provide additional opportunities for sliding, climbing, swinging, rotating, balancing, traversing, spinning, twisting and most of all SUMMER FUN.

In advance of the above installations all

the current play equipment, benches & signage has undergone recent cleaning and power washing to clear away the winter grime and bring back some of the sparkle.

Burscough Town Council is committed to maximising opportunities for improving the health and wellbeing of our community and the provision of quality play equipment like this will help families to get out and have fun in our great outdoors.

We only ask that the public continue to use this play area responsibly, by giving each other space, picking up after your dog and putting your litter in the bin. We all need to do our bit to keep our parks and open spaces looking beautiful for everyone to enjoy.

Report by Cllr. Derick Moss.



Introducing Neil Pollington

I am the new Burscough Town Councillor for the Ellerbrook Ward. I have lived in Burscough for two and half years on Windsor Close, off Richmond Avenue. I work full time as the Head of Recruitment in the HR department for a large housing association based in Preston. When I moved to Burscough from Eccleston near Chorley, Burscough was the one place we wanted to live and we only looked at properties here. We were drawn to Burscough due its good transport links...two of my children now live in Manchester, I work in Preston and we enjoy going out in Liverpool. I have lived in West Lancashire previously and made many friends through a cycling club based out of Ormskirk, so we also wanted to be close to them.

I joined the Town Council for several reasons. Over the past few years, I have taken more of an interest in politics, however it is clear to me that local politics is where someone can really make a difference to people's lives. This was brought into clear focus during the current pandemic where local people have helped and supported each other throughout lockdowns and quarantines. Despite its large size, I personally felt a real sense of community in Burscough during 2020 and this was something I wanted to help to play more of a part in.

Burscough has lots of potential and I am a believer in supporting local where possible. The recent transformation of the wharf has been a great addition to the town and I hope the new businesses there can thrive as we come out of lockdown. I have a real interest in transport, and, whilst many transport related matters lie at Borough or County level, I would like to help with residents' views on transport such as the Burscough curves, train services from Burscough and the amount of traffic and HGVs in Burscough.

Alongside my full time job I intend to be as active as I can and if any resident wants to raise any issues with me, I would be happy to discuss these and take their issues to the relevant council meetings as appropriate.

Contact details:- 01704 894914 or email n.pollington@outlook.com.



BURSCOUGH TOWN COUNCIL ELLERBROOK WARD, ST JOHNS WARDS AND RED CAT LANE HAVE VACANCIES FOR TOWN COUNCILLOR'S

**Would you like to be a part of making decisions that affect Burscough?
Would you consider being a Town Councillor and putting yourself
forward for co-option to Burscough Town Council?**

To apply, you must be over eighteen and a resident of, or live within three miles of, Burscough (or work at a business in the area). Have lived in the area for 1 year or more. Suitable candidates will have strong interest in the community and be prepared to give their time and take responsibility for helping to look after the concerns of local residents. Town Council work has continued without the need for face to face meetings, these have been conducted on Zoom Conferencing, therefore it would be essential that you would be able to use this action to be considered. Our full Town Council Meetings and Planning and Footpath's Committee have returned to face to face meetings and are currently held on the first and second Wednesday of the month.

We provide training and support for new councillors. Meetings normally take place once per month on Wednesday evenings and there may be other meetings to attend.

If you would like to know more about this opportunity, please call for an informal discussion on 01704 894914.

Your interest will be most welcome.

**Contact:- Jackie Maguire, Clerk to the Town Council, Office 17,
Martland Mill, Mart Lane, Burscough L40 OSD. Email:-
jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk**

BURSCOUGH TOWN CLERK

I would like to introduce myself as Jackie Maguire, Clerk to Burscough Town Council. I have been in this position for almost 4 years, my previous background is in the civil service and local education authority.



I was drawn to Burscough as there is a strong community spirit in the village. Where possible I help to facilitate changes that the Town Councillors make within Burscough, through their resolutions made at Town Council meetings.

I strive to support their ideas and aspirations, to help make Burscough a better place to live and work. I personally am working towards creating a community space for all residents and community groups to meet and enjoy their specific interests.

My contact details are:-

Tel: 01704 894914

E Mail: jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk

BURSCOUGH TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS' CONTACT DETAILS



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Vice Chair:

Brian Kennedy
Brian Bailey

Councillor

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14 Sutch Lane

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Red Cat Lane Ward

VACANCY

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Derick Moss
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Clerk to the Council

Jackie Maguire (*Clerk*)
Sheila Gill (*Deputy Clerk*)

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