

# Burscough News

BURSCOUGH TOWN COUNCIL

SPRING 2023 – ISSUE 54




## All change at the interchange

Over the past few months, you may have noticed work being carried out at the Burscough Bridge Interchange Building. The contractors have been working on your new Town Council Offices. Burscough Town Council have secured the lease for the old ticket offices at Burscough Bridge and are breathing new life into it. Working with Network Rail and Lancashire Council we now have a building which is fit for a Town Council. We now have a permanent home and our clerk and deputy clerk now have an office to work from. There are two meeting rooms which the council can utilise, and a sliding partition can create three rooms. The rooms will be available for community use and the next edition of the

Newsletter will have more information on how you can book the rooms. Quite a lot of work has gone into securing, creating and getting this space secured for Burscough Town Council and also the local community and special thanks must go to the Interchange working group and the clerk for all the work they have put in to make this project work.

There will be an open day soon and all Council meetings are now held here. Check out our website for more information on the council and meetings which you can attend.

We are also always looking for more councillors to join the Town Council and as we now have a lovely permanent home, maybe you could shape the future of Burscough. 

*INSIDE: Commemorative coins; God Bless the King; 80th Anniversary flypast*





# Chairman's News & Views

## Dear Residents

I trust you are all well and enjoying the present period of good weather.

I wrote in my previous article about all the hard work that the Council had put in in order to move into our new office and community space in the original Burscough Bridge Interchange building.

We moved in during March and one of our first official meetings was to make a presentation of coins provided by the Town Council to all the primary school children in Burscough to commemorate the coronation of King Charles 111. The children really enjoyed the event and the coins were very well received.

We can now move forward with our plans to provide much needed community space for use by local organisations and charity groups. Once we have fully settled into the building there will be an official opening and an open day for residents to attend.

I have previously spoken about the Council's commitment to providing funds to deal with mental health issues and the wellbeing of our residents particularly our children, and at the May meeting of the Town Council a resolution was passed to provide a grant of over £20000 to secure the services of a mental health practitioner to provide sessions to any primary school child who would benefit from such an intervention.

The Council still has a small amount of money available in its grant budget for this financial year and any local

charitable organisation, sports or community group that requires funding for equipment or a project that may be eligible for funding please contact the Clerk for an application form. Contact details are on the contacts list.

On a lighter note I am sure you will have seen the magnificent hanging and barrier baskets through the village and beyond and so I would like to thank the Streetscene working group which is responsible for the work in providing them.

As the Chairman of the Council I am proud of the fact that we can make a difference, albeit in a small way in the grand scheme of things, to the life of our residents and we are always trying to encourage engagement and listen to your views on local issues on how we can help with the limited budgets that we have at our disposal. If you have any issues that you think we could help resolve please contact our Clerk or if possible attend a monthly Council meeting which at present takes place on the 2nd. Wednesday of the month at 7.00 pm at the Council office, however starting from September the monthly meeting will take place on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm. There are also currently vacancies on the Town Council if you feel you could make a contribution to your community.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and please STAY SAFE.

**Brian Kennedy**

Burscough Town Council Chairman



## Battle of the Atlantic 80th Anniversary Flypast

Over the late May Bank-Holiday weekend, Liverpool hosted the Battle of the Atlantic 80th Anniversary commemoration event, where a number of Naval ships visited the Mersey, a number of displays were held on the riverfront, along with several flypasts of various aircraft. Two of these aircraft being a Fairey Swordfish and a Supermarine Seafire of Navy Wings based at RNAS Yeovilton.



Due to the good relationship that was formed between the Town Council / local history groups and the Royal Navy ten years ago when celebrating the 70th Anniversary, we are fortunate enough to request a flypast of the HMS Ringtail memorial when the aircraft are in the area. The request was granted for a flypast on Saturday, 27th May. Sadly, due to civilian aviation authority regulations, which these historic military aircraft now fly under, we were unable to publicise this flypast.



The Battle of the Atlantic was the longest continuous military campaign in World War II and ran from 1939 to 1945, although it was not until 1941 that Churchill used the phrase 'Battle of the Atlantic.' When HMS Ringtail was commissioned as an active Fleet Air Arm (FAA) airfield in September 1943 the tide may have turned in favour of the allies but the threat from German U-Boats still existed and lives, ships and their valuable cargoes were still being lost on the journey from the USA to the UK.

Fairey Swordfish MkI W5856, is the oldest surviving airworthy Fairey Swordfish in the world. She first flew on Trafalgar Day, 21st October 1941. Supermarine Seafire MkXVII (SX336) was a naval version of the Supermarine Spitfire adapted to become a high performance carrier-based fighter aircraft. Both aircraft gave an impressive flypast, with the notable roar of the Seafire's Rolls-Royce Griffon engine passing by, the first Seafire to pass over the former Royal Naval Air Station at Burscough, HMS Ringtail in 77 years.



Article and photos: Michael Dawson



# Britain Goes Bunting Crazy



Thousands of Union Flags and Coronation themed bunting was hoisted by communities up and down the UK as excitement built ahead of the crowning of His Majesty King Charles III at Westminster Abbey on 6th May 2023 – The first Coronation in 70 years!

And Burscough was not slow in joining the rest of the country in celebrating this historic event. The Town Council arranged for over 330m of specially themed Coronation bunting and lamppost plaques to adorn both sides of the main thoroughfare two weeks prior to and following the

crowning of our new Monarch. In the Burscough Memorial Gardens the town council also arranged to replace the traditional Union flag with a Coronation themed flag for the duration of the celebrations.

The lavish and spectacular coronation procession through London and the ceremony at Westminster Abbey was the centrepiece of a three-day holiday weekend which was hopefully enjoyed by all those able to take advantage.



*Report by Cllr Derick Moss*

## Burscough Gets Flower Power

Hanging baskets and floral planters are a much-loved feature of many streetscapes.

They not only provide some eye-catching colour and vibrancy, they instil a sense of pride in our beautiful town, which in turn hopefully makes such a difference to our quality of life.

As in previous years, organised by the town council's Street Scene Working Group and paid for through public funds, the village received a colourful face-lift in mid-June, with hanging and barrier baskets overflowing with flowers guaranteed to bring a burst of summer sunshine and colour to the main thoroughfare.

Up to 70 hanging baskets adorn the lampposts, stretching from Moss Lane to Mill Dam Lane, along with 22 prominently positioned colourful barrier baskets and tiered planters. Here's to a blooming beautiful flower power summer for all.



*Report by Cllr Derick Moss*



# Commemorative Coins Presented to Burscough Primary Schools

*As part of the celebrations for the coronation of King Charles III, the Town Council presented 700 commemorative coins to the school children of the five primary schools in Burscough Town*



Commemorative Coin

This memorable event, hosted at our new building and led by the Chairman of the Town Council, Brian Kennedy, was a momentous occasion for the children of our community. A selection of pupils were nominated from each school to receive the coins on behalf of their classmates, allowing each school to participate in the event. The coins, which depict King Charles III on one side and the Burscough Town Council crest on the other, presented in a Royal Blue box, are a wonderful keepsake. We express our gratitude to the Chairman of the Town Council for leading this endeavour and the entire council for supporting it. Together, we can build a stronger and more united Burscough Town. Thank you to all Burscough Schools for your continued support and participation in our community events. To find out more about our new building, see the article on page 6 'Burscough Town Council finds a new home'. We also extend our sincere appreciation to all the primary schools for their participation and for nurturing the young minds of our community.



Article and pictures: Cllr Sargent



Chairman Brian Kennedy and pupils from Burscough Methodist Primary School



Chairman Brian Kennedy and pupils from Burscough Village School



Pupils from St. John's Catholic Primary



Pupils from St. John's C of E



Pupils from Lordsgate Township C of E



# Best Dressed Window Competition A Right Royal Affair!

*The Coronation of King Charles III was a day of National pride for the people of Burscough as we marked a significant day in the history of our Monarchy*

As part of the festivities, the Town Council organised a Best-Dressed Window Competition that brought regal splendour to our streets. The window had to have a Royal Coronation theme, which saw lots of businesses in the Town Centre, bring out their most creative sides, with some wonderful displays. Adorning their windows with fantastic displays, with flourishes of red, white and blue, inspired by this historic event. To judge the competition, we requested the help of local historians, Michael Dawson and Lawrence Critchley, who



LR Cllr Bailey, Three Pence Sea Thrift, Cllr Horsley

carefully assessed each window. We welcomed a new entry into the competition 'Face of Business' who had a few unexpected guests at their gathering.

The winner was Three Pence Sea Thrift on Mart Lane, a new business in our Town Centre, was presented with a cheque for £200 with the runner-up, Queenscourt Hospice Shop, getting a cheque for £50. Thank you for your participation and for making this event a great success. We are incredibly proud of our Town and the talented businesses that showcased their creativity and adorned our streets with regal magnificence. The real winners are the residents of Burscough and all the and visitors to our beautiful, picturesque Town, for being able to view all these amazing window displays.

Article by Cllr Sargent, Photos Jackie Maguire



Cllr Horsley hands over a cheque



Queenscourt Hospice window display



The Three Pence Sea Thrift display



Face for Business



# Burscough Town Council finds a new home

*There has been lots happening behind the scenes for the past year to allow Burscough Town Council to take over the lease of the former Burscough Bridge Interchange Building*

Liaising with Network Rail, Lancashire Council and other parties has been hard work for the Clerk and her deputy and also members of the Interchange working group. Appointing architects and builders, making sure that the building had some much-needed Community space and a permanent office for the Town Council where just some of the things which needed to be done.

Members of the Town Council have been involved in all aspects of the design and have helped transform what was slowly becoming a blot on the Burscough landscape into new offices and Community space. The Town Council also made sure that we made the building as green as possible and had solar panels installed to keep energy costs down.

Work is still ongoing, and we will soon be able to put an online room booking system in place which will allow local groups to use the space. Keep checking our Facebook page and website for updates.





# CLIMATE ISSUES AND GREEN NEWS

A representative of Knowsley Credit Union (KNCU) was invited to attend BTC meeting in February to give the Town Council an idea of what a Credit Union can offer a community like ours. Generally, Credit Unions offer affordable, ethical, and safe savings for people living or working within their 'Common Bond' which in this case covers Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, and West Lancashire. KNCU is a local financial co-operative, owned and controlled by their members. They told us: "We offer low-cost affordable loans with no hidden fees and all loans offered by KMCU include free insurance." They also informed the Town Council that Credit Union members are given the chance to win up to £500 per month by entering their £1.00 prize lottery. All members receive regular dividends annually and that they can offer up to twice the value of your savings to be made payable to a nominated beneficiary in the event of your death. The presentation was well received and there is lots more information to be found on their web site. <https://knowsleymutualcu.co.uk/> They also want to be as accessible as possible to their members within the Common Bond area and would want to have a base in the community they serve. As Burscough has lost its banks, and even more banks seem to be getting ready to leave Ormskirk, would this be an attractive proposition for our community?



In these difficult times Burscough Town Council are considering how we can support our local community and encourage everyone to act towards getting our Town to be greener. This is an overarching agenda but also one being taken forward in relation to climate by a small newly established 'Climate action working group'. This group would welcome thoughts from residents. We hope to have reports in the Town Council newsletter regularly and to open a dialogue with everyone through events and online. The Working Group are very conscious there is so much to do; so much we could do as a community, - but that we can only make real change if everyone is working together. On this basis we see 'communication' as central; we are thinking about future newsletter items, but also online communication e.g., Facebook; the soon-to-be installed Town Council noticeboards and of course meetings i.e. making the most of the Town Council's new premises for meetings and information events. We would like to hear your ideas for 'greening' Burscough.



Did you notice the disappearance of an old friend in the Village? The willow tree that had graced the village centre for so many years, suddenly this year was leafless as other trees burst into leaf, and the verdict is that it has died. There is no information at present about the age of the tree, but it is a sad reminder that our trees need care and attention. A leaflet about tree care and link to a web site offering guidance are on our web site.

Articles: Cllr Cynthia Dereli



# Burscough Richmond crowned Champions

Richmond's league victory was confirmed after close rivals CMB. Westhoughton could only draw a game they needed win. Richmond's final game of the season was played at Slyne-with-Hest, the Morecambe side giving the league champions a guard of honour as they entered the field of play. The game kicked off with Richmond taking an early 4th minute lead, with top goal scorer and striker Uppal finding the back of the net from a well flighted corner kick. The home side were in no mood to be generous and forced an equaliser in the 10th minute.

It was stalemate at half time with the

scoreline at 1-1. Early in the second half, on 50 minutes, Richmond again took the lead, this time veteran striker Peter Armitage tapping the ball into the back of the net from short range after good build up work from Uppal. A fairy tale conclusion to the match was thwarted by opposition forward, Draycott, who equalised leaving the referee to blow the final whistle on a tightly fought end of season 2-2 draw. Burscough Richmond were presented with the West Lancashire Premier League champions trophy. o rapturous applause by the travelling Burscough Richmond away fans, and the players ecstatic with their success. It

shouldn't go unmentioned that the Burscough side only carry one team and special congratulations must go to the manager Anthony Murt and his assistants for navigating their way through what was a very difficult season. Although classed as a small club, Chairman, Chris Clandon, along with his manager and backroom staff have created a club with a massive heart and a will to win. Well played Burscough Richmond FC. Burscough Town Council would also like to congratulate Burscough Richmond for becoming Champions.



Article by George Clanton.

## BURSCOUGH TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS' CONTACT DETAILS



**Chairman:**  
**Vice Chair:**

**Brian Kennedy**  
**Derick Moss**

**Councillor**

**Address**

**Telephone**

### BURSCOUGH TOWN WARD (BWD1/BWD2)

Cynthia Dereli 10 Meadowbrook, L40 7XA 895247  
John Crawford 201 Liverpool Road South, L40 7RE 895297

### ELLERBROOK WARD (BEB/BEC)

Neil Pollington 11 Windsor Close, L40 7RH 07545 776408

**VACANCY x 2**

### NEW LANE WARD (SBE)

Mike Price 98 New Lane, L40 0RY 07748 621533

### RED CAT LANE WARD (BWA)

John Horsley Curlew Cottage, 82 Moss Nook, L40 0RQ 07518 967517

### RICHMOND PARK WARD (BWC)

Ezra Ouko 1 Higgins Lane, L40 7AZ 07912 945351

### ST JOHN'S WARD (BEA)

Brian Kennedy 37 Weaver Avenue, L40 4LE 895374  
Stephen Bradley 34 School Lane, L40 4AE 07801 433584

**VACANCY**

### STANLEY WARD (BWB)

Derick Moss 4 Abbey Fold, L40 7UX 07860 735025  
Brian Bailey 60 Hesketh Road, L40 7SQ 07518 757059  
Gary Sargent 07578 342593

### CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Jackie Maguire (Clerk) Interchange Building, Station Approach, L40 0RZ  
Jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk or 894914  
Sheila Gill (Deputy Clerk/RFO) Sheila.gill@burscoughtc.org.uk

## Burscough Town Council vacancies

Are you interested in making a difference in your community? Come along and join our welcoming Town Council. We currently have three vacancies which are open to anyone over the age of 18 who either live or works in Burscough and has done for a minimum of 12 months.

Contact the Town Clerk

Jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk for an informal discussion, she will support you through the process. Town Council meetings are always organised on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and start at 7pm. There are also a number of working groups you could be involved in, these are:-

- Street Scene
- Finance
- Newsletter and Publicity
- Personnel
- Capital Projects
- Station Building
- Flooding
- Climate Change
- Neighbourhood Planning

Additionally, there is also a Planning and Footpaths Committee which meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month where all planning applications for the Burscough area are discussed and where necessary comments to West Lancashire Council are provided.

If you would like to get involved contact the Clerk or the office 01704 894914.