Burscough News





Burscough Town Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Award Scheme

t the Burscough Town Council meeting held on the 18th December 2024, Councillors discussed an item on the agenda regarding a proposal for the further involvement of local non-profit organisations, charities clubs and groups, within the area of Burscough in spending part of its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money receipts during the next twelve to eighteen months.

It was proposed and agreed unanimously at the meeting that the Town Council would ask for bids from such local organisations for up to a maximum amount of £125,000 of this money. Application forms are available on the Burscough Town Council website: https://burscoughtc.org.uk

A shortlist of eligible projects will be drawn up and it may be the case that all the projects on the short list are deemed worthy of an award, the combined total is still within the maximum of £125,000.

There are strict Government criteria laid down as to what this money can be spent on therefore any applications must strictly adhere to these criteria, but basically it is for "the provision, improvement, replacement and operation of infrastructure. It can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure if that is necessary to support development."

To make a bid, local organisations (based in Burscough) must complete an application form which is initially available on the Burscough Town Council website:https://burscoughtc.org.uk or by emailing Burscough Town Council Clerk:-Jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk

The closing date for applications will be 2nd. May 2025.

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Mayor's Views

Chairman's (now Mayor) News & Views

Dear Residents.

I trust you are all well and had a good Christmas. My fellow Town Councillors and I would like to wish everyone a "Happy New Year".

Time does seem to fly by, and we are already into March, however we can start to look forward to Spring and hopefully to some better weather.

Some of you may have seen a West Lancs. Borough Council report that states that the public conveniences on School Lane car park will be closed on 31st. March 2025 in order to save money.

The Town Council were given the option of taking over this facility and paying for the future maintenance and cleaning. The Council refused this option on the grounds that the present facilities are not fit for purpose and therefore closure will take place with demolition of the buildings taking place in the financial year 2026/27.

However, this is not the end of the matter, the Town Council have met with officers from the Borough to explore other possibilities. The Town Council are now looking at the possibility of funding a completely new facility within the village, not necessarily on the present site. This work is at a very early stage, however if the project is successful, it will be funded from the Town Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. I will update you on the progress of this project when further information becomes available.

With regard to the Council's CIL funds there is further information in this Newsletter about the proposed grant award scheme for up to a maximum of £125,000 that local organisations can bid for.

If you belong to an organisation within Burscough and are developing a project or thinking of a project that might benefit from such a grant, please make an application for an award which could help to bring it to fruition

Finally, I would like to appeal to those residents who think that they may be able to spare some time to help with the work of the Town Council. There are several vacancies on the Council and if you are retired or still working and would like to get involved and feel that you could contribute to improving Burscough as a place to live and work then in the first instance contact the Clerk on 01704 894914 or email jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk

I have been a councillor for several years now and I firmly believe that even with limited funds the Town Council can make a difference and influence what goes on in our village and make it a better place to live and work for all our residents.

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

Brian Kennedy
Burscough Town Council Mayor

PROFILE - Has a good hair day!

With clipboards in cold hands, Burscough Town Councils merry band of volunteer judges braved a chilly Saturday afternoon just before Christmas trying to decide who would win the town councils 2024 Christmas Shop Window Competition. Marks out of ten were awarded for each of the categories of **Originality, Creativity, Theme & Presentation**, and it proved a tricky and difficult decision given the high standard of window dressing skills on display.

After much debate and discussion, and proving to be a cut above the competition, the first prize of £150, along with the prestigious shield, was awarded to **PROFILE HAIR STUDIO** who proved that 'curl's just wanna have fun' by scoring high marks in all the categories, particularly Originality & Theme, with their 'Support the British Farmers' creatively themed Christmas window display. **HEYES OPTICIANS** took the second-place prize of £75, only just edging out Key Financial Services, Enchanted Florist and Esquires Barbers. Last year's winner and runner up, Summer Jane & Style House respectively, both also scored highly for the second year running. Burscough Town Council and the Street Scene Working Group would like to take this opportunity to thank all participants for their efforts and wish all local shopkeepers a happy and profitable 2025.



Article by Cllr. Derick Moss.









Burscough – Christmas 2024

Christmas 2024 seems a lifetime ago, and I know it seems a bit bizarre to be talking about it in March. But as this is our first newsletter of 2025, it affords the town council the first opportunity to express our thanks and gratitude, and hopefully those of the residents of Burscough, to the town's Christmas lights installers, ILLUMIDEX UK LTD, who produced their usual high-quality service in meeting the council's required installation deadlines.

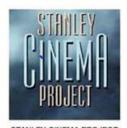
The weather over the festive period, when compared with 2023, was somewhat milder, but excessive winds at times still required the odd emergency phone call to our trusty contractors to reposition the odd windblown motif, right the leaning Christmas tree

or re-erect a toppled cone tree. The town's annual festive decorations, as usual, looked impressive and did the town of Burscough proud, and discussions are already underway to possibly enhance or add to them in time to celebrate Christmas 2025.

Article by Cllr. Derick Moss



Stanley Cinema Project



STANLEY CINEMA PROJECT The Stanley Club 1,Liverpool Road North Burscough. Lancashire. L40 5TN

the last Town Council newsletter. We are so happy to see that we have nearly 1300 people following our project which is just amazing! Thank you all so much for your support.

As well as fundraising for the restoration of the original Cinema Balcony, offering affordable pop-up screenings for our community is very important to us and we are so

grateful to everyone who has come along so far.

We are WICKEDLY EXCITED to be screening **WICKED** (PG cert) on **21st March at 6pm (doors open at 5.30)** tickets are £3.50, for further information, please have a look at our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/share/18W6zi1uGL/?mibextid=wwXlfr

We are also thrilled about the Night at the Movies events that the Burscough Panto are holding on **4th & 5th of April** to kindly raise funds for us and the Methodist church hall refurbishment. We're so grateful for the support from this talented bunch - if you've been to see any of the Burscough Panto productions you'll know what we mean! Enjoyment and laughter will be guaranteed

Charity fundraiser dates to remember:

- Burscough Methodist Hall on Friday 4th April at 7pm, tickets £10.
- The Stanley Club Saturday 5th April, tickets £15 includes disco, and the bar will be open.

Please go to the Burscough Panto page to learn more and book tickets - they are selling fast! - www.facebook.com/share/19uett5L8d/?mibextid=wwXIfr Article by Kev Whittaker

Public Transport



New bus stop shelter near Booths, supplied by Burscough Town Council.

ublic Transport is a great way to get from A to B and to do your bit for the environment. Every bus journey reduces the number of cars, vans and motorbikes on the road, which means the air we breathe is cleaner. There are numerous buses which pass through the village, as well as two train stations.

Here are some links to information about the buses and trains which we have access to.

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport/bus-timetables/bus-timetable-

stop/?stopref=250010964&service=LAAO312&daysop=0

The above link will give you information on the following buses:

2A, 312, 337.750,883 and 909

The following link will help with trains from Burscough Bridge Train station

https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations/burscough-bridge/ And this link will help with trains from Burscough Junction https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations/burscough-junction/ You can also go to Northern Rail website for more information https://www.northernrailway.co.uk/stations/



Burscough Remembers





n November Burscough remembered those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service of their Country.

Two memorial services were held in November 2024.

On Sunday 10th November 2024, Burscough came to a standstill to remember those who had paid the ultimate sacrifice in serving their Country. A Memorial parade started at Lord Street and processed through the Town centre to the Memorial Garden, this was led by Sgt Fairclough who was Parade Marshall. In attendance was Mayor of Burscough Town Council, Cllr Brian Kennedy and The Mayor of West Lancs. The parade also had representatives from local schools, Borough and County Councillors, Sea Cadets, Air Cadets, Scouts, Guides, RAF Cadets, British Legion Representatives, representatives from the Police and representatives from RAF Woodvale.

It was lovely to see so many people from Burscough Town join the parade or to watch with respect whilst the parade passed.

The service at the Cenotaph was led by Rev Elliot Ireton. Wreaths, prayers and songs helped those present to remember the sacrifice of

our brave soldiers, both in the World Wars and present combats. It was lovely to see so many youngsters attend with schools and families as we should never forget. It was also nice to see the uniform groups and cadets in attendance. The Skelmersdale Prize Band helped with music for both the march and service.

After the service at the Cenotaph, the Parade Marshall led the parade back through the Town to Lord Street and refreshments were available at The Stanley Club afterwards.

The Ringtail Memorial Service was held on Monday 11th November 2023 at the Memorial near Booths Supermarket, the service was led by Reverend Elliot Ireton. Dignitaries, school children, local people and ex-service personnel attended and laid wreaths at the memorial. There were refreshments afterwards at Booths Café, provided by Burscough Town Council.

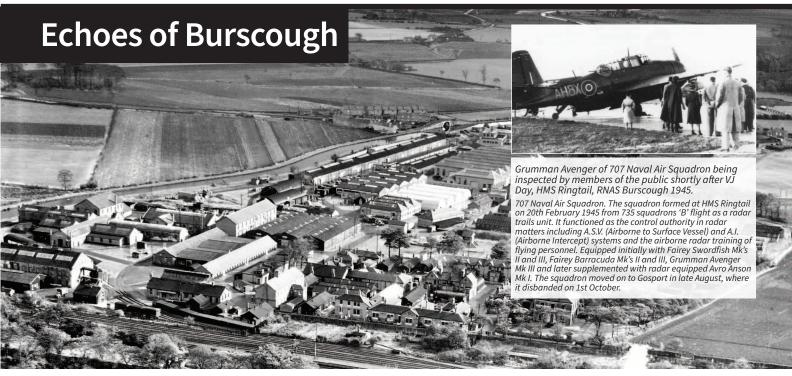
The Civic Events Team, made up of Councillors, helped to arrange and coordinate the remembrance Services. A lot of thought, time, planning, work, and preparation went into making this event a success.

Article by Mike Price









Aerial view of the Ordnance / REME Depot, 1948. (Now the Heathfields Estate)

This year marks the 80th Anniversary VE / VJ Day and Burscough, at the time was a relativity small village, but it managed to play a crucial role during the dark days of WW2. From the Army Ordnance Depot to HMS Ringtail, a Royal Naval Air Station, Burscough became a remarkably busy little village. Here is a little history of them both.

The Army Ordnance Stores relocated from Chester Castle to Burscough in 1891. One of the first officers in charge (if not the first) was Captain Henry Augustus Anley who lived at Ordnance House.

The 1914-1918 War necessitated the expansion of the Depot to hold clothing and gun stores for regimental army units.
Additional buildings were added, both during and after the War.

During the period 1918-1939 the Depot assumed its peacetime role of providing tentage and clothing necessaries and accommodation stores for units stationed in Western Command. In 1926 a detachment of the newly formed War Department Constabulary took over responsibility for Depot security from the Metropolitan Police.

During the Second World War (1939-1945) the Burscough Depot continued to perform its role of maintaining units stationed in Western command, but on an increased scale. The civilian staff was augmented by a Company of R.O.A.C and an A.T.S. detachment. A Command Workshop R.A.O.C. was formed to repair vehicles and

equipment. This workshop became a R.E.M.E. Workshop on the formation of that Corps as 21 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E. After the War, both units remained in being, but with reduced military compliments. The department retained its military officers, but no other ranks. In 1961-62 the numbers of personnel were further reduced, and many civilians were transferred to Deysbrook near Liverpool.

From the First World War until the 1950s the Ordnance Depot employed in peacetime between 300-400 personnel, the Depot was for the greater part of the first half of the 20th century the biggest employer of labour in Burscough and Lathom.

Between 1943 - 1946 the population of Burscough increased by thousands as the Fleet Air Arm built a Naval Air Station on the outskirts of the village. For three eventful years, 650 acres of former farmland hosted every type of naval aircraft. During the summer of 1942, the Fleet Air Arm forecast that it was due to expand from 2,665 operational aircraft to a total of 6,350 by the end of 1943. Most pilots and observer training had been conducted on a piecemeal basis by the RAF School, but the Admiralty had always considered this to be a stop gap rather than a permanent program. Air Ministry bosses were persuaded to give up a number of airfields to the Royal Naval Air Service and build new ones, HMS Ringtail being one of these.



Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) at work looking over a Churchill Tank in a REME workshop, Ordnance Depot, Burscough, 10th October 1942.

The Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) was the women's branch of the British Army during the Second World War. It was formed on 9th September 1938, initially as a women's voluntary service and existed until 1st February 1949, when it was merged into the Women's Royal Army Corps.



VE Day Party at St. John's C of E Primary School, 1945.



Echoes of Burscough

Building work began immediately by McAlpine and Sons, four runways were laid down, and an Admiralty two-storey control tower was built (this was quickly changed to a threestorey with an air watch office to accommodate the needs of the air station) along with thirty two Mainhill hangars and two large Callender Hamilton hangars for major servicing. Much of the accommodation was in the form of Nissen huts. The work was completed in just nine months (much earlier than expected). But this came at a cost to Burscough, Local farms, homes and even the original Lordsgate Township Primary School, stood on this land that had been requisitioned under the Defence (General) Regulations 1939 made under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act 1939. Local farms and buildings were demolished along with the school; others would be requisitioned and used as offices for the air station. Baldwin's Farm on Edge Lane, was occupied by James and Mary Almond prior to demolition. James was a highly regarded farmer locally and was heartbroken when he lost his farm, as were many other farmers. Lordsgate School opened on the 18th of February 1878 with an adjacent schoolhouse built in 1880 and was demolished in April 1943. The Royal Navy built a temporary school, in the form of Nissen huts on Lordsgate Drive. After the war, the Royal Navy built a new school which still stands today. On the floor in the entrance hall, there is a depiction of an aircraft flying over the sea, a permanent



VE Day celebrations held at Lordsgate School in October 1945. The school was at this time housed in Nissan Huts off Liverpool Road South after the original school had to be demolished to make way for the Royal Naval Air Station, HMS Ringtail.

reminder of the school's connection with the Royal Navy and the Fleet Air Arm.

HMS Ringtail was commissioned on 1st September 1943 under the command of Captain (A) J F W C Hawkins, RN, and planned to accommodate day and night fighter squadrons, torpedo squadrons, fleet requirement units and a radar training school. During its operational years more than forty squadrons were attached to HMS Ringtail for short periods for working up to operational standard, aircraft type conversion or disembarking from aircraft carriers in the River Mersey. On 3rd May 1946,

the last flying unit left Burscough, after that the station was reduced to care and maintenance status. There after HMS Ringtail was taken over by HMS Blackcap, Royal Naval Air Station Stretton (near Warrington), as a sub site known as a Naval Engine Holding Unit. The navy finally gave up the station in 1957 and its grassed areas reverted to agriculture again.

'Freedom comes at a price that should never be taken for granted.'

Article and photographs provided by local historian Michael Dawson.

VE Day-VJ Day

This year the UK will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, with Victory in Europe (VE) Day on 8 May 1945 and Victory over Japan (VJ) Day on 15th August 1945. Millions around the world rejoiced, relieved that the intense strain and suffering of war was finally at an end, and those in the UK listened intently when at 3pm, on 8th May 1945, the Prime Minister Winston Churchill made a radio speech to tell Britain that the war in Europe was finally over.

The war against Japan did not end until 15th August 1945. VJ Day, or Victory over Japan Day, marked the end of World War II, one of the deadliest and most destructive wars in history.



At this time of writing, the government has said it is not planning any additional bank holidays to mark these momentous occasions. The Prime Minister's spokesperson has told reporters that it may look to use the existing May Bank Holiday, on 5th May, for commemorative events.

Burscough Town Council's plans to commemorate these significant moments in history will include bunting both sides of Liverpool Road North through the village centre, the raising of commemorative flags on the Memorial Gardens and Ringtail flagpoles, lamppost roundels, and, still in the early stages of planning, a fireworks display.

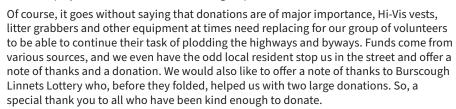
Article by Cllr. Derick Moss.



It's 7up for our local BLP Group

My, how time flies, on 1st March 2025, our merry band of Burscough Litter Pickers turned seven, yes, seven years in which sadly, it has to be said, we have collected approximately 7000 bags of discarded litter and waste. While we pride ourselves on what we have achieved in that time there is still much to do, and not least on our list of priorities is the continued re-education of those who continue to blight our roads, streets and lanes with all forms of disposable packaging.

One of the more pleasing and proud outcomes from that seven years is that we have managed to establish new, but separate, groups of litter pickers in Lathom and Rufford, both groups are headed up by former members of our BLP group.



As their team leader I would just like to say that our team of volunteers are second to none. Our volunteer litter pickers are a dedicated set of individuals who pride themselves with clearing our green spaces, pavements, and parks from all types of litter and rubbish, at times prepared to go out in harsh weather, and I am extremely grateful for the hard work that they do.

Don't forget, 'THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN' is back, and runs from 21st March to 6th April. Originally launched by the national environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy as a one-off event in 2016, it's estimated that some 326,000 people participated last year and filled an astonishing 425,000 bags of discarded litter. Wouldn't it be great if we could get our local schools involved! – To sign up simply visit keepbritaintidy.org

Article by George Clandon



Keeping an eye on climate impacts of what we do

The Methodist Church in Burscough continues to look for ways to address climate issues in the community work they do.

Their latest news -

- *recycling clothes via the clothes bank
- * referring people to the Tarleton Pantry, who save food from landfill
- * partnering with the Multi Brick in Wigan who save consumer goods from landfill.
- ...AND their planned new build is being designed to be Green. ...so watch this space!

Inspiring work for those of us who just keep 'trying'..

Did you know Lancashire Age UK

Meet on the second Wednesday of the month at Burscough Town Council's offices – Interchange Building, Station Approach, Burscough L40 ORZ.

The session starts at 1pm to 3pm.

Its open to all community members who are living with dementia and their carers.

There is no need to book, just come along and join in meet others in a similar position and access information and advice – refreshments are available. Need more information call **0300 303 1234**.

Street Scene Roundup 2025

Burscough Town Council's Street Scene working group expect a busy 2025, with some important projects in the pipeline.

Bringing back that Burscough sparkle

Winter tends to bring a build-up of dirt, road salt and other substances. Thus, to bring back that Burscough sparkle, and rid the village pavements and features of winter traffic film, unsightly algae and lichen, in early Spring specially appointed street cleaning contractors will begin a programme of professional deep cleaning. They will be treating various areas of the village pavements and granite features. Areas to be included, are the main village thoroughfare, the corner of School Lane/Liverpool Road, Smithy Walk and the corner of Mill Lane/Liverpool Road. The Town Council apologise in advance for any short-term inconvenience this may cause to local business and pedestrians.

Blooming Burscough

In late May, and in advance of Summer and the anticipated warmer weather, the town council's traditional annual floral hanging baskets and flowering barrier baskets will once again bring colour to the village centre and along Liverpool Road North to the Memorial Gardens.

VE Day 80

As the countdown gets underway to commemorate this momentous occasion, plans are well in hand. Around the beginning of May, specially themed roundels will adorn the lampposts, commemorative bunting will be strung along the village throughfare, and a fireworks display is in the preliminary stages of planning. Details will be announced when available. The Town Council will also be raising a unique VE Day 80 flag in the Memorial Gardens and at the Ringtail Memorial.

Article by BTC Street Scene Chairman Cllr. Derick Moss



Community Notice Board

A reminder to local groups and organisations that the Town Council has provided a COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD for the advertising of one-off events, such as

FUND RAISING, VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES and LOCAL INFORMATION.

Display materials, no larger than A4 size, can be used to publicise Burscough specific activities, including charity and non-profit events. Unless agreed in advance, all notices and adverts will be displayed for a period of 3 weeks only.



The board is located at the front of the Town Council offices, Interchange Building on Station Approach. To display an advert, or receive a copy of our notice board guidelines please contact:-jackie.maguire@burscough.org.uk or telephone 01704 894914.

Article by Cllr. Derick Moss.

BURSCOUGH TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS' CONTACT DETAILS

Mayor: Brian Kennedy Deputy Mayor: Derick Moss

Councillor	Address	Telephone
	PURCOUGH TOWN WARR (PWR1/PWR2)	
Cynthia Dereli	BURSCOUGH TOWN WARD (BWD1/BWD2) 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
Swin Purple	- -	07354 271272
Vacancy	_	
	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 Vacancy	34 School Lane, L40 4AE	07801 433584
	STANLEY WARD (BWB)	
Derick Moss	4 Abbey Fold, L40 7UX	07860 735025
Brian Bailey	60 Hesketh Road, L40 7SQ	07518 757059
Vacancy		
	CLERK TO THE COUNCIL	
Jackie Maguire (Clerk)	Interchange Building, Station Approach	
Chaile Cill (and a second	Jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk or	894914
Sheila Gill (Deputy Clerk/RFO)	Sheila.gill@burscoughtc.org.uk	

Did you know PCSO's use the Town Council office as a base for drop ins

POLICE DROP in SURGERIES held by: -

Ormskirk Neighbourhood Policing Team

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) drop -in surgeries have been arranged at: -

Burscough Town Council Offices

Station Approach

Burscough L40 0RZ

ON: -

Monday 31st March 2025 from 7–8:30pm Friday 11th April 2025 from 10:30–12pm No need to book, just call in and speak in private to a PCSO.

Upgraded Room Hire Space: Multi-Media Screens Now Available

As mentioned in previous newsletters, Burscough Town Council have newly refurbished rooms for hire. Rooms 1, 2 and 3 are available for hire at just £10/hour and if you book both rooms 2+3 as a large conference room, it is discounted to £15/hour. They can be leased by the hour and would be suitable for anyone organising a corporate event, training, music evens/practice, theatre productions, and many more social activities. Since then, brand new multi-media screens have been added to each of the room spaces. You can hold team meetings on here, use them as a whiteboard, project presentations, and use multiple apps. Free Wi-fi is also included.

All bookings can be made online via the Town Councils website https://burscoughtc.org.uk. Facilities are now available in the evenings and the weekends. Room hires are available Monday through to Sunday 10AM-10PM.

