



A MAYOR'S YEAR

As this Mayoral year draws to a close, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. By the time you read this, many of the Town's residents will have had their first vaccination and be feeling more confident about the future. This has been an extraordinary year with sad loss of life and restrictions placed on all of us.



Cllr Roxanne Ransley
Town Mayor

I know, when I have spoken to you, how difficult it has been and how we all have missed close contact with family and friends. Short conversations with strangers at a social distance whilst exercising have become both necessary and enjoyable. As Mayor I have been encouraged to see how many support groups have been set up and that the Foodbank at the church continues to help those in need.



Many normal Mayoral events such as meetings and charities have been cancelled or held virtually, which can be difficult at times. I have been delighted to see how inventive some Tring groups have become. Tring Together, which is supported by Tring Council, have continued to support local businesses and interest groups. We have celebrated some of our annual events in a different way. The YouTube video for VE Day was filmed over several days and I was pleased to be able to lay a wreath on the Town's behalf. It was difficult to observe the two minutes silence

on my doorstep with millions of others around the country rather than at the War Memorial, but a wreath was laid later in the day. One event that I managed to attend between lockdowns was the opening of the lifts at Tring Station and I hope that we may get toilets there in the future.

I enjoyed the Scarecrow Competition as part of Apple Day, but missed the procession and Morris dancers which are traditional. The High Street shops made a huge effort with the Christmas window display and, together with Shop Local weekend, helped to bring some normality to the town centre in early December and smiles to the faces of the children.

What a wonderful job the yarn bombers have done this year! Special occasions have been marked, pillar boxes decorated and the bus shelter transformed; talent is everywhere in Tring.

Local businesses have found the year exceptionally difficult and I have tried to support them whenever possible. There can be few towns where almost everything could be delivered, from books to meals. Other people realised dreams by setting up their own company, making masks or shields or supporting local vulnerable people. It will be important for the Town Council to have a Covid Recovery plan and we will work with all local stakeholders to achieve this.

Council business has carried on throughout the year and, although you can't visit our council chamber as normal, staff are still available online



and by telephone to help and advise. Members of the public can still speak at meetings online if they contact the Clerk beforehand. It is important to us that you make your views and concerns known.

During the year there have been some changes within the council: sadly, we lost Cllr John Bowden and I know that he will be greatly missed by the people in his ward. John worked tirelessly for the Tring Community Centre and the surrounding area; he was a character who will not be easily forgotten. As elections cannot be held at the moment, Sharon Wilkie has been co-opted on to the council to serve in the Bunstrux ward and I look forward to working with her.

We said goodbye to our Clerk of eight years, Michael Curry, and wish him a long and happy retirement; he worked hard for Tring and kept our council in good order. We welcome Lydia Housden as our new Clerk and look forward to working with her.

Colin Jones retired after more than 20 years as our Town Warden and he has been replaced by Ben Cartwright who many of you will know.



Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting has been postponed because of the pandemic. We will publicise any new date on our website at www.tring.gov.uk and on town notice boards.

Allotments & Environment Committee

AN UPDATE FROM COMMITTEE CHAIR, NIGEL NUTKINS

What a difficult year we have had! The changeable and unseasonable weather has been a challenge for gardeners and then the coronavirus pandemic has led to isolation and troublesome times for many. Fortunately, allotments are included in the permitted daily exercise regime and thank you to everyone for following the guidelines. The Council would like to thank Ian Brownell and the Allotment Association for monitoring the allotment site during this time. During April and May there were many enquiries from residents wishing to 'grow their own' and there is now a waiting list for plots. If you are considering relinquishing your allotment, please contact Dawn Slade (at admin@tring.gov.uk/01442 823347) so that it can be offered to the next person on the list. Some plots have changed hands recently and it is rewarding to see all the plots being used.

Maintenance of the hedges and paths has continued and there are plans in place to repair some paths to improve access and safety. Our thanks go to Tring in Transition for their continued efforts in the Community Garden and to the Friends of Millennium Wood. It has been a challenge to continue with these projects and follow social distancing rules but, hopefully, there will be better times to come. If anyone is interested in taking part in either of these projects, please email info@tring.gov.uk.

Climate Change Working Party

As we emerge from lockdown we will be working hard to focus efforts on our objectives. The crisis has alerted us all, not only to the joys of nature, but to the necessity of protecting the health of the planet. The Allotment and Environment Committee is at the forefront of the Council's efforts to tackle climate change. Ongoing projects include reducing car use by encouraging walking and cycling, supporting the Bee Friendly Tring campaign and educating the public about waste reduction and energy efficiency. Our thanks go to all of the organisations in the town who have been busy with these projects during the year.

The Council wishes to express its thanks to everyone for their efforts in making Tring such a pleasant place to be. Our situation in the Chiltern Hills makes our town special and interest in the "great outdoors" has increased during the year. Rest assured that the Town Council will do all in its power to retain Tring's unique character and protect its environment.



Grants to local organisations

Tring & District Local History and Museum Society

BY TIM AMSDEN, CHAIRMAN

The last year has proved immensely frustrating for Tring and District Local History and Museum Society. We have had to postpone our speaker evenings or resort to online presentations. With many of our stewards being elderly or at risk, it would have been very difficult to staff the museum even when it was permissible, so the decision was taken to remain closed until better times. Fortunately we have very low overheads, and a Government grant to businesses like ours has compensated for the loss of income. We are at least able to offer the Heritage Trail, as a fold-out map or as a mobile app, allowing people to learn more about the historic town centre.

We have not been inactive, with progress being made on gaining Accreditation, the sector's benchmark for standards of operation. We have also secured a grant for the repair and conservation of a fascinating sketchbook used in the 1830s by Charlotte Smith whose family lived at Tring Park. The work has been completed and we look forward to displaying the book with its local scenes, some readily recognisable and others less so. We have also been given another stone railway sleeper, this one complete with its metal rail fixing, and our display of policing in Tring now includes the town's Cold War air-raid siren. There will be a lot to see when you are eventually allowed to visit us!

The biggest cloud on the horizon is the proposal in the draft Dacorum Local Plan that the Market Place and adjoining areas should be redeveloped for a supermarket. This would entail the museum being 'relocated', but no explanation is given as to how that might happen without causing immense difficulties and expense. We have argued strongly for this policy to be discarded.

As always, we are immensely grateful to the Town Council for their continued support, and hopefully we will soon be able to plan for the museum's future, including an extension on the west side, once the threat has been lifted.



Supporting Rennie Grove Nurses

BY SOPHIE LEE, TRUSTS FUNDRAISER

Tring Town Council is a long-term supporter of Rennie Grove Hospice Care and the valuable hospice at home care they provide for the local community. Rennie Grove is thrilled to receive a grant from the Town Council towards the provision of Lone Worker Devices for the 11 hospice at home nurses in the Dacorum team, who care for patients and families living in Tring and the surrounding area. These devices will safeguard the nurses by enabling them to alert emergency services if they are unsafe or unwell via a discreet, wearable 'smart button'.

During the uncertain times brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever before to guarantee the delivery of nursing care and support to all those who need it. Emma, one of our nurses, tells us about how COVID has impacted her daily work: 'It has been very, very challenging for the Rennie Grove nurses who have been working throughout the Covid health crisis, witnessing what patients are going through and seeing their struggles. What keeps me going is knowing the real difference we make to local people. They really appreciate the care that Rennie Grove provides. It's so important for them to be able to stay at home and have their family around them. We can make that happen for patients and that makes a real difference to how they feel.'

2020 has been Rennie Grove's busiest year on record. Even before the pandemic, demand for hospice at home care had increased by 29% over the last financial year. Last year nurses in Rennie Grove's Dacorum team cared for 54 patients in Tring, making 607 visits to these patients in their own homes, and 1,259 phone calls. Thanks to this most recent grant from Tring Town Council, Rennie Grove nurses have now received their Lone Worker Devices and will soon complete the training needed to use them. Rennie Grove would like to thank the council for its continued support over many years.



Tring's Events of 2020

VE75 Commemoration – The Director's Cut BY VIVIANNE CHILD, TRING TOGETHER

Imagine you had plans for a large event in and around the church; involving an Act of Remembrance, live music, beer, young people talking about their grandparents' memories of WWII and finally (drum roll please) bagpipes on the church roof. Then imagine that none of the above was permitted to take place because of the Covid19 lockdown.

What would you do?

The answer is that you ask the excellent people of Tring to be adaptable and to "do their bit" in their gardens or in their kitchen, in whatever way pleases them. You then ask them to send you the results on film. Finally, you then use the wonderful natural resources of Tring as a backdrop to fill in any gaps. Sorted!

That was the cunning plan that Huw Bellis, Vivianne Child and Zoey Child devised, standing by Huw's wheelie-bin one morning, as Zoey and I were on our daily permitted walk. We invited twenty-five people to record different parts of the VE75 commemoration that was originally planned. Zoey would then edit it all together and I would stand around making unhelpful suggestions. The result would be played on YouTube at 2.50pm on Friday 8th May. It was all good fun, although there were a few challenges to overcome;

Michael. In fact, she was filmed a week later when the sun had gone in and the grass had grown quite a lot. Then we cut to the war memorial with cherry blossom wafting in the breeze. Cherry blossom that had all blown away by the day itself. It made us realise how hard continuity must be in film making!

How to include church bells when the church is locked?

The final element of the original VE75 day was to have church bells ringing out for peace across the land at 6.55pm. But our church tower was locked. Luckily, many years ago, someone called Jemma had made a film and put it on YouTube. Chris Hoare managed to track her down and she was only too pleased to allow us to use the film.

We also had an issue with the piper. The national plans included bagpipes playing The Battle's O'er and we thought it would be great fun to ask him to play from the church roof. Richard Shardlow had a contact via his charitable work with The CastleTrex Pipers and all was arranged. But then the lockdown was threatened, and all service personnel were confined to base. However, CastleTrex came good and made a film for us, of a solo piper. It made a beautiful end to the film.

How to edit together twenty pieces of film when you're supposed to be at University?

We were lucky that Zoey's summer Uni term was taking place in her bedroom and so she could work on gluing the film together. I don't know much of the detail, but she disappeared for many hours and must have watched the content 1,000,000 times.



How to lay wreaths whilst obeying social distancing rules?

We felt that the laying of wreaths was an important part of the Act of Remembrance and Sir Michael Simmons and our town Mayor, Roxanne, were more than happy to be involved. Sir Michael led the charge, in full uniform, by laying a wreath on the War Memorial a week ahead of time, on a lovely sunny afternoon. In the video it looks as if Roxanne lays her wreath straight after Sir

Huw knocked his camera just before starting to speak and the first minute of film wobbled so much it made me feel sick. We asked for a 'take two'. He then filmed on a beautifully sunny evening, with birds singing, came back indoors and realised

the camera was switched off. 'Take three' was perfect.



Laura's film was great. She was talking about her grandfather, had beautiful diction and was even wearing a Union Flag tee-shirt. But in the background Zoey was convinced someone was running a bath (?), then someone walked past with loud footsteps, then walked back again. And then someone started playing the drums? We hope you can't hear them once she'd 'smoothed out the audio'.

Finally, we had a Zoom conference call of everyone involved in the film, to make a toast to the heroes of World War II. This toast was supposed to happen nationally at 3pm in all the pubs and bars, but instead we all sat at home, raised our glasses and I took a screen shot to put at the end of the film. That just about sums up the Covid19 lockdown doesn't it?

Thank you to everyone that took part, especially to Huw for making sure the whole experience kept the spirit of commemoration of WWII, Pippa who had to encourage her cast of thousands to appear and to Zoey for all her technical expertise.

Now that you know the back story, the film, if you would like to see it, is still available on:

www.tringteamparish.org.uk/veday75



Tring's Own Apple Fayre BY VIVIANNE CHILD, TRING TOGETHER

Back for the 15th year

2020 was a challenging year in many ways for all of us. Dominated by the global pandemic, communities and individuals have experienced sometimes life-changing events. Perhaps it has, however, reminded us we are still very much a living part of our planet. The time we have had to re-think our lives, become more aware of the natural world and our impacts on it - and it on us, has been important. Numerous extreme weather events worldwide are certainly a wake-up call. But life goes on and so does our local community in Tring. The Farmers Market has continued and so did the 2020 Apple Fayre – albeit more virtual this year.

Having decided to avoid encouraging numerous gatherings, the Apple Fayre Team – Martin Hicks, Jo Jamieson and Tring Together – put together some events to offer light relief and a reminder that we can raise our spirits and still work together to protect ourselves and the planet!



This October, join us for a virtual seasonal celebration of our environment, food, culture & Tring!

Download our appletastic brochure packed with online events, resources and activities for FREE via [TringsOwnAppleFayre](https://www.tringtogether.org.uk) or www.tringtogether.org.uk



Tring's Own Apple Fayre, now in its 15th year, is the brainchild of Martin Hicks; Trustee of Tring Farmers Market



Councillor Roxanne Ransley was the judge of the Scarecrow competition. Here she is with the entry from The Kings Arms



This year's Scarecrow competition winners: The Justice & Peace Group, Maggie J, Sons of Ink and Dundale School. Thank you all for entering!

Tring's Christmas Weekend BY STEFFI BUSE, TRING TOGETHER

Thank you Tring! Tring together at Christmas – not just an event title but so much more! After a year of too many cancellations, the whole town proved yet again the unique community spirit that makes Tring so special.

Tring's Christmas Weekend, organised by Tring Together with the help of so many local businesses, community groups and volunteers, brought festive cheer to town on 12th and 13th December. Christmas Market stalls, an enchanted Memorial Garden, a big screen showcasing local performers, festive church concerts and Father Christmas himself paying a visit, all ensured that the Christmas Spirit took over Tring, ... whilst wearing masks and keeping socially distanced of course.

A huge thank you to everyone who visited and for all the lovely comments which overwhelmingly described that the event brought a 'sense of normality' - it means a lot to us! We would also like to thank our sponsors, community groups, stall holders, volunteers, and shops that supported us from day one – we could not have done it without you, especially this year.



Buildings & Assets

BY COUNCILLOR PHIL MCDOWELL

Tring is fortunate in being the proud owner of a number of assets, some of which have a social function while others provide income that enables the Council to keep the amount we raise from council tax payers at a low level. But this year has been very different from most. Covid-19 struck right at the beginning of our Council year so, after a shaky start, Councillors have all learned new skills and now hold meetings virtually.

We are also able to welcome members of the public to those online meetings. The Market House and its Information Centre have been temporarily closed though staff continue to work online and telephone calls are answered. Our outdoor assets are faring better! The allotments are all rented out and the Millennium Wood and the Community Garden have a steady stream of visitors. The Justice and Peace Group has launched a campaign for a Bee Friendly Tring and asked for the Council's support. Church Square, which continues to host the Friday Market will be planted with bee-friendly species. The Farmers Market is flourishing and has asked to be moved back to the Market Place to accommodate all their stalls! The Skateboard Park on Pound Meadow has remained open and is well used. Tring Youth Town Council is working with local skateboard enthusiasts to redesign it and bring it up to the standard of neighbouring facilities.

In addition to the disruption caused by the virus, we have had to contend with Dacorum's Emerging Strategy for Growth which involves creating the new Local Plan for the years 2020 to 2038. Because the proposed plan imposes a higher percentage of new houses for Tring than anywhere else in Dacorum as well as extensive building on Green Belt land adjacent to the Area of Outstanding Beauty, we have instructed experts to assist us in mitigating these proposals. In addition, one of the small sites highlighted for development is TR 06, High St / Brook St, which is partly owned by Tring Town Council (TTC). This includes the Market Place, the Tring Market Auctions and the Local History Museum, all of which are proposed to be moved. Rest assured this is not a formal plan by TTC and we will ourselves separately consult all residents before making any plans for changes here.

Sadly, many of the regular annual events held in the town have had to be cancelled thanks to Covid-19. However, behind the scenes the council is working on the scheme to rebuild the Nora Grace Hall as a contemporary, sustainable two-storey building in a beautiful space with facilities for everyone for leisure, learning, arts, therapy and business. Preliminary survey work will shortly be carried out prior to appointing a project manager to get things started. Rest assured, Tring Town Council will continue to safeguard and improve its assets using the Community Infrastructure Levy money from new builds.



Planning Committee

COMMITTEE CHAIR, NIGEL NUTKINS

The Planning Committee considers over 200 applications annually; its role is two-fold:

1. To make a recommendation on individual planning applications to Dacorum Borough Council.
2. To comment on strategic plans for Dacorum.

The Council has to follow specific guidelines on which planning applications it can object to and provide a valid ground for doing so. It is Dacorum Borough Council that makes the final decision. Neighbourhood notifications are hand delivered by the Town Warden to ensure those most affected are aware of the proposed application. All Council and Committee meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend to have your say. Recently, meetings have been held virtually.

In recent months the Council has been concentrating its efforts on its response to Dacorum Local Plan Emerging Strategy for Growth (2020-2038) consultation. This is a consultation by Dacorum Borough Council asking for views on the proposed growth across Dacorum.

The Local Plan details proposed numbers and sites for development. It is proposed that at least 16,596 new homes within Dacorum Borough be constructed, of which 2,731 (some 16%) should be built in Tring.

Although the Council appreciates that growth is needed in any town, it is very concerned at the level of growth envisaged. In addition, a number of the proposed sites are green belt land which abuts Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The Council has submitted a detailed and comprehensive response to the consultation which can be seen on the Town Council's website www.tring.gov.uk and will continue to monitor closely any future developments.



Photograph by: Stephen Kitchener

Finance & Policy

COMMITTEE CHAIR, CHRISTOPHER TOWNSEND

Part of being a good Town Council is keeping in touch with people. It has really saddened us that we have not been able to meet in person, but we are hopeful that the COVID clouds will go away soon. Then we can get back to work properly and focus on the various projects that unfortunately have not progressed this year as we would have liked.

Of course, we have tried to keep up the work as much as possible and in fact a lot has happened in the Finance & Policy committee this year. We have reviewed our policy framework, got clean bills of health for internal and external audit, and put considerable focus into next year's budget, a process that has benefited from the new pair of eyes of our new Clerk. We also progressed with our plans to make the Town Warden's life a bit easier and have purchased a van to help with the great many small tasks that are always needed around and about the Town.

Turning to the financial numbers of the Town Council, the general picture is good. The council's income has naturally

taken a hit by COVID, but not excessively so. On the other hand, because some expected project expenditure has not materialised, the expected budget outturn for 2020/21 is reasonably balanced and certainly more than covered by our healthy reserve base. Looking forward our plans are to set up a 'COVID and High Street Recovery' earmarked reserve. The aim of this reserve will be to support the community as much as we can once the COVID clouds lift, and normality returns. We plan for the council to spend some of its reserves to help support COVID recovery; if now is not a time for dipping sensibly into reserves, when is it?

I'd also like to take this opportunity to remind all residents and local organisations that the Town Council has what is labelled a 'S137 pot'. The term S137 means that there are various restrictions on what the money can and cannot be spent on, and we are finding that this pot has not been entirely spent over the last few years. So do please get in touch if you are a local charity or community organisation in Tring that requires modest financial support - we may be able to help!

Tring Town Council Christmas Shop Window Competition

I'm sure you will agree that the retailers of Tring did us proud in 2020. We are so lucky to have such a diverse group of friendly and inviting places to shop and I know that we've all been doing our best to #ShopLocal this year.

Congratulations to Emily and her team at Emmaus for winning the Christmas window competition. This year we ran the competition slightly differently, with a public vote on social media before the Mayor, Councillor Roxanne Ransley, visited the High Street to choose the winner. Thank you to Jess from @LoveTring for organising the on-line vote and to Tring Together for publicising the competition as part of their Christmas High Street shopping weekend.



The full results were as follows;

- 1st Emmaus
- 2nd Magnolia
- 3rd joint Maggie J and Our Bookshop



New Tring Town Warden

My name is Ben Cartwright and I'm very pleased and proud to be the new Tring Town Warden. I've lived in Tring all my life - all my three children attended the local school and I am also a grandfather. I support many charities and I help to organise various events in the town. I hope to continue the good work done by Colin Jones, our former Town Warden, and continue supporting Tring Town Council.

Information Centre

Although the Information Centre is closed to visitors because of the pandemic, staff are working remotely to answer enquiries by email info@tring.gov.uk and telephone **01442 823347**, collaborate with Council colleagues on various projects and keep our website up to date. If you visit the website www.tring.gov.uk you will find minutes of Council meetings and information about Tring, including bulletins from local organisations about the services they can offer at this time. If you're planning your spring walks, have a look at our six local walks on the website's About Tring page; these can help you find walks of varying lengths from central Tring so you can get your exercise, enjoy our lovely surroundings and stay safe.



Youth Council

EMMA CAVE, YOUTH TOWN CLERK

Tring Youth Town Council has sadly been interrupted like everyone else by Covid 19 this year. Our members have been terribly affected by missing their education, exams and social interaction with friends, teachers and extended families. Five of our former members had only just started their exciting time at university and they have faced the very tricky challenge of being away from home amid a pandemic along with making new friends and studying at a high level.

Despite all this, our young people have managed brilliantly and continue, although virtually, with their commitment to the Youth Town Council.



Sadly, our Summer and Christmas events could not go ahead and the fabulous Summer Carnival and Christmas Festival in its usual form were sorely missed.

We have, however, been working on a refurbishment plan for the skate park with a fantastic group of young skaters who have represented themselves brilliantly at Town Council virtual meetings.

Our Chair, Libby Hobson, represented young people on Remembrance Sunday by laying a wreath on the War Memorial in Church Square. She also organised an incredibly well-supported donation of toys for The Cash for Kids/ Mission Christmas initiative, providing presents for children whose families this year were negatively affected by Covid-19. She delivered a large carful of parcels a week before Christmas and they were very well received. Our thanks go to everyone who generously donated gifts.

The Tring Youth Project continued at the start of the pandemic to provide mental health support to several young people but have, regrettably, been unable to open the Youth Club in the usual way on Friday evenings. Our staff, however, have kept in touch with the young people who use the service and will be ready to open the doors as soon as it is safe to do so. We continue to be very grateful to Tring Town Council who support us with a grant of £5000. We use this to provide quality consistent staff which is the key to providing a safe and comfortable environment for our young people to meet and make friends.

We have contributed our views on the Local Plan emphasising the importance of environmental sustainability and genuinely affordable housing, among other observations.

We are looking for more young people to be involved with our group although for the time being we are obviously restricted. We would like to be ready to arrange some events when it is safe to do so, to bring our young and wider community together once more.

If you are a young person between the ages of 11-18 interested in getting involved, we would love to hear from you and your friends.

Please contact Emma Cave at youthcouncil@tring.gov.uk for more details.



Council Representatives to local organisations

Tring Community Centre Management Committee
Cllr Mrs R. L. Ransley

Old Church House Members of Management Committee
Town Mayor (ex officio) & Cllr P. Elley

Tring Charities
Cllr P. Elley & Mr T. Oram

Tring & District Local History & Museum Society
Cllr R. Hollinghurst

Tring Bus Users Group
County Cllr N Hollinghurst & Cllr B. Patterson

The Friends of Tring Church Heritage
Cllr P. Elley

Chiltern Countryside Group (plus London Luton Airport Matters)
Mrs Sue Yeoman

County Market Company Ltd T/A Tring Farmers' Market (as observer)
Cllr Mrs R. L. Ransley

Tring Sports Forum
Cllr A. Caps

Churches Together in Tring
Cllr C. Townsend

Justice & Peace Group
Cllr N. Nutkins

Hertfordshire Association of Parish & Town Councils
Town Clerk, Lydia Housden

Arla/Olleco Liaison Group
County Cllr N. Hollinghurst

Dacorum Environmental Forum (DEF)
Cllrs B. Patterson & P. McDowell

Rothschild Surgery
Cllr C. Townsend

Tring Town Council your representatives



Cllr Alex Caps
Liberal Democrat
Bunstrux Ward

13 New Road,
Tring HP23 5EY
alex.caps@tring.gov.uk

I have been living in New Road for 6 years and visit the New Mill Baptist Church in New Road every Thursday, where I spend time with senior citizens of Tring, raising money for the church by treating the people as I am a Postural Alignment specialist. I have been helping the residents of Bunstrux ward with their problems, and have been setting up a fund for under privileged kids to support them doing sport in Tring with the help from the sporting community. I am also the Council's representative on Tring Sports Forum, and attend the breakfast meetings with Tring Together.



Cllr Paul Elley
Liberal Democrat
Bunstrux Ward

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paul.elley@tring.gov.uk

I am a councillor for Bunstrux Ward and I am the council representative on Old Church House and Friends of Tring Church Heritage. I was previously elected to the Council in 1979 and 1999, I have found that a lot has changed since I was first elected, but much hasn't. I have lived in Tring since 1975. I am Chair of Governors at Goldfield School. The thing that I like best about Tring is the variety of countryside walks near us, particularly the canals and reservoirs.



Cllr Nigel Nutkins
Liberal Democrat
Miswell Ward

113 Longfield Road,
Tring HP23 4DE
01442-825110
nigel.nutkins@tring.gov.uk

This is my third term as a Tring Town Councillor. Born in Wigginton, I have always lived locally, returning to Tring in 1980 after a period in Berkhamsted. I'm interested in the ecology of our town and animal welfare. I am Chair of the Planning Committee, Chair of the Allotments & Environment Committee, a member of the Building & Assets Committee, and a member of the Climate Change Working Party. I enjoy motorcycling, and I do first aid for the Red Cross and with Tring Rugby Club.



Cllr Brian Patterson
Liberal Democrat
Miswell Ward

36 Highfield Road,
Tring HP23 4DX
brian.patterson@tring.gov.uk

I was first elected as a Tring town councillor in May 2019. I am a retired civil servant and have lived in Tring since the 1980s. I sit on the Planning Committee and on the Allotments & Environment Committee, as well as the Climate Change Working Party. I also attend meetings of the Dacorum Environmental Forum.



Cllr Penny Hearn
Conservative
Dunsley Ward

31 Chiltern Way,
Tring HP23 5LD
01442-824949
penny.hearn@tring.gov.uk

I am a member of all the Council's committees. I am also the Borough Councillor for Tring East. I am Vice-chairman of the Tring Youth Project: we are a small group of Trustees who run a youth club at the Temperance Hall in Christchurch Road. The Tring Youth Project was first introduced by the Town Council in 1992. My hobbies are shopping(!) and gardening.



Cllr Rosemarie Hollinghurst
Liberal Democrat
Dunsley Ward

Farlands, Tinkers Lane,
Wigginton, Tring HP23 6JB
01442-866650
rosemarie.hollinghurst@tring.gov.uk

Though I live in Wigginton, we frequently drive down to Tring in our all-electric car, shopping in the local shops and on the Friday Market and the Farmers Market. This year has been a very different one for us all, learning new skills, using Zoom and Google Meet. But I prefer the human contact of attending a meeting! I sit on the Building & Assets and Planning Committees and am a volunteer Steward at the Local History Museum. I strongly support the Planning Committee's efforts to mitigate climate change and to defend Tring's position in the upcoming DBC Local Plan proposals.



Cllr Helena Piper
Liberal Democrat
Miswell Ward

49 Okeley Lane,
Tring HP23 4HB
helena.piper@tring.gov.uk

I was pleased to be elected as a new councillor in 2019. I've lived in Tring for 17 years, having chosen to settle here and raise my family. I and my late husband both worked in Tring when we met and have both supported our local community. I work in Health and Social Care, plus, with the bereavement of my husband some years ago, understand the importance of mental health support especially for children. I am a keen outdoors person, enjoying horse riding and dog walking within our beautiful area. I have always enjoyed walking in and around Tring and educating my children on caring for their environment and local wildlife. I think it is important to give the next generation the knowledge and skills to support themselves thus empowering them.



Cllr Roxanne Ransley
(Mayor)
Liberal Democrat
Bunstrux Ward

28 Nathaniel Walk,
Tring HP23 5DG
01442-824871
roxanne.ransley@tring.gov.uk

I am pleased to represent Tring on both the Town Council (Bunstrux Ward) and Dacorum Borough Council (Tring Central). As Mayor I go to all of the Town Council's committees and I try to get to as many working parties as possible. I am Chairman and volunteer at Tring Beavers Swimming Club for the Disabled, I enjoy growing my own veg (I am the Council's representative with the Farmers Market), walking and I am a social member of Tring Squash Club.



Cllr Alex MacDonald
Liberal Democrat
Dunsley Ward

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Tring HP23 4DX
01442 823490
alex.macdonald@tring.gov.uk

I have lived in Tring with my wife and two children for 13 years. I am a medical research scientist and work in Cambridge – so I have an interest in reducing road congestion as well as climate change. My children both attend Tring School and my wife works at Goldfield Infants School. I am a keen tennis player and currently I am the Junior & Welfare Officer for Tring Tennis Club.



Cllr Phil McDowell
Liberal Democrat
Bunstrux Ward

2 New Canal Cottages,
Bulbourne, Tring HP23 4NG
01442 603346
phil.mcdowell@tring.gov.uk

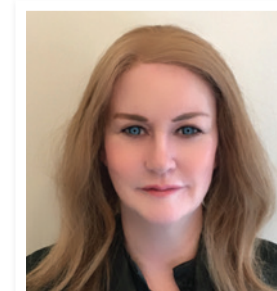
Elected for the first time in Tring Bunstrux Ward and Dacorum Borough for Aldbury and Wigginton in 2019, it has been a great honour to represent the area. My passion for the great outdoors and our beautiful countryside has made pushing the climate change agenda to the forefront of my reason for standing and my decision making. I am totally enthused by, and grateful for, the support shown by the council and constituents, and believe that Tring and the surrounding area will continue to strive for the best for our environment.



Cllr Christopher Townsend
(Deputy Mayor)
Liberal Democrat
Miswell Ward

8 Gordon Villas, Aylesbury Rd,
Tring HP23 4DJ
01442 828225
christopher.townsend@tring.gov.uk

I have been a councillor for over ten years and live in the western part of Tring with my wife and three growing children. I focus on the finance and policy side of the Town Council. If I can use my professional skills to help council finances run smoothly, then the council as a whole can focus more on residents' needs. Keeping Tring clean and tidy and providing robust challenge against the pressure to build so much housing are the important Tring resident priorities, in my view.



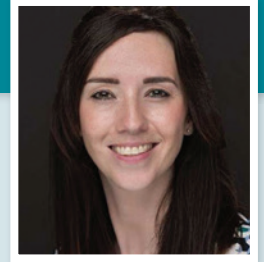
Cllr Sharon Wilkie
Bunstrux Ward

52 Wingrave Road,
Tring, HP23 5HE
sheron.wilkie@tring.gov.uk

I moved to Tring with my family and have never looked back. This is my first term and I feel honoured to be part of the team. I believe in advocating for those without a voice and have a strong desire to be involved in my community. I am passionate about Climate Change and our beautiful countryside and will strive to make our voice heard in the Dacorum Planning proposal. I look forward to supporting the Tring Community Centre and serving our constituents as we face the new challenges ahead of us.

Clerk's report

with Lydia Housden, Clerk to the Council



It's a great honour to have been appointed as the new Town Clerk for the Council in this wonderful town. I have come from a legal background as a qualified solicitor with a broad skill set that I hope to bring to the role.

The role of the Town Clerk is to support the Council, implement its decisions, and manage its resources, staff and finances and to ensure the Council is run efficiently and effectively.

I look forward to continuing the hard work of the previous Clerk and supporting the Town Council with their ongoing and future projects in what is an interesting yet challenging time.

The Budget & Precept

The accompanying table details the budget and precept, which is the Town Council's part of your council tax bill, with a comparison to the last financial year.

There has been a reduction in the council tax support grant, although the Town Council is very grateful to the Borough for passing on as much as possible of what they receive from Central Government. However, due to savings elsewhere, the Town Council was pleased to be able to keep the increase in the precept to just 2.11%. This brings the annual charge for a Band D property to £28.99, an increase of just £0.60.

This means that there is less money available for projects. However, the Council will continue with their pledge for Climate Change and funds have also been allocated for professional advice as to how best to respond to the Dacorum Local Plan Emerging Strategy for Growth (2020-2038) consultation. In addition reserves have been earmarked to use for a COVID and High Street recovery fund.

The Council is also continuing to receive money from the Community Infrastructure Levy which is a charge upon new housing raised by Dacorum Borough Council, that can be used on capital projects in the Town.

The 2020/21 Budget & Precept

	2020/21	2021/22
Income		
Precept	£144,683	£147,577
Grants Received	£18,522	£17,673
Assets	£97,362	£95,706
Interest Received	£766	£48
Total Income	£261,333	£261,004
Expenditure		
Administration	£166,742	£168,144
Grants	£18,600	£18,600
Market House	£12,524	£20,354
Market Place	£20,117	£20,487
Other Holdings	£15,069	£16,077
Allotments	£4,545	£4,789
Open Spaces & Environment	£5,366	£4,583
Projects		
Climate Change	-	£3,000
Local Plan Consultation Advice	-	£5,000
Total for Projects	£18,370	£8,000
Total Expenditure	£261,333	£261,004
Surplus/Deficit	£0	£0

Contact us at Tring Town Council

Tring Town Council

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The Information Centre

99 Akeman Street, Tring, Herts HP23 6AA

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For information on our opening hours, please visit our website at:

www.tring.gov.uk