



VERWOOD VISTA

The Town Council Newsletter for *Verwood* and *Three Legged Cross*

Issue No. 74
SUMMER 2023

28 Vicarage Road, Verwood, BH31 6DR
Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday

OUTGOING MAYOR'S REPORT

The Coronation of King Charles III provided the town with another wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate. The past year as Mayor has been a joy and an honour and has been focused on trying to bring the community together. To have both the Jubilee and the Coronation within the civic year allowed the Council to organise two excellent events that did justice to the occasions and were great fun. I want to congratulate the small team who organised both events which will live long in the memory.

As Mayor I wanted to see the Council become even more focused on community events and be an outward-looking organisation. I believe that we are making good progress with enhancements to the Christmas Extravaganza on Ferrett Green, positive changes to our annual Remembrance Day services, opening up the council offices for use as a warm space and continuing monthly litter picks to keep the town tidy and encourage volunteering. These initiatives will continue in the forthcoming year.

Alongside the two major celebrations for the Jubilee and the Coronation, much time has been dedicated to supporting community activities this year. As Mayor I have enjoyed the opportunity to visit many of our community groups. After several challenging years due to the pandemic, there are signs of recovery in our local groups and organisations. However, many report the need for regular volunteers. I would encourage anyone who has time to dedicate, to consider getting involved. The strength of our community depends on the thriving groups which cover a wide range of interests and needs.

The Council has co-opted several new members this year to replace long serving colleagues who have retired from the Council. I am very grateful for the time that all Council colleagues have given this year. All Councillors are volunteers and have shown tremendous dedication, especially in organising the events that I have already mentioned.

Thank you again for the support that the town has shown to our events this year and for the kind invitations to join you at so many of your events. I am proud to have represented Verwood across Dorset and will continue to do all that I can for the town and support our new Mayor in the year ahead.

Councillor Simon Gibson



INCOMING MAYOR'S REPORT



As I write this, I will have just become Mayor of Verwood for the second time and just before the publication of this edition of the Verwood Vista and so cannot say too much about how I have supported the community in this role so far.

Firstly, I would like to thank the outgoing Mayor Cllr Simon Gibson for the way in which he has led the Council and the Town through the last year – a Royal Platinum Jubilee, a Royal Funeral and a Coronation have made for interesting times which very few of us are likely to see again in our lifetime.

I have decided to continue with the Mayor's Fund for the forthcoming year, as it is important to support our local community in their aims to make life a little better for us all.

Some of you may know that my father was a vet, and so for my second charity I intend to support the Worldwide Veterinary Service which is based in Cranborne. So, a local charity that has an impact all over the world supporting the most vulnerable animals in communities that cannot afford the proper care and treatment. The charity provides veterinary training, aid, volunteers, expert care and challenge animal welfare at government levels. You may recall the TV programme 'Vet Adventures' which focussed on the charity's work.

One of my fundraising events will be a Twelfth Night celebration, but more about that later.

I look forward to supporting the communities of both Verwood & Three Legged Cross over the next year and hope to meet many of you at events around the parish.

It is an honour to serve as your 36th Mayor and to have been able to serve you in my 25th year as a Town Councillor.

Councillor Toni Coombs

GRANT AID AWARDED MARCH 2023

EAST DORSET CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU	£2,000
VERWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE	£1,500
VERWOOD COMMUNITY GROUP	£500
VERWOOD FRIENDSHIP CLUB	£850

SEE INSIDE PAGES FOR DETAILS ON NEW APPLICATIONS





CORONATION PARTY IN THE PARK

Sunday 7th May, Verwood Town Council hosted a Party in the Park to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

There were live bands and solo performers, craft stalls, food outlets, a climbing wall, a Fire Engine, face painting, a steam traction engine and free entry! The event lasted from 12.00 midday until 6pm and was enjoyed by all.

A big thank you to our sponsors, Goadsby Estate Agents, to all the performers and stallholders as well as the residents and visitors who turned up and made the celebration such an amazing event!



VERWOOD YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Verwood Youth & Community Centre will be open during June, July and over the school summer holidays. A sample of activities available is below:

Year 7

- Monday 12 June
Friendships activity and friendship bracelet making
- Monday 19 June
Recycling themed art activity and Space Youth Project joining us
- Monday 26 June
Digital footprint and consent activity and Space Youth Project joining us

RiSEN group

- Tuesday 13 June
Friendships and friendships bracelet making
- Tuesday 20 June
Fossil hunting activities
- Tuesday 27 June
Garden games and bingo

Seniors

- Wednesday 14 June
Loneliness Awareness and Group Art Activity
- Wednesday 21 June
World Music Day: Bandlab and music night
- Wednesday 28 June
Bingo and garden games

Year 8

- Thursday 15 June
Loneliness Awareness Week
- Thursday 22 June
Twister and Just Dance Tournaments
- Thursday 29 June
Bingo and garden games

To enquire about Verwood Youth and Community Centre lettings please email: youthandcommunitycentre@verwood.gov.uk

VERWOODIANS ON WASTE

Monthly pop-up recycling surgeries are held at the Heritage Centre on the first Saturday of each month between 9.30am and 10.30am

For more eco-friendly tips and events join **Verwoodians on Waste** facebook group.

POLICE NOTICE PC 207 Creasey

We have continued to work hard across East Dorset keeping our communities safe by putting Victims first and relentlessly pursuing criminality. In the last few months, we have seen a significant reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour across all our 'hotspot' areas.

We have recently welcomed PC Sam Berry to the team on attachment from another department. He's already been out and about dealing with core offenders whilst supporting force wide operations as far away as Weymouth.

We have continued to work closely with Dorset Council Community Safety Team in securing a further CCTV camera located in Manor Road near to Ferret Green. Our monthly drop in Community Contact Engagements at the Hub have continued to become increasingly popular, providing advice, reassurance and recording crimes. Details of the next event can be found on Dorset Police Website and at your local East Dorset Police Facebook Page. (Dorset.police.uk/contactpoints).



We urge the public to make us aware of incidents that they witness by contacting us (don't forget to get a log number): 999 in an emergency - 101 for non-emergency or email us at www.dorset.police.uk/do-it-online

Summer Events

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| 10 June..... Vocalize Choir | 22 July Oye Santana |
| 11 June..... High Jinx Magic | 4 August The Swinging Blue Jeans |
| 30 June..... Coldplace | 11 August The Jerseys |
| 8 July Wrong Jovi | 9 September.... The Boogie Bumpers |
| 15 July Thought Control
Pink Floyd Tribute | 23 September.. The Comedy Store |
| | 30 September.. Guns N Roses Experience |

For up-to-date information and to book tickets please contact Verwood Hub:
Email: verwoodhub@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Tel: 01202 828740



LITTER PICKING

Monthly litter picks continue, on the final Saturday of each month at 10am and last for around an hour.

All equipment is provided. Suitable for all ages but under 16s will require the supervision of a responsible adult.

Please come and support the litter picks and keep the town tidy!

Saturday 24th June at 10am
Meeting at the entrance to Verwood Recreation Ground

Saturday 29th July at 10am
Meeting at the Skate Park, Potterne Park

Saturday 26th August at 10am
Meeting in Morrisons Car Park at the entrance to Bugdens Copse

For further information or to report areas which need litter picking, please contact
Cllr Simon Gibson
Cllrsimon.gibson@verwood.gov.uk

VERWOOD SOLAR FUND

The Verwood Solar Farm Fund has grants available to help finance projects or events that would benefit the community of Verwood

The Committee welcomes applications for grants from community groups and organisations within the locality of Verwood.

Grant applications need to be received, ideally, at least two weeks prior to a scheduled meeting of the Committee. Application forms can be obtained on-line via the Town Council website under Verwood Solar Farm, the applications can then be submitted by email. Alternatively, a printed version can be obtained from the Town Council Office.

GRANT AID

Verwood Town Council are accepting applications for Grant Aid up until 1st Sept 2023.

Grant Aid funding is available for community organisations who can demonstrate a clear need for financial support. The organisation must be either charitable or non-profit making, it must have clearly written aims and objectives, a constitution and membership rules.

Each organisation can only make one application per year from the Town Council.

Deadline 1st September.

Download a form from:
http://www.verwood.gov.uk/Grant_Aid_33546.aspx

Return it the Town Council either via email at: towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk or to the office at 28 Vicarage Road (open 09.00-13.00 weekdays).



YOUR TOWN COUNCIL

Dewlands North Ward

Cllr Martyn Hudson

01202 974654

Cllr Carol Traves

07799 891762

Dewlands South Ward

Cllr Toni Coombs (Mayor)

01202 827376

Cllr Charmaine Crossley

01202 826050

Cllr Spencer Flower

01202 821231

Cllr Sandra Grove

01202 826449

Cllr Philip Mann

01202 820866

Cllr Tony Smith

07808 819762

Cllr Kate Stephens

01202 940456

Stephens Castle Ward

Cllr Alan Biggs

01202 821186

Cllr Lindsey Dedden

01202 824473

Cllr Simon Gibson

01202 820822

Cllr Rev'd Julian Macro

01202 814270

Cllr Pat Morrow

01202 814733

Cllr Matthew Parker

(Deputy Mayor)

07703 342039

Three Legged Cross

Cllr Jane Russell

01202 822236

NEW COUNCILLOR TONY SMITH

My wife Sally and I, together with our dog Sasha, moved from the Medway Towns, Kent in 2022 and were immediately struck by the genuine sense of community that Verwood offers all its residents.

I have spent my entire working life in the pensions management or consultancy arena and having tried to retire, I continue to work from home as a Guider Specialist for Citizens Advice.

Sally and I have been married for nearly 39 years and, like any parents, we are very proud of our 2 grown-up children and their achievements. Sport, especially football, has always played a big part in our lives and my wife and I still hold season tickets for West Ham United.

Since my first job, working for the Greater London Council, I have had an interest in local government and believe a Town Council should look to lead and represent its community, actively engage with it and encourage participation in community activities, planning and decision making.

I am so pleased to have been given the chance to fulfill such an important role and am totally committed to helping my colleagues and local residents in any way I can, as well as immersing myself in this wonderful community for a long time to come.



Moors Valley
Country park and forest



Come to Moors Valley and see the attractions that we have all year round - Tree Top Trail, Play Trail, Go Ape and Moors Valley Railway which is open weekends and school holidays. Gates open from 8am every day

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Bunker open day - Join Moors Valley Rangers on 17th June from 10am to 2pm to go back in time and follow in the footsteps of the service people whose job it was to direct enemy attention away from wartime RAF airfields. No need to book, just turn up on the day!

Summer Gala - Join the Moors Valley Railway team 17th June from 10.30am to 5pm for their Grand Summer Gala. One of the most popular events of the year with steam traction engines, classic cars, tractors, military vehicles, model railway exhibition and much more!



Out in the Forest, discover the **Play Trail** with its unique pieces of wooden play equipment. You can wriggle through giant snakes in the 'Snake Pit', attempt the 'Crocodile Crossing' and balance on the fallen forest of 'Timber'. The trail is only a mile long but with so many exciting pieces of play equipment, you should allow at least an hour to complete it all. The trail is suitable for pushchairs and most mobility scooters.

There are two imaginative play areas close to the Visitor Centre:

The Adventure Play Area, designed especially for older children, includes a zip slide, huge space net, climbing boulder, and a fortress of towers and crossings with a long tube slide.

Younger children will be enthralled in the **Castle and Sandworks Area** with its gentle slides and swings, all set inside a safe sand area so don't forget to bring your bucket and spade too!

For further information go to: <https://moors-valley.co.uk>

