



**BURY ST EDMUNDS  
TOWN COUNCIL**



*St Edmundsbury*  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Councillor Paul Hopfensperger**

### **Report to Howard Estate Association of Residents and Tenants (HEART)** **Monday September 17, 2018**

#### **1. Nature Trail through Oakes Road Woods**



As was requested via H.E.A.R.T., I have been working with Jo Metcalfe and Sam Hardy from Greener Growth over the summer holidays, and the nature trail is well under way with construction. The project has been financed as follows:-

- **£2,500** from my **St Edmundsbury Borough Council Locality Budget**
- **£2,000** from my **Bury St Edmunds Town Council Locality Budget**

One of the original benches was unfortunately vandalised as soon as it was installed, and while on holiday in August, I emailed Jo some ideas from Europe and asked Jo changed the design. I am still not 100% happy with the design and I am meeting to discuss this with her when she returns from holiday. Local children will become involved in the next few weeks. All in all it is an exciting project for the area.

#### **2. Vandalised Benches**



Two benches have been vandalised recently. One in Oakes Road near the woods, and the other behind the community centre. As soon as this was reported to me, I had St Edmundsbury Parks out to make them safe, and I believe they have now been repaired.

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### 3. New Water Heater for the Newbury Community Centre

Following a request from the Newbury Community Centre Committee, I spent £66.00 of my Bury St Edmunds Town Council Locality Budget money on a new water heater.

### 4. Fete on August 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 and August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019.

I just wanted to thank Barbara and the Newbury Community Centre Committee for organising such a fantastic fete on August 11<sup>th</sup>. It really was a fantastic day, and really showed the strength of community spirit which prevails on the Howard Estate. Importantly too, it raised over £1,000 for the centre. It was so successful, that another one has been organised for next year on Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. I think the Rickshaw was a particularly good attraction and I have already arranged for it to attend next years fete.

### 5. New Community Centre

This afternoon, we had a very successful Newbury Community Centre Project Board meeting, and although I can't say too much at present, I can tell you, that we are extremely hopeful that work will commence in 2019. It is a very ambitious and exciting project for the estate, and is the culmination of nearly 7 years hard work from many people including Barbara Bannister and Gordon Macintyre, to get it to the stage we have.



This afternoon at the Project Board Meeting, to recognise her work both on the board, and here in the daily running of the centre, I awarded a **St Edmundsbury Councillor Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community** to Barbara Bannister.

**6. New Litter Bin at Oakes Road Play Area**



As many of you know, St Edmundsbury Borough Council are at present, NOT willing to provide NEW litter bins, they only want to REPLACE existing ones. Following the installation of the new £64,000 play area on the Oakes Road field, which I was heavily involved in, I have been asking for one constantly. Well, at last Wednesday's St Edmundsbury Borough Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting, I asked for two things:

- That a bin should ALWAYS be provided when a new playground is installed in future.
- That one is provided at the Oakes Road field. It will now be officially in the minutes of the meeting and I will keep you updated on progress.

*Paul J. Hopfensperger*

**17/09/2018**

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**Cllr. Paul Hopfensperger**

St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor and Bury St Edmunds Town Councillor for St Olaves Ward