



Penrith Town Council

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2020



Message from the Mayor



Councillor Doug Lawson

Mayor of Penrith

Welcome to our summer 2020 newsletter

I hope, trust, that this latest newsletter finds you safe and well. It seems hard to believe that only seven months ago at the start of this pandemic, many of us were looking ahead to events over the coming months, to all the exciting things that would be happening in the course of a normal year, in the hope that lives would return to normal.

Nobody has escaped the consequences of this pandemic. To those directly affected, my sympathies go out to you. During this continuing pandemic, we have all seen or experienced many changes and challenges to the way we go about our daily lives. It has been so pleasing and positive to see how well we have managed to cope as individuals and as a community.

I have seen countless examples of people supporting and helping family, neighbours, friends and colleagues and volunteers working seven days a week to deliver food and prescriptions. It has been wonderful to see.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone!

It was a pleasure to send out the prizes for the Design a Craft Bag Competition. Penrith Town Council, in partnership with Cumbria County Council Eden Local Committee, Barnardos, FellRunner Community Transport and the Cumbria Community Foundation Covid-19 Fund, provided 400 bags of craft equipment, stationery, reading books and sensory toys for children in Penrith and Eden who may be facing extra challenges.

Local primary school teacher, and Penrith Town Councillor, Nicola Hawkins developed the project in response to urgent calls for help from families and teachers in Penrith:

"I'm privileged to know first-hand we have very many clever, creative young children in our Town. It is wonderful that Penrith Town Council is enabling all of them to dig into their imaginations and express themselves through art and craft at this challenging time for all of our community. To see my nugget of an idea for Craft Care being turned into reality is truly heart-warming."

The project was joint funded with Eden Area Local Committee. County Cllr David Whipp, Chair of Eden Local Committee, said:

"I am delighted that the committee was able to support such great projects across the district, particularly helping children to keep busy and stimulate their imaginations during these uncertain times. The craft bags will provide a fun way to help keep your little ones busy at home.

"It is humbling to see the enthusiasm and dedication of so many volunteers and local people involved in supporting and helping each other across the local area. My thanks to all involved for their ongoing efforts."

Penrith Town Council, Cumbria Community Fund Covid-19 grant, and Barnardos were the other joint funders and the amazing volunteers have delivered the bags from the FellRunner Community Transport.

The children were invited to enter the Town Council's "Customize It" Competition to design a cover for the bag that was provided with their goodies. The competition closed in July and was judged by local artist Karen McDougall, who was impressed with the original and individual artwork, use of colours, standard of drawing and the detailed designs she had to review.

My wife and I were pleased to be able to organise and donate prizes for the competition. Tragically, the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the inequalities in our society. It is heart breaking to think that there are so many children in our community who do not have access to art and craft materials at home. As a school governor and parent, I am keenly aware of the importance for children of creativity and I am humbled that Penrith Town Council had been able to help deliver Craft Care. My wife and I also wanted to support this project personally by providing prizes for the competition. We are very grateful to local authors Steve Weatherill, who wrote "Baby Goz" and "Count on Goz"; Tim Stead, who wrote "Dinoshakes and Bellyaches" and "The Snots"; and Sophie Anderson, who wrote "The House With Chicken Legs" and "The Girl Who Speaks Bear"; all of whom have helped us to provide signed books which we hope will further encourage the winners to develop and express their creative side."

We are pleased to announce the amazing winners are:

- Ayla Karapinar
- Faith Bell 8
- Emily Pickering 9
- Amy Pickering 9
- Blake Ivan Hinkley 6
- Adam Murphy 8
- Alex Murphy 7
- Nicola Murphy 5

All of whom received via their head teachers, a Mayor's certificate and a book.



As you appreciate, there have been very few civic duties for the Mayor to support but I was delighted to be asked to present the Gold Brownies Award for Skelton Brownies at Cumberland Bird of Prey Centre, Thurstonfield, Carlisle.

Skelton Brownies is a relatively new pack, so the girls were the first to achieve this prestigious award. Their leader, Karen Quinn said

"The Brownies Gold Award is actually harder to achieve than a Duke of Edinburgh award and the girls have worked really hard to achieve this in such a short space of time."

All the girls were presented with a certificate, a gold badge and a sew on patch. In addition, each of them received a crochet Brown Owl (the name of their leader) as a memento of the event.



If you would like me to support your event, project or make a presentation please contact the Council office or use the online form:

<https://www.penrithTownCouncil.co.uk/your-Council/penrith-mayor/>

I am happy to participate using video conferencing platforms.

I would just like to take this opportunity to ask you all to shop local. As shops and businesses reopen, people are coming out to support them and to spend in our local shops, which is much needed to keep businesses afloat.



I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to support local businesses especially as we move into autumn and we start to think about Christmas shopping. I thank those of you who are making a conscious effort to get out and about but please when going out to local shops, please make sure you follow the guidelines set in place by the Government and the business themselves. Our Town will survive and prosper.

Message from the Deputy Mayor



Councillor Scott Jackson
Deputy Mayor of Penrith

Penrith Town Council would like to thank you all for the incredible way the community of Penrith have responded to the Covid-19 crisis, supported each other, and adapted to new ways of working, socialising, shopping, trading, and living. We have had to come to terms with the pandemic and its consequences for daily life, changes in our own behaviours at home, work and in public spaces and continue to follow advice to keep each other safe.

We have done this, managed to take it in our stride, helped one another when able, volunteered to help with various community groups or projects and helped make other people's lives so much better by doing so. We continue to be sensible, responsible and respectful of others in our community.

The Council, together with Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council, and our partners have been working continually throughout the pandemic to address the challenges and to support our community's resilience.

Our amazing volunteer groups and charities have gone above and beyond. It has been impressive to witness and we are lucky to have the support of so many voluntary groups and organisations in Penrith.

The Town Council would like to say a special thank you to Fell Runner Community Transport who supported Town Council officers since April to provide a 7 days a week emergency service for people who were shielding. This service stood down on 1 August when the government paused shielding but can be relaunched if required.

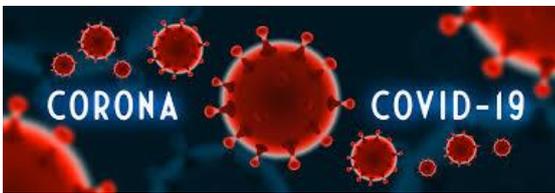
I would also like to acknowledge and thank all of the businesses and services who have continued to work throughout the last few months.



We can expect to see more visitors over the next few weeks. This is of course welcome, but it will also bring new challenges. We are confident that people will be able to safely visit our Town and, in turn, support our economy. Proprietors and staff have worked hard to put safety measures in place for you to enable you to shop safely and locally.

The most important thing is we work together to keep each other and ourselves safe. We will continue to work with businesses and stakeholders to review and adapt measures as appropriate. While the risks have lessened, procedures still have to be followed to guard against COVID-19. However, the local shopping experience in Penrith is taking on a new vibrancy as our businesses adapt to new ways of working.

All partners are pulling together to ensure that the Town Centre experience for local people and visitors is enjoyable. Supporting our local economy is important so why not 'stay local and shop local' and give a boost to the Town's shops, hospitality and leisure establishment.



Penrith and Eden's response to COVID19 has been incredible. It is inspiring to see the Town pull together to help the most vulnerable residents through these difficult times.

Back in March, the Eden Resilience Group worked with Councils, voluntary groups, churches, schools, police, charitable and voluntary organisations and volunteers across to provide emergency support to the most vulnerable. Penrith Town Council developed a community emergency plan for the Town to use our resources and contacts to assist those in need.



We would like to say a **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported friends and family, volunteered, managed work whilst looking after children and survived lockdown to help protect the most vulnerable in our community.

We would also like to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to

- NHS workers
- All key workers
- The local authorities for wellbeing support, grant administration for businesses and the safe reopening of Penrith
- Local faith groups and faith leaders
- Local charities
- Facebook Community emergency support groups
- Penrith schools for providing keyworker support

There are too many people in this lovely Town to name you all individually but we are so very grateful for some of the fantastic initiatives that have helped others and demonstrates our gratitude for all the positive responses during this difficult time. A clear demonstration of the volunteering spirit in Penrith!



'**Hands. Face. Space**' are simple but vital behaviours that have the power to protect the public from both the short and potential long-term impact of coronavirus.

Washing your hands

While coronavirus is not likely to survive for long periods of time on outdoor surfaces in sunlight, it can live for more than 24 hours in indoor environments (see endnote 1).

Washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using hand sanitizer, regularly throughout the day will reduce the risk of catching or passing on the virus.

Covering your face

Coronavirus is carried in the air by tiny respiratory droplets that carry the virus. Face coverings reduce the dispersion of these droplets, meaning if you are carrying the virus, you are less likely to spread it when you exhale

Making space

Transmission of the virus is most likely to happen within 2 metres, with risk increasing exponentially at shorter distances. While keeping this exact distance is not always possible, remaining mindful of surroundings and continuing to make space has a powerful impact when it comes to containing the spread.



What has your Council done in the last 12 weeks to make a difference?

Shopping

You can use our new QR Code to access an up to date list of all the businesses that are open in the Town centre, their opening hours, contact details and their Covid restrictions:

Please scan below for Penrith Shop and Business listings.



Respect Social Distancing



To use this code, open the QR Code reader on your phone. Hold your device over the QR Code so that it is clearly visible within your smartphone's screen. Your phone should automatically scan the code. In some readers, you have to press a button to snap a picture, not unlike the button on your smartphone camera. If necessary, press the camera button and you will then be able to view all the information provided by our local businesses.

Parking

The Town Council is working with stakeholders to assist and promote the re-opening of the Town and are supporting a range of measures across the Town to allow for social distancing. Visitors to Penrith are encouraged to cycle, walk, or if arriving by car, visitors are signposted to park in the nearest available car park.



Penrith Town Council, Penrith Chamber of Trade and the Two Business Improvement Districts initially requested free parking in off street car parks to encourage people to stay and shop local. We have now have lobbied successfully to retain free car parking in Penrith. We are pleased that the District Council will continue to provide free off street car parking to support our "Shop Local" campaign, which will help bring shoppers back into Penrith until the end of December.

Play



We keen that you are able to enjoy our community spaces and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Scott Jackson was delighted as a Member of the Fairhill Community Group that the latest inclusive play equipment installation has been completed over the summer in Fairhill Recreation ground.

The Fairhill Community Group wanted to install inclusive play equipment for the play area and with the help and support of

Council staff; this was made possible who assisted in the choice of inclusive play equipment. The Council went further and assisted the group to raise the funds and they secured a staggering £75,000. The Council managed the tender and installation processes and the play area equipment was installed in July and August, which meant it was ready as Covid-19 restrictions lifted and children were still off from school.



The play area has been kitted out with new equipment, footways, entrance gates and seating.

Supplied and installed by Kompan Playgrounds, Fairhill playing field now has a new inclusive play area which includes swings, a multi-climbing unit, see-saw, rotating swing, carousel, play panels and is installed on a new rubber wet pour surface.

The improvements have been developed by Penrith Town Council, with the support of the Fairhill Community Group, which was set up a number of years ago to seek an upgrade of the facility.

"This project meets the community's previous aims and aspirations, and follows on from earlier improvements to the play area and the installation of football goals," said a Town Council spokesman.

The new equipment, which integrates with the existing play equipment, is within one fenced area and provides play opportunities for toddlers up to younger teenagers.

As well as a new tarmac footpath having been installed connecting the play area with the entrance off Salkeld Road, new gates and fencing have been put in to provide a safe access to and from the field.

Additional seating has been provided adjacent to the play area and at two vantage points in the field, allowing residents to take

in the spectacular views. These improvements were undertaken by local contractor Ian Cannon.

Next to the entrance off Salkeld Road, Cumbria County Council has improved the road layout at the junction with Salkeld Road and Beacon Edge.

The county Council has designed a scheme to allow safer pedestrian crossing points to Fairhill and curb traffic speeds in the area.

The £70,000 improvements have been made possible by award of grants from organisations including Cumbria County Council, Eden District Council, Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust, the Hadfield Trust, Cumbria Community Foundation, the National Lottery Community Fund, the Fairhill Community Group and financial support from Penrith Town Council.

Mayor Doug Lawson, who officially opened the play area, said: "The improvements at Fairhill are fantastic and I am sure will be welcomed by the residents in the area.

"Since Fairhill playing field was devolved to Penrith Town Council in 2018, the Council has strived to work alongside the community to provide improvements that allow our green spaces to be better used.

"These improvements demonstrate what can be achieved when the Council, the community and wider stakeholders share a vision and work in partnership.

"I would like to thank all those involved in the delivery of this project."

Fiona Johnson, chair of the Fairhill Community Group, said: "The community group has achieved its long-held ambition to enlarge the play area and improve accessibility for all. We have had excellent feedback from parents and young people about the new equipment.

"The paved pathway to the play area makes it so much easier for pushchairs and wheelchair users, the new picnic tables are wheelchair-friendly and much of the new play equipment is accessible for people with disabilities.

"And there are new benches with wonderful views over the fells where people can rest as they use the field."

The official opening was restricted in numbers to comply with government COVID-19 safe working arrangements, and it is hoped that once restrictions are eased a further opening involving members of the community, grant funders and contractors can be arranged.



Focusing on greening and the environment, despite COVID-19, the Town's volunteer gardeners have done a fantastic job over the past months caring for their existing projects as well as developing innovative new ideas, albeit at a safe social distance.

The Council have commissioned, funded and arranged for a short film to be made to illustrate how Penrith has maintained its award winning 'in bloom' standards during the pandemic.

The video has been sent to Cumbria in Bloom and has now been viewed thousands of times. The video has been included in the RHS Britain in Bloom Magazine, which is circulated throughout the whole of the UK. View the showcase video here:

<https://www.penrithTownCouncil.co.uk/communication/penrith-in-bloom/>

As the interviewees in the film indicate, this has been an exceptionally difficult year for everyone. However, despite all the challenges, the beautiful beds and planters, lovingly tended by the indomitable Garden of Eden Community Gardeners, have enhanced the Town.

The film captures Penrith's increasingly strong community spirit, volunteer determination and peoples' genuine love for the Town and one another. Care for the environment is central too.

If you watch the film, you may feel the raw thread of emotion that runs throughout as well as the notion of working together to get things done and make a difference.

A further special acknowledgement to Penrith Community Gardeners who designed and planted the memorial bed outside of the Royal British Legion in Middlegate to remember all those in Eden who have died as a result of Covid-19.



'Penrith in Bloom' Group have also achieved much to be proud about. Penrith's Community Gardeners have produced some amazingly creative displays at Penrith Station over past years and this year, despite COVID-19, the efforts of volunteers and station staff have been recognised by the National Rail Awards. In naming Penrith 'Medium Station of The Year,' the judges commented that **"Penrith station has it all."**



The Town Council facilitates and leads Penrith in Bloom and we are extremely proud of everyone involved, from the wonderful Community Gardeners to residents in Town who have grown beautiful flowers and plants in their own gardens, which have been enjoyed by passers-by as well as themselves.

Inspired by the community gardener's philosophy, one particularly community minded individual has developed her own small patch of garden and has encouraged others on her street to grow and enjoy fruit and vegetables as well as beautiful flowers. That kind of generosity is to be admired and can, hopefully, be emulated by others.

As we look forward to next year, Penrith's entries for 'in Bloom' might be bigger and better, but this year is particularly memorable because of all the Covid-19 barriers and the way in which volunteers and others in Penrith have come together, overcome the challenges and made a difference. While problems may exist, this kind of working together for no reason other than to benefit the local community is priceless. It helps to make Penrith a really great place to live, work in and visit.

The Town Council provided plants for the summer displays when normally we would work with partners to green Penrith as a collective. Special thanks to the Pot Place and local businesses for helping make this happen.

community grant fund

Grants

The Town Council works closely with community groups to develop projects, events and activities that improve the quality of life of those living in Penrith. The Town Council is supportive of this work and throughout the summer provided community grants to such groups.

For more information, please visit Penrith Town Council's web site or contact Carol Grey at:

economicdevelopmentofficer@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Penrith Town Council strives to serve the local community and make a real difference to the lives of local people. After an in-depth peer, review by the Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS) the Town Council has been awarded the 'Quality Award.'

To achieve this award, a Council 'must demonstrate that it meets all requirements of the Foundation Award and has additional documentation and information in place for good governance, effective community engagement and Council improvement.

The Quality award criteria includes the eligibility criteria for the general power of competence.' The Town Mayor, Cllr Doug Lawson received the Award Certificate on behalf of the Council.

"As the Mayor of Penrith and Council Chair, I am delighted to announce that Penrith Town Council is the first Council in Cumbria to be awarded the Quality Award under the Local Council Award Scheme. An impressive achievement for a Council established in only 2015.

Over the last five years, the Council officers and Members have worked tirelessly to reach these quality sector standards. We want to acknowledge the support of the Cumbria Association of Local Councils throughout the process.

This achievement recognises that Penrith Town Council achieves good practice in governance, community engagement and Council improvement.

The Council has had an independent sector performance assessment, which identifies the Council's commitment and hard work.

The assessment assures that the Council's operations are up-to-date, lawful, inclusive, engaging and progressive.

Our local community, stakeholders and partners now have evidence to inspire their confidence that Penrith Town Council is delivering to a national quality standard.

I am impressed by all the work carried out to help reach the Quality Award standard, and Penrith provides an excellent example of how a Council can contribute positively to the well-being of the local and the wider community.

It is through the sector working together to share best practice, drive up standards and supporting those who are committed to improving their offer to their communities, that individual Councils and the sector as a whole will reach its full potential.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their hard work and dedication. It is gratifying for all the hard work Penrith Town Council does for the community to be recognised.

We will continue to strive to reach the highest sector standards and are building on this success to achieve the Quality Gold standard.

As part of this process, we hope to participate in the National Association of Local Council's Peer Review in reaching this goal."



Cllrs. Lawson and Jackson accepting the award from the Cumbria Association Local Councils Chair Cllr. Sue Castle Clarke

Community Resource Toolkit

In response to a demand for resources and a requests for support and advice to start new activities and initiatives within the community, we have developed and launched a toolkit to help communities, neighbours and groups develop small projects in their community or neighbourhood.

To find out more click:

<https://www.penrithTownCouncil.co.uk/local-interaction/community-resource-kit-make-a-difference-to-the-place-you-live/>

Or, you can contact our Community Engagement Officer, Anna Malina on:

ceofficer@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk

Penrith Town Council joined the Sunflower Scheme

DAA

Penrith Dementia
Action Alliance



Dementia
Friends
An Alzheimer's Society Initiative

As members of Penrith Dementia Action alliance and as Council staff are Dementia Friends we felt it was appropriate to further support this hidden disability so...



The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower originated in 2016 when London Gatwick Airport asked, "How can we recognise that one of our passengers may have a non-obvious disability?"

The answer was to create a lanyard with a simple sunflower design on a green background.

It was intended to be a subtle but visible sign enabling airport staff to recognise that the wearer (or someone with them) may require some extra help, time or assistance when moving through the airport.

The Sunflower Scheme has now been adopted by many large and small organisations in the UK and it is starting to be recognised globally.

Wearing the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower discreetly indicates to people around you including staff, colleagues and health professionals that you have a hidden disability and you may need additional support, help or more time.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Scheme has been adopted by all the major airports, many supermarkets, railway stations, leisure facilities, in the NHS and an increasing number of small and large businesses and organisations. It is used anywhere where people meet.

WHERE IS IT RECOGNISED?

To find out where the scheme is currently being recognised in your local area, you can enter your postcode on the Hidden Disabilities website [HERE](https://hiddendisabilitiesstore.com/find-the-sunflower)
<https://hiddendisabilitiesstore.com/find-the-sunflower>

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE SCHEME?

There is no qualifying list of hidden disabilities. If you have a hidden disability and feel that you would benefit from wearing a Hidden Disabilities Sunflower product, please do.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower does not entitle you to anything other than recognising that you have a hidden disability and that you may need some assistance, help or a little more time. It is NOT a pass to be fast-tracked nor for any other benefit.

Several businesses in Penrith can provide a sunflower lanyard, badge or card and you can now pick these up from Penrith Town Council. Look out for the sunflower.



What are we hoping to achieve in the next 12 weeks?

Climate Change Group

We hope to start discussions with members of the community and create a Steering Group that can lead the Town Council's Climate Change Strategy:

<https://www.penrithTownCouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/200303-Penrith-a-carbon-neutral-Town-1.pdf>

We will be looking at how the strategy can be facilitated, developed and financed.

Draft Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation

The final draft of the Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan (PNDP) was submitted to Eden District Council at the end of 2019. Due to Covid-19, it has not been able to progress with the consultation until now.



The Regulation 16 Consultation is carried out by Eden District Council who will consult on the content of the Neighbourhood Development Plan for 6 weeks from Wednesday 23rd September until Wednesday 4th November.

The plan has been developed from three previous public consultations taking into account the comments made by residents and businesses. Our Plan includes policies relating to sustainable design, the Town's conservation areas, housing, local green spaces, sport, leisure and recreation facilities, traffic management and Town centre improvements amongst others.

Eden District Council is consulting residents, local landowners, businesses and community groups – those who contributed to our initial consultation and helped shaped the policies included.

You can view the Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan and all the associated documents on Eden District Council's website at:

<https://www.eden.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/penrith-neighbourhood-planning-area/>

where you will also find a link to an online response form.

Eden District Council staff are working remotely so would prefer responses to be made online or via email to neighbourhood.planning@eden.gov.uk Alternatively, if you cannot respond online, you can write to:

Planning policy Team, Eden District Council,
Mansion House, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7YG.

All comments must be received no later than **Wednesday 4th November 2020**.

If you wish to look at a hard copy, limited appointments are available at the Town Council Offices on Friargate Monday to Wednesday 10am to 2pm.

All appointments must be made in advance by phoning the Deputy Town Clerk (Monday to Wednesday) on 01768 899773 or by emailing: deputyTownclerk@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk

All appointments will be in compliance with Covid requirements and restrictions.



Coronation Gardens

In response to a request from the community, and as the District Council had decided not to transfer the garden to the Town Council, the Council has resolved to apply to nominate Coronation Gardens as an Asset of Community Value. Places and spaces in our community that are important to local people can be nominated as Assets of Community Value and if they come up for sale, the community has the opportunity to bid for them.

Libraries, community centres, pubs, shops or green spaces that are of value to our community, can be nominated by registering

them as Assets of Community Value with Eden District Council.



Brentfield Way Bus Shelter

The Town Council recognised that Bus services are a significant benefit to our community; in particular, they are of benefit to many elderly residents who may have limited income, and for whom the service provides a means for them to continue to enjoy independence and enables them to carry out daily errands and leisure activities.

Bus shelters, particularly in exposed locations, provide a real and long-lasting service to those residents, and encourage the use of public transport.

The existing shelters are a credit to the Town Council; in addition to providing their valuable function; they promote the presence and activity of the Town Council in the community we serve.

Penrith East is notable as a ward in the Town that does not currently have a bus shelter on any of its routes.

Members of the Scaws Tenants and Residents Association (STRA) raised the issue that there was formerly a bus shelter on Brentfield Way (close to the junction with Meadow Croft/Oak Road), which was removed at some point in the past.

The Council was informed that the site was a popular location for residents in the estate and surrounding streets to catch the 646 into Town. The members of the Association asked Penrith Town Council to replace the shelter at that location. But not only have the residents got approval for a new shelter by working with Penrith Town Council they have identified a more suitable location for its replacement



New Benches

The Town Council has been asked by members of the public to place new benches in Norfolk Road and Lowther Street. Having written and consulted with local residents and speaking to the Police, the Council will provide new benches in these locations.



Street Lighting

Electricity North Wests plans to carry out overhead line refurbishment work, and the subsequent removal of two footway lighting units in Bowscar.

Eden District Council who own the current footway lights will not be installing any further footway lights in the District and Penrith Town Council will consult with the residents in Bowscar to see if they are content for the street lighting to be removed or if they would support Penrith Town Council supplying solar street lighting.

Have Your Say

'Community Engagement' is the cornerstone of good local governance, and an integral component in how we conduct our affairs and how we reflect the expressed needs of people living in Penrith.

Penrith Town Council

'Dialogue' site

These days, the online world is a natural habitat for many people. Penrith Town Council is enthusiastic about using Dialogue to help generate new, forward thinking ideas in response to the challenges facing the Town.

We are running this system completely in the open. Our starting point is what you say

"We often see things from different viewpoints..."

Mutual respect allows us to disagree and express ourselves openly!

It's in this place of creative tension that our ideas are born" (Karen Healey).

You can get involved by submitting your ideas or reading, rating and commenting on those submitted by other people.

When each 'challenge' is finished, we will collate your ideas and tell you what is happening/has happened as a result of what you have said. Find out more:

<https://yourideas.penrithTownCouncil.co.uk/>

Our overall goal is to ensure we engage with you in the right ways. We want to encourage more people to participate in what the Town Council does or hopes to do.

We want you to have a role in decision-making and planning that affects your life, the lives of your family and other people in

the local community. By providing a variety of opportunities for you to participate and feed in your views, our decisions will become increasingly more sensitive and responsive to your needs and concerns.

We are also in process of developing new and innovative ways to make a difference in the 'civic' life of our local community, in particular to develop the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to get involved and make that difference.

The Town Council adheres to its Community Engagement Policy, and is guided by a set of Core Values, Ethics and Principles as well as the International Gold Standard for Community Engagement

Visiting the Town Council Office

You may visit the Town Council Office by appointment.

The safety of the Council's employees, partners, clients, and visitors remains our overriding priority. As the COVID-19 continues to evolve, we are continually monitoring the situation closely and periodically update our guidance based on current recommendations from the UK Government, UK Public Health Bodies and World Health Organization (WHO)



Supporting you through COVID-19

Any members of the public wishing to hand in forms, documents, etc. can continue to do so by mail, by hand-posting through the letter box to the right of the main door and/or by email.

Following government advice, we have implemented a flexible working system allowing our colleagues to work remotely and continue to support you through these unprecedented times.

Staff who are able to work from home will continue to do so. Our officers are available for phone and video consultations, as well as in special circumstances (where alternative remote contact is not suitable) we can now arrange face-to-face meetings by appointment only, with strict social distancing procedures based on UK Government guidance.

Appointment only face-to-face meetings

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our workforce and visitors, we are conducting a simple screening questionnaire. Your participation is important to help us take precautionary measures to protect you. We have a number of arrangements in place to make your visit as safe as possible

The limited opening of the Council Office is to give additional assistance only to customers who find it difficult to access our services online.

If you would like an appointment at the Council Office, please consider the following guidance:

- When attending appointments, you must wear face coverings if possible. Council staff can also wear face coverings, but this is not essential.
- Before entering the Council Office, you will be asked to complete a health survey for Covid-19.

Download health survey [HERE](#)

- If you are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19, are self-isolating or have had a positive test within the last seven days, you must not attend the office and the appointment will be rearranged.
- Customers must knock on the front main door and wait until the time of your appointment, when a member of staff will then allow you access.
- There will be hand sanitiser in reception and wherever possible the appointment will be held in reception with staff members communicating through a glass partition.
- If your appointment requires considerable staff input you will be allocated a meeting room that will comply with social distancing.



MEETING DATES 20/21

We are currently holding our meetings by video conferencing. Go to our website for the agenda pack and meeting information. You can join our meetings.

FULL COUNCIL

- 30 November 2020
- 25 January 2021
- 15 March 2021 – Annual Town Meeting
- 29 March 2021

CCEG COMMITTEE

- 12 October 2020
- 14 December 2020
- 15 February 2021
- 19 April 2021

PLANNING COMMITTEE

- 2 November 2020
- 7 December 2020
- 11 January 2021
- 1 February 2021
- 1 March 2021
- 12 April 2021
- 10 May 2021

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 16 November 2020
- 11 January 2021
- 22 March 2021
- 26 April 2021

Together We Can Make a Difference

NAME	DIRECT LINE	EMAIL
General Enquiries	01768 899773	office@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk
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Ros Richardson Deputy Town Clerk	01768 425854	deputyTownclerk@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk
Paul Foote Solicitor	01768 899773	legal@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk
Carol Grey Economic Development Officer	01768 425853	economicdevelopmentofficer@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk
Jack Jones Responsible Finance Officer	01768 425852	rfo@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk
Ian Parker Services & Contracts Officer	01768 425998	scmanager@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk
Dr Anna Malina Community Engagement Officer	01768 425997	ceofficer@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk

We write monthly editorials about Penrith Town Council in our local free magazine which is posted throughout Eden each household.

To find out more and look at past editions please click below:
<http://www.cumbrianlocal.co.uk/previous-issues>

The Town Council is made up of 15 Councillors. They represent the six wards of Penrith Councillors are elected for four years and will be in place until 2023. Being a Town Councillor is a voluntary unpaid role. Penrith Town Councillors are listed below. Their full contact details are available on the Town Council website: www.penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Doug Lawson
Carleton Ward
Council Chair
07969 481508
cldr.lawson@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Margaret Clark
Penrith South ward
07732 704133
cldr.clark@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Scott Jackson
Penrith North ward
Council vice Chair
07920 408 094
cldr.jackson@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Stephen Clarke
Carleton ward
0788 536 1822
cldr.clarke@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Pategill ward – vacant



Councillor Jonathan Davies
Penrith West ward
01768 800 220
cldr.Davies@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Roger Burgin
Penrith South ward
01768 8941
cldr.burgin@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Paul Donald
Penrith North Ward
07905 423 772
cldr.donald@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor James Fallows
Penrith East ward
07738 525 949
cllr.Fallows@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Charlie Shepherd
Penrith East ward
01768 840 227
cllr.Shepherd@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Nicola Hawkins
Penrith East ward
01768899773
cllr.Hawkins@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Mike Shepherd
Penrith North ward
01768 868 975
cllr.mikeshepherd@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Ron Kenyon
Penrith North Ward
01768 864728
cllr.kenyon@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Hilary Snell
Penrith West ward
01768 899773
cllr.Snell@penrithTownCouncil.co.uk



Councillor Dave Knaggs
Penrith West ward
01768 899773
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