

Stamford TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Issue 17 Spring 2015



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Georgian Festival Update



Stamford's second Georgian Festival (September 25-27) is taking shape and promises to be even bigger and better than before – complete with a possible mock execution!

The inaugural event drew 22,000 people to what's recognised as England's finest stone town, voted as the best place to live in 2013 by The Sunday Times.

Adopting the theme of 'The Age of Enlightenment', the festival will include elements of 2013's event with talks, recitals, tours, shows, military displays and street entertainment as well as a host of new attractions.

Re-enactment of the colourful and infamous Stamford Bull Run will again thrill the crowds during Saturday's activities and Sunday will have its own entertainment agenda.

Proposals include a Georgian Ball, mock trials and a mock execution, sedan chair racing, a military encampment, horse-drawn carriage rides, stilt walkers and jugglers.

Historian and TV presenter Dr. Lucy Worsley will raise the festival curtain. Famous for fronting programmes like "Dancing Cheek to Cheek" with Strictly's Len Goodman and a series on historical topics including "The First Georgians", she is a key speaker on Friday's opening evening.

Lucy is currently chief curator at the Historic Royal Palaces, an independent charity responsible for palaces not in use by the Royal Family.


Steve Ingram, SKDC Strategic Director Development and Growth, said: "Our first Georgian Festival in 2013 was hugely successful and attracted 22,000 people to the town on the Saturday alone, a record for Stamford.

"It showed Stamford at its very best to an enormous number of visitors. They clearly decided to spend, spend, spend, as many traders reported that they had to dash to wholesalers on Saturday night after record sales meant they needed to restock for Sunday.

"England's most complete stone town is the perfect backdrop for a Georgian Festival and we aim to put on a great show, stage even more attractions and events and attract even more visitors for the 2015 event."

For updates on Stamford's 2015 Georgian Festival visit
www.stamfordgeorgianfestival.co.uk



For further information on any items please contact the Town Clerk
T:- 01780 753808 E:- townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk
www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk  @stamfordtc

Election Notice



Polling Day, Thursday 7th May 2015, will be a landmark election day. Not only will it be the first general election since the introduction of the Fixed Term Parliament Act, it will also coincide with elections for many principal councils and most parish/town councils like Stamford.

Why not stand as a local Councillor and make a difference to your Town and get involved with your community? Have a say about the local issues people really care about. Influence local service delivery and decide how local money is spent to improve your community.

Who can stand for election?

Anyone is eligible to stand for election to a parish or town council if they are:

- A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union, and
- 18 years or older on the day they become nominated for election and if they...
- Are registered as a local government elector for the parish in which they wish to stand, or
- Have for the whole 12-month period up to the date of the election, occupied (as an owner or tenant) land or other premises in the parish; or
- Have had their principal or only place of work during that same 12-month period in the parish; or
- Have during the whole of that same 12-month period resided within the parish or within 4.8 kilometres (3 miles) of it.



For more information and nomination packs please visit the Stamford Town Hall website: www.stamfordtowncouncil.co.uk

Santa Fun Run – 2014



Burghley Park was filled with festive red and white as more than 1,000 people took

part in this year's Santa Fun Run. The Mayor of Stamford, Councillor Clem Walden, started the race as people of all ages, from just 10 days to 78 and everything in between, took on the 5km course. The event is organised every year by the Rotary Club of Stamford Burghley in aid of a variety of charities. The event raised a staggering £20,000 for good causes.



The Stones of Stamford Revisited



The classic work on the distinctive limestone which so beautifully defines Stamford is *The Stones of Stamford* by AC ('Arch') Ireson, the founder of the prestigious society, based in Stamford known as "The Men of the Stones". Ireson's work, published in 1986, is now out of print but Rachel Morley of Hirst Conservation has written a new study of our distinctive building stone titled, appropriately, *The Stones of Stamford Revisited*.

In this monograph, commissioned by the Stamford Civic Society, Rachel looks at the various types of limestone in the town, Clipsham, Ketton, Stamford, Collyweston etc, the typical deterioration patterns and decay mechanisms to which they are prone and it concludes with a section on conservation techniques. The monograph is copiously illustrated and will be of great interest to all who live in our precious stone houses. It will be available from Walker's Bookshop in April.

Stamford's Link to Magna Carta

Among the barons discontented with King John none were more troublesome than the group known as the Northern Barons. In early June 2015 this group assembled in Stamford, agreed their objectives and began their march south to face the King at Runnymede only a few days later. It could well be said that the road to Runnymede began at Stamford.

Stamford was chosen as the assembly point because, at the time, the River Welland was felt by many to be the boundary between the north and the south and Stamford was the point from which the barons from all over the north could most easily meet and set out for the south on the Great North Road. Additionally Stamford was well known for its tournaments and the northern knights could therefore assemble here under arms on scheduled dates without attracting immediate attention.

On Thursday 9th April Dr Henry Summerson will be giving a lecture on Stamford and Magna Carta at the Methodist Church, Barn Hill at 7.30pm. Tickets are available on the door at £5.

Local Council Award Scheme



The new Local Council Award Scheme has been designed to celebrate the successes of the very best local councils, and to provide a framework to support and encourage all local councils to improve and develop to meet their full potentials. The scheme

offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set, be assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for their continued improvement. The Award Scheme has been designed to provide the tools and encouragement to those councils at the beginning of their improvement journeys, as well as promoting and recognising councils that are at the cutting edge of their sector. It is only through the sectors working together, to share best practices, drive up standards and support those who are committed to improving services to their communities that individual councils as a whole will reach their full potential.

Stamford Town Council currently has its Foundation Award but is aiming towards attaining Quality Gold Award standard.

Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 15th May 2015

Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15th May 2015 for Spinal Injuries Association.



You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs.



For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 xtn 229 or

email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.siafishandchips.co.uk

Clean shop front awards

In an effort to keep the centre of the town attractive and welcoming, Stamford Town Council has recently agreed to award certificates to those shops, restaurants and takeaways who make a special effort to keep the outside of their premises clean. This is felt to be particularly important when dealing with the effects of the late night economy, the results of which are all too often dirty pavements.

The Town Council invites members of the public to nominate those premises which they feel would be suitable for an award.

Stamford Skatepark

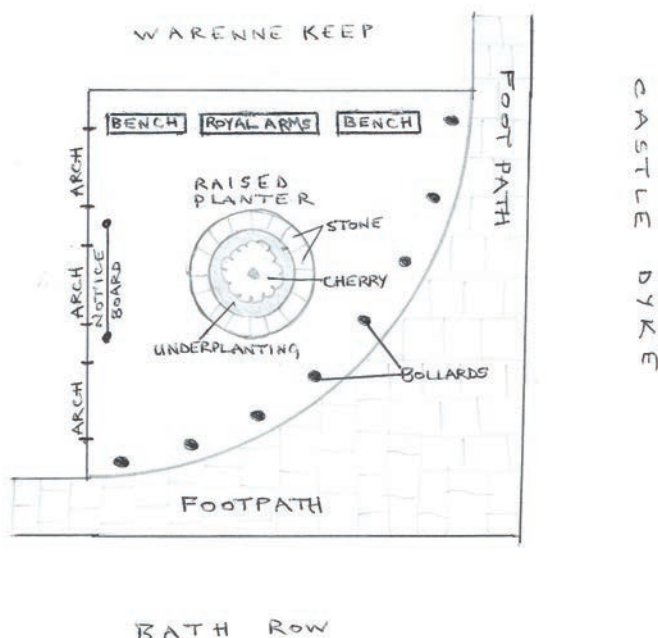
The Skatepark continues to be a huge success. The Town Council is now actively progressing a planning application to review some of the conditions which were applied when planning consent was first granted. There have been improvements to enhance health and safety aspects such as steps and lighting for the Skatepark, together with some of the play equipment being replaced in the toddlers play area.



Proposed Castle Dyke Project

STC would like to renovate the paved area at the bottom of Castle Dyke so that it includes the terracotta brick Royal Arms, measuring approx. 5' x 6', rescued by Chris Neal from the Williamson Cliff brickworks site when the buildings were demolished in 2004. The proposed new layout is shown below. The project will not start until the necessary consents - planning, listed building, scheduled ancient monument and archaeological - have been obtained. Comments welcome – please email

Cllr. Max Sawyer at audsaw@aol.com 01780 765507



Death of past-Councillor Ray Lee

The Council notes with sadness the recent death of past councillor Ray Lee who was a member of Stamford Town Council from 2003 to 2007 where he represented St George's Ward.

Email: townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Ending of Joint Agency Meetings

Unfortunately, SKDC has decided to end the Community Joint Agency Meetings that were held monthly at Stamford Police Station. These were an opportunity for representatives of local groups and organisations -

LCC Highways & Youth Support;

SKDC Community Safety, Tenancy Services & Housing Support;

Lincs. Police, Fire and Rescue & Ambulance Service; STC, local schools,

The Salvation Army,

The Methodist Church,

Stamford Street Pastors

plus a number of others - to meet and discuss matters of concern.

In future, such matters will have to be raised directly with the appropriate organisation, or with

Cllr. Max Sawyer audsaw@aol.com 01780 765507

Town Hall Tour Volunteer Guides

STC's Town Hall tour guides continue to do a splendid job, but they are few in number and we don't want to wear them out! Additional volunteers would be very welcome – full training (with crib sheets!) given. Most tours are on Fridays, each lasting approx. one hour, free refreshments for guides are available in the Town Hall. If you would like to join the team, please contact

Cllr. Maureen Jalili maj@jalili.co.uk 07718 884402
or Cllr. Max Sawyer audsaw@aol.com 01780 765507

Skells Charity

The Trust is a charity which welcomes applications for grants for a variety of works and projects for the benefit of the Town and its population. It has assisted a number of recent projects including Stamford Skate park, The Shack youth club in the 'Rec and the sundial at All Saints Church. Application forms can be obtained from the Clerk to the Trust at Stamford Town Hall. **Tel: 01780 753808;**
Email: townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Projects delivered by Stamford Town Council

May 2011 – May 2015:

Stamford Town Council continues to be very active pursuing the projects it puts in place to ensure that, over its four year term of office, it delivers services which are cost effective and meet the needs of its electorate. Over the past four years this Town Council has completed the following major projects:



Finance Committee – Phases 3 & 4 of the Renovation of the Town Hall. This incorporated the soft furnishings in the Court Room and the new kitchen was equipped in readiness for future events. Another major initiative has been the digitization of the Cemetery Records. All the historical data has been captured and a new, computerized data base created. This is the first step to the provision of a research facility at the Town Hall. The planning application for the installation of a new fire exit and staircase with exits from the Court Room and kitchen, together with a new staff rest room, has recently received consent. All is in place for this work to commence in the new financial year.

Amenities Committee – The outsourcing of the Ground Maintenance Contract has provided a number of value-added benefits, derived from the ability to access a wide spectrum of ground maintenance skills and use of specialist machinery. The ability to cover any staff absenteeism and the monitoring of agreed activities and projects has proved very beneficial and cost effective. The completion of a fencing and tree management programme at the Stamford Cemetery has enabled the first steps to be achieved towards the creation of a new woodland burial area. Fishing platforms have been installed along the banks of the River Welland on the Meadows and major renovation work has been carried out to the surfacing in preparation for the 2015 season of events.



Strategic Development Committee – This Committee continues to augment the many valuable working partnerships with the Town Council, delivering projects for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. Following the closure of Stamford Museum, the introduction of regular, free, Friday tours of the Town Hall continue to be very popular and well subscribed. An extension to this has been the Malcolm Sargent walking-tours, which have been well received. The Heritage Working Group, made up essentially of a group of volunteers operating on a modest budget, has focused on the refurbishment of the cellars and the preparation of a bid for Lottery funding. The aim is to recreate an authentic representation of a Georgian Gaol, reflecting conditions when the Town Hall was built. Once completed, this will add a valuable additional feature to the tours. The Town Plan is a further major project undertaken in Stamford and involved a significant task of designing and producing a questionnaire with questions designed by a specialist team of volunteers chosen from members of the public which sent to every house. The Town Council received a significant response from a total of approximately 19,000 households. This exercise and the resulting document is an important indicator of the wishes of the local population.



Events Committee – Holds responsibility for the operation of the two main events now managed by the Town Council – Stamford Summer Fayre and Stamford Christmas Festival - keeping them cost neutral. It was very disappointing that last year the Summer Fayre was a casualty of very bad weather, however the Christmas Festival, which also incorporates the Christmas lights switch-on, was a huge success and the footprint was enlarged to include Broad Street. The enhancement of the Christmas street lights is also under this Committee's remit and is being developed in phases to ensure the cost is manageable. All energies are now directed towards this year's event scheduled for Sunday 29 November 2015.

Transition Towns

Stamford Transition Town, after five years of campaigning and informing people of climate change and the present energy situation, are still hard at work through their Food and Energy Groups. In the last year they have successfully campaigned for the energetic gardeners who run the Town's allotments to share their excess food production with our local Evergreen Care Trust. The Trust, provides, through its community lunches and hot and wholesome soup service, affordable hot locally cooked and sourced meals for those people who enjoy eating with others and find food preparation a struggle.

Also, in an attempt to make allotments self sufficient in water supply, they have experimented with the use of multiple water butts for rainwater catchment and are feeding individual beds via modified hoses. These trials are particularly pertinent at the moment in the light of Anglian Water Board's recent ban on the use of mains connected hose pipes.



Stamford Town Council
The Town Hall, St Mary's Hill
Stamford, Lincolnshire, PE9 2DR
T:- 01780 753808 E:- townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk
www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk  [@stamfordtc](https://twitter.com/stamfordtc)

Forthcoming Events

2015 Events on Recreation Ground:

Pinders Circus – **Thursday 05 – Sunday 08 March**
Stamford Festival Parade – **Saturday 27 June**
Lions Family Fun Day – **Sunday 28 June**
Bandstand Bookings – **28 June – 20 September**
Autumn Fair – **Wednesday 7 – Sunday 11 October**



2015 Events on the Meadows:

Rotary Club Garden Show – **Sunday 10 May**
Field Dog Antique Fair – **Saturday 23 – Monday 25 May**
Rotary Club Victorian Cricket – **Sunday 28 June**
Summer Spectacular – **Friday 10 – Sunday 12 July 2015**
Stamford Classic Car Show – **Sunday 30 August**
Stamford Dog Show & Family Fun Day – **Sunday 13 September**
Field Dog Antique Fair – **Friday 18 – Sunday 20 September**
Georgian Festival – **25-27 September**



Other Events

Mid-Lent Fair – **Monday 16 March to Saturday 21 March**
Senior Citizens Concert – **Friday 24 April 2015 (tbc)**
Georgian Festival – **25 – 27 September**
French Market – **Sunday 18 October 2015 (tbc)**
Christmas Festival – **Sunday 29 November 2015**
2015 Virgin Balloon Flights – **Schedule weather dependant**

