## VICTORIA PARK AWARDED THE COVETED GREEN FLAG AWARD ONCE AGAIN!

Victoria Park has once again been awarded 'Green Flag' status for 2022/23, recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best in the world. The Town Council received the Award for Victoria Park for the first time in 2019. The prestigious Green Flag Award is the

recognised mark of a quality park or green space and demonstrates to the public that the Park boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is well maintained and has excellent visitor facilities. Cllr Jon Gage, Chair of the Council's Green Spaces Working Group said, "We are absolutely delighted to retain this award, which is an objective of the Town Council Strategy. Throughout the seasons and in particular during the lockdowns of the pandemic, Victoria Park has been an outdoor haven for residents and visitors alike".



November 2022





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Making Newbury a town we can all be proud of.

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## **DIARY DATES**

Monday 14 November Planning & Highways Commitee Meeting

Monday 21 November Grants Sub-Committee Meeting

#### Monday 28 November Civic Pride, Arts & Culture Committee Meeting

Monday 5 December Planning & Highways Committee Meeting

## **EVENTS**

Saturday 12 November 10am-4pm Newtown Road Cemetery Remembrance Open Day Sunday 13 November Newbury Remembrance Sunday Parade Saturday 19 November Switch On Event Sunday 26 November Mayors Charity Christmas Coffee Morning at the Town Hall Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 December Victorian Christmas Fayre **NEWBURY MARKET** 



#### SATURDAY SURGERY

Town Hall Steps every Saturday 10am - 12 noon

# **NEWBURY'S 'BEST KEPT ALLOTMENTS 2022'**



Newbury's 'Best Kept Allotment' awards were presented at the Town Hall Chamber on Thursday evening. The Mayor of Newbury, Cllr Gary Norman, together with the Chair of the Town Council's Community Services Committee, Cllr Sarah Slack, presented awards to tenants who were judged to have kept the best allotment plots on each site. This year 19 awards were given out, including 'Best Newcomer', 'Best Plot', 'Best Schools Plot' and 'Best Site Overall'.

A trophy was presented to Dave Cole, from the One Tree Park site, after they were judged to be the best site overall. An award was also given to Falkland Primary School who tend an allotment plot at Wash Common, presented to students Polly Nightingale and Lottie Lawton. Cllr Sarah Slack, Chair of the Community Services Committee said, "Our allotment tenants do a wonderful job tending their plots which are a valuable form of exercise both physically and mentally. There is so much variation, Newbury's Christmas Light and all of our allotment tenants are to be commended on their efforts year-round.

> There are around 550 plots in Newbury, ranging from large to small, with a variety of tenants, from people who have had a plot for years to newcomers and new families to the site who are so enthusiastic".

> She continued, "We do have waiting lists for all of our sites, but some are shorter than others, so you might not need to wait for as long as you might think. If you would like to put your name down and have a go at 'growing your own' please contact us or visit our website https:// www.newbury.gov.uk/services/allotments/

#### TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTS CITIZENS ADVICE

# TOWN COUNCIL CLIMATE **EMERGENCY COMMUNITY** WORKSHOP A SUCCESS

ISSUE

Newbury Town Council's fifth Climate Emergency Workshop took place on Saturday 1 October 2022 in the Town Hall Chamber, Market Place. Around 50 people came along, making this the best attended workshop since our first one in 2019, when the Council declared a climate emergency. Since then the Town Council's Climate Emergency Working Group (CEWG) has been taking action to transition Newbury Town Council's operations to net zero for carbon emissions. At the workshop, the Council outlined its climate emergency journey so far and updated the public on the suggestions that came out of the very first Workshop in 2019. Cllr Chris Foster, Chair of the Climate Emergency Working Group said, "Newbury Town Council was the first Council in West Berkshire to declare a climate emergency. We're very proud to have reduced our carbon footprint by more than 40% so far, even while continuing to expand the scope of what we're able to measure. We are very pleased that local community group, including recipients of the Council's climate emergency grant funding, were able to be involved on the day and showcase their own projects".Friends of the Earth Newbury displayed photographs of their Lockdown Wood project and the Newbury and West Berkshire Sustainable Community had a stand to inform attendees about their campaign to make Newbury and Thatcham plastic free. Eight Bells for Mental Health provided refreshments and raised over £80 for their charity in donations.

Citizens Advice West Berkshire (CAWB) told the meeting of Newbury Town Council on Monday 27 October that the Cost of Living Crisis was having an impact on residents in Newbury. The Mayor of Newbury, Councillor Gary Norman, thanked CAWB for all that they do to help residents in Newbury before he and the leader of the Council, Councillor Martin Colston, presented Citizens' Advice West Berkshire with a cheque for £20,000. Ms. Isabel Esperanca, Chief Officer of CAWB, said, "We are hugely grateful to Newbury Town Council for their continued support and for their very generous donation. Last year, we helped 688 residents in Newbury wards with 4464 issues, which represents 40% more than last years. Thanks to this donation from Newbury Town Council we can continue to provide much-needed advice and support to residents in Newbury". Anyone who is worried about the Cost of Living can contact CAWB by calling 01635 516605 or visiting



www.citizensadvicewestberkshire.org.uk. Self-help advice is available at www.citizensadvice.org.uk.