

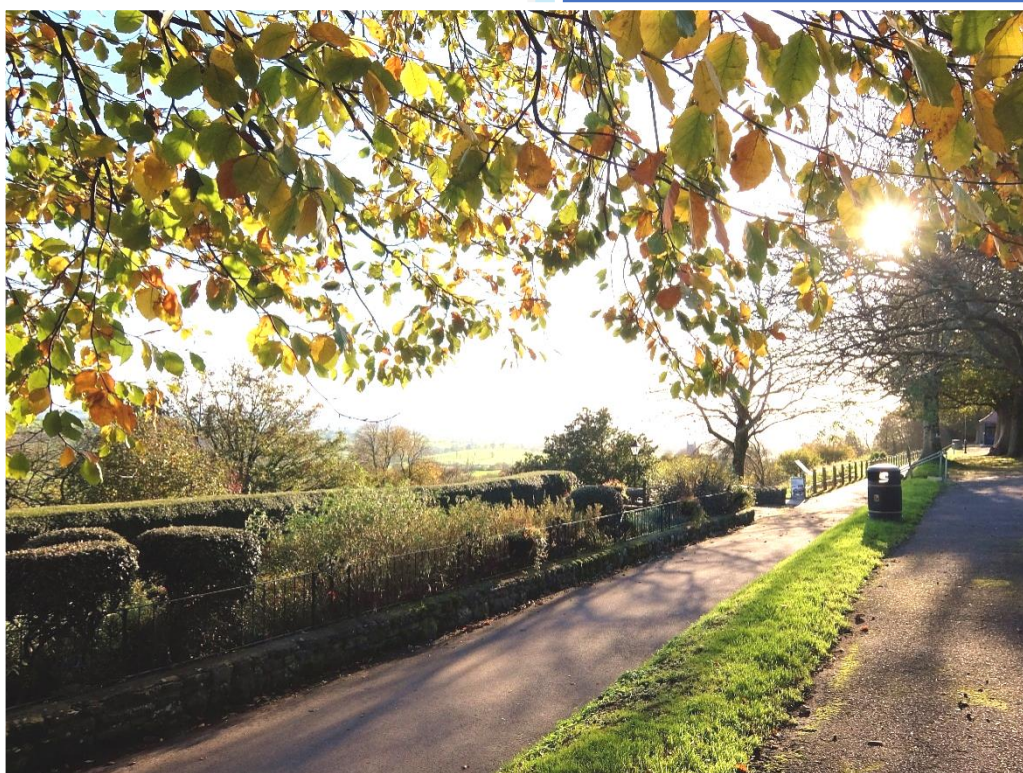
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# SHAFTESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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2018-2019

## Annual Report



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## *Mission Statement*

*Shaftesbury Town Council will work conscientiously with the community to define and provide best value, high quality services and facilities, ensuring that Shaftesbury is a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Town that respects its heritage and upholds its values making it a great place to live, work, plan and visit.*

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**COPIES OF MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES OR CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE AT:**

**[www.shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk](http://www.shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk)**

**Office opening hours are Monday–Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm;**

**Friday 9:00am to 1:00pm.**

## MAYOR'S REPORT – COUNCILLOR PIER'S BROWN



**What a year! Last month we completed the task reviewing every policy and procedure in the Town Council so that it is a model of best governance. This has resulted in us being able to submit an application for the Quality Gold status of the Local Council Award Scheme. The Council was even featured in the 'The Clerk' for its new governance arrangements. We went out of our way to invest in our passionate staff to ensure they had the skills they wanted to excel in their roles, to ensure that protection was put in place to stop bullying from members of the public and to give them confidence to use their initiative to deliver better projects for the town. We are now confident that we are handing over the best possible Council to whoever wins the election in May.**

The Neighbourhood Plan has just started its first set of consultations, to get as much feedback as possible. The Neighbourhood Plan allows the town of Shaftesbury to add additional planning policies and requirements to the planning system for the town. Please see page 9 for a full report from the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee.

Our bid to acquire a new public open space in 'The Wilderness' was sadly unsuccessful, the land eventually sold for £100k, almost twice the asking price. The council set aside £80,000 for the acquisition and an extra £17,000 was kindly donated by many members of the public to add to the council's offer. A massive thank you to all those community minded people who were willing to donate their money for this potential project.

Shaftesbury Town Council has been working with representatives of the business community and development experts from across the community on 'Project Belle'. Following a series of consultation exercises, resident and business feedback, the conclusion is that people want to see the Bell Street supermarket building brought back to life in some way. The whole project has been designed around the principle that the building will be self-funding and not cost the taxpayer a penny. Whilst there are no definitive outcomes for the project at this stage, a number of options are being explored these options include: retail, affordable housing, flexible space, enterprise hub, start-up units and a commercial leisure offer.

Shaftesbury Town Council has just set another below inflation Council Tax. There will be a 0% change in the Town Council's part of your Council Tax bill next year. In real terms, over the last 4 years, the Town Council's tax will have decreased. We have done this while improving and expanding services by being careful with spending and increasing our commercial income opportunities - Great news for hard working families!

I would like to thank everyone in the Town Hall team for their support during the year, from my fellow councillors, the office staff and the groundsmen. You all make a great team and should be proud of what we have achieved over the last 4 years.

Whilst writing this, two things have yet again struck me. *One* - So much of what our Town Council does is dependent on or more successful because of the way that we work with community together. *Two* - What a selfless and volunteer minded population we have here in Shaftesbury.

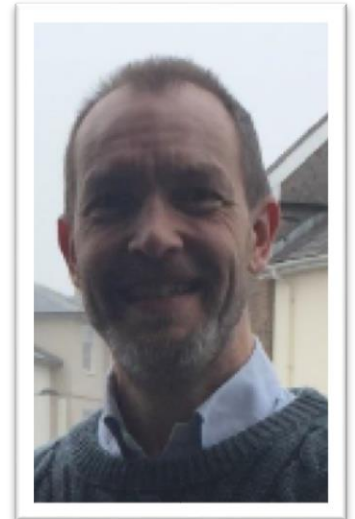
You are what makes Shaftesbury special! Thank you!



## GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR TIM COOK

The General Management Committee members are:  
Councillor Tim Cook [Chair]; Councillor Andy Perkins [Vice Chair];  
Councillors Anthony Austin, Piers Brown, George Hall, Luke Kirton and  
Lauren Todd.

Once again I would like to thank committee members for keeping debate and discussion focussed and meetings short and also thank the Town Clerk and her team for keeping us informed of all relevant detail. I have listed here some of the decisions that the committee took throughout the year.



### May 2018

We resolved to work closely with Shaftesbury Football Club to address outstanding issues and help them get back on a sound business footing.

The committee agreed to pay community grants of £20,912.80 and recommended to Full Council to provide Service Level Agreements for the Citizen's Advice Bureau and Shaftesbury and District Tourist Association.



### June 2018

We resolved to apply to North Dorset District Council to have the Westminster Memorial Hospital placed on the district council's Assets of Community Value Register.

### July 2018

The committee was given a presentation by 3 representatives from National Citizens Service about a community project which would consist of a sensory garden at Great Ground. A team of 13 young people plus 2 leaders later carried out the work to

make it happen.

### September 2018

We resolved to engage Peninsula, on a five-year contract, to provide the Council's Health and Safety provision.

The committee recommended to Full Council that the Revenue Budget was accepted and all of the Council's capital projects are identified and supported with a SMART sheet.

It was resolved to accept the offer of the Hovis Loaf from Shaftesbury Charitable Trust and to negotiate with them details regarding donations.

### January 2019

The committee resolved to write off the outstanding debt with the Task Force and noted that governance improvements had been made to mitigate risk of recurrence.

We resolved to adopt the following policies  
Health and Safety

Equality, Diversity and Human Rights  
Staff and Member Training

It was resolved to adopt the project plan for the Bell Street Public Toilets.



The committee resolved to hold a public information meeting and drop-in session to encourage people to stand for Council in the coming elections.

## PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR PIERS BROWN

The Planning and Highways Committee members are:  
Councillor Piers Brown [Chair]; Councillor Lester Taylor [Vice Chair];  
Councillors Anthony Austin, John Lewer, and Philip Proctor

Over the last 12 months Planning & Highways have been working to ensure that Shaftesbury Town Council has continued to have a productive working relationship with the local planning authority - North Dorset District Council. We have commented on over 75 applications ensuring that a local voice is heard on every planning application in Shaftesbury. A big thank you to all the residents who came to see us when they felt strongly about an application.



We have worked closely with Dorset County Council - The Highways Authority, to help report potholes and other Highways issues, as well as feeding in to effect slight modifications to the layout of Bell Street, when they recently resurfaced it.

We have also tried to engage with developers before their planning applications are submitted in the hope of improving their plans before they commit to them.

Whether this will be successful, only time will tell, but we believe it is worth a try in the hope of mitigating issues. A team including the neighbourhood plan advisory committee, open spaces group and the town council have been working closely in particular with the developers of the Littledown site over the past few months.

A lot of effort in the last year has focused on getting and installing a Speed Indicator Device (SID). A SID is one of the flashing signs that shows motorists their speed if they are speeding. There have been a lot of hurdles to jump over on this process, including collating a list of potential sites, which we formed from all the comments we had had over the years and a number of residents came along to our meetings to suggest more.

The Council commissioned traffic surveys to get a detailed understanding of the speed profiles on each road and whether those speed profiles fulfilled the highways authority criteria. The criteria must average 10% + 2 mph over the speed limit. We are now in the final stage of installing the device, we will be rotating the location of the new SID, in the hope that the surprise factor will make it more effective.



## RECREATION, OPEN SPACES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR GEORGE HALL

**The Recreation, Open Spaces & Environment Committee members are:  
Councillor George Hall [Chair]; Councillor Luke Kirton [Vice Chair];  
Councillors Tim Cook, Mark Jackson, Jeanne Loader and Philip Proctor**

We have had a very successful year with the implementation of a number of projects throughout the town this year. Some of the highlights include

- The installation of the new path at St James Park was to meet the desire line which was walked by many people and provide a firm footing. There were lessons learned from this project and communication and consultation is now high on our priority list. The path is however very well used and welcomed by many.
- Installation of the new play equipment at the Enmore Green Play Area
- We have undertaken a survey of all the trees on Town Council land, assessing the health and anticipated works needed. This important piece of work not only helps to manage the health and safety element but also ensures that the Council can be proactive with its budget management in looking after its trees.
- Wild ABOUT Shaftesbury, a competition for ecological and biodiverse community proposals is being launched as we speak
- The development of allotments on the A30 is progressing well and we should have fresh veg growing in them later this year.
- Land at Mampitts Square is due to transfer to the Council within the next month. We have already carried out a local consultation, have also built evidence of need through the Neighbourhood Plan work and will shortly be starting a comprehensive consultation and engagement exercise for this land.
- ROSE has worked very closely with the Visitor Experience Advisory Committee in setting this committee up and we are looking forward to driving the town forward and becoming the "High Point of Dorset"



One of the disappointments of the year was the failure to acquire The Wilderness land that came up for auction at the end of 2018, though what this project did show was the amazing level of support in Shaftesbury for the open spaces and how deeply they are loved.

As members of the ROSE committee we have to say a massive thank you to the Grounds Team and Zoe and Tracy in the office for co-ordinating all these activities. They have worked especially hard this year and their results have been amazing.

Thanks very much for all the support we have received, especially from the Open Spaces Group and the Tree Group, who have been amazing.



## **HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR ANDY PERKINS**

**The Human Resources Committee members are: Councillor Andy Perkins [Chair]; Councillor Anthony Austin [Vice Chair]; Councillors John Lewer, Jeanne Loader and Lauren Todd**



I have now served the Shaftesbury Town Council Human Resources Committee since being voted to the Council in 2015. For 3 of the last 4 years of our term I have served as Chair of the HR Committee. I am very proud to serve the council in any way I can, and I believe that my fellow members of the HR Committee have worked exceptionally well and effectively to advise and influence a better way of working.

Five years ago, our Council was riddled with toxicity and petty politics culminating in the police being called to a council meeting on 24th

November 2014 badly damaging the council reputation. We had 6 town clerks leave us within a three year period

The level of disharmony and discord meant that Council could not represent the community of Shaftesbury as it expected and as it deserved.

We have now had a long period of harmony and collaboration so enabling the council to work very well for our community.

- Council meetings are collegiate; conducted with good humour and respect
- The Grounds Staff are delivering a higher standard of service quality than at any previous time over the last ten years
- The Office Team has been reorganised and expanded and is very well led by the Town Clerk – Claire Commons so that we can deliver better services to our community with greater agility and focus
- We have a very clear working Code of Conduct
- We have achieved the criteria for Quality Gold status as a council (the application is currently being assessed)
- This year our Internal Auditor stated, “I found the records and systems of the council to be in very good order and that the visits went extremely well.”
- Our Principles of Belief continues to influence the drum beat of the Shaftesbury Town Council’s WoW – Way of Working!

While the HR Committee has little if any authority I look back on this term and know that we have influenced the culture within the council for the better.

I would like to sincerely thank those current councillors who have given their time, support, energy and hearts to help Claire Commons and her team to make this a council one we should be proud of.

Anthony Austin, Jeanne Loader, Lauren Todd and John Lewer, Phil Proctor, Lester Taylor



### Shaftesbury Town Council Principles of Belief

As a council of 12 individual volunteers we have stated below the core beliefs and values that we believe are central to the effective operation of Shaftesbury Town Council for the service and benefit of the Shaftesbury community and all the stakeholder constituted volunteer organisations

**Community** – we will listen and consult with the SHAFTESBURY community in all that we do. We will actively encourage honest and objective feedback from the community regularly during the municipal year and all monthly council meetings;

**Integrity** – We will act honestly and fairly in all that we do collectively and individually in matters pertaining to the council governance and business and to the SHAFTESBURY community; We will not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for ourselves, our family, or our friends. We will declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

**Respect** – we will respect each other, the council staff, all parts of the SHAFTESBURY community and all governance stakeholders, constantly and consistently in words, in writing and in deeds;

**Leadership and Stewardship** – We will exhibit all principles in our behaviour, actively promoting and supporting the principles and being willing to challenge poor behaviour when it occurs. We will listen to the SHAFTESBURY community and work toward building a better Shaftesbury that we, and the community which we serve, will be proud of and will last beyond our time in office;

**Honesty and Openness** – we will communicate with the community of SHAFTESBURY regularly, honestly, and objectively, we shall be truthful;

**Excellence** – we will strive to deliver excellent services to SHAFTESBURY at all times within the remit that we agree each year within the frame work of a five-year plan;

**Selflessness** – we will always put the interests of the council and SHAFTESBURY community above our personal ambitions;

**Collaboration** – we will always collaborate with each other, with the SHAFTESBURY community, constituted voluntary organisations and all our governing stakeholders to deliver the very best services for Shaftesbury;

**Objectivity and Prudence** – we will discharge our responsibilities to the community of Shaftesbury and all our governance stakeholders with the greatest care and caution at all times, taking decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias;

**Accountability and Access** – we will be accountable to the public for our decisions and actions and will submit ourselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this. we will make themselves available by writing and email, by telephone or in person to community of SHAFTESBURY or any fellow organisations that are constituted to serve the community.

If any individual member of the council is alleged to be in breach of any of these principles by three or more individuals from the council or from the SHAFTESBURY community - they will be subject to a formal investigation by a panel of three fellow councillors nominated by a formal resolution and subject to public censure should the allegation/s be proven.

Adopted by the Council on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Signed by



Handwritten signatures of council members, including names like J. Loader, A. Taylor, and others, written in black ink.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN:

**The neighbourhood plan advisory committee members are: Sue Allatt, Rachel Bodel, Stuart Edwards, Tim Edwyn-Jones, Virginia Edwyn-Jones, Natalie Evans, Brendon Fisher, Lee Hennessy, Mick Hicks, Keri Jones, Kris Martin, Robin Miller.**

It is hard to believe that it is a year ago that a group of volunteers held their hands up to help Shaftesbury produce its own Neighbourhood Plan. Since then, the committee has covered a huge amount of ground engaging with the community and numerous national and local organisations involved in Town Planning and Design.

We have held monthly group meetings to review progress and exchange new ideas and we have held quarterly meetings open to the public. We have drawn from the work undertaken 2 years ago by the original group and undertaken two successful public consultation sessions checking that the policies which we are working on meet the expectation of the Shaftesbury community.

We have arranged the content of the plan around 5 key themes; Town Centre, Community and Leisure, Housing and Employment, Green Infrastructure and Design and Heritage. The policies aims and intentions were recently tested via 20+ consultation events and the policy content will be modified over the coming weeks based on the feedback from this exercise. Following the policy development stage there will be a six-week statutory consultation phase prior to submitting the draft plan to the Local Planning Authority. Post this phase the plan will go through an independent examination to ensure the plan is scrutinised to ensure it meets the various statutory requirements.



Once the plan has been through its independent examination, the community will have a vote on whether the new Unitary Authority for Dorset should adopt the plan as part of the Statutory Development Plan for Shaftesbury. If adopted, it will be used to guide their decisions on future planning applications in the area. It will also be used by Shaftesbury Town Council as a basis for their response to planning applications and to ensure that their planning decisions reflect the viewpoint of Shaftesbury residents.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Advisory Committee members for all the hard work and commitment to the plan over the course of 2018. I look forward to sharing how the plan continues to develop over the coming months so later this year we have an adopted Shaftesbury Neighbourhood Plan in place.



## VISITOR EXPERIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN:

The Visitor Experience Advisory Committee members are: Keri Jones,(Chair) Anne Giberson,(Vice Chair) Angela King, Sue Clifford, Elaine Barrett, John Parker, Janet Swiss, Pam Cruickshank, Pete Ryley, Steve Keenan.

The Visitor Experience Advisory Committee has made excellent progress in its inaugural year. Our volunteers are committed to working with Shaftesbury Town Council and our stakeholders to ensure that Shaftesbury's importance as a tourism destination is recognised. We are passionate about embracing any opportunity to improve our tourism offer and spread awareness of our special and historic town. We are lucky to have representation from within a wide range of tourism-related businesses and heritage assets on our team. Our collective tourism-related and sector experience is significant. This knowledge around the table proves invaluable when assessing and analysing evidence and making a recommendation to Council on tourism matters.

When asked to list year's successes, I would put the completion of the Bell Street public toilets refurbishment at the top. This has been completed within budget. We have spent fewer pennies! At the time of writing, this project is on target for completion in time for the tourism season. Whilst taking time to visit public conveniences during my travels around the West Country last spring I learned how many local authorities have been forced to close these vital facilities. Those closures impacting negatively on many tourism-reliant towns. I'm proud that we have been able to respond to the tourism sector's request for the council to maintain these facilities. But more importantly, we have improved these facilities, to enhance the visitor experience. They'll be lovely loos!



The partnership with the project team Build Love, a not-for-profit organisation which exists to provide skills training for Guys Marsh Prison inmates, has been ground-breaking. And I'm very proud that this initiative could potentially change lives for the better.



We have undertaken a detailed visitor survey which has provided invaluable data and evidence which challenges our own preconceptions on tourism. We've established an elegant framework for questioning the public using pre-programmed tablets which helps the environment and saves public money, reducing the need for paper, eliminating printing costs and which saves time in data input, making analysis easier. Despite what Shaftesbury residents may believe; our visitors do not perceive

there to be a problem with parking. The vast majority of our survey respondents found finding a space easy. We now have a much clearer picture of why people come to our beautiful town, their movement through our town and how long they stay here. This data is crucial in helping us determine how to extend the stay of visitors in the future and that, of course, will impact on how much our guests spend here. A major piece of work to scope the necessary signposting of our services and attractions is underway and this has been fuelled by the evidence of these survey responses. We have already compiled a database of redundant or unnecessary signage which could be removed to reduce visual clutter. A team has also embarked on a programme of sign cleaning, in partnership with the Town Council Groundworks team. It's a simple concept but it makes a difference.

There is so much more work to do but I am pleased that we are making headway in our mission to ensure continued vitality within the tourism economy because everybody in Shaftesbury benefits.





## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN:

**The Economic Development advisory committee members are: Jackie Upton-King, Jemma Ricketts, Tim Edwyn Jones, Keri Jones, Julia Markus, Anna McDowell, Bill Walsh, David Perry, Norman King, Kirsty Schmidt**

The Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) came into being in October 2018, with a remit to bring to the Town Council well researched suggestions for the economic development of our town. The group consists of members drawn from the Chamber of Commerce, Shaftesbury Civic Society, Skills and Learning, the Swan's Trust, local business people and residents with an interest in economic development. The intention is that EDAC will work closely, and in tandem, with the other advisory groups, Neighbourhood Plan and Visitor Experience.

Our specific focus during these early months has been Project Belle. This project has been focussed on the acquisition of the former supermarket building in Bell Street and its subsequent re-development, a community-led project which could provide the town with a re-vitalised and re-purposed building in community ownership. During some weeks of pretty frantic activity, and with invaluable professional assistance, a feasibility study/business plan has been produced. Due to considerable time pressures, Shaftesbury Town Council agreed to make a bid for the building in order to try to secure it for the community and in due course to lease it to a newly established community interest organisation. That bid was placed on 7th December 2018 and up to the time of producing this report, 28th February 2019, there has been no news as to the success or failure of this bid.



Nevertheless, the members of EDAC would like to record our thanks to the Town Council, both members and staff alike, for their energy, enthusiasm and willingness to look at innovative ways of achieving a project which could prove to be of immense benefit to the town. This model of working together, now it has been established, could work well for other sites and schemes.

EDAC will be considering other economic development issues in the weeks and months to come, including the future of the A30 employment site, parking in the town and the development of skills and training opportunities for our young people. I am pleased to be the chair of such an inspiring and energetic group who have shown themselves willing to devote their voluntary efforts towards the benefit of the community.

Jackie Upton King

## Reports from Local Groups and Organisations



### Shaftesbury & District Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.shaftesburychamber.co.uk> | [info@shaftesburychamber.co.uk](mailto:info@shaftesburychamber.co.uk) | [ShaftChamberCom](#) | [ShaftesburyChamber](#) | [linkd.in/1c19LHy](https://www.linkedin.com/company/1c19LHy)



As a Chamber we represent around 100 member companies from the town's business community. We give our support to events such as Shaftesbury Snowdrops, The Fringe, The Food Festival and the monthly Sunday market, and encourage business and tourism in any way we can.

We campaign on local issues which effect the local economy. These include such things as car parking, employment land and redevelopment. The Chamber is represented on the Town Council's Economic Advisory Committee, the Neighbourhood Plan and the Visitor Experience Advisory Committee, as well as in other

areas. We are very pleased that we have enjoyed a close working relationship with the town council over the last couple of years. Long may that continue!

We are affiliated to the Dorset Chamber so we have a greater voice up the chain, eventually to the Dept. of Trade and Industry. Advice and help also filters down the chain.

Thanks to Dr. Karen Janes of Natural Healing Energy, the Chamber runs a monthly networking group which continues to grow in popularity, putting local businesses in touch with one another.

The most visible Chamber events are Christmas late night shopping, Christmas lights and the Christmas market, all of which are organised, funded and run by the Chamber.

Our social media presence continues to grow and, with support from This is Aflred, good news spreads far and wide. The Indie Shaftesbury initiative promotes our wonderful independents on all platforms.

In this coming year we plan to help drive Shaftesbury as a town known for sustainability and eventually to achieve plastic free status – We already have a number of High St shops dedicated to sustainable trading. We plan to promote these credentials and in doing so encourage others to join in.

The Chamber has recently committed funds to buy enough new, and sustainable, bespoke bunting to enhance the visitor experience throughout the summer months.

The Chamber meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6pm at the Grosvenor Arms. All members are welcome to come along. If you own or manage a local business, join us, join in and make a difference.

[www.shaftesburychamber.co.uk](http://www.shaftesburychamber.co.uk)

David Perry: [chair@shaftesburychamber.co.uk](mailto:chair@shaftesburychamber.co.uk)

Virginia Edwyn-Jones: [secretary@shaftesburychamber.co.uk](mailto:secretary@shaftesburychamber.co.uk)



## The Annual Report 2018-2019 Shaftesbury & District Branch Royal British Legion



February 2019

### Welfare

The operations team in the area has had a busy year in Dorset, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. We have assisted 1,642 individuals, with a range of issues and growing complex needs. As cuts to statutory services deepen, those most vulnerable in our communities are in need of our support more than ever over recent years.

During 2018 the following was recorded nationally.

- Our contact centre has had 187,328 requests for help, made via phone, email and live chat.
- Individuals benefited from the Legion's Family Breaks Service: 4,356.
- Visits to our Pop-In Centres: 90,368.
- Admiral Nurses gave dementia care to 1,314 new cases.
- Benefits, Debt and Money Advice service: Supported 2,469 beneficiaries. Giving a huge £8.7 million in financial outcomes.
- Our grants programme funded £2.04 million in external grants reaching 24,327 beneficiaries.
- 375 people attended our Battle Back Centre for the recovery from war injuries.
- Our Handy Van service supported 4,684 beneficiaries.
- 5,741 attended the RBL Break Centres, and a further 1,153 individuals attended Adventure Breaks.

None of this vital and life changing work could happen without the funds raised for the Poppy Appeal and all of the Volunteers we have, who give up so much of their own time. The main categories for areas of need in terms of funds spent for the area are, Housing, Mobility and household goods (carpets, furniture, etc.). The average age of those assisted covering all categories is 60 years old.

### Poppy Appeal

The Shaftesbury & District Branch total at the end of September 2018 was £23,836.35, an increase of 10.1% over last year. Dorset's total was £717,429, an increase of 4.8%.

### Membership

In March 2018 Dorset County had 9,600 members. The branch has 150 members, but is always looking to recruit more members. Serving or retired Servicemen and women, and their dependants are eligible to join, as is anyone (even those with no Service connections) who subscribes to the aims and objectives of the Legion. Anyone wishing to join should contact Brian Lloyd the Membership Secretary on (01747) 850898, or email <brianlloyd018@gmail.com>

### Legion Hall Bookings

The Legion Hall was designed to hold 60 seated and 70 standing, and has full disabled access. Our present rate of donation is £30 per session (a session is a morning, afternoon or evening). For all booking enquiries please contact\_01747 850082.



**Shaftesbury Trinity Centre Trust 2018/2019 Report**

We are a charitable Trust founded to support the change of use of the Trinity Church in Bimport, Shaftesbury. The church was declared redundant in 1974 and is now the base for the Shaftesbury Scouts, the Day Centre for the elderly and three small businesses.

The objectives of our charity are:

- a) To provide suitable headquarters accommodation for the Shaftesbury Scout Group; and
- b) To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community of Shaftesbury in the County of Dorset and the districts surrounding Shaftesbury with special regard to the needs of the elderly.

Trustees are selected because of skills they can bring to the Trust and for their knowledge of the town and its inhabitants.

The maintenance and upkeep of the entire building and of two thirds of the churchyard are also the responsibility of the Trust. Monies are raised by letting all the areas, apart from the Scout Hall on the first floor, and from 40 car parking spaces around the building. Any residue is then distributed to the community which can be other charities, associations and individuals. In its early years, the Trust supported the setting up of two properties for the care of the elderly – Castle Hill House and The Cedars – and towards the recent opening of a special dementia unit. Shaftesbury Arts Theatre and Shaftesbury Museum were recent recipients of major grants as well as smaller donations for the needs of the individual. Grants are allocated at the quarterly meeting of the Trustees, although there is a special Chairman's grant which can be given in between meetings to respond quickly to an emergency.

We have extensively upgraded the Trinity Hall including the installation of a lift to the first floor and the general upgrading of the entire area including kitchen and toilets. This hall is now available for hire, please see the Hall Bookings page on our website: [www.shaftesburytrinitycentretrust.com](http://www.shaftesburytrinitycentretrust.com)

The Hall is available to hire by the whole community, further underlining the commitment of Trinity Centre Trust to the town of Shaftesbury.



## ***Shaftesbury Car Link***

### ***Update on Service – January 2019***

We took over running the service in October 2018, originally the takeover date should have been 1 November but Debbie Simmons, the previous co-ordinator had to pass everything over due to personal circumstances. Since then the scheme has completed over 250 journeys ranging from early morning pick ups at 6.00 a.m. to evening pick-ups at 7.00 p.m.



Christmas Eve was a particularly busy day starting with our first pick up at 6.00 a.m. taking a lady to Salisbury Hospital then returning to Shaftesbury to pick another lady up and take her to Woking to stay with her Brother over the festive period. Whilst we try to adhere to the '48 hour' rule, this is not always possible. For instance, we had a call from a distressed lady whose Mother had been taken into Salisbury Hospital the evening before and needed collecting, in her nightie, and bringing home. All this on a Sunday morning!

We have now been successful in receiving sponsorship from Shaftesbury Charitable Trust and more recently from William Williams. We have approached the Rotary Club but are still waiting to hear from them. We have also applied to Tesco under their 'bags of help' scheme for £3,000 towards a wheelchair accessible vehicle. Dorset County Council have said that we may well be able to claim support from them under a 'match' scheme.

We have in fact already purchased, out of our own funds, a wheelchair accessible vehicle which is already proving very popular. Not only does it take wheelchairs but also has a remote-control electric front seat which swivels so that the less infirm do not have to struggle to get their legs into the vehicle.

A further big development is that we were asked if we would like to affiliate with Shaftesbury Royal British Legion. At present they only affiliate with junior schemes and we will be the first adult scheme to receive such accreditation. Not only that but the Shaftesbury branch took this higher to their headquarters in London who have approved affiliation with the Royal British Legion nationally. We will be the first adult scheme in the whole of the United Kingdom to affiliate. Whilst they will not interfere with the running of the scheme, we are entitled to use any of their resources, skills and knowledge, to enable us to progress further. They are helping us investigate becoming a registered charity as we believe this will help us in many ways. We are extremely proud of this achievement which has recognised our enthusiasm to help and support our local community.

Only yesterday Gillingham Car Link Scheme approached us to help with a joint marketing enterprise as they feel ours has been so successful. We will therefore be able to provide a more complementary service to each other and be able to support each other. We are meeting with them next week to discuss this in more detail.

Finally, we would like to thank the Transport Forum for their very kind donation which has helped us to get the scheme off the ground so successfully.

Martin and June Hull  
Shaftesbury Car Link  
07763 426664

### Shaftesbury club for the visually impaired.

We have had a very busy and enjoyable year during 2108. As well as our regular monthly meetings, which we hold at the Trinity centre, on the third Wednesday of every month ( excluding June and December ) where we have tea / coffee and entertainment for the members, we have managed to have a summer outing, an afternoon tea party, the annual bazaar, which is held in the town hall and a Christmas lunch.

The summer outing was arranged in June at the Grange Hotel at Osborne, where we had lunch, entertainment and even managed a few games of bingo for our members; 34 managed to attend this annual event. We all went by coach from Shaftesbury and Gillingham and this was paid for from our grant from Shaftesbury town council.

The afternoon tea party was held in August at our vice - chairman's home in Gillingham. The weather stayed kind and 20 members plus drivers and carers attended. Afternoon tea was served followed by a quiz. The annual bazaar was held in October, in the town hall, not the best of weather on the day but we still managed to attract a good number of visitors and additional stall holders which filled the hall and a very enjoyable morning was had by all. This is our major fund-raising event of the year and proceeds go towards the funding of our outings and monthly entertainment.

Finally, we had our Christmas lunch at Rushmoor golf club, early December. 36 members and 2 visitors from the Dorset blind association attended. We sat down to a 3-course lunch followed by a raffle for prizes donated by our members.

We always welcome new members to the club. Initial contact should be made via, Miss Leah Cross

Community Support Worker, North / West Dorset and Purbeck, Dorset Blind Association

Office no: 01202 712869

Work mobile: 07789997620

Working hours: Mon- Fri 9am – 5pm

[www.dorsetblind.org.uk](http://www.dorsetblind.org.uk)





## Shaftesbury Abbey

It is already a year since the 2-year SAVED Project, which the Town Council is generously supporting, began its operations, so I thought that I would send you a brief update on our progress.

2018 was an exciting year for us, beginning in January when HLF confirmed their acceptance of our application to them for grant funding of £42,900 (almost 50% of our expected costs) and gave us permission for the project to start.

One of our first major achievements was in recruiting community volunteers to the project. HLF had set us a target of recruiting 30, and by April (just after our first public meeting to advertise the project) we had recruited over 100 - we currently have 113.

During the summer we commissioned a laser-scanning and ground-penetrating-radar survey of the Abbey grounds and surrounding properties including Park Walk and the Rose Garden. However, the survey images were only received by us in late autumn and are still being analysed but early indications of several features have appeared and are leading us to further investigations.

We also held training sessions led by Dr Julian Richards for 94 archaeology volunteers, introducing them to various techniques including test-pit digging and recording. However, we wanted to carry out test-pit investigations in properties surrounding the Abbey Gardens where we believe the Abbey's wider precinct to be, and the general public are often averse to having their gardens dug up in summer! We therefore waited until autumn before commencing the test-pits: six have now been completed, with more scheduled, and finds include prehistoric flint blades, pottery, the earliest dating from the 11th century, and three medieval silver coins.

Historic England visited us in autumn and offered very helpful advice as we developed our detailed archaeological strategy for 2019 when the local schools will be involved - all 11 of them, with c.500 children! (But not all at once: phew!)

In the summer we also began our main historical research activities. 35 volunteer researchers (some of whom are also involved in the archaeology activities) began scouring our archives and others around the UK for new information about Shaftesbury Abbey and its people. Teams of researchers have visited Winchester, Romsey, Malmesbury, Salisbury and London, and their research continues. Meanwhile we commissioned Dr Jonathan Foyle to be our architectural historian and review the stonework that we hold at Shaftesbury.

These activities are discovering much that is new which we will be incorporating in the reinterpreted and redeveloped Abbey Museum towards the end of this year when we will be designing and developing the new displays, information panels and educational resources.

With many thanks once again for your generous support, and with kind regards,"

Pete Ryley  
Chairman of Trustees  
Shaftesbury Abbey Museum



## Shaftesbury Orchestra

Shaftesbury Orchestra has performed three concerts this year with music by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms and Nicolai. Each concert has featured a distinguished soloist.

Audiences have given generously to the tune of approximately £1500 to local charities:

- Shaftesbury and District Guiders for their extension to Lindlar Hall;
- Read Easy, a charity which helps adults to read;
- Hope for Tomorrow, a charity which provides mobile chemotherapy units.

Shaftesbury Orchestra's next concert is at 7.30pm on Sunday 31 March 2019 at Centenary Hall, Port Regis, when the collection will be in aid of Dorset Rural Music School, whose building needs re-wiring. Also planned is a concert in St Peter's Church, Shaftesbury, on Sunday 30 June, where proceeds will go to its restoration fund.

More information can be found on Shaftesbury Orchestra website.



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## Shaftesbury Memory Café on behalf of Alzheimer's Society.

We meet on alternate Tuesdays at the British Legion on Coppice Street from 10am. Recently we have been working in collaboration with Dementia Friendly Shaftesbury in order to raise awareness of the service we offer.

We are very grateful for their help and are delighted to have excellent coverage of our open morning which took place on the 5th February in the Blackmore Vale Magazine.

We have had great support from Tiggy and Johnnie Walker, from Keri Jones from 'This is Alfred' podcast radio and many other local people who are helping us get the message out that we are here to support people living with dementia and their carers.

**The Royal British Legion Hall, Coppice Street  
SP7 8PD  
10 -12noon  
March 5th & 19th  
Then every other Tuesday  
All are very welcome.  
Contact: Sarah Rampton 0300 123 1916**





### **Shaftesbury Abbey Primary School, St James' St, Shaftesbury**

The Abbey School has had an excellent year, with a great set of SATs results for our oldest children in May 2018, the acquisition of a new field and barn and the appointment of a new Head teacher for September 2018. Mr Michael Salisbury started in the Autumn term and has quickly identified further enhancements to be made to the academic curriculum, the wider provision for the children and the development of the school buildings and grounds. Some highlights from the year:

#### **The School Plays**

The oldest children in the school kept us on the edge of our seats with 'Mystery at Magpie Manor' – who had stolen the Pica Pica solid silver pitcher with a magpie picture? They built suspense with masterful performances: spoken and sung. Year 2, 3 and 4 shared the Christmas Story with their performance of 'Straw and Order'. Some brilliant comic moments and delightful singing reminded us what Christmas is all about. Finally Reception and Year 1 charmed their audience with 'Whoops a Daisy Angel', showing great confidence learning their lines and performing to a packed hall.



#### **The SASMA (Shaftesbury Area Schools Music Association) Carol service**

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November children from our school choir joined children and staff from other local schools at St Peter's Church for a very festive carol service. Musical accompaniment was skilfully provided by pupils and teachers from Shaftesbury School, along with some other musical friends of SASMA. One of the highlights was a rousing and very fast version of the 12 Days of Christmas, complete with actions! The children enjoyed singing together and having a free hot chocolate (donated by Costa) and a doughnut (donated by Tesco).

#### **Visits to all our local Residential Homes**

Just before Christmas, each of our 7 classes went to visit a different residential home in Shaftesbury. The classes performed Christmas Carols and songs which they had prepared in advance of the visits. Feedback from the residents was really enthusiastic, the children and staff also really enjoyed their visits and were treated to refreshments by the staff of the residential homes. It is wonderful to get our young people together with older Shaftesbury citizens; the enjoyment and benefit is mutual.

#### **New Forest School sessions**

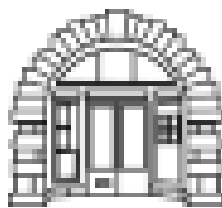
Over the past few weeks the school has developed a new Forest School site in the grounds, with help from parents, governors, children and staff. Two classes at a time are taking it in turns to learn the skills of the forest with a special tutor leading the sessions.

#### **School Pond**

Thanks to a donation of £4000 from Tesco, we are redeveloping the school pond which had fallen into disrepair over the last few years. It is getting a complete make-over this Spring and should be open to the children again by the end of this school year. We hope that the newts that have been sighted in our pond will approve of the changes and be happy in their new home!



## Shaftesbury Arts Centre, Chairman's Report 2018



# Shaftesbury Arts Centre

On the 1st November 2017, Shaftesbury Arts Centre celebrated its 60th birthday with coffee and birthday cake and for the archives, we took a photo of some of our members from the past and present. Looking back over the years we can see how the Centre has grown and grown, in size, in membership and in activities. We now have an organisation, still run entirely by volunteers with more than 500 members and a turnover of over £100,000 a year.

Music and Drama remains at the core of the Centre with its four major productions a year but around it have grown numerous other groups; poetry, reading, writing, art, music, dance, Pilates, yoga, keep fit, toddler groups and music and yoga for babies, to name but a few. Throughout the week the Centre is a hive of activity with not only our own groups but also with classes, conferences, parties of people and the now famous Shaftesbury Fringe who have all found the Arts Centre an attractive venue to hire.

We are desperately short of space for groups and the storage for equipment is at a premium. Juggling all these activities in too few rooms is a major task, which our volunteer, in charge of hiring, manages with incredible efficiency. Fortunately our groups are considerate and don't mind the occasional move of venue. More space is a major need for our future and we have the necessary planning permission to build new facilities on the land that we own at the rear of our site.

We had hoped for a substantial grant from Arts Council England. They urged us to go through their arduous application process but in the end found that money was short due to a change in Government policy and there were others with greater need. However, fundraising continues apace and we hope to accumulate enough funds to start the first stage of our extension in July.

Visitors are often amazed that we are run by volunteers (except, of course, our loyal cleaner) and there are so many people involved in working hard to keep the show on the road; our performers, who continue to amaze us with their talent; all the workers behind the scenes building sets, costumes, make up, props etc. etc. the buildings team and the technicians who keep the lights on and computer going, the marketeers who produce the programme and manage the website.

There are those who hire and book in shows from touring companies, the Gallery team who keep the Gallery open 50 weeks a year with ever changing artists then the Front of House team; Box Office staff, ticket checkers, programmes and ice cream sellers, staff who man and stock the bar, and the front of house managers, all warmly welcoming our audiences.

Keeping our building going and all the services working costs a great deal of time and money. We must thank the providers of our four main sources of income; Music & Drama, Gallery, Room hire and of course, the membership. Then there are the Fundraisers, who put the icing on the cake, 'Funding our Future.'

We must give particular thanks to our supporters, Rutters Solicitors, Proctor, Watts, Cole and Rutter, The Shaftesbury Charitable Trust and the Town Council for their regular and supportive grants and to our advertisers for helping to pay for our programme and its distribution.

Finally, thanks to the directors who have supported me throughout the year and kept the ship on a steady course. As 'management' we have to make some difficult choices, choices that may not please all of the people all of the time but many that most people will not even know about like installing a new credit card machine, haggling with insurers or purchasing an evacuation chair. The directors have worked very hard as a team and I regard it as a privilege to have worked with them.

*Jenny Parker*

## Gold Hill Museum

### EVENTS 2018 – 2019

Our temporary exhibitions for 2018 included in the Large Exhibition Room a snapshot of 1930's life on A Small Dairy Farm in the Blackmore Vale. Creator

Janet Swiss aimed to show how farming was still largely dependent on heavy manual labour. Shaftesbury-based BV Dairy kindly sponsored this exhibition and Found Underground in the Small Exhibition Room. Here you could uncover, handle and interpret sixteen mystery objects unearthed by local residents when digging their gardens and allotments. On Saturday morning 14 July Ciorstaidh Trevarthen, the Finds Liaison Officer for Dorset, was on hand in the Garden Room to help identify any found objects brought into the Museum. On Wednesday 28 March at 4.30p.m. over 40 members and friends of The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society attended the official launch party of Shaftesbury Through Time. This lavishly illustrated book by Roger Guttridge draws on photographs from the Museum Collection.

Other events included:

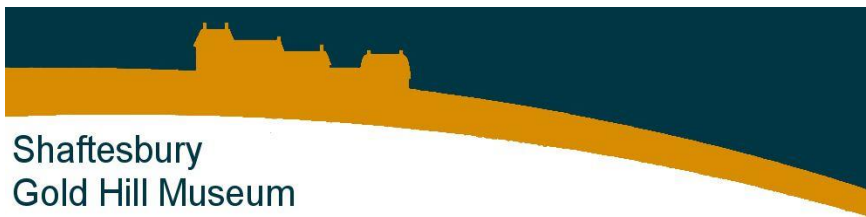
Saturday 05 – Friday 11 May: The annual and impressive Spring Exhibition in the Garden Room by members of Shaftesbury Camera Club.

Monday 25 June – Monday 02 July: The welcome return of the Tibetan monks of Tashi Lhunpo Monastery who created a sand mandala in the Garden Room, and then ceremonially destroyed it.

Tuesday 04 December at 5.30p.m: the official launch of Sir John Stuttard's new book on John Rutter (1796-1851): The Turbulent Quaker of Shaftesbury (published by Hobnob Press on behalf of The S&DHS, to whom the author is kindly donating the net proceeds from sales). Much of the research was conducted in the archives and library of Gold Hill Museum.

Over the winter period Gold Hill Museum offers a series of monthly lectures for members of the local history society and for the public. This continues on Tuesday 05 March 2019 at 2.30p.m. when Jack Bath, Curator, and David Caddy, Trustee, at Shillingstone Railway Museum, will give an illustrated talk on The Station They Never Closed.

## Shaftesbury Gold Hill Museum



## ABOUT US

- Free entry, but we rely on donations from our 20,000 visitors to meet running costs
- At the moment we are fundraising for the installation of Hard of Hearing Systems in the Museum
- An HLF-backed Community Project to collect family stories from the time of the First World War has created and continues to update the Shaftesbury Remembers website. <https://shaftesbury-remembers.goldhillmuseum.org.uk>
- Regular Reminiscence Afternoons held at Shaftesbury Library
- A programme of All-Age educational activities organised jointly with Shaftesbury Abbey Museum
- Local History library and archive available for research
- Anna McDowell Garden Room available for booking and hosting visiting events
- The S&DHS and Gold Hill Museum are run entirely by volunteers. We are always in need of more help greeting our visitors and working behind the scenes. Full training given

## CONTACT US

### Address

Gold Hill Museum  
Gold Hill  
Shaftesbury  
Dorset  
SP7 8JW  
Tel: 01747 852157

### Email

General enquiries:  
[enquiries@goldhillmuseum.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@goldhillmuseum.org.uk)  
Research enquiries:  
[library@goldhillmuseum.org.uk](mailto:library@goldhillmuseum.org.uk)  
Constantly updated News Blog at  
<https://www.goldhillmuseum.org.uk>  
Registered Charity Number: 1156273



## Gillingham, Mere & Shaftesbury Lions Club

Why don't you try something different in 2019. Support your local area. Volunteer & join GMS Lions. We have lots of exciting social events. Our members range from twenty four to eighty one. They come from all walks of

life. Give something back to your local community.

We meet twice a month in the Town Hall, Gillingham and are always looking for new members to join us. For more information or to get involved, please contact Janet Davis on 01747 835468. Also we can be also contacted by our website <http://gmslions.org.uk/> or on our Facebook GMS Lions.

### Some of the donations we have made so far this year were for:

Hipp Bones  
Julia's House  
Dors & Som Air Ambulance  
Wiltshire Air Ambulance  
Read Easy  
Scouts

Lions Clubs are a group of men and women who identify needs within the community and work together to fulfil those needs.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organisation with nearly 1.3 million members in approximately 45,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas around the world. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired and made a strong commitment to community service and youth throughout the world.



### Lindlar Hall and the new Guide Hall

Lindlar Hall is a community hall situated in Lindlar Close near to Shaftesbury Primary School. It has recently been fitted with new flooring after a burst pipe caused severe flooding in the autumn. The hall has a good-sized kitchen and free WiFi connection. At present it is hired out by several different groups such as Karate, Martial Arts, Job Club, Adult learning and occasional children's parties and social gatherings.

To book the Hall please contact Mary Chesterfield on 01747 853231.

The Shaftesbury Community Association is grateful to the Town Council for Community Grant donations over the years which have helped with the upkeep of the hall.

The new Guide Hall building is fully underway. The shell of the building is complete, the roof is on and the windows are in. The hope is that it will be completed by June. This has been a very exciting project which will benefit the Guides and Brownies by providing them with their own base.





## Shaftesbury Flower Arranging Group. Annual Report 2018



All meetings were well attended with new members and visitors enjoying our programme including demonstrations and workshops at both basic and advanced levels.

We took part in the Shaftesbury Food Festival and had a stand inside the Abbey grounds to demonstrate flower arranging and publicise the group; we also took part in the events at the library with the same intentions and look forward to that bearing fruit in the form of some more new members.

Our outing in June to Compton Acres Garden was again very well supported with member and friends enjoying lovely weather and cream teas during the visit.

Gillingham & Shaftesbury Show Horticultural tent always draws competition entries in Floral Art; an increased number of competitors from the group this year resulted in winning all the trophies bar one. A goal for next year!

Some dedicated members arrange seasonal and event silk flowers in three Shaftesbury Nursing Homes much to the delight of Residents, Staff and Visitors alike. The flowers are provided and cared for by the group and provide a link with these vital organisations. Some members of our group are also Church Flower Arrangers within the Salisbury Diocese and take part in festivals and fund raising. We are also affiliated to the Dorset & Guernsey Area of NAFAS and through them to the National Association of Flower Arranging Societies.



Next year, 2020, we celebrate our 70th Anniversary and plans are being made to commemorate the event. We always want to recruit new members and we welcome visitors to our regular meetings on the third Monday of most months at the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Interested? Contact our Chairman Liz Flower. 01747 840361

or Secretary Chris Ridout. 01747 830980 we would be pleased to welcome you.



## Shaftesbury Town Twinning



Shaftesbury Town Twinning Association had a successful year in 2018 with membership numbers increasing, and two very successful visits : we had the largest number travelling to our Twin Town in France, Brionne, for many years, and enjoyed a memorable weekend participating in their celebrations of the end of the First World War ; 37 visitors also came over from Lindlar in May and were well entertained by their hosts.

We are indebted to the generous awards of a grant of £1000 by Shaftesbury Town Council to help us fund the German visit ... with attendant benefits for local shops and restaurants ..and also to engage in a tripartite meeting with our friends from Brionne and Lindlar to develop strategies for the next 5 years to establish greater awareness and participation in Twinning.



The Association continues to engage in fund raising activities and has supported both Gold Hill Fair and Late Night Shopping events. Other activities have included Quiz and Skittles Nights and Barbecues (when if course it is guaranteed to rain! ) Further information about the Association can be obtained from Roy Mitchell – email roy.mitchell53@btinternet.com – or on 01747 858219

## Shaftesbury Rotary Report February 2019

Shaftesbury Rotary runs the following major annual events

- **Gold Hill Fair** – This has been a regular Shaftesbury summer event for over thirty years and has raised many thousands of pounds over this time. We are grateful for the support of the Town Council. We are also grateful for the support of a wide range of Shaftesbury community organisations who have helped us make the Fair a success year after year.
- **Cycle event** – the 2018 ride was our third and raised £6,000. We are hoping to do better still with our next event on May 19th
- **Golf Day** – an annual golf day at Rushmore, it too has been held regularly for many years and has raised many thousands.
- **Kidsout** – a day at Longleat for children from Yewstock School
- **Circus Beserkus** – a recent innovation, this is a day of circus skills training and entertainment for specially deserving children, held a little before Christmas in Shaftesbury School hall.
- And a number of other smaller events, street collections and support provided to other organisations such as Shaftesbury Snowdrops and Shaftesbury School.

We have an on-going Cycle Speedway project which we hope will come to fruition in the near future. This will provide an exercise and recreational facility for the young and the young at heart.

Rotary runs a number of young person's competitions. In early 2018 we had an entrant in the Rotary Young Chef District competition. This was in association with Shaftesbury School. We plan to repeat this and to enter other Rotary youth competitions.

We are seeking to build closer links with the School in furtherance of our aim of being fully involved with the community of Shaftesbury. We were particularly pleased to help the school by taking part in their mock interviews as we have for the last several years.

We have a business partners' scheme with around sixty members the proceeds of which are specifically for the community of Shaftesbury. Some of our business partners also give practical support to our fundraising activities.

We meet regularly with two speaker meetings and one business meeting every month, and other events and social activities involving our partners, friends and our Business partners.

More detail is available at <https://shaftesburyrotaryclub.org/>

### Donations

The income from these fundraising activities allowed us in the Rotary financial year ending June 30th 2018 to make donations totalling £18,458.

### Of this:-

- Donations to the local community totalled £12,210. Some of these were given to local persons in special need often as a result of illness but most was given to a range of local organisations.
- International donations totalled £6248. Major recipients include Shelterbox which provides tents and immediately necessary equipment for families in disaster areas worldwide, and the Rotary Polio Plus project which works with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation with the aim of achieving the total eradication of polio worldwide.

In the half financial year 2018 to 2019 to date we have donated a total of £16175 to a range of good causes both local and further afield.

### Joining us

We are happy to welcome new members who should have a responsible position in their profession or business, but above all, real enthusiasm to join us in our range of activities working in, and for the community of Shaftesbury. We welcome new members and are fully inclusive regardless of age, gender, or disability. We can be contacted through [hello@shaftesburyrotaryclub.org](mailto:hello@shaftesburyrotaryclub.org)

### Shaftesbury Rotary

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### Shaftesbury Snowdrops Project - April 2018 to March 2019

In February 2019, Snowdrop Season was once again marked by the volunteer-run Shaftesbury Snowdrops Project with a seventh annual series of events and sixth study day, bringing much-needed brightness and busyness to our town towards the end of the winter. Mass plantings round the town continue to thrive and spread; the heritage collection of rare varieties, cared for at a nursery in town by volunteers, was displayed again at the Abbey Museum & Gardens; after the lantern-making workshops, the lantern parade at dusk was led by the Mayor, ending with ceremonies in the Park MC'd by the Deputy Mayor and a ceilidh in the Town Hall run by Steps In Time folk-dance group. The Project is grateful to the Town Council for past grants, support in kind by the grounds team, and continuing encouragement from individual councillors. The Project always welcomes new volunteers to help with any of the above activities, get in touch via [info@shaftesburysnowdrops.org](mailto:info@shaftesburysnowdrops.org).



### Rolt Millennium Green - April 2018 to March 2019

Volunteers act as Trustees and work to maintain and develop the delightful gardens of the Millennium Green, a breathing space tucked away in St James. The Trustees are grateful for grants from the Town Council for the cost of public liability insurance. In 2018-19 a re-vitalised team of gardening volunteers has rejuvenated the Green, with very positive feedback from many visitors. The Green laid on a refreshment stall for St James Open Gardens in summer 2018, and held a successful community picnic to mark the Royal Wedding (Harry and Meghan), with music by Sam Skey and balloon-animal making for children. New volunteers to join our small but lively team of Trustees are welcome, contact the Treasurer c/o 6 Tanyard Lane, SP7 8HW.



### Home-grown community farm - April 2018 to March 2019



Volunteers look after the sheep, hens, bees and vegetable-beds at the 4-acre community farm in Breach Lane. The Farm are grateful to the Town Council for a grant that enabled the purchase of a new hen-house a couple of years back, as well as for continuing support in kind from the grounds team via deliveries of wood-chip that is used as mulch and to suppress weeds or grass between the beds.



## **Future of the Town Council and the NHS in North Dorset – 2018 – 2019 Annual Report**

Looking back to the end of 2015 and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group's proposals for the future of the Westminster Memorial Hospital, it is a quite exceptional opportunity to reflect on the contribution this Council has made to the stability of NHS Services in North Dorset.

At the end of 2015 The Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group completed their internal review of the provision of NHS services throughout Dorset. Their proposals for the Westminster Memorial Hospital in Shaftesbury were that the remaining 16 beds should be closed. The Hospital has served the community for 135 years and closing these beds made no sense. The proposals also included other changes that were interlinked with the bed closures.

These beds serve a huge community around Shaftesbury and Gillingham and across the borders of South West Wiltshire and parts of Somerset.

Shaftesbury Town Council supported by Gillingham Town Council and the MPs (Simon Hoare from North Dorset, Andrew Murrison from South West Wiltshire and David Warburton from Somerset) and with the Save Our Beds campaign organised by Julian Prichard, challenged the DCCG to re-assess their proposals in light of evidence that they had failed to assess fully the needs for the cross-border communities and for the Shaftesbury population. The "Public Consultation" process response overwhelmingly supported the challenge.

When the DCCG announced their decisions following their evaluation of the Public Consultation in September 2016, the DCCG accepted the validity of the challenge and they agreed immediately that they would work with the community to find acceptable alternative measures – within existing resources – and for the foreseeable future retain the beds until such time as realistic resources became available.

The original role of the Town Council's Working Group has been fulfilled.

A Working Group from the NHS was formed; the Shaftesbury, Gillingham, West Wiltshire and Somerset Reference Group. This is made up from NHS experts from all fields and representatives from all the major "stakeholders" in the community. This has led to substantial benefits for the community. Pro-active treatment where the emphasis is on ensuring that people are less dependent on Acute Hospital services and where Social Services and Health Care staff are working as integrated teams.

Shaftesbury Town Council has been a participant from the start and what is now very clear is that the value to the community of the Town Council keeping a long-term interest in any future developments within the National Health Services in Shaftesbury and North Dorset, is vital. The Council should and must be involved in the years ahead. The Council has a part to play on behalf its electorate, in the way Health and Social Care services are delivered to "our" community in the future.

Collaborative working is essential. It is in all our interests. The Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, Planning (including the Neighbourhood plan) and the Locality Healthcare System which more and more will be concentrating on proactively keeping people at home where possible.

There has been some amazing work going on in the last two years with the development of rapid response short term care in North Dorset. The integration of Social Service staff with the NHS teams has been developed and is establishing greater support for those who need input from both services.

### **Mental Health Services**

Mental Health Services in North Dorset has been poorly served in the last few years. Melanie Costas has, single handedly and single minded, fought for improvements and has just announced that she has .. " been successful in my grant application to be able to launch SOMH! Save Our Mental Health as a Social Enterprise." My plan is to launch SOMH! With a series of 'pop up' information events throughout North Dorset, to engage with the wider public re tackling and challenging the inequality rural vs urban mental health support services. The longer term aim of SOMH! is to raise enough funding to be able to provide an outreach service throughout North Dorset,

using a mobile unit (or bus) to breakdown the stigma, raise awareness and provide information/signposting regarding mental health issues. Alongside this, I hope for a permanent presence on the high street such as a shop/unit in Shaftesbury or Gillingham. The bus/mobile unit would be available for hire at events or at corporations on site to promote awareness, thus raising funds to be able to reinvest back into the Social Enterprise.

### General

The Town Clerk and I are members of the Shaftesbury, Gillingham, West Wiltshire and Somerset Reference Group and this link is important so that there is a constant opportunity to exchange views and information. When the new Council is active from May, a Councillor Representative would be a valuable part of the processes.

I will not be standing for the future. I have been privileged to be a member of the Council since 2011 (with a 2 year gap) and I have many friendships as a result which I value highly. The last 3 years I have concentrated on the Health issues with the Council's agreement.

*Anthony Austin*

### Shaftesbury Carnival Club

In the last four years the Council has been transformed and it has been an honour and privilege to be part of this.

This has been an eventful year for Shaftesbury Carnival, with a strong committee hard working enthusiastic members of all ages, which is the envy of many Carnival groups across the South West.

The aim of our team is to preserve the long traditions of Shaftesbury Carnival which stretch back as you will be well aware at least 140 years, whilst at the same time, raising valuable funds for our local groups and charities.

This year we decided to spread our donations more widely, giving smaller amounts to a larger number of groups, a decision which we are reviewing for the year ahead.

We have had to, as usual had to hold a number of fund raising events throughout the year to meet the ever rising costs of maintaining this important local event, and were dealt a savage blow in July when appalling weather, after weeks of sunshine, caused the abandonment of our car show, which is one of our most important events of the year.

The carnival itself was an amazing success, with massive crowds, hundreds of children taking part in the afternoon parade, and a brilliant evening procession, winning the prestigious award of best carnival in Wessex award. This was a wonderful accolade for our hard-working committee, and their friends who help throughout the year.

Sadly, despite the large crowds, the street collections bring in only about 20% of the direct cost of staging this event, the rest as already alluded to is raised by staging events throughout the year, and very generous sponsorship by local companies and individuals, without which there would be no carnival.

In the year ahead we will need to purchase more road signs, bunting, and many more items that wear out and need replacing but are not downhearted.

We are grateful to the town council as ever for their important and valuable support, again, without which there would be no carnival, here is to the year ahead!



## Blackmore Vale Line Community Rail Partnership (BVCRP)

Blackmore Vale Line Community Rail Partnership (BVCRP) is the local rail partnership covering the stations from Tisbury to Crewkerne. The 80-mile scenic route travels across the three counties of Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire connecting the six stations of Crewkerne, Yeovil Junction, Sherborne, Templecombe, Gillingham and Tisbury. It takes in the most picturesque countryside, skirting the ANOB Blackdown Hills, the Blackmore Vale, the Vale of Wardour and the Nadder Valley, connecting with the many walks including the Liberty Trail and National Cycle Routes along the way.



BVCRP was set up in January 2016 and officially launched in March 2016 as a result of a franchise pledge by South West Trains. BVCRP is strengthened by the commitment of South West Trains, the main funder and its responsibility for the development and implementation of a community rail strategy. The core aims are to promote the area to prospective rail passengers and to encourage community involvement by working with local people to improve the stations belonging to the rail partnership.

BVCRP is a joint enterprise involving local groups, people and businesses. It is non-profit making and its membership is open to local people and representatives of commercial, statutory and voluntary organisations who are interested in promoting its core aims.

This year has got off to a flying start and is going to be big on promotion of the partnership and of the stations along the line.

Two new leaflets have been designed, printed and are in the process of being distributed to stations, tourist organisations and local businesses. (1) Information about BVCRP & (2) How to get Involved.

The Partnership is in the process of producing its first Line Guide working with a local Graphic Designer who has been commissioned to design it. The Line Guide plans to promote and celebrate local attractions to encourage rail-users to travel to the area. Plan a launch for April/ May

The other big project of 2019 is First World War project to honour the memory of those who died during the First World War and who lived in the station towns and villages. Using an image of Waterloo Memorial as a template for our memorial plaques the aim is to produce six memorial plaques honouring the fallen railway workers of WW1.

Part 1: Work is complete - Finding and identifying those who died in the First World War for 14 towns and villages. Just under 2,000 who died have been found, identified and biographies researched. Staggering results show nearly half of these (950) are not commemorated on the village and town memorials. A new book of remembrance has been produced with this information in it. 'The Fallen of the First World War from the towns & villages of the Blackmore Vale Railway Line' which costs £15. A book launch is planned for Thursday 21st March at Castle Gardens Sherborne.

Part 2 of the project is to find and identify from the research above the names of the railway workers for the memorials. Station towns and villages in the project are: Crewkerne (& Misterton), Yeovil Junction (Barwick, Stoford, Bradford Abbas and Yeovil) Sherborne, Templecombe, Gillingham and Tisbury stations as well as the redundant stations of Dinton, Semley, Milborne Port, Yeovil Town and Sutton Bingham. We are looking for volunteers who would like to help with the research as well as reaching out to anyone who has a railway worker ancestor who died, who worked at any of the above mentioned stations, as we'd would like to honour them on one of our boards. We'd love to hear from you.

Email [blackmorevalecrp@gmail.com](mailto:blackmorevalecrp@gmail.com).



## Report on Shaftesbury Youth Club 2018/2019

Shaftesbury Youth Club is still thriving on the 2 nights we open Monday and Thursday evenings with the young people enjoying activities from sports arts and crafts to cooking. We have a group of young people who give up their time to help run these activities voluntary along with myself (Heather Sanger), Tracey Witcher and Yvonne Sherlock.

We open a couple of days during the holidays when the club is free for drop in sessions where we offer lunch that is prepared and cooked by the young people and well as putting on different activities.

Little Giants is still going strong which runs on the second Saturday of the month in the morning which is for young people and children with a range of special needs where parents and carers can come along and relax enjoy a cuppa while their children are entertained with an assortment of different activities, we have families come from as far as Bere Regis and Blandford way. St Mary's Girls School, Shaftesbury send a small group of girls to help out as part of their enrichment programme which is lovely to see able body young people mixing with the young people and children who come along to the group.

We are always fund raising to support what we do especially with the purchasing of materials for arts and crafts and buying specialist items for Little Giants.

Hall hire is very busy with a waiting list for when slots become available.

Our dream is to extend the front of the building to facilitate another sensory room and a specially equipped changing room and toilet with a full size changing table and hoist for people who are disabled and need to be changed can have this done with dignity and not have to make do with being changed the floor of a disabled toilet. We would make this available for the use of the general public with the use of a RADAR key as well as the parents and carers who attend Little Giants having a proper facility to use when their children need to be changed. So perhaps with the help and support of our local council this dream could become a reality.

Thank you for your support.

*Heather Sanger*

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## Planet Shaftesbury

**Planet Shaftesbury** began in January 2019 as a group for local people who are passionate about climate change and related issues (waste, plastics, biodiversity loss etc.). It is the centre of a local network of independent initiatives and projects working towards public and political recognition of the climate emergency. Our meetings are a place where we can share and develop ideas as well as inform others within the network of our activities and progress. They take place in the Town Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month, usually starting at 7.30pm.

Website: <https://www.planetshaftesbury.org>



## Shaftesbury Cricket Club – Report 2018

2018 marked the 170<sup>th</sup>. anniversary of the club and proved to be, probably, our most successful year in all this time.

As well as running the ECB All Stars course for 5 -8 yr. olds we also had teams at U.9, U.13 and U.15 entered in the North Dorset League structure. We again entered the Ranston Evening League and after promotion last year had our 1<sup>st</sup>. Saturday XI playing in Division 3. A new initiative made to encourage our older youth players to make the transition into adult cricket, saw us enter a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Saturday XI in Division 6.

Amazingly we ended the season with four of these teams having won their respective leagues. The U.15 team won the league and reached the cup final, the Ranston Evening League team did likewise by winning their league and reaching the cup final and both of the Saturday teams won their leagues. Our achievements were recognised by the Dorset League when we were awarded the Dorset 'Club of the Year' Trophy.



Off the field we continued to develop our facilities with the purchase of a second-hand fairway mower and then the building of a new garage to keep it in. Both of these projects were part funded by grants from Shaftesbury Town Council.

We enter 2019 with renewed enthusiasm and continue to offer cricket coaching and competitive games to all from 5yrs. onwards. Our off-field project is to refurbish our kitchen and to continue to offer a welcoming, safe and family friendly environment to all in Shaftesbury and the surrounding area.

**1st Shaftesbury Scout Group Annual Report 2019.**

The group continues to be as popular as ever. Membership in all sections is strong, with young people waiting to join at a minimum.

With a committed and dedicated leadership team in all sections, giving brilliant diverse programmes and outdoor experiences to all the young people. Scouting is a success in Shaftesbury. I thank all my leaders, executive officers and committee members sincerely, for their time given.



The Scout hall in the Trinity Centre is completed, offering a versatile community hall, during the day and at certain times

It has been quite challenging, but we are there now. I know that there are concerns that the Scout Group has lost some of its identity regarding the hall. Reality is that we have to move forward hiring it out to others, which will financially support the group and the Trinity Trust, this in the long term will hopefully keep the building securely safe for generations to come.

I would like to congratulate Verity and Gemma Appleby, on completing their training and gaining their five-year service award this year, in the beaver scout section. Some of the younger members have gained their Chief Scout Awards within the sections. Well done to you all.

The group prides itself on supporting and being involved in the community. We support the local Carnival, and I was particularly proud with the group's attendance at Remembrance Sunday.

This year The St Georges Day celebration will fall on Easter Sunday. As a group we are going to celebrate on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>, using Trinity and the grounds for a special activity afternoon. We will parade as a group and with our flags to the Town Hall to renew the Scout Promise.

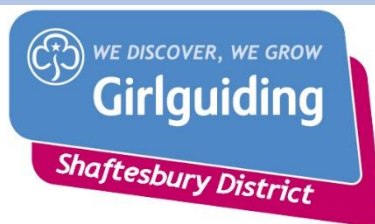
As technology is such a part of our lives, the group is now active in all sections on a wonderful scheme called OSM (On Line Scout Manager) County has covered the cost for this. It means that the leaders can do everything on line, i.e. weekly, programming and so much more. It has helped many leaders once data has been inputted, details can be transferred by the press of a button.

The success of the group, is a strong dedicated leadership team and a supportive Executive committee. Thank you.

Jenny Merefield (GSL 1st Shaftesbury)







### Shaftesbury District Guides.



The District Guides have started a new Ranger Unit in Shaftesbury for girls aged 14 to 18 years and is going well. All other units Rainbows, Brownies and Guides have a good number of girls in attendance each week. A new Programme was introduced by Girlguiding and was started by all units in January. This programme provides a good basic structure to Girlguiding with lots of ideas, activities and the opportunity to gain Skill building and Interest badges throughout their time with the groups.

Although we already have a good number of Leaders, we are in need of new Leaders to be trained to help in all sections to help us continue with the number of girls that want to be part of Girlguiding in Shaftesbury.

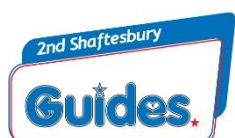
Our New Guide Hall project is going well; the outside of the building is complete with doors and windows in. (photograph attached). The people of Shaftesbury have been very supportive of this project with many donations received and our own fund raising events. We now have to complete the inside with plastering, flooring, heating, electrical, cupboards and furnishings and will be looking to raise a further £15 K to finish the inside to building regulation standard. We will be doing this work with professional volunteers and hope to get it complete by the Autumn if funds allow.

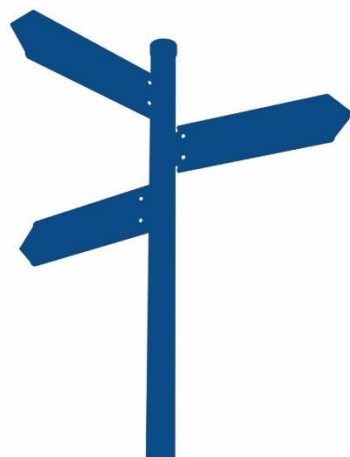


17 men volunteered to lay the block & beam floor in August 2018



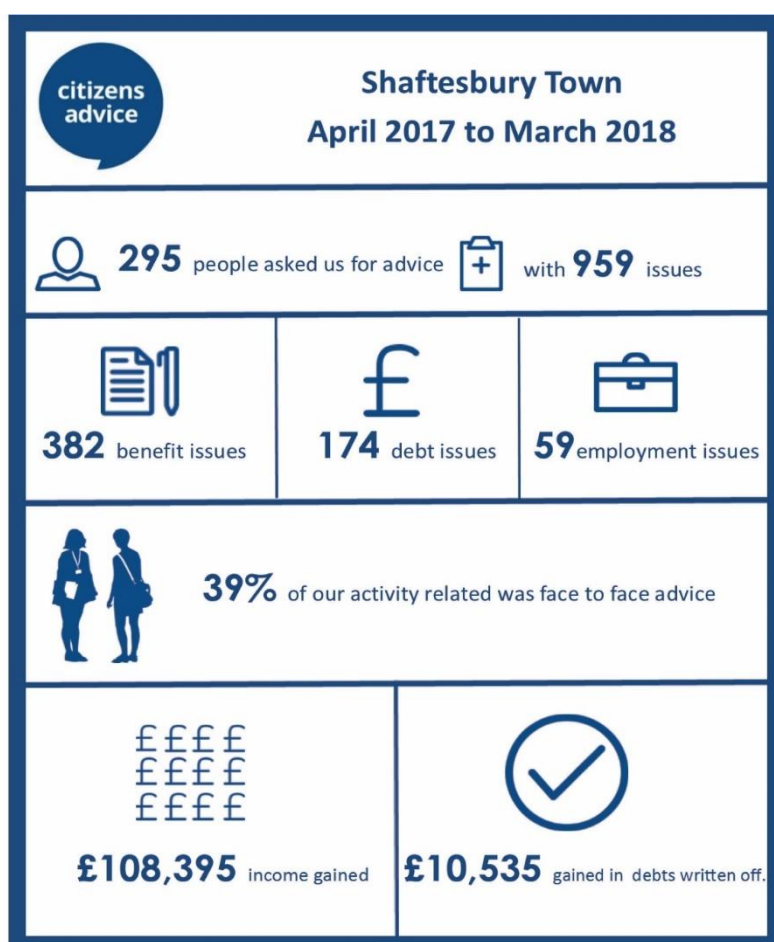
The New Guide Hall to date.





## Impact Report 2018

### Shaftesbury Town Council



This purpose of this report is to describe the advice provided to residents of Shaftesbury during the period April 2017 to March 2018, and to demonstrate the impact of that advice.

## OUR ORGANISATION

### About Us

In April 2017, North Dorset Citizens Advice merged with Citizens Advice Dorchester and Sherborne and Districts to form a new organisation: **Citizens Advice Dorchester, Sherborne & Districts and North Dorset**. The organisation has its registered office in Dorchester, retaining three main offices – Dorchester, Sherborne and Gillingham from where we deliver our advice service.

The organisation operates within the boundaries of North Dorset District Council and West Dorset District Council, with an overall population of 172,440<sup>1</sup>.

Citizens Advice Dorchester, Sherborne & Districts and North Dorset is a local charity and a member of Citizens Advice nationally and Citizens Advice in Dorset (CAiD). The organisation has a Trustee board responsible for strategic development and a small management team.

The Indices of Deprivation 2010 shows that 20 areas of North Dorset are in the top 20% of deprived areas with barriers to housing and key local services, this reflects the rural nature of North Dorset where there is a population density of 117 people per km<sup>2</sup> compared to the national average of 387 people per km<sup>2</sup>. We respond to this by offering services across North Dorset, including:

- Access to advice by telephone, email, and letter, by calling into drop in sessions or attending appointments at our main office in Gillingham or at one of our outreaches.
- Being part of Dorset Adviceline which is a service jointly staffed by all Dorset Local Citizens Advice offices. This allows local residents to access a phone service from 10am to 4pm from Monday to Friday.
- Providing advice that is:

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Mid-2016 Population Density for LSOAs<sup>1</sup> in England and Wales – Office for National Statistic



- Quality assured in accordance with the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureau (NACAB) principles of independence, impartiality, confidentiality and equal opportunities
- Free of charge at the point of delivery to individuals, including statutory/voluntary agencies and private sector businesses
- Available on all subjects with the most frequent issues being welfare benefits, debt, employment and housing.

### **2018-19 and beyond**

We continue to benefit from the merger in April 2017 which has resulted in a strong, resilient organisation making the most of our scarce resources in an efficient and effective manner. We benefit from economies of scale whilst maintaining our focus on our local communities providing a local advice service for local people.

We will continue to maintain our face to face services throughout North Dorset whilst broadening access to our advice through new technology such as Skype and webchat. We are proud of our presence in the market towns of the district and, where our resources allow, we will continue to develop these in response to increased demand.

Our service depends on the commitment of our volunteers and we will continue to recruit and train volunteers across the area to expand capacity and increase our ability to help and support local residents.

As the Dorset councils move towards unitary status, we will continue to work with other local Citizens Advice offices in Dorset and with the Citizens Advice in Dorset consortium to look for opportunities to share resources and work together more efficiently.

## **HOW WE SPENT YOUR MONEY**

The funding you gives us enables us to continue to deliver our core advice service in the Shaftesbury area - free, confidential, independent and impartial advice to anyone, regardless of age, race, gender, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability or religious belief.

In particular, this means recruiting, training and supporting a team of volunteers to be able to help and support local residents with the problems they face, and also contributing substantially to our overheads - travel expenses, premises and office costs and the salaries of our small number of paid staff. [Appendix A](#) gives more information about our team in North Dorset.

### THE SERVICE WE OFFER

In Shaftesbury, we offer drop in and appointments on Wednesday mornings, available to residents of Shaftesbury and the surrounding area. We offer the full range of advice, information and casework covering all subject areas.

Shaftesbury residents can also access our services in Gillingham and Sherborne (5 days a week), Stalbridge (Tuesday morning) and Blandford (Monday and Tuesday morning).

In addition, Shaftesbury residents can access our Dorset Adviceline telephone service from Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm or email us if that is more convenient.

### WHO WE HELPED

During 2017-18, we assisted **295** clients from the Shaftesbury area, a slight fall from 334 in 2016-17. These can be shown in the following table by ward:

Ward	Residents helped 2016-17	Residents helped 2017-18
Shaftesbury East	174	154
Shaftesbury West	160	141
<b>Total</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>295</b>

*Source: Casebook CP1*

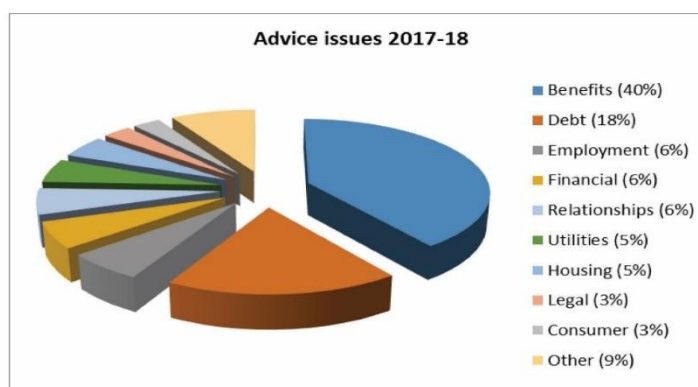
**39%** of our activity related to Shaftesbury residents in 2017-18 was face to face advice, **33%** was phone advice and **11%** was email or letter. Our remaining activity was administrative in nature.

**92%** of our clients from Shaftesbury were White British with **2%** from BAME backgrounds. **38%** of clients from Shaftesbury were disabled or had a long term health condition.

### WHAT WE HELPED PEOPLE WITH

Clients who seek our help often have a number of different problems to resolve. In 2017-18, we dealt with a total number of **959** advice issues when assisting clients from the Shaftesbury area, a slight drop from 1,281 in 2016-17. These issues are broken down by ward in [Appendix B](#).

The majority of issues related to welfare benefits (40%) with debt being the second highest issue. The graph on the following page shows the breakdown of areas of enquiry.



## THE IMPACT WE MADE

### Financial Outcomes

During 2017-18, we were successful in gaining over **£108,395** in additional income for residents of the Shaftesbury area, an average of over **£267** per client. An additional **£1,645** was gained in re-imbursements, services and loans and **£10,535** in debts written off.

### Client's stories from North Dorset\*

#### *Felicity's story*

Felicity was in her fifties and had suffered from severe mental health issues for a long time. In February 2017, she dropped into one of our rural outreaches with her support worker, concerned that her application for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) had been turned down, and that her Disability Living Allowance (DLA) was soon to come to an end.

We supported Felicity to apply for mandatory reconsideration but this was also turned down – she was assessed as scoring 0 points despite having support from her GP.

We then helped Felicity to appeal the decision, completing the appeal form and preparing the paperwork. Felicity's mental health support worker was prepared to attend the tribunal with her so we spent some time with her explaining what to expect.

**Felicity's appeal was successful and she was awarded enhanced daily living and standard mobility PIP - over £5,400 a year.**

#### *Ezra's story*

Ezra was a single father of two, living in social housing on a very low income. He had numerous debts adding up to over £14,000 exacerbated by the cost of picking up his children from their mother every weekend (a round trip of 60 miles).

Ezra came to us when he was visited by an Enforcement officer as a result of his council tax arrears, and was at risk of eviction for non payment of his rent. Since moving into the property six months before, Ezra had paid no utility bills. He wanted to get his debts under control and maximise his income so that his daughter could come and live with him.

We immediately contacted the local authority and requested a hold on the enforcement process. We also contacted the housing association and informed them that we were working with Ezra to deal with his debts. We completed a budgeting pack with him to understand his income and outgoings and encouraged him to make contact with his utility providers and request a key meter. We also made an application to the Wessex Water Assist scheme – a social tariff designed for people on low income in financial difficulties.

Finally, we helped Ezra apply for a Debt Relief Order and applied to the Lighthouse Trust charity for help with the £90 fee.

**As a result of our help, Ezra's debts of £14,203 were written off and he was given a fresh start.**



## APPENDIX A- NORTH DORSET TEAM AND CONTACT DETAILS

### North Dorset Team and Contact details

- In March 2018, we had a total of **34 volunteers, including 11 trainees**. Our volunteers fulfil a number of essential roles within the organisation, including gateway assessor, generalist adviser and administrative/support functions.
- In addition, in 2017-18, we had a Trustee Board comprising of **18 trustees/directors**. They provided the oversight for effective governance of the charity.
- The team also comprised **7 paid staff**. Two of these worked in a management/supervisory role supporting the advice delivered. There were 3 caseworkers who deliver specialist projects or areas of advice. These include the advice areas of debt and welfare benefits and the projects of Sure Start Children's Centres and the GP Surgery in Sturminster Newton. Two paid staff work in support functions for the wider team.

### Contact Details

*Daniel Cadisch - Chief Officer*

01305 269051, email: [chiefofficer@dsnd.org.uk](mailto:chiefofficer@dsnd.org.uk)

*Elaine Morley - Advice Services Manager*

01747 834904 (ex-directory), email: [asm-nd@dsnd.org.uk](mailto:asm-nd@dsnd.org.uk)

### Advice Contacts

Dorset Adviceline: 0344 245 1291 (Monday-Friday 10am to 4pm)

Existing enquiries: 01747 835016

Email advice: via website [www.westdorsetca.org.uk](http://www.westdorsetca.org.uk)

## APPENDIX B: ADVICE ISSUES BY WARD

Ward	Benefits	Consumer	Debt	Employment	Financial	Utilities	Housing	Legal	Relationships	Other	Total
Shaftesbury East	209	16	97	36	27	29	14	13	32	44	517
Shaftesbury West	173	11	77	23	29	21	32	15	23	38	442
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>959</b>

Source: Casebook CP3

## MEET THE OFFICERS

### **Claire Commons - Town Clerk**

The role of Clerk is to ensure that the Council as a whole conducts its business properly and to provide independent, objective and professional advice and support.



### **Brie Logan - Business Manager**

The role of Business Manager is to engage with the community and facilitate the delivery of the strategic plan.



### **Tracy Moxham - Finance and Services Officer**

The role of the Finance and Services officer includes being responsible for the Council's accounts and the management of all Council services.



### **Zoe Moxham - Office Administrator**

The role of the Office Administrator is to support all the officers with administrative work and process general enquiries.



### **Andy Dodd - Head Groundsman**

The role of head groundsman is to manage the grounds team and is responsible for the maintenance of all Council owned grounds.

### **Mike Wakely – Senior Groundsman**

### **Andrew Flitcroft - Groundsman**

### **Terry Bugler - Groundsman**

### **Ryan Baker – Swimming Pool Manager**

### **Linda Roberts – Facilities Support Officer**

## COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

A councillor agrees to attend all meetings (reasonably possible) that he or she is summoned to. This may only require one meeting of full council a month. However, along with full council meetings, there are further committee meetings or working groups. Most meetings are held at 7pm in the evening but some committees and group representation may be during the day.

Below are the statistics for the attendance of Councillors at formal Council meetings for the 2018/19 municipal year.

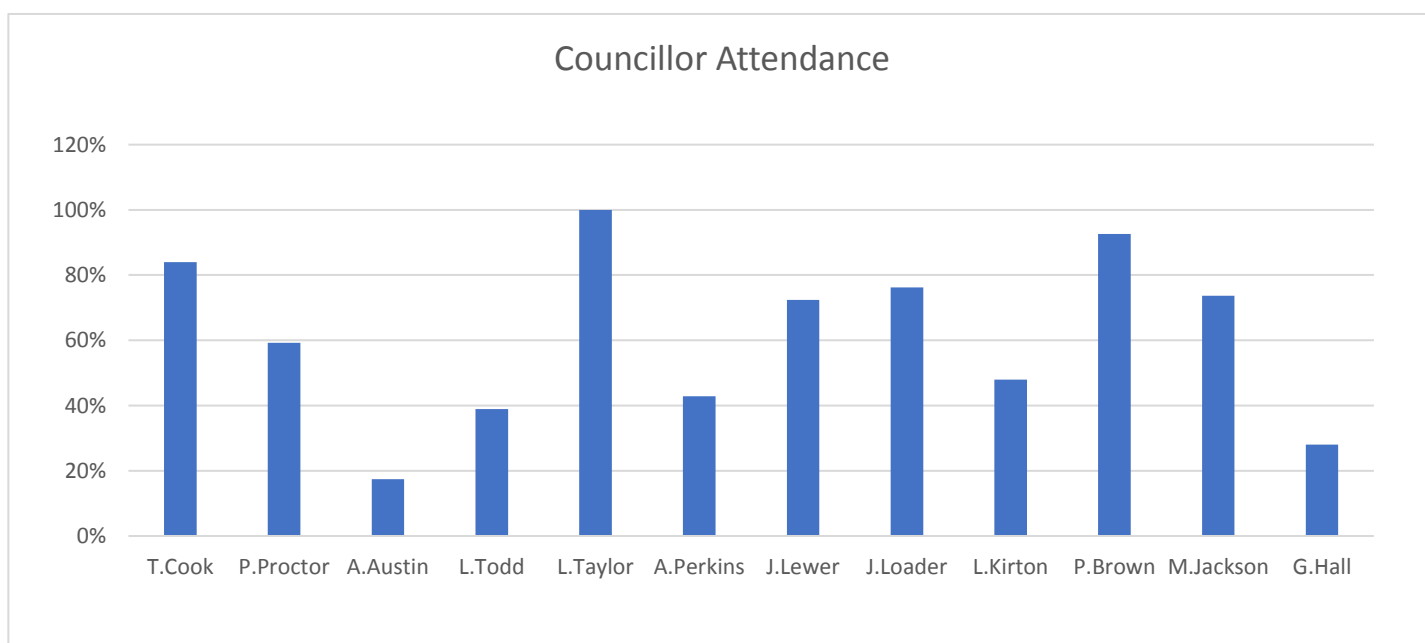
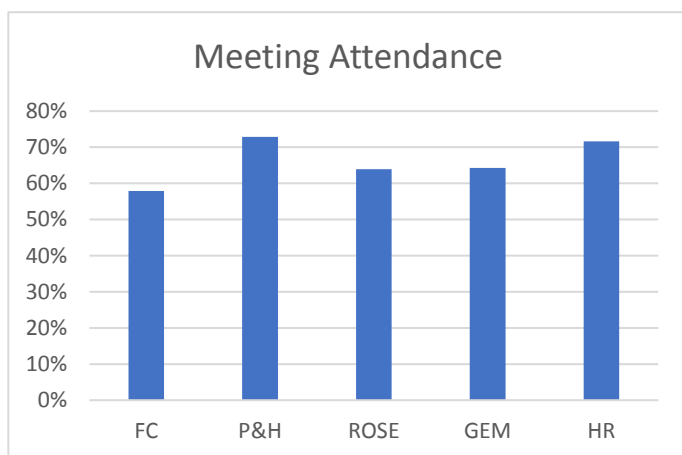
### Key:

**FC - Full Council**

**P&H - Planning and Highways**

**GEM - General Management**

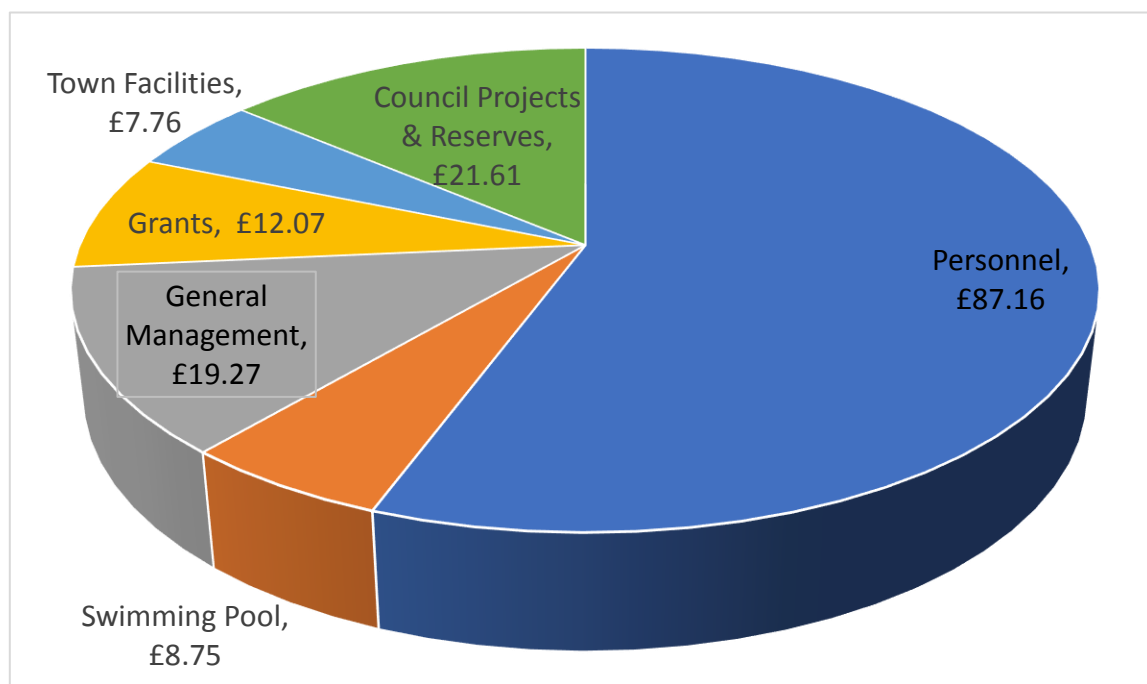
**ROSE- Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment**





## 2019/20 BUDGET

The Town Council submits a request to the council tax authority each year called the precept. This year the council resolved to request £500,996 for 2019/20 which is £156.62 per Band D equivalent household. This means that there has been no increase in the amount of money you will pay for Town Council services in the coming year.



### **Town, Facilities £7.76 per year for:**

Markets, Cemetery, Toilets, Hall Hire, Allotments, Swimming Pool, Parks, Play Areas and Street Cleaning

### **General Management £19.27 per year for:**

Civic Costs, Legal and Professional fees, Books and Subscriptions, Insurance, Printing, Stationery, Postage, Office Equipment including Telephone, Internet and Advertising

### **Council Projects and Reserves £21.61 per year for:**

Street Furniture, Playground Equipment, Grounds Equipment, Capital Expenditure for the Swimming Pool, New Allotments, Town Hall, CCTV, Bus Shelters and Replacement IT Equipment.

### **Grants £12.07 per year for:**

Community Grant Funding

### **Swimming Pool £8.75 per year for:**

Lifeguards, Utilities, Equipment, Consumables, Music

### **Office Personnel £87.16 per year for:**

Town Clerk, Officers and Grounds staff to administer the work of the council and maintain the Council's land, facilities and services.

## CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Meetings of the Council will start at 7pm unless otherwise advertised. Always check the Council's website and noticeboards for the agenda specifying time, date and location as well as the topics for debate. Below is the calendar of meetings as planned for the municipal year starting May 2019.

GEM = General Management Committee

ROSE = Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee

P&H = Planning and Highways Committee

May	June	July	August
14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting	4 <sup>th</sup> GEM	2 <sup>nd</sup> ROSE	13 <sup>th</sup> P&H
21 <sup>st</sup> P&H	18 <sup>th</sup> Council	9 <sup>th</sup> GEM	
28 <sup>th</sup> ROSE	25 <sup>th</sup> P&H	23 <sup>rd</sup> Council	
September	October	November	December
3 <sup>rd</sup> P&H	1 <sup>st</sup> Council	5 <sup>th</sup> P&H	17 <sup>th</sup> P&H
10 <sup>th</sup> ROSE	8 <sup>th</sup> P&H	12 <sup>th</sup> ROSE	
17 <sup>th</sup> GEM	15 <sup>th</sup> ROSE	19 <sup>th</sup> GEM	
	22 <sup>nd</sup> GEM		
	29 <sup>th</sup> Public Budget		
January	February	March	April
14 <sup>th</sup> Council	4 <sup>th</sup> GEM	3 <sup>rd</sup> ROSE	7 <sup>th</sup> ROSE
21 <sup>st</sup> P&H	18 <sup>th</sup> Council	10 <sup>th</sup> GEM	14 <sup>th</sup> GEM
28 <sup>th</sup> ROSE	25 <sup>th</sup> P&H	24 <sup>th</sup> Council	28 <sup>th</sup> Parish Meeting
		31 <sup>st</sup> P&H	

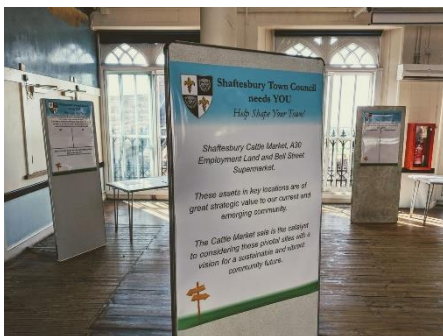
Members of the public are encouraged to attend meetings of the Council and speak at the start of the meeting.

## YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

<p>Cllr Piers Brown Mayor and Chairman of the Council Deputy Mayor Shaftesbury West Ward <a href="mailto:padbrown@icloud.com">padbrown@icloud.com</a> 07511 156811 c/o Shaftesbury Town Council The Town Hall, High Street Shaftesbury SP7 8LY</p>			<p>Cllr Lester Taylor Deputy Mayor Shaftesbury East Ward <a href="mailto:lestertaylor@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">lestertaylor@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 07517 825897 Flat 1, Cann Lodge, Salisbury Road Shaftesbury SP7 8ER</p>
<p>Cllr Anthony Austin Shaftesbury West Ward <a href="mailto:anthonyaustin@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">anthonyaustin@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 01305 260217 Gemma House, 6 North Street Charminster DT2 9QS</p>			<p>Cllr John Lewer Shaftesbury West Ward <a href="mailto:johnlewer@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">johnlewer@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 01747 852710 39 Layton Lane Shaftesbury SP7 8EY</p>
<p>Cllr Tim Cook Shaftesbury East Ward <a href="mailto:timcook@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">timcook@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> c/o 01747 852420 c/o Shaftesbury Town Council The Town Hall, High Street Shaftesbury SP7 8LY</p>			<p>Cllr George Hall Shaftesbury East Ward <a href="mailto:georgehall@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">georgehall@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 07713 100764 36 Yeatmans Close Shaftesbury SP7 8LU</p>
<p>Cllr Mark Jackson Shaftesbury East Ward <a href="mailto:markjackson@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">markjackson@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> c/o 01747 852420 c/o Shaftesbury Town Council The Town Hall, High Street Shaftesbury SP7 8LY</p>			<p>Cllr Luke Kirton Shaftesbury East Ward <a href="mailto:lukekirtton@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">lukekirtton@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> c/o 01747 852420 16 Anstee Road Shaftesbury SP7 8GT</p>
<p>Cllr Jeanne Loader Shaftesbury West Ward <a href="mailto:jeanneloader@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">jeanneloader@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> c/o 01747 852420 c/o Shaftesbury Town Council The Town Hall, High Street Shaftesbury SP7 8LY</p>			<p>Cllr Andy Perkins Shaftesbury West Ward <a href="mailto:andyperkins@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">andyperkins@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 07768 876255 22 St James Street Shaftesbury SP7 8HE</p>
<p>Cllr Philip Proctor Shaftesbury West Ward <a href="mailto:philproctor@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">philproctor@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 01747 852628 Walled Garden, 15 Parsons Pool Shaftesbury SP7 8AL</p>			<p>Cllr Lauren Todd Shaftesbury East Ward <a href="mailto:laurentodd@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk">laurentodd@shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk</a> 01747 853447 31 Blackmore Road Shaftesbury SP7 8RD</p>



## IMAGES FROM 2018- 2019













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Office opening hours are Monday–Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm;  
Friday 9:00am to 1:00pm.

