

Update for Melksham Area Board

FROM:

MELKSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING:

13 February 2019

HEADLINES

New Town Clerk

Melksham Town Council are delighted to welcome Linda Roberts as their new Town Clerk who started on 2 January 2019, Linda comes with a wealth of experience in Local Government.

Linda is currently meeting with representatives of various community groups and businesses and is working on a Corporate Plan/Strategic Plan for the Town Council going forward.

King George V Park

The Town Council have approached Wiltshire Council requesting that the King George V Playing Fields are transferred into their ownership. Whilst negotiation on the transfer of the park have not yet concluded, written confirmation from Wiltshire Council of permission to proceed with the improvements has been obtained. In the meantime, NVB Consultants have been appointed to support delivery of an improvements programme for the park who have produced a final plan based on consultation responses.

It is proposed to deliver improvements in stages, as and when funds become available, with the first phase being the delivery a splashpad and ancillary works. To facilitate the splashpad project, a preferred supplier has been appointed to bring this project to fruition.

The Masterplan and phasing:



Update for Melksham Area Board

Play Areas

The Town Council are seeking a have a 7 year licence from Wiltshire Council for all play areas within the town, whilst awaiting a response from Wiltshire Council, the Town Council have undertaken an audit of the various play areas and appointed a contractor to undertake improvements to the various parks following the audit.

Melksham Town Council Outdoor Seating Project

Melksham Town Council are pleased to announce the installation of 7 new benches within the Town. These benches were match funded by the Area Board as part of their Outdoor Seating funding programme in 2018.

The new benches are located at the following locations:

- On the footpath linking Cranesbill Road to the Eastern Bypass adjacent to the noticeboard
- On the footpath between The Woody play area and the bridge heading towards Ruskin Avenue
- 3 x at intervals along the Eastern Bypass between Sandridge Road and Snowberry Lane
- On Sandridge Road, at the bus stop almost opposite No 29
- On Forest Road, after Murray Walk

It is hoped that the provision of these new benches will help more people to be able to walk along key routes within the town, by providing the opportunity for rest breaks along the way. Several other benches in the town have also been repaired and are now back in use.



Update for Melksham Area Board

By-election

Following the resignation of Councillor Simon Hedley, a by-election is taking place on 14 February in the North Ward.

February Half Term Activities

Melksham Town Council have arranged a programme of **free** activities for February Half Term:

Tuesday, 19 February: Button Art - 10am-12pm at the Town Hall
Wednesday, 20 February: Sports Roadshow - 10am-4pm at the Assembly Hall
Thursday, 21 February: Truffle Making - 10am-12pm at the Town Hall
Friday, 22 February: #MelkshamRocks - 10am-2pm at KGV Cricket Pavilion:

Budget Setting

At a Town Council meeting on 21 January 2019 Councillors resolved to approve and set the precept for 2019/2020 at £844,910, representing an increase of £12.34 per year on a Band D household. This will allow the Town Council to continue to build its Capital Project, Ear Marked Reserve and honour the commitment made for improvements to facilities and services for residents.

FORTHCOMING DATES:

22 March Mayor's Reception