



TOWNCRIER WALTHAM ABBEY



LOCAL NEWS • LOCAL PEOPLE • LOCAL BUSINESS ISSUE 60 SUMMER 2021

Waltham Abbey's Mayor

We are proud to introduce Councillor Jodie Lucas, Waltham Abbey's new and youngest Mayor. See **Page 3** inside for more information and Q&A.



All plans for events outlined in Town Crier are subject to restrictions being lifted in accordance with the Government's roadmap out of lockdown. Any rescheduling of events will be announced on our website and social media. All events will be operated in accordance with social-distancing rules at that time.

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Waltham Abbey Bounces Back

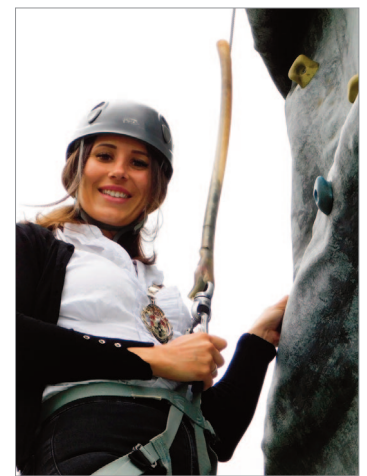
After a challenging year, it was great to see so many families enjoying the free activities, food & drink, fun & games at the Town Show over the weekend of 26th & 27th June.

ongoing restrictions, but feedback has been very positive. Thank you to all those who put on activities, hosted stalls and to all the residents who came along to support the event.

The event had a very different feel due to

Planning for next year starts now!

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Have your say on the Waltham Abbey Neighbourhood Plan - See pages 5-9



WALTHAM ABBEY IS TWINNED WITH HÖRSTEL, GERMANY





Waltham Abbey Town Council 2020/21

Mayor: Cllr J Lucas

Deputy Mayor: Cllr J Lea

Town Clerk: Miss J Law

Councillors

High Beech Ward

Cllr E A Webster 01992 715957

Scatterbushes
Fernhall Lane
Waltham Abbey
Essex EN9 3TJ

Cllr T Matthews 07742 692718

Woodredon Lodge
Upshire
Essex EN9 3SU

Honey Lane Ward

Cllr A P Watts 01992 714506

9 Honey Lane
Waltham Abbey
Essex EN9 3AN

Cllr S Yerrell

shaneo1983@hotmail.co.uk
24 Springfields
Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 1UD

Cllr L Green

lisap0034@hotmail.com

83 Rounton Road
Waltham Abbey,
Essex EN9 3AP

North East Ward

Cllr J Lea 01992 712366

1 Monkwood Avenue
Waltham Abbey
Essex EN9 1LA

Vacancy

Paternoster Ward

Cllr J Lucas

jodielucas94@hotmail.co.uk
Love Apple Farm, 156 Crooked Mile
Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 2ES

Cllr R Holmes 07788 667213

26 St Peters Road
West Mersea
Colchester CO5 8LJ

South West Ward

Cllr D Plummer 07742 038951

21 Townmead Road
Waltham Abbey
Essex EN9 1RP

Cllr H Kane 01992 717656

6 Farm Hill Road 01992 712746
Waltham Abbey EN9 1NN 07799 532940
Email: helen@samkane.co.uk

Committees

Policy and Resources

Cllr A P Watts – Chairman

Leisure & Community

Cllr J Lucas – Chairman

Development and Environment

TBC

Plans Subcommittee

Licensed Bars & Catering Subcommittee

Cllr H Kane – Chairman

Establishment Review Subcommittee

Leader of Council

Town Promotions & Festivals Subcommittee

Cllr S Yerrell – Chairman

TIC Management Subcommittee

Cllr E A Webster – Chairman

Town Twinning Subcommittee

The Mayor

Waltham Abbey Tennis Club Management Subcommittee

Cllr A P Watts – Chairman

Neighbourhood Plan Liaison Committee

Cllr A P Watts – Chairman


www.facebook.com/walthamabbeytowncouncil

[@WAtowncouncil](https://www.instagram.com/WAtowncouncil)


The views expressed in the Town Crier are not necessarily those of Waltham Abbey Town Council.

Further copies of the Town Crier are available from the Town Hall and the Tourist Information Centre in Highbridge Street.

WALTHAM ABBEY TOWN HALL

Highbridge Street,
Waltham Abbey,
Essex EN9 1DE

Tel: 01992 714949

townclerk@walthamabbey-tc.gov.uk

Town Council Meetings

The calendar of all Town Council Meetings is available to view on the Town Council Website:

www.walthamabbey-tc.gov.uk



Meet Waltham Abbey's youngest Mayor, Councillor Jodie Lucas



Jodie, congratulations on becoming Waltham Abbey's youngest Mayor. How does it feel?

I am so delighted to have been elected as Mayor of Waltham Abbey, its such privilege to hold this position in the town my family has resided in for nearly 200 years! I was only 21 years old when I was first co-opted onto the town council and have been the youngest member since.

You have been a Town Councillor for over 5 years, what made you get into local politics?

I have such a passion for Waltham Abbey and care about the area and our residents. I have varied personal, academic and professional skills and a strong voice and I wanted to share my own views, including those that represent the younger residents of the town.

As the town starts to emerge out of lockdown, what are your main priorities for our local community?

As a town we have shown what fantastic community spirit we have. I would love to remember my year as Mayor with bringing people back together, enjoying and embracing the town we are privileged to call home. I hope that we can all fully support all of our local shops and facilities, especially including those that have been so restricted during the pandemic.

What would be your advice for any young person with an interest in local politics?

If you have a genuine passion for the local area and have a view and opinion, the best place to be is to be involved. My interests first started in school council meetings and progressed with joining the young Conservatives.

I first stood as a District Council candidate at only 18 years old which was a fantastic insight into local processes. I have learnt that there is so much to learn and the sooner you can be involved the better!

You also work full-time as a Health and Safety Consultant - what are the challenges of keeping up with a demanding job and being a Town Councillor?

I have worked as a Health and Safety Consultant for 8 years and currently work for a company based in Harlow. There is of course additional workload of being a councillor and I am often asked how do I have time but I honestly believe if you have an interest and a passion then you can find the time. Most of our meetings are late afternoon and evenings and I am a member of the committees that suit my availability.

You have announced you will be supporting the charity Young Minds - can you tell us why this charity is important to you?

I chose this charity primarily as mental health is at its most prevalent at the moment due to the increased stress and strain the pandemic has had on us all and especially the younger generation.

When you have any free time, how do you like to spend it?

I love spending time with my family. I live on a small holding and I am very lucky to have grown up with horses, chickens and lots of other animals. I also love travelling, nature and adventure and have been lucky enough to visit some incredible countries.

I look forward being able to travel again as soon as it is safe to do so! For now, let's continue to follow government guidance, keep washing our hands and keeping a safe distance whilst we need to and hopefully we will continue moving in the right direction.



Litter Picking Posse Talk Trash!

Waltham Abbey Litter Picking Posse was founded in February 2018 by Cllr Dave Plummer.

This is a group of volunteers who usually meet every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, and their aim is to clear up our beautiful town of litter and rubbish to benefit residents, the environment and nature alike.

This wonderful team of volunteers enjoy getting out in the fresh air and have a good natter whilst helping to keep the town clean and tidy. They have just purchased hi-vis vests with money donated by residents and local businesses. More volunteers and donations are always needed to help and support the group move efforts forward. If you the Posse isn't for you, why not just do a quick pick outside your own house or flat?



To find out more, visit www.facebook.com/abbeylitter

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The Community, Culture & Wellbeing Team at Epping Forest District Council are proud to announce a jam-packed summer. Inside the brochure will find lots of exciting things to do throughout the school holidays. As ever, there is a wide range of activity days, family workshops, children's shows and multi-sport activity sessions.

Where will I find the programme?

Print brochures

There will be a limited number of physical copies available to pick up from Waltham Abbey Tourist Information Centre and Epping Forest District Museum.

Digital brochure

The digital brochure is available to view online here: www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/leisure/

You will be able to find the latest programme updates and recommendations on EFDC Communities Facebook page: facebook.com/EFDCcommunities

All bookable Summer activities are listed here: eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com/

Booking is open now. For support with your booking please call **01992 564 226**, lines are open Monday – Friday, 10am – 4pm.

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Have Your Say (Pull Out Section)

A Waltham Abbey Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by a steering group of local residents, working on behalf of the Town Council to compliment the EFDC Local Plan. The district local plan determines how the district will evolve over the lifetime of the plan, circa 20 years. The EFDC Local plan is currently with Government inspectors for scrutiny and review. Our Neighbourhood Plan, if approved, will support the Local Plan with decisions we have made for Waltham Abbey. The plan will be about how, guided by you, we envisage our town will evolve, working within the Local Plan.

Neighbourhood Plans are an opportunity to influence planning decisions to ensure they reflect the type of development local residents have identified. Over time we have held many meetings and met with residents at events such as the Town Show to collect opinions arising from the developing plan. Due to Covid we are now circulating some of the suggestions put forward by residents during these meetings. We aim to reach a wider audience to understand if they meet with wider resident approval. We would also like to understand how you would like to see the town develop through the lifetime of this plan.

Please can you complete the questionnaire and then return it to us via the Town Hall, the Library or the Tourist Information Centre. The questionnaire will be on our website www.wanp.org.uk if you would prefer to complete online.

Can you please provide your Post Code so that we can verify you live within the Neighbourhood Plan area, i.e., you are a Waltham Abbey resident. Postcode

Further information will be put on our website. You can register further interest on the website.



Waltham Abbey Our Future

1. Our Vision

Our vision for the future of Waltham Abbey is for our Town to continue to thrive and encourage new development that meets the needs of the local community. Development will be of a high-quality design that complements the character of our distinctive areas within the Town and will be supported by improved infrastructure.

Waltham Abbey will be a thriving and vibrant community that continues to protect and enhance its local character, rich heritage and natural assets such as the Abbey itself; Epping Forest; The River Lea; Lea Valley Regional Park and the Royal Gunpowder Mills. We expect it to grow and evolve over time to be an even better place to live, work and visit.

The aim for the Neighbourhood Plan is to retain and enhance the traditional values of an historic market town by ensuring that future development in the Town reflects the community's needs and aspirations. The built and the undeveloped environment should be compatible with other local and national plans and policies. The Waltham Abbey of the future should enable all sections of the community to enjoy an improved and sustainable quality of life.

Please comment on Our Vision. If you have any suggestions or further points please record below.

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2. Your view on Waltham Abbey

What do you think we could change/improve to make Waltham Abbey a more desirable place to live?

Please give a reason for your response.

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3. Development

During the lifetime of the EFDC Local Plan there are scheduled to be 800 plus new homes developed in the Town. These could include houses with different numbers of bedrooms, flats, maisonettes, bungalows and self-build homes.

3a What new housing types do you think are needed in Waltham Abbey?

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3b Do you think the Neighbourhood Plan should attempt to ensure some of the affordable new homes are allocated to local residents?

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3c The local plan states that we should make provision for self-build homes in Waltham Abbey.
Is this something you would support?

☐ Yes ☐ No

3d We recognise many local homeowners are extending into the attic space: as a result, residents suggested that new homes should utilise attic space from the outset.

Do you support this proposal should be included within our NP?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Infrastructure

We have previously asked residents about using solar panels, gathering rainwater and the provision of electric charging points.

Can you suggest other ways that we could reduce our contributions to climate change?

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5. Tourism

What do you think are the important assets of Waltham Abbey? Can you please number the following from 1 to 12 with 1 the most important:

<input type="checkbox"/> Epping Forest	<input type="checkbox"/> Epping Forest District Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Gunpowder Park
<input type="checkbox"/> High Beach	<input type="checkbox"/> Lea Valley Park	<input type="checkbox"/> The River Lee
<input type="checkbox"/> Royal Gunpowder Mills	<input type="checkbox"/> Sewardstone	<input type="checkbox"/> Upshire
<input type="checkbox"/> Waltham Abbey Church	<input type="checkbox"/> Waltham Abbey Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/> Waltham Abbey Town Centre

6. Environment

6a Many residents during our meetings have asked us to ensure new homes are fitted with a rainwater harvesting system that will store rainwater for flushing toilets/car washing etc in order to help preserve our supplies for the future.

Would you like to see this included in our NP? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6b Again residents have asked that new homes should have solar panels to generate electricity for home consumption using battery storage and the ability to supply the national grid with surplus electricity.

Would you be in support of this proposal to be included our NP? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Getting Around

7a Do you think road safety for pedestrians and cyclists is a problem in Waltham Abbey? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, can you please give an example of a problem.

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7b During our discussions with residents they suggested, that where appropriate, we should have a line drawn down the middle of footpaths, to separate pedestrians from cyclists, electric scooters and motorised mobility scooters.

Do you agree with this approach? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7c What other actions do you think could be done to improve road safety in Waltham Abbey?

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7d Residents complained about parking and speed limits outside schools and have suggested we should have 20mph speed limits or speed calming measures such as road humps to slow traffic as is the norm in other areas of Essex. Do you agree with either of these suggestions or can you suggest other options relating to safety on this issue?

..... ☐ Yes ☐ No



8. Community Infrastructure and services

8a Generally, how satisfied are you with the local services in Waltham Abbey?

Please score on a points basis of 1-5 with 5 being best and 1 being worst

☐

Public Transport

☐

Police support/enforcement

☐

Health Services

☐

Sports facilities

☐

Leisure Facilities

☐

Community Halls

8b Where you have awarded a low score, for the services listed in 8a, please explain your reason for this.

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9. Education

The new local plan states, we should be looking to expand two of our primary schools and relocate King Harold Secondary school. During meetings with residents, it was suggested that we should have a six-form college in our town. Many residents complained about the current difficulty students experience, travelling on public transport out of town for 6th form.

9a Would you like to see the education provision for schools proposed, but not yet actioned, in the local plan implemented within our Neighbourhood Plan for Waltham Abbey?

☐

Yes

☐

No

10. Further Suggestions

Please add any further suggestions that you would like to make in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan.

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There are a number of issues Residents have raised concerns about and asked us to address. However, many of these matters fall outside the remit for any Neighbourhood Plan.

We list some of these issues below. Where we receive a large response, we will attempt to canvas councillors at the appropriate level of Town, District or County, to see if they can be implemented outside the Neighbourhood Plan.

Broomstickhall Road is a bus route that runs from the mini roundabout at the junction of Honey Lane/Farmhill Road, towards King Harold School and Ninefields. Parked vehicles cause difficulties to vehicles travelling in opposite directions where there is no gap to allow traffic to pass. It was frequently reported that this often causes road rage and extreme frustration for bus drivers who regularly have to negotiate this road.

The proposal to remedy this situation is to make Broomstickhall Road one way. with vehicles travelling from Honey Lane towards Ninefields.

Do you agree with this suggestion?

☐

Yes

☐

No

It has also been suggested that Highbridge Street should be made a one-way street to include Leverton Way, Quaker Lane and the last section of Sun Street. Entrance to the Town from Sewardstone Road or Crooked Mile would be stopped.

Do you agree with this suggestion?

☐

Yes

☐

No



Entertainment on your doorstep!

Did you know that your own Town Hall has the potential to be a fantastic local entertainment venue? With a full stage, lighting, sound system, fully licensed bar and seating for an audience of 250 we are planning to bring you a wide range of entertainment and events – and right on your doorstep!

We are very excited to welcome the widely acclaimed The Noise Next Door to Waltham Abbey with two huge shows 'Run Wild' for family audiences... and 'In Charge', just for the adults!

The Noise Next Door are twelve-time sell-out veterans of The Edinburgh Fringe and have appeared on BBC One, ITV1, BBC Three and BBC Radio 4. They have also appeared alongside the likes of Michael McIntyre, Katherine Ryan, Romesh Ranganathan and Harry Hill.

Run Wild is a show that is fun for literally everyone. Whether you are 8, 108 or somewhere in between you're guaranteed to laugh hysterically as the

guys transform your ideas into songs, scenes and stories the likes of which you've never seen. After their wildly popular appearance on Britain's Got Talent in 2020 the guys are chomping at the bit to get back on stage... The results are sure to be explosive!

Their adult show In Charge sees the quickest wits in comedy charging into their sixth national tour with a spectacular evening of entertainment that will trample your expectations. The charismatic quartet have always astonished with their ability to spin audience suggestions into comedy gold, but for this show they're putting the audience in charge in brilliant and bombastic new ways. Join comedy's unstoppable force for an evening like no other... Hilarious scenes! Mind-blowing songs! Finely tuned anarchy!

Tickets for the family show are just £8 each – refreshments available and the show starts at 3pm.



The evening performance will be at 7.30pm, tickets £13, with doors opening from 6.30pm. Fully licensed bar available with pick'n'mix buckets of 5 bottled beers for just £15!

Tickets are available now from Ticket Source or from the Tourist Information Centre.

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*"Hilarious... A superior kind of chaos" **Telegraph***

*"21st century comedy at its finest and funniest." **The Stage***

*"Comedy gold... Staggeringly well executed." **Guardian***

*"Phenomenal" **Daily Mirror***

Rescheduled event - The Jam'd coming to Waltham Abbey

No need to end up down in the tube station at midnight – we are delighted to announce that the UK's No 1 tribute band The Jam'd will be coming to Waltham Abbey on Friday 10th December 2021.



The Jam'd are now the UK's best known and most popular tribute to the live performance and sound of The Jam, and are totally committed to giving an unforgettable, authentic performance with all the energy, passion and style of the Woking 3.

Every effort is placed into reproducing the sound, arrangements and energy of a Jam gig. Those who saw The Jam live will remember the electricity, aggression, passion, and even fashion on stage. To The Jam'd, it is a passion, a

mission, and an honour to play for fans. Dave Fletcher from The Jam'd says "You had to have seen The Jam live to truly experience what a Jam gig was, and I was lucky enough to have seen them on quite a few occasions. It was a feeling, a movement, a total experience of style, cool, tension, excitement and electricity! We try and put those experiences into our performances to give our audiences some idea of what a Jam gig was. No one can ever emulate The Jam, but we hope we go some way to reminding fellow Jam fans of the best days of our youth!"

Book your tickets now at TicketWeb.

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The Boys: Holocaust Survivors in the Epping Forest District

**Epping Forest District
Museum, 39 – 41 Sun Street,
Waltham Abbey, EN9 1EL**

17 May – 4 September 2021

This free exhibition includes video testimonies from the survivors and explores life at the concentration camps alongside the Loughton boys' liberation and survival.

Objects from the Jewish Museum and Imperial War Museum, London form part of the exhibition which is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.



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Working in Partnership

The Town Partnership are always planning and doing, and the latest project is something that hopefully everyone has seen. The 'Welcome to our Town Centre' signs have been erected around the town and have received very positive reviews.

The Partnership is now working very closely with the Town Council, EFDC and our new Town Centre Manager, to help revive and develop our town centre. We are looking for more business involvement in the Partnership, as it is essential that we work together in a way that is in line with the needs and wishes of both our commercial community, and the visitors that we encourage.

If you would like to know more, please email: chairwalthamabbeytp@gmail.com or see our facebook page.

Waltham Abbey LINK is the informal group that welcomes ALL Waltham Abbey businesses, residents, clubs and organisations to join together to talk, listen, learn and link. Their aims coincide exactly with those of the more formal 'Partnership', so becoming involved with either group can only make a positive difference to you and to our town.

For information about LINK see our facebook page or email walthamabbeylink@gmail.com

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Quiz answers from issue 59

A – White Water Centre
B – Cornmill Meadows Meridian Monument
C – Abbey Gardens Monk statue
D – Abbey Gardens – Rose Garden
E – Waltham Abbey FC
F – View through Lea Valley Church

G – Woollard Street
H – Moat – next to Abbey orchard
I – Cattle Trough near Abbey Church
J – Abbey Church ceiling
K – Community Centre
L – Sun Street Mosaic

M – Roof of Sports Centre
N – Lea Valley Park Farms
O – Gunpowder Mills
P – King Harold School
Q – Gunpowder Park

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Introducing our New Councillors



Lisa Green

My name is Lisa Green and I have lived in the Abbey for 15 years. I am very excited to be able to help our lovely town grow and move forward. Having children myself, I am particularly interested in representing our children and young people. I am also looking forward to engaging with you all over the coming years.

Tim Matthews

Hi – I am Tim Matthews and I am a third generation farmer, born and raised in Upshire village. I am very passionate about our local environment and how we can manage it in a sustainable way. My childhood was spent in the Abbey involved in as many activities as possible.



As a councillor I would like to support and promote the businesses and organisations that provide for the Waltham Abbey community.

Looking for a venue for your wedding, party or other celebration? Check our website on:
www.walthamabbey-tc.gov.uk
 or phone 01992 714949

Waltham Abbey Festival Of Light

CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS

WORKING WITH THE CAVALCADE OF LIGHT

26 NOV

Sign up and help make Waltham Abbey Sparkle

Help our community lead team to organise Competitions and Events for everyone to get involved with. Schools, Churches, Clubs, Businesses, everyone...

We need you all - Help create something special

Signup at festivaloflight.uk
 or EMail info@festivaloflight.uk

Town Hall Vacancies

Are you interested in casual evening or weekend work?

We are looking for function assistants to help with events at the Town Hall.

£9.27 per hour

please call 01992 714949

for more information.



Who do I ask about...?



WALTHAM ABBEY TOWN COUNCIL
General Enquiries Tel: 01992 714949
townclerk@walthamabbey-tc.gov.uk



The Town Council is the council closest to our residents and is responsible for:

Waltham Abbey Town Hall – the administrative home of the Town Council and open to the public for meetings, events, cinema, seasonal markets functions, wedding ceremonies and celebrations

The office of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mayoral engagements

Making representation on local planning applications, strategic plans, consultations and licensing applications

Charter Market

Awarding grants to support local community groups and charities

Waltham Abbey in Bloom competition

Waltham Abbey Cemeteries and Garden of Remembrance

The Town Mead Sports and Social Club including hire of function rooms

Town Mead Leisure Park (42 Acres including Skateboard Park, Baseball Diamond, 3G pitch, FA accredited grass pitch, Golf Driving Range) Community Centre/ Other Buildings

Allotments at Capershotts, Denny Avenue and Longfields

Tourist Information Centre including supporting local tourism and organising community coach trips

Play Parks at Larsens, Town Mead & Ninefields

Public Conveniences

Christmas Lights, Cavalcade of Light, Christmas Market

Two Day Town Show/ Other Festival Events, Craft Markets

Town Twinning

Remembrance events, carol service and civic service

Upkeep of war memorial

Waltham Abbey Tapestry Supporting the provision of community funded defibrillators

Community minibus

Local CCTV (Town Hall, Town Mead Park, Market Square and Sun Street)



Epping Forest District Council

EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

General Enquiries Tel: 01992 564000
contactus@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

The District Council provide a range of regulatory and community services across the Epping Forest district and is responsible for:

The collection of council tax and business rates
Local planning and building regulations
Development Control
Strategic Planning (Local Plan)
Kerbside waste and recycling collections and management of Recycling Centre
Fly tipping
Street cleaning
Abandoned vehicles

Noise and light pollution
House building and housing benefits
Leisure Facilities (arts/sports programmes, museum)
Licensing
Environmental Health
District CCTV
Highways Rangers
Elections
Car parks



Essex County Council

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

General Enquiries Tel: 08457 430 430
or 01245 430 430 contact@essex.gov.uk

The County Council is the top tier of local government, provide services on a county-wide basis and is responsible for:

Highways & Transport (including bus service licensing)
Roads/Potholes
Off street parking and enforcement
Pavements and pathways
Education and children's services

Social Services
Health
Street Lighting
Libraries
Flooding & Drains (with District)
Registration (Births, Marriages, Deaths)

The Lee Valley Regional Park Authority are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Abbey Gardens and can be contacted on info@leevalleypark.org.uk or 03000 030 643 (For Park Rangers out of hours - 01992 210 196)