



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hemsworth Town Council has grown over the past few years and with good financial management continues to provide all our existing services whilst developing and expanding new and exciting projects. We have faced some challenging times as well as many enjoyable and positive forward steps.

I am pleased to report that the Council's finances are currently in a healthy position and in the short term the outlook remains fairly positive with a balanced budget in place.

Prudent financial controls mean that savings continue to be achieved during the current year, resulting in the Council being able to maintain healthy levels of balances and reserves, as we need to be mindful and keep a close eye on what is likely to be an increasingly challenging financial future.

However for the next financial year the Council has had to budget for increases to the 'National Living Wage', employers' pension costs, inflation and other unavoidable increases, such as business rates, along with the increases to the cost of living that affect all of us.

In order to maintain our current service levels and absorb the cuts in funding and increases in costs faced over the longer term, the Council reluctantly will be making a small increase to the parish precept from April 2017. To help offset this however, no increase will be implemented to any of the Council's service charges.

Playworld, at Hemsworth Water Park is to have new equipment for the start of this season - a jumping pillow is to be provided. This equipment is suitable for all ages; parents will be able to take little ones onto the jumping pillow to enjoy the fun, whilst the older children can play along as well.

If you have not already done so please take advantage of the passes that are available from the Community Centre for the cost of £2.00 per household. These passes permit free entry into Playworld for your own children only, reduced price fishing and free car parking.

The Council is proud to be providing for our community, defibrillators at the Community Centre, Hemsworth Water Park and hopefully within the next twelve months at the Fitzwilliam Centre. These pieces of equipment will provide our loved ones with the chance of survival should the unthinkable happen.

As you will see by reading this Newsletter the Council has and will continue to support our community by providing services that are affordable to all.

Finally I would like to extend my gratitude to my fellow Councillors, Town Council staff, all of the residents who work hard to make our township a pleasant place to live and socialise and yourselves because your support makes this possible and makes this township a much better place.

Thank you.

Councillor Tony Upson
Chairman of Hemsworth Town Council

SERVICES

Hemsworth Water Park & Playworld

Hemsworth Water Park remains a very popular place for families to visit and enjoy a great day out. Facilities at the Water Park will open as follows 09:15am to 6pm for the Beach Shop which provides a place to purchase light refreshments, ice cream and small toys, Playworld open from 9:30am to 6pm and Marine Craft 11am to 6pm all from Easter to September subject to weather. In order to provide value for money prices for our services once again will remain the same with no increase.

Residents of Hemsworth, Fitzwilliam and Kinsley are reminded that for a charge of £2.00 per household a permit for free entry into Playworld, free car parking and reduced price fishing can be obtained from Hemsworth Community Centre. Please note that these permits are not annual and can be used year after year.



Lakeside Cafe and Soft Play Area



Lakeside Café, with its five star hygiene rating, is a really pleasant place to sit and enjoy freshly cooked food, from light snacks, to full meal, or just enjoy a coffee with a slice of homemade cake.

The scenery from the cafe windows over the lake provides a relaxing place to sit viewing the lake, park and the wildlife whilst the young children play for £1.00 in the soft play area.

The cafe and soft play area are open from 11am to 5pm seven days a week from Easter to the end of September and from 11am to 3pm from 01 October to Easter.

Community Centre

The Community Centre can accommodate a variety of bookings and is well utilised by the local community.

The Centre is home to exercise classes, slimming clubs, mums and toddlers, Bingo, Yoga, and Children's Dance classes

There are regular events held at the Centre including brass band concerts and pantomimes run by Hemsworth Town Council, along with other events organised by local groups.

The Centre is available for family functions, conferences or meetings. The Activity Room is ideal for children's parties and is able to accommodate the Council's bouncy castle, whilst our main function room is carpeted and is perfect for weddings and christenings.



Sandygate Football Facility

Sandygate Football Facility is used regularly by local teams and continues to be a popular local football facility. The opening times are Monday and Thursday 1:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1pm to 9pm and weekends and Bank Holidays 9.00am to 7pm.

The Street Snooker equipment provides a practise area on a kick-wall game combining features of snooker and football and is free to use at Sandygate.



Allotments

The Town Council fully supports the allotment services provided for our local families as a safe place to use and enjoy the outdoors. In addition the Council continues supporting the letting of a number of our allotments for the use as a paddock. Portable toilet facilities will continue to be provided, annual skips are to continue - one for each allotment site, regular pest control service, meetings with the allotment site representatives and allotment lettings all continue throughout the year.

Changing Rooms, Cemetery Lane

Hemsworth Town Council now has a lease for the Cemetery Road football field. Improvements to this service have been carried out. These include perimeter fencing, the development of new football pitches, a car parking area, a footpath between the cemetery and the football fields with a dual purpose waste and dog waste bin. It is hoped that for the season 2017/18 further football teams can be accommodated on this site.

Garden Scheme

The Council continues to support the provision of the garden scheme which offers residents of Hemsworth, Fitzwilliam and Kinsley who are sixty five years old or over and have an infirmity, the opportunity to have assistance in maintaining their garden. For £5.00 per visit, the Council is able to offer qualifying residents two visits per year. Residents can register and pay for this service at Hemsworth Community Centre. Assistance with home gardening is to include grass cutting at the back, front and side of the property and hedge cutting (subject to height restrictions). Please also note that grass cuttings can only be cleared from the front garden and it will be necessary for the Council staff to utilise your brown garden waste bin for disposal of the garden waste.

Hemsworth Market

The Council continues to support the Friday market in the precinct area at the side of Home Bargains. There are a number of regular traders selling various items from clothing, household cleaning products and jewellery. The market is open from 8am to approximately 1pm. Anyone interested in a stall should contact the Community Centre for further information.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Bonfire & Fireworks Display

Hemsworth Town Council has organised the Bonfire and Fireworks display at Hemsworth Water Park for over twenty six years. The fun starts at 6:30pm with the radio roadshow, Guy Fawkes Competition at 6:45pm which last year saw the most Guy's for a number of years. The Bonfire is lit at 7pm followed by the grand finale of the fireworks display which takes place at one side of the lake so that the public are able to watch the fireworks reflecting in the water as the display takes place. This year the event will take place on Sunday 05 November. Please note that there is no charge to attend this event and that free car parking is available.

Brass Band Concert

The Council has held two brass band concerts each year now for some time, the first on the last Thursday in April, so this year it will be 27th April 2017 and the second on Thursday 05th October 2017, both concerts will commence at 8pm finishing around 09:45pm. These concerts are always well attended and everyone enjoys the variety of music played. Entrance to the concert is free of charge, with free refreshments and a raffle. Residents can also take advantage of the free bus services which runs from Fitzwilliam and Kinsley to the Community Centre and from various pick up points in Hemsworth to the Centre.

There is to be a third brass band concert to be held following the Christmas Lights Switch On. This is to take place on Thursday 30 November 2017 at Hemsworth Community Centre commencing at 7pm. Entrance to the concert will be free of charge with refreshments served during the interval.

Christmas Lights Switch On

Hemsworth Town Council will once again organise the annual Christmas Lights Switch On which is to be held on Thursday 30th November 2017. There is to be a Christmas themed market from 10am until the event closes around 7pm. Local schools and churches will sing at various points during the day in the precinct. A radio road show and small fun fair will add to the Christmas atmosphere ready for the countdown to the lights switch on at 6.00pm.

Seaside Event

This event takes place on the first Monday of the summer school holidays at Hemsworth Water Park. This year's date is to be Monday 31st July 2017. The event runs from 11am to 3pm with all entertainment free of charge, this includes face painting, bouncy castle and roaming entertainment. There will be no charge made for car parking for this event. To complement the day the Lakeside café will provide a seaside themed menu.

Pantomimes

The Town Council provide two pantomimes each year one in Hemsworth, at the Community Centre on Tuesday 12th December at 7pm and the other in Kinsley and Fitzwilliam Community Resource Centre on Tuesday 28th November at 7pm. The pantomime this year is to be Cinderella. Tickets will go on sale on 02nd October from Hemsworth Community Centre and the Kinsley and Fitzwilliam Community Resource Centre and the cost of the tickets is £1.50 per person.

Other Services

Fly a Flag Day for the Commonwealth on 13th March 2017. A short service will take place at the Hemsworth War Memorial followed by the raising of a flag at 10.00am. Light refreshments will then be served in the Function Room at Hemsworth Community Centre. Residents of our parish are free to come along and take part in this celebration.

Armed Forces Day will take place on Monday 19th June 2017 at 10:15 with a service at the Hemsworth War Memorial and the raising of a flag to show support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces Community, from currently serving troops, service families, veterans and cadets. Following the service light refreshments will be available within Hemsworth Community Centre.

For further details on all these events look out for our leaflets or contact the staff at the Hemsworth Community Centre.

The Council also provide Celebratory Presentations for residents who are celebrating their eightieth, ninetieth, ninety-plus birthday or Golden or Diamond Wedding anniversaries. At Christmas the Council deliver selection boxes to junior and infants schools in Hemsworth, Fitzwilliam and Kinsley and to playgroups within our township for children up to the age of seven.

OVERVIEW

Additional security measures have been put in place at the Water Park following the spate of burglaries in August/September 2016 which has had an impact on the budgets.

The staffing of services following the restructure has worked extremely well and there is just one service still under review. All staffing will be monitored on an on-going basis to ensure performance is met.

The new equipment (Jumping pillow) has been ordered and will be fitted in Playworld by the end of February 2017.

Tenders are being obtained for the roofing work at Fitzwilliam Centre and for the repairs required at Bank Street (this work should be completed by March 2017).

The improvements works at Cemetery Road are nearly complete (new pitches and fencing) with some work required to the main pitch which will be undertaken in May 2017. CCTV has also been installed at this site.

Upgrading of CCTV cameras has been undertaken at the Sandygate site along with improvement works on the 3g pitch to ensure that the facilities are maintained to a high standard.

One of Hemsworth Town Council's initiative for 2016/17 & 2017/18 is to have in place defibrillators in the township. The first of these is to be installed at the Community Centre in March 2017.

The move at the end of March 2016 of the market to the precinct area started off successfully however we have lost some of the stall holders on the Saturday market (second hand & new) and we are now just maintaining a market on a Friday.

N.B. Members have considered current fees and charges for all services and agreed that no increases will be made for 2017/18.

GRANTS

The Council allocates an amount of money to make donations to local organisations under the General Power of Competence. Over the past year grants have been given to:

Royal British Legion (Hemsworth & Kinsley branches),
CRY,
Housing and Care 21,
Boar Cottage,
Jo Cox Memorial Fund,
Prince of Wales Hospice

Local organisations who would like to apply for a grant should request a Revenue Grant Application pack from the Hemsworth Community Centre. Please note that legislation prevents grants being given to individuals.

The Town Council continues to work with a number of local groups and these include;

Assisting the Royal British Legion in both Hemsworth and Kinsley with a grant for the Remembrance Day celebrations.

Hemsworth Arts and Community Academy year 10 and 11 offering work experience at Hemsworth Water Park.

Providing a pick-up point for Westfield Food Centre.

Working in partnership with Yorkshire Ambulance service and Healthwatch Wakefield.

BUDGET SUMMARY

COST CENTRE	BUDGET 2017/18
	£
Allotments	25,264
Bonfire	15,597
Changing Rooms (Cemetery Rd)	8,662
Civic & General	94,125
Administration (CM)	67,775
Garden Scheme	3,860
Garages	-150
Service Provision	Allocated
Loans & Financing	10,448
Offices	12,600
Grants	11,700
Fitzwilliam Centre	34,855
Water Park	175,678
Lakeside Café	100,424
Hemsworth Market	11,140
Community Centre	94,780
Sandygate Football Facilities	59,712
SUB TOTAL	726,470
Use of Balances	44,470
Use of Capital Receipts	Nil
PRECEPT	682,000

Projects - 2017/18

Provision has been made in the budgets for the following;

- a. Internal Refurbishment – Fitzwilliam Centre
- b. 14 laptops for Members use
- c. Items of play equipment (Playworld)
- d. First World War Centenary event
- e. Replacement Condor machine
- f. Defibrillator (Hemsworth Water Park)

Let the fun begin - Our new Jumping Pillow in Playworld



Thanks goes to Leisurelife and Orange Tree Electrical (Hemsworth) for the work undertaken in installing the equipment and to Eco Chippings at Knottingly who provided an excellent service with the safety surface.

ELECTED MEMBERS

NAME	(PARTY)	POSITION	TEL. NO.	WARD
Cllr Tony Upson	(Labour)	Chair of Council	01977 610732	Hemsworth South
Cllr Alan Draper	(Labour)	Vice Chair of Council Vice Chair of Finance	07474 328310	Fitzwilliam
Cllr Colin Nicholson	(Labour)	Chair of Policy	01977 614115	Fitzwilliam
Cllr Win Mellows	(Labour)	Vice Chair of Policy	01977 612939	Hemsworth West
Cllr Ann Westmorland	(Labour)	Chair of Finance Vice Chair of Leisure and Recreation	01977 613141	Fitzwilliam
Cllr Doreen Swift	(Labour)	Chair of Leisure and Recreation	01977 614841	Kinsley
Cllr Catherine Allan	(Labour)		01977 617617	Kinsley
Cllr Harry Beck	(Labour)		01977 610618	Hemsworth South
Cllr Jonathan Briggs	(Labour)		07747 073967	Hemsworth West
Cllr Darren Campbell	(Labour)		07716 837977	Hemsworth West
Cllr Melanie Jones	(Labour)		01977 617617	Kinsley
Cllr Robert McIntyre	(Labour)		01977 619043	Hemsworth East
Cllr Jonathan Morris	(Labour)		07515 571759	Hemsworth East
Cllr Raymond Riley	(Labour)		01977 616743	Hemsworth East
Cllr Frank Wootton	(Labour)		07771 537945	Hemsworth South



COMMITTEE TIMETABLE – 2017/18

LEISURE COMMITTEE

06 June 2017
18 July 2017
05 September 2017
31 October 2017
09 January 2018
20 February 2018
27 March 2018

FINANCE COMMITTEE

13 June 2017
25 July 2017
12 September 2017
14 November 2017
16 January 2018
27 February 2018
10 April 2018

POLICY COMMITTEE

27 June 2017
01 August 2017
19 September 2017
21 November 2017
23 January 2018
06 March 2018
24 April 2018

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

04 July 2017
15 August 2017
10 October 2017
05 December 2017
06 February 2018
15 May 2018

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Thursday 25 May 2017

ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL

15 May 2018

All Hemsworth Town Council meetings are held at the Community Centre, Bullenshaw Road, Hemsworth.

Meetings commence at 7.00 pm, all meetings are open to the general public.

Please note this timetable is subject to verification at the next Annual Town Council meeting in 16 May 2017 and may be subject to change.

TOWN MEETING 2017

The meeting will take place on Thursday 25 May 2017 at 7:00pm at the Hemsworth Community Centre, Bullenshaw Road, Hemsworth. All residents are welcome to attend and ask Town Councillors questions.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR HEMSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

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