



CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor's Report on behalf of the Town Council – 10th February 2026



Chilton Mayor's Charity Fundraiser

Chilton residents have throughout the mayoral year shown their generosity to raise fund to support families and tackle issues that impact our community.

To-date we have raised £2751 in donations from coffee mornings, wreath making, craft stalls, raffles and on-line giving; over 30 children and their families already benefiting from the Chilton Christmas Toy Appeal. We are now having a further push to take the total to over £3000.

Mayor Cllr Sue Reece will be holding an fundraiser event at Chilton Community Sports and Social Club on Friday 6th March 7pm -11pm.

Live Music will be provided by the fabulous South Durham performer Oli Patto, with hot buffet, raffle and bingo.

Tickets are available from Hutton House, Chilton Town Council at a cost of £10 (which includes food) with a raffle and bingo tickets to be purchased on the night. Funds raised will go to support Blood Cancer UK (Durham and Darlington Haematology) and the Chilton: Bikes, Boards and Brushes ASB Project, working with young people to engage them in organised activities.

Community:

Planning Application DM/26/00024/FPA Land to the West of Lyndhurst Nurseries DL17 0RF

Aligned to the planning application for the development of 148 dwellings and associated SuDS and landscaping and outline planning permission for 320 dwellings SuDs and landscaping, Chilton Town Council partnered with DCC Regeneration, Economy and

Growth Development Management (Planning) team to hold a Community Drop in event in Hutton House on Thursday 29th January.

The drop in provided an opportunity for all residents to find out more details on the application and provide any feedback or comments. Concerns that additional housing will put further strain on what is already a highly pressured infrastructure (including access to public services, transport infrastructure etc) and public perception of design and quality of previous developments.



The Town Council is now in discussion with Avant homes to host a public meeting so that they can hear residents' concerns first hand. Further details to follow.

For full details of the application visit <https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications> and search using reference **DM/26/00024/FPA**

Chilton Elevate pop-up – support for residents

Following feedback gathered as part of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation, where residents said they wanted more support in finding training, upskilling and employment opportunities, the Town Council has partnered with Employment Durham to host an Elevate Pop-Up Hub to provide access to support services.

The three-day free drop-in event covers improving your health and wellbeing, apprenticeships and Skills, volunteering and routes to work.

Miners Welfare Recreation Ground:

Chilton Community helping to shape the future of local heritage

Residents, funders and supporters took the opportunity to find out how they could play a part in preserving Chilton's heritage for future generations as the *Chilton: Our People, Our Place, Our Heritage* project opened its doors for a special community drop-in event.



The event which ran over the weekend showcased the ambitious plans to restore the much-loved pavilion and transform it into a vibrant new Heritage Centre. Members of the community were able to view the detailed proposals, speak with members of the project team, and learn how the restored pavilion will become a space for exhibitions, workshops, school visits, and community use.

However, the project isn't just about bricks and mortar, although you can buy one, it's about celebrating the people who shaped Chilton and ensuring their stories continue to inspire future generations through the creation of a digital and physical archive. That is why the project team have invited residents to get involved in whatever they can by either donating the photographs and artifacts they have in their possession or allowing them to be digitised for inclusion in the archive.

Volunteering opportunities will also be available for those who want to contribute time or skills, from helping with research and oral histories, maintaining the pavilion and the park, to supporting events and activities once the centre and associated heritage trail opens. For those who prefer to support financially, the popular **Buy a Brick** scheme allows supporters to leave a lasting mark on the pavilion's restoration and many visitors over the weekend took the opportunity to make donation to ensure that their family name or organisation will be etched into Chilton's history.



The project team would like to thank everyone who came along to support the event, the funders (The National Heritage Lottery, Miner Welfare Recreation Ground, The Green Energy Foundation, NEAMSWTF, DCC and Livin Housing (Ltd) project partners and supporters (Redhills, Beamish Museum and Durham Community Action) community groups (Chilton Town Council, St Aidens PCC, Chilton 1st Scouts Group and Chilton Excavators) and especially Chilton residents and family members.

The information boards will remain up in Hutton House for a further week for those who were unable to make the drop-in event, and you can also pick up a form to buy a brick or register to volunteer.

Chilton Bikes, Boards and Brushes Project



We are about to start phase 2 of the project to create ownership and foster inclusion. Professional street artist, Lewis Hobson, will be working with young people to paint the skate/cycle park on the Charlie Wayman Football Grounds.

Lewis will be on site during February half term, doing prework on the 23rd and 24th, delivering workshops with young people on the 25th and completing the artwork on the 26th. Residents of all ages are invited to go along and chat to Lewis about his work and the project.

The next stage will be to work with professional skateboarders and bikers to establish a weekly club.



Coming up – events



Cllr Sue Reece 20th January 2026