

ANNUAL REPORT



April 2025 - March 2026



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WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR



Councillor Diane Lyle

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Ludlow Town Council's Annual Report, a reflection of a year shaped by community spirit, steady progress, and the shared belief that our town thrives when we work together. Serving as Mayor has been a privilege, and I have been continually inspired by the warmth, generosity, and commitment shown across Ludlow.

Over the past year, we have continued to invest in the places and services that matter to residents.

From the refurbishment of the Mill Street bus shelter—now a cleaner, safer, more welcoming space for passengers—to improvements at the Guildhall, including a new audio system and heating, we have focused on practical enhancements that make daily life better.

Our markets remain at the heart of Ludlow's identity, and this year saw significant steps forward with infrastructure upgrades and the launch of a new website, making it easier than ever for residents and visitors to explore our traders and specialist markets.

Equally inspiring has been the dedication of volunteers who care for our green spaces—from the Henley Road Helpers to those supporting new planting at Weyman Road and the creation of a community orchard. Their efforts, alongside initiatives such as No Mow May, continue to protect wildlife and enhance biodiversity across our town.

One of the most moving moments of the year was the creation of the community poppy waterfall, a collaboration between local children and community groups. This powerful installation stood as a symbol of remembrance and unity, reminding us what can be achieved when we come together.

Throughout the year, I have had the honour of representing Ludlow at civic events, community celebrations, and charity activities, including those supporting my Mayor's Charity, Working Together Ludlow. Your kindness and involvement have made a real difference, and I am deeply grateful for the support shown.

Every project, every event, and every act of volunteering contributes to the Ludlow we cherish. I am proud of what we have achieved together and confident that, with continued collaboration, we will keep looking after Ludlow's future with care, creativity, and community spirit.

Welcome From the Town Clerk

As we present this year's Annual Report, I am pleased to reflect on a period marked by steady progress, thoughtful planning, and a shared commitment to shaping Ludlow's future. Much like the first signs of spring—those "delicate yet resilient crocus and snowdrops" that lift our spirits—this year has brought moments of renewal and optimism across our town.

Working alongside residents, councillors, volunteers, and partner organisations, we have continued to strengthen the services and spaces that support daily life in Ludlow. From improvements to public transport facilities and market infrastructure to the ongoing care of our parks, cemeteries, and green spaces, each project reflects our dedication to maintaining a town that is welcoming, resilient, and well cared for.

There are changes on the horizon and our Shaping Our Future Together consultation invited residents to share their views on local services and emerging priorities. Your feedback is essential in helping us plan responsibly and creatively, ensuring that Ludlow remains connected, supported, and ready for the opportunities ahead.

We have also been proud to support new initiatives, including the consultation for a proposed Summer Youth Festival at Wheeler Road Recreational Area—a project shaped by the voices of young people, families, and community groups. This collaborative approach is central to how we work, and it continues to guide our planning for 2026 and beyond.

Ludlow's volunteers deserve special recognition. Whether planting hedgerows, tending to the cemetery, or keeping our streets clean, their dedication enriches Ludlow's natural environment and strengthens our sense of community. Their efforts remind us that local pride is built through many hands and many small acts of care.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to thoughtful stewardship, transparent decision-making, and listening closely to the community we serve. Thank you for your continued engagement, your ideas, and your support. Together, we will continue to look after Ludlow's future with purpose and positivity.

Gina Wilding, Town Clerk.

VISION, AIMS & OBJECTIVES

From Ludlow Town Council

The Town Council's Vision for Ludlow is a successful and vibrant town, where people want to live, work, and visit.

Ludlow Town Council aims to improve the quality of life for the residents of Ludlow by:

- Engaging in an open dialogue with the residents of Ludlow to better understand their needs and, in turn, explain how we will address those needs within the resources and powers of the Council.
- Helping to create a socially inclusive and caring community which embraces all its residents, irrespective of age, gender, sexual orientation, culture, income, race or religion and which seeks to develop their well-being, knowledge, understanding and mutual cooperation.
- Providing a democratic, representational voice for the Ludlow community.
- Preserving and enhancing the traditions, character, heritage and unique identity of the town.
- Promoting Ludlow as a clean, safe, welcoming and prosperous town for all.
- Providing high standard and cost effective services.
- Becoming a better employer through continued valuing and development of employees, thereby encouraging personal responsibility and stimulating innovation, all for the betterment of the town.
- Working in partnership with others to achieve more for Ludlow.



PROJECTS

Shaping Lives Project with Hands Together Ludlow and Shropshire Council

The Town Council is working with Hands Together Ludlow, Ludlow Food Bank, and Ludlow Foyer on a project funded by Shropshire Council to help counter food insecurity by building practical skills, and providing support for people experiencing food insecurity. The project is focused around providing recipe cards, workshops, and videos to inspire the best use of food parcels, surplus food, healthy meals for one, recipes for Type 2 diabetes and food allergies. Recipe folders are available from Hands Together Ludlow.

A Refreshed Mill Street Bus Shelter

The Mill Street bus shelter has been fully refurbished, offering a cleaner, safer, and more welcoming space for passengers. It's a small but important improvement for those who rely on public transport. We also agree to improve the bus shelter on Henley Road.

Supporting Ludlow Market

Our market traders are at the heart of Ludlow's identity — their creativity, hard work and warm welcome shape the character of Castle Square every week. To support them, we've invested in new infrastructure, improved facilities and a brand-new Ludlow Market website to make it easier for visitors to discover what's on and plan their trip. In addition to this a priority is parking arrangements and restrictions around the Market area — helping visitors plan their trip with confidence and supporting our traders with clear, accessible information.

Clearer Sound and Comfort at Council Meetings

A new audio system has been installed in the Guildhall, improving sound quality and ensuring that Council meetings are more accessible and easier for everyone to follow. A new heating system has also been introduced, enhancing comfort for all who use the building.

Town CCTV

Phase I of the new CCTV system was upgraded in 2020, with eight cameras installed and operating across the town centre. Phase II, which expands coverage into wider Ludlow, is well advanced. By late 2025, nine of the thirteen planned cameras were installed, including a mix of 360° and ANPR units at key routes into town. The final Phase II cameras covering Ludlow Library, Henley Road mini roundabout and Fishmore Road mini roundabout were scheduled to start installation in Spring 2026. Once complete, the expanded network will significantly improve coverage and community safety across Ludlow.

Young Persons Work Placements

Derwen College students have thrived in their weekly horticulture work placements with Ludlow Town Council's DLF team. Working alongside staff and supported by a Learning Support Assistant, they have

developed practical horticulture skills through tasks such as weeding, maintenance, bush-shearing and keeping public spaces tidy. The placement has helped build confidence, communication and independence, while making a positive contribution to the town's outdoor areas.

Caring for Our Green Spaces

Volunteers have played a vital role in caring for Henley Road Cemetery, supporting wildlife and biodiversity. This year, several paths were re-laid to improve accessibility, and plans are being developed to upgrade the Baby Area to create a more peaceful, thoughtfully designed space.

Across the town, volunteers continue to support Castle Gardens, St John's Gardens and the town planters, working with the Council to keep these green spaces welcoming and well maintained. Their efforts sit alongside the work of the Pride of Place litter pickers, who continue their monthly commitment to keeping Ludlow clean.

A new community orchard has also been created at Weyman Road, where volunteers from Incredible Edible Ludlow joined the Council to plant a diverse mix of fruit and nut trees, creating a vibrant new green space shaped by local residents.

Ludlow Winter Festival

Working annually in collaboration with many other local community organisations to deliver a successful Ludlow Winter Festival during the last weekend in November. Festivities include Ludlow's Christmas Lights, the tractor run, late night shopping, festival music, Santa's Grotto and Christmas markets.

[Click here to volunteer](#)

[Click here to volunteer](#)

Volunteers Needed!

BECOME A HENLEY RD. HELPER

Help preserve Ludlow's natural heritage.

The Henley Road Helpers initiative aims to enhance community engagement and encourage wildlife.

We're looking for enthusiastic individuals willing to contribute their time to light duties such as weeding, clearing areas, and maintaining flower beds.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Ludlow Town Council produces an annual governance and accounting return (AGAR), which states figures from the prior year. This provides an opportunity for a year-on-year comparison across income, expenditure, balances, and liquidity, highlighting significant movements.

Financial Category	2024/25(£)	2025/26(£)	Explanation
Balances Brought Forward	1,217,862	1,465,705	Total balances and reserves at beginning of the year.
Precept / Rates and Levies	823,696	946,000	Total amount of precept received.
Total Other Receipts	394,896	447,679	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept
Staff Costs	604,020	635,930	This includes gross wages, employers NI contributions, and employers pension contributions.
Loan Interest/Capital Repayments	1,990	1,990	Total payments of capital and interest.
All Other Payments	364,739	494,091	Total expenditure less staff costs and loan repayments.
Balances Carried Forward	1,465,705	1,727,373	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year.

Overall, the accounts indicate that the council has maintained a stable financial position while continuing to support the delivery of local services for residents and the wider community with strengthened reserves and improved cash balances, supporting its ongoing ability to deliver local services and respond to local changes.

Ludlow Town Council- General Reserves and Earmarked Reserves 2024 /25 and 2025/26					
Account		Closing Balance 31/03/25	Closing Balance 31/03/26	Category	Explanation of movement
321	Capital Reserve Henley Orchard	£2,213.34	£0.00	Closed	Moved to Neighbourhood Fund EMR 323
322	EMR Public Toilets	£26,478.00	£0.00	Closed	Set Up individual toilet site EMR codes, funds split between 3 sites
323	EMR Neighbourhood Fund	£92,949.48	£97,434.09	Liability	Increase from Annual Neighbourhood fund payment and transfer from EMR 321
324	EMR Mayor's Allowance	£2,846.00	£0.00	Carried Forward	Mayor's allowance balance carried forward
325	EMR Play Areas Fund	£51,072.00	£0.00	Closed	Set Up individual play area site EMR codes, funds split between sites
326	EMR CCTV	£14,796.00	£17,683.00	Renewal	Increased from 111/4604- CCTV
327	EMR Skatepark	£997.00	£0.00	Closed	Moved to Wheeler Rd Play Area EMR 334
329	EMR Mkt Online Booking System	£5,570.00	£2,070.00	Renewal	Project completed, remaining funds to be considered by Council
331	EMR Cemetery	£48,167.16	£49,274.16	Renewal	Increase from Cemetery Maintenance Budget
334	EMR Wheeler Road Play Area	£2,000.00	£41,541.33	Renewal	Increase from Wheeler Road Resurface Budget and EMR 325 & 341
335	EMR Tree Survey/Works	£1,735.00	£721.00	Liability	Expenditure for necessary tree works
336	EMR Linney Riverside Park	£25,402.94	£49,786.27	Renewal	Increase from Linney Car Park fees (ringfenced to Linney Riverside Park) and EMR 325 & 341
337	EMR EV Compound Fund	£32,000.00	£37,000.00	Renewal	Increase from Infastructure Budget 4801/501
339	EMR Allotments	£371.60	£901.60	Renewal	Increase from unspent maintenance budget 4222/403
340	EMR Streetlighting	£6,442.20	£8,912.20	Renewal	Increase from unspent maintenance budget 4222/301
341	EMR Signage	£7,117.00	£0.00	Closed	Set Up individual play area site EMR codes, funds split between sites
342	EMR Street Furniture	£8,325.00	£8,520.00	Renewal	Increase from EMR 368
344	EMR Christmas Lights	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	Renewal	No movement of funds
345	EMR Guildhall- Listed	£101,000.00	£101,000.00	Liability	No movement of funds
346	EMR Buttercross-Grade 1 List	£100,000.00	£100,000.00	Liability	No movement of funds

Ludlow Town Council- General Reserves and Earmarked Reserves 2024 /25 and 2025/26					
Account		Closing Balance 31/03/25	Closing Balance 31/03/26	Category	Explanation of movement
347	EMR Depot - Metal Construction	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	Liability	No movement of funds
348	EMR Castle Street Toilets	£0.00	£11,928.00	Renewal	Set Up individual toilet site EMR codes, funds split between 3 sites
349	EMR Smithfield Toilets	£0.00	£7,275.00	Renewal	Set Up individual toilet site EMR codes, funds split between 3 sites
350	EMR Linney Toilets	£0.00	£7,275.00	Renewal	Set Up individual toilet site EMR codes, funds split between 3 sites
351	EMR Market	£50,000.00	£50,000.00	Renewal	No movement of funds
352	EMR Cemetery House- Rental Pr	£9,450.00	£9,833.00	Liability	Increase from unspent maintenance budget 4511/401
353	EMR Contingency Fund	£55,004.00	£0.00	Closed	Moved to Churchyard Wall Legal Costs EMR 373
354	EMR DLF Equip Replacement Fund	£9,838.00	£39,708.00	Renewal	Increase from DLF Equipment Replacement Fund 4803/501 and unspent Equipment Budget 4323/500
355	EMR Babies Memorial	£0.00	£20.00	Carried Forward	Donation
356	EMR GDPR	£1,390.00	£1,390.00	Carried Forward	No movement of funds
357	EMR Buttercross MuseumDonation	£183.04	£58.04	Carried Forward	Remainder of donation
358	EMR Civic Regalia	£794.00	£871.00	Renewal	Increase from Civic Regalia Budget
359	EMR Large Project Fund	£292,641.10	£292,641.10	Liability	No movement of funds
360	EMR Seniors Party Grant	£500.00	£218.67	Carried Forward	Remainder of grant
361	EMR Mayfair	£1,863.00	£3,327.00	Carried Forward	Unspent budget 4224/202 carried forward for duration of the Licence.
362	EMR Grant Match Funding	£20,000.00	£0.00	Closed	Moved to Neighbourhood Plan EMR 363
363	EMR Neighbourhood Plan	£5,000.00	£25,000.00	Liability	Increase from Grant Match Funding EMR 362
364	EMR Town Centre Planters	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Renewal	No movement of funds
365	EMR Staffing Contingencies	£50,000.00	£50,000.00	Liability	No movement of funds
366	EMR Legal & Reg Compliance	£30,000.00	£0.00	Closed	Moved to Churchyard Wall Legal Costs EMR 373
367	EMR SYA	£18,000.00	£12,000.00	Carried Forward	3 year guaranteed grant funding
368	EMR Mem Bench /Plaque Maintain	£195.00	£0.00	Closed	Moved to Street Furniture EMR 342
369	EMR Non-Domestic Rates	£0.00	£31,167.88	Liability	Moved to Churchyard Wall Legal Costs EMR 373
370	EMR Town Trails	£490.00	£945.00	Renewal	Increased from sales of Town Trails to order reprint
372	EMR Housman Play Area	£0.00	£12,584.34	Renewal	Increase from Housman Fencing Budget 4401/410 and EMR 325 & 341
373	EMR Churchyard Wall Legal Cost	£0.00	£200,000.00	Liability	Increase from Contingency Fund EMR 353, Legal Compliance EMR 366 and General Fund
374	EMR Bathing Water Signage	£0.00	£390.00	Renewal	Grant funds
	Earmarked Reseves Total	£1,099,831.00	£1,296,476.00		
	General Fund	£365,874.00	£430,897.00		
	Balances Carried Forward	£1,465,705.00	£1,727,373.00		



KEY EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

MAYOR'S CHARITY EVENTS

Mayfair

1st - 5th May 2025

The May Bank Holiday traditionally heralds the arrival of the May Fair, with the unique Sunday Dodgems Service on the 4th May.

Annual Meeting

14th May 2025

At the Annual Meeting on the 14th May 2025 Councillor Diane Lyle was elected as Mayor and Councillor Kathy Cowell was elected as Deputy Mayor.

Mayor Making

28th May 2025

The traditional Mayor Making Ceremony, to thank the outgoing Mayor, and welcome the newly elected Mayor, took place on Wednesday 28th May.

Mayor's Sunday

29th June 2025

A traditional ceremony held at St Laurence's Church.

Remembering VJ Day 80 Years On

15th August 2025

A successful remembrance event in partnership with Ludlow Chamber of Trade and hosted at Ludlow Castle.

Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day

9th & 11th November 2025

In a moving tribute to honour Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday, hundreds gathered in Ludlow town centre to pay their respects to the brave men and women who served our Nation. The events, held on November 9th and 11th, saw a remarkable turnout of residents and representatives from various sectors of the community.

Ludlow Winter Festival

28th-30th November 2025

The Orleton Young Farmers Tractor Run once again set a joyful start to the weekend, paving the way for a full programme of festive fun across the town. Families enjoyed a wide range of free, inclusive activities, from stepping into a giant snow-globe to a visit from Father Christmas himself.

Sunshine Radio brought music and cheer throughout the celebrations, helping to create a lively, welcoming atmosphere that brought residents and visitors together in true Ludlow style.

Ludlow Senior's Christmas Party

4th December 2025

Residents aged 65+ were invited to enjoy a buffet lunch, exciting raffle prizes and festive entertainment. The event took place during the afternoon at Ludlow College. The festive celebration brought the community together to create a joyful atmosphere.



The Mayor's Charity 2025/26

The Mayor's charity for 2025/2026 was Working Together Ludlow. A variety of events have been held to raise money for the Mayor's chosen charity.

Mayor's Charity Market

18th September 2025

A vibrant community market where local charities were invited to host a stall free of charge, giving them a platform to share their work and fundraise. The Mayor also ran her own stall, selling donated items and running a popular tombola, with every ticket and purchase helping to support the Mayor's Charity.

Curry Night at Shapla Restaurant

2nd October 2025

A delicious evening of great food and good company at Shapla, with every plate helping to support the Mayor's Charity. A relaxed, friendly night celebrating community generosity over a shared meal.

Fun Christmas Night at The Rose & Crown

3rd December 2025

A cosy, festive evening with Christmas Jumpers, laughter and seasonal cheer. A perfect way to enjoy the run-up to Christmas while supporting a local cause.

Music Variety Night at Ludlow Brewery

30th January 2026

An uplifting night of live music bringing together local talent and supporters for an evening of entertainment.

Quiz Night at Ludlow Brewery

17th February 2026

A fun and competitive quiz night. Teams tested their knowledge, while enjoying a great night out.

Almshouse Allstars at Ludlow Brewery

20th March 2026

A lively performance from the Almshouse Allstars, filling Ludlow Brewery with energy, music and community spirit.

Afternoon Tea at Rockspring Centre

2nd April 2026

A relaxed and elegant afternoon tea at Rockspring Community Centre, complete with homemade treats and friendly conversation.

Croquet Play Day at Ludlow Croquet Club

6th May 2026

A fun and sociable day on the lawns at Ludlow Croquet Club, with friendly matches, refreshments and plenty of laughter. A welcoming event for all abilities, raising funds for the Mayor's Charity.

1920s Theme Evening at Castle Lodge

6th May 2026

A glamorous step back into the Roaring Twenties at the historic Castle Lodge, with vintage style, delightful food and atmosphere. Guests enjoyed an elegant evening with auction, while helping to support the Mayor's Charity.

LOCAL SERVICES

Ludlow Market

Ludlow Market continues to be a vibrant hub at the heart of the town, attracting residents and visitors throughout the year with its welcoming atmosphere and wide variety of stalls. From fresh local produce and artisan foods to crafts, clothing, plants, antiques and homewares, the market remains a key part of Ludlow's character and economy.

The Regular Market runs every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, offering a broad mix of traders and goods in all seasons.



Alongside this, Ludlow hosts a strong programme of specialist and guest markets from March to December, including:

- Food & Craft Market – showcasing artisan foods, handmade gifts and creative makers.
- Local Producers Market – celebrating high-quality local produce direct from growers and makers.
- Antiques Market – a favourite for treasure-hunters, offering vintage items, collectables and curios.
- Craft & Country Market – featuring plants, garden items, rural crafts and countryside-inspired goods.

Together, these markets bring colour, creativity and community spirit to Castle Square, supporting local traders and providing a lively destination for shoppers all year round.

Street Trading

Street trading continues to play an important role in the life and character of Ludlow. Licensed pitches bring colour and activity to Castle Square and the Buttercross, where traders, makers and food vendors add to the town's lively outdoor atmosphere. The High Street pitch also supports Ludlow's café culture, with tables and chairs from a nearby café creating a welcoming space for residents and visitors to enjoy during Food Festivals.

Ludlow Town Council is proud to support the town's vibrancy by issuing permits for a wide range of cultural, community and heritage activities. Throughout the year, Castle Square hosts everything from Morris dancers and musicians to vintage vehicle displays, charity stalls and small community events – each contributing to the town's unique sense of place.

By managing street trading carefully and encouraging high-quality, community-minded use of public space, the Council helps ensure that Ludlow's historic centre remains lively, inclusive and full of character.



Ludlow Museum

Ludlow Museum at the Buttercross continues to be a valued part of the town's heritage offer, welcoming 4,924 visitors over the past year. Their support contributed to the museum's sustainability through £5,637 in entry fees and a further £1,441 in donations and merchandise sales.

Housed in one of Ludlow's most iconic historic buildings, the museum showcases a rich mix of local history, archaeology and geology, alongside a rolling programme of temporary exhibitions. Family-friendly displays and interactive elements help bring Ludlow's story to life for residents, schools and visitors.

With its central location the museum remains an accessible and engaging gateway to exploring the town's past.



Museum Assistants Petra & Francesca



LOCAL SERVICES

Amenity Areas

The Town Council cares and maintains the following public amenity areas within Ludlow:

- Linney Riverside Park
- Wheeler Road Playing Fields
- Henley Road Cemetery
- Castle Gardens
- St John's Gardens
- Weyman Road
- Henley Orchards
- Housman Crescent Play area

The tasks of the Direct Labour Force includes mowing, strimming, gardening, maintenance and watering.

Christmas Lights

The Direct Labour Force are trained and qualified in roadside maintenance and with specialist electrical contractors they maintain and install Ludlow's Christmas lights. The Council purchased new garland lights for Corve Street last Christmas.

Henley Road Cemetery

Ludlow Town Council's Direct Labour Force maintains the grounds year round. In 2025/26 there were 32 burials and 20 interments of cremated remains. A new burial section at the cemetery is now at planning stage.

The Guildhall, Mill Street

Face to face contact with Town Council customer services staff is available at the Guildhall, which is open Monday - Thursday 9:30 am - 4 pm and Friday 9:30 am - 3:30 pm.

Public Toilets

The Town Council cares and maintains the public toilets in Ludlow, these are located at Castle Street Car Park, Smithfield Car Park, Henley Road Cemetery and the Linney Riverside Park.

Community Grants

For the financial year 2025/26, Ludlow Town Council awarded grants totalling £15,600 to:

- Ludlow Concert Band
- Ludlow Hockey Club
- South Shropshire Youth Forum
- Ludlow Assembly Rooms
- Visitor Information Centre
- Ludlow Piano Festival
- Project Support Grants

Memorial Benches

Benches also provide a valuable service to the wider community, offering a place to rest and enjoy Ludlow's green spaces. Memorial benches are situated in the Cemetery, Castle Gardens and Events Square, and this year three new benches with bronze memorial plaques were installed in Castle Gardens. Volunteers support an ongoing bench refurbishment project, keeping existing benches safe, attractive and well maintained.



Ludlow Town Council Websites

The [Town Council website](#) continues to provide clear, accessible information on council services, community support, events, publications, agendas and minutes, grants, the Mayor's Charity, and updates on projects across Ludlow.

This year we also launched the new [Ludlow Market website](#), where visitors can view market days, explore trader listings, and book pitches for specialist markets — making it easier than ever to engage with our vibrant market community.

The [Ludlow Museum at the Buttercross website](#) showcases the museum's exhibitions and permanent collection, along with the popular historic town trail and map.

These websites help residents and visitors stay informed and connected with what's happening.



Buttercross Bulletin

Re-launched in Spring, this quarterly publication was distributed around Ludlow and made available from the Guildhall. A digital version is available through the Ludlow Town Council website.

Calendar of Events

Produced at the start of the year, with the help of local partners, the calendar highlights everything from specialist markets and local exhibitions to major annual events, civic occasions and community activities — reflecting the vibrancy and creativity of our town throughout the year.



Social Media

Ludlow Town Council uses its official social media accounts — including Ludlow Town Council, Ludlow Museum at the Buttercross, and Ludlow Market on platforms Facebook and Instagram — to share news, updates and information with residents and visitors.

We ask all followers and anyone engaging with our online channels to adhere to our Terms of Use (available from our website), which set out expectations for respectful and constructive interaction.

These guidelines help us maintain safe, welcoming spaces where our community can stay informed and connected. Follow us on social media for the latest information.



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Our Commitment to Climate Action

Ludlow Town Council remains firmly committed to addressing the climate and nature emergency. We recognise that environmental stewardship and biodiversity protection are inseparable priorities, and we continue to take practical, measurable action to reduce our impact and strengthen local resilience. Over the past year, we have further integrated climate responsibility into our day-to-day operations, long-term planning, and community partnerships. Our aim is simple: to ensure that the decisions we make now help secure a healthier, more sustainable Ludlow for the future.

Key Actions

Improving energy efficiency: We continue to prioritise practical steps that reduce energy use across Council operations. A more efficient heating system has been installed at the Guildhall, designed to meet Listed Building requirements while improving performance. Plans are also underway to replace additional Christmas lights to create a more cohesive display throughout the town, ensuring all lighting is LED and energy efficient.

Supporting sustainable transport: Following a review, the electric vehicles previously used by the Council proved unsuitable for the short, frequent journeys required in our day-to-day work, and reliance on public charging points affected operational efficiency. However, we remain committed to supporting sustainable travel in the town. We continue to maintain and install new bus shelters to encourage the use of public transport and to promote active travel initiatives.

Biodiversity and green space protection: Our commitment to the annual No Mow May campaign continues, helping to support pollinators and improve local air quality. The Sidney Road Town Green is now managed as a meadow area, with grass left uncut from May to September to create habitats for insects and small mammals.

At Weyman Road, the new community orchard is taking shape, with a wildlife friendly hedge and a variety of fruit trees planted in partnership with Incredible Edible Ludlow and Frank P. Matthews Trees. We are also improving the management of existing hedgerows to ensure wide, wildlife-rich margins at their base.

This year also saw the creation of a new Planting Task & Finish Group, taking on responsibility for town-centre floral displays. With drought-tolerant, pollinator-friendly plants supplied by Farlow Farm Nurseries, we are now seeking volunteers to help with watering and care throughout the summer.

Reducing waste: Our green waste is now processed locally at Priors Halton, where it contributes to renewable energy generation. As we remove damaged planters around town, any usable timber is re-purposed to create new, more sustainable replacements, and healthy plants are relocated to other suitable sites.

Community engagement: We continue to champion community involvement in environmental action. This year we will once again attend the Green Festival, giving away wild flower seeds for residents to grow at home. Local businesses, residents, a nursing home and a youth club are joining us in planting and caring for town-centre planters.

We are proud to highlight the many ways people across Ludlow are helping to boost biodiversity and take meaningful steps in response to the climate emergency. Every action, big or small, contributes to a healthier environment for all.

Looking Ahead

In the year ahead, we will continue to monitor and review our Climate Action Plan, identifying further opportunities to reduce carbon emissions, enhance biodiversity, and support sustainable initiatives across the town.

Ludlow Town Council remains committed to playing an active role in tackling the climate and nature emergency — taking practical steps, supporting community action, and working towards a greener, more resilient Ludlow for future generations.

We are keen to shout about all that is happening within Ludlow to increase biodiversity and take small steps against the climate emergency. Everyone’s actions will add up to make a real difference!





TOWN COUNCIL STAFF

Town Clerk
Gina Wilding

Deputy Town Clerk
Kate Adams

ADMINISTRATION / RECEPTION

Senior Administrative Assistant
Helen Jones
Administration Assistants
Louise Coles
Jill Rose

CEMETERY

Cemetery & Committee Officer
Charlotte Ambrazas

FINANCE

Senior Finance Assistant
Lucy Jones
Finance Assistant
Julie Cox

LUDLOW MARKET

Market Officer
Tony Caton

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing & Communications Officer
Kim Pickford

DIRECT LABOUR FORCE

DLF Supervisor
Mark Hilton
DLF Supervisor / Market Officer
Aidan Davies
Assistant Groundsperson
Kevin Pugh
Archie Round
Ian Phillips

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Public Facilities Operative
Alex Brown
Sylvia Bownes

LUDLOW MUSEUM AT THE BUTTERCROSS

Museum Assistant
Petra Bindloss
Francesca Bingham

CIVIC STAFF

Sergeant at Arms
Nick Chapman
Mace Bearer
Nick Walford
Parade Marshall
Adam Wickers

STAFF CHANGES

Assistant Groundsperson
Archie Round and Ian Phillips joined in December 2025

FAREWELL

DLF Supervisor / Market Officer
Andy Locke left in August 2025



MEETINGS & POLICIES

Council & Committee Meetings	No. of Meetings
Full Council	11
Policy & Finance Committee	8
Representational Committee	12
Services Committee	8
Staffing Committee	6
Task and Finish Groups	31
Total	76

Meetings

Full Council

The Council is a legal corporate body, entirely separate from, but comprising of its members. The Council has a duty to appoint a chairman, staff, an internal and external auditor, hold meetings, set the council's annual budget and precept, and has powers to provide local services.

Representational Committee

Makes representations to Shropshire Council on planning applications, pavement permits, licensing matters, traffic management and road closures. Consults on and agrees locations for Town Council funded bus shelters.

Policy & Finance Committee

Monitors the Council's budget expenditure and income throughout the year and reviews and approves policies.

Services Committee

Monitors the provision and consider the development of all local services.

Staffing Committee

Manages the Council's responsibilities as an employer.

Policies

The Town Council has 123 active policies. Core policy documents such as Standing Orders and Financial Regulations can be viewed on the Council's website.

New Policies

The Town Council has 4 new policies:

- Hedgerow Management Policy
- Sexual Harassment Policy
- Communications Policy
- Neonatal Care Leave Policy

Re-adopted

The Town Council has reviewed 26 policies.

[Policies can be found on Ludlow Town Council website.](#)





The most recent four-year term of Town Council began on 6th May 2025 and concludes in May 2029. The Councillors below represent the Council during 2025-2026.

Throughout the year, Ludlow Town Councillors represented the town at a wide range of civic events, ceremonies and community celebrations both locally and across neighbouring borders.



MAYOR
Councillor D Lyle
Clee View Ward



DEPUTY MAYOR
Councillor K Cowell
Corve Ward



Councillor I Maxwell - Muller
Bringewood Ward



Councillor A Tapley
Bringewood Ward



Councillor V Parry
Gallows Bank Ward



Councillor D Childs
Gallows Bank Ward



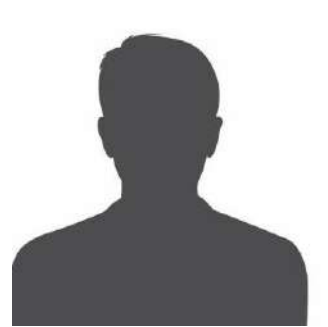
Councillor I Scott Bell
Gallows Bank Ward
Resigned May 2026



Councillor J Hepworth
Hayton Ward



Councillor M Taylor
Clee View Ward



Councillor D Ward
Clee View Ward
Resigned May 2026



Councillor B Waite
Clee View Ward
Resigned Jan 2026



Councillor G Ginger
Corve Ward



Councillor P Addis
Hayton Ward



Councillor S Harris
Rockspring Ward



Councillor T Gill
Whitcliffe Ward



Councillor R Owen
Whitcliffe Ward



MAYOR'S CIVIC VISITS

Ludlow College Show
Ludlow College, 19th June 2025

Mayor's Civic Sunday
Kidderminster, 22nd June 2025

Armed Forces Flag Flying Ceremony
Kidderminster, 23rd June 2025

Mayor's Civic Sunday
St Laurence's Church, 29th June 2025

Ludlow Green Festival
13th July 2025

Chairman's Afternoon Tea
Wharton Park, 24th July 2025

Official Opening
Inclusion Hub, 1st August 2025

Update on Sandpits Scheme
Connexus, Craven Arms, 6th August 2025

VJ Day 80th Ceremony
Peace Memorial, 15th August 2025

Remembering VJ Day Evening
Ludlow Castle, 15th August 2025

Merchant Navy Day Flag Flying Ceremony
Wyre Forest House, 3rd September 2025

Shrewsbury Mayor's Charity Event
The Quarry, 19th September 2025

Tapestry panel at Ludlow Quilting Group AGM
St Peter's Parish Hall, Ludlow, 23rd September 2025

Mayor of Bewdley Quiz Night
St George's Hall, Bewdley, 26th September 2025

Commemoration for the Battle of Britain 85th Anniversary

St Mary's Church, Ross on Wye, 28th September 2025

Wyre Forest Musical Evening
St George's Social Club, 10th October 2025

"Big Fix"
Shrewsbury Repair Cafe, 18th October 2025

Grand Opening
The Blue Boar Ludlow, 21st October 2025

Leominster Civic Service
Leominster, 26th October 2025

Wyre Forest District Council Quiz Night
St George's Hall, Bewdley, 1st November 2025

Bishop of Hereford Interfaith Reception
The Bishop's Palace, 4th November 2025



Official Grand Opening
Kidderminster Town Hall, 7th November 2025

Remembrance Parade and Service
Ludlow Peace Memorial and St Laurence's Church, 9th November 2025

Armistice Day Service
Ludlow Peace Memorial, 11th November 2025

Rotary Tree of Light
Ludlow, 28th November 2025

Christmas Lights Switch On
Ludlow, 29th November 2025

Ludlow Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
Ludlow College, 4th December 2025

Ludlow's Panto – Aladdin
Assembly Rooms, 11th December 2025

Bewdley Bingo Afternoon
Wharton Park Golf and Country Club, 24th January 2026

Opening of Pietro Lounge
28th January 2026

Wyre Forest Chairman's Charity Dinner
Kidderminster Golf Club, 31st January 2026

Much Wenlock Civic Service
Holy Trinity Church, 22nd February 2026

St Michael's Hospice Charity Shop Opening
26th February 2026

Mayor of Kidderminster Charity Ball
Kidderminster Town Hall, 28th February 2026

High Sheriff's Legal Service
Ellesmere College, 1st March 2026

Shakespeare Shout
Castle Gardens Ludlow, 23rd April 2026

Mayor of Stourport Charity Curry Night
Severn Tandoori, 30th April 2026

May Fair Dodgem Service
Ludlow, 3rd May 2026

Pershore Charity Spring Supper
The Banking Hall Pershore, 8th May 2026

Shrewsbury Mayor Making
Theatre Severn, 11th May 2026

French Twinning 40th Anniversary
Ludlow Brewery, 14th May 2026





DEPUTY MAYOR ATTENDED EVENTS

May Fair Dodgem Service
Ludlow, 3rd May 2026

Ellesmere Civic Service
Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 22nd June 2025

Mayor's Civic Sunday
St Laurence's Church, 29th June 2025

Chairman's Afternoon Tea
Wharton Park, Bewdley, 24th July 2025

Flag Flying Ceremony to honour VJ Day
Wyre Forest House, 15th August 2025

Remembering VJ Day
Ludlow Castle, 15th August 2025

Merchant Navy Day Flag Flying Ceremony
Wyre Forest House, 3rd September 2025

Stourport Carnival
6th September 2025

Droitwich Spa Quiz Night
St Andrews Hotel, 12th September 2025

Wyre Forest Musical Night
St George's Social Club, 10th October 2025

Wyre Forest District Council Quiz Night
St George's Hall, Bewdley, 1st November 2025

Official Grand Opening
Kidderminster Town Hall, 7th November 2025

Remembrance Sunday
Ludlow Peace Memorial and St Laurence's Church, 9th November 2025

Armistice Day Service
Ludlow Peace Memorial, 11th November 2025

Mayor's Charity Fun Christmas Evening
The Rose and Crown, 3rd December 2025

Ludlow Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
Ludlow College, 4th December 2025

Mayor's Charity Music Variety Night

Ludlow Brewery, 30th January 2026

Mayor of Bewdley's Valentine's Dinner
Bewdley Pines Golf Club, 14th February 2026

Mayor of Ludlow Charity Quiz Night
Ludlow Brewery, 17th February 2026

Pershore Civic Service
Pershore, 1st March 2026

Charity Music Night
Ludlow, 20th March 2026

Mayor of Stourport's Charity Curry Night
Severn Tandoori, 30th April 2026

Shakespeare Shout
Ludlow, 23rd April 2026

Mayor of Ludlow's Charity Croquet Day
Ludlow Tennis club, 6th May 2026

Mayor of Ludlow's Charity 20's Dinner
Castle Lodge, 6th May 2026

