

# Town reopening

It was great to see the town come back to life with shops and businesses reopening again in April. Please shop local and support our fantastic independent retailers as it will help the economic recovery of the town.

It is great to see so many new businesses setting up in these uncertain times and we would like to welcome them all and wish them well for the future. Ashby looks to be on track to bounce back but will need the continued local support to thrive.



## Events

As we look forward to the summer and the hope of further easing of restrictions, we look to restart our usual events program. The annual Jim's Tractor Run & Family Fun Day will be back on Sunday 25th July. Look out for more details soon. New this year is "Ashby Proms in the Park"; this is a ticket-based event. A standard ticket allocates space for you to bring your own blanket and chairs etc whilst VIP tickets include a table & six chairs. We have a fantastic line up with Ashby Big Band headlining. To purchase tickets and see all the acts please see <https://www.ashbypromsinthepark.co.uk/>

## Gateway Signs

You may have spotted that we have installed seven new gateway signs as you enter the town from each direction. Numerous images were considered as possible options for the signs (including the Castle, the Lido and the Bath Grounds). There were limitations imposed by the highway authority on the shape and size of the signs. However, the Town Council chose the Loudoun Memorial as the most appropriate landmark for the town. We hope you like them!

A big "thank you" to Dean O'Shea for providing the images. (to go under or by the images).

## Littering

Across town we are facing a huge challenge with the amount of litter. The Town Council owns and services 61 bins and we have recently added an additional 10. In addition, we upgraded all of the bins during 2019 to 65 litre units, significantly increasing our capacity.

In respect of litter-picking, the Town Council's grounds maintenance team are filling skips at the Town Council depot at about twice our normal rate. Thanks is also due to the many local volunteer litter pickers who are doing a fantastic job as well.

The Town Council works in partnership with the District Council on littering issues and they have promised:

- Increase its litter bin emptying in Ashby, paying particular attention to the hotspot areas
- Review the size of the current bins and replace them with larger ones where they are needed
- Work with the planning team regarding the provision of litter bins in new developments

We hope this will help to alleviate the current issues.

## Blue Heritage

**plaques**  
Progress on the new Blue Heritage plaques is

ongoing and we hope to start installing these by the autumn. We think these are going to be a great addition to the town and hope that you enjoy finding them all around the town.

