



Proud of the Past - Excited about the Future

TOWN MEETING REPORT

March 2022

The Initiative has thankfully retained its energetic place in Saffron Walden, serving the community where possible during the pandemic. Many trips were put on hold.

However, a trip to Hatfield Forest was well attended in September 2021 and much enjoyed by members and friends.

The 18th Dance in the Square which returned on August Bank Holiday was a huge success, organised by Jacqui Portway and Cindy White and backed up by volunteers, Terry Frostick and the Saffron Walden Town Council team. The Town Council and District Councillors supported the Dance with grants and sponsorship.

Saffron Walden Camera Club joined the Initiative to organise a photography competition for all ages. The prizes were presented by the Mayor, Richard Porch.

The 4th Xmas Business & Shop Windows competition was supported by the Town Council, with Walden Creative making an amazing video. This again gave terrific coverage of the town and what's on offer here. The Mayor presented the winning trophy to Frank Riccio Hairdressing.

The charity stalls for Xmas Late Night Shopping were organised for the Initiative by Patrick Hawke-Smith, with Jacqui Portway dealing with the musical entertainment.

Xmas House & Gardens was a morale booster for the town and, once again, Walden Creative's video caught the attention of 5 Live and an interview took place with Jacqui Portway. Lisa Courtney and Richard Porch attended the prize giving sponsored by Scotsdales Nursery. The Town Council financed the video and Dominic Davey took the photographs. Cindy White and Jacqui organised the competition and had much fun every evening discovering people's efforts. Saffron Walden never looked so good.

The Listening Bench in the Museum grounds is popular and the town's street furniture is in the process of repairs being carried out. The Mini Maze at Swan Meadow is currently awaiting a small repair to the fencing around it.

The Initiative is ongoing addressing the needs of the town and is grateful to the support of Uttlesford District Council, Saffron Walden Town Council and the community.

Jacqui Portway (Chair)