

The Local Chronicle

NEWS FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Issue 1

YOUR TOWN

October 2026

The high street plan goes to consultation this month

One sentence here that tells a neighbour why they should read on. Local papers live or die on that sentence.

BY YOUR NAME

The rest of this column is placeholder text. Type over it. A newspaper column is narrow, so put the point of the story in the first two lines and let the detail follow; readers give a column about three sentences before they decide.

Keep paragraphs short. Two or three sentences reads as a paragraph in a column of this width, and anything longer arrives as a grey slab that the eye slides off. Break for a new speaker, a new fact or a new place.

Numbers, dates and names are what people actually read a small paper for, so spell them out and check them twice. A misprinted date on a printed page cannot be edited later, which is the one real difference between this and a website.

When you have replaced everything, delete any paragraphs left over rather than stretching the text to fill. White space at the foot of a column is normal in a newspaper and looks far better than padding.

Quotations do more work than description. One sentence from somebody who was there is worth three of your own, and it gives the reader a second voice to listen to halfway down a column.

Cut the first sentence you wrote. It is almost always a run up rather than a start, and the second sentence usually turns out to be the one the story wanted to open with.

Read the whole column aloud before it goes to the printer. Sentences that trip you when you say them will trip the reader too, and on paper there is no way

to fix them afterwards.

Photographs need names. A picture with no caption is decoration; a picture with the names of the people in it, left to right, is the reason somebody keeps the paper in a drawer for thirty years.

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WHAT'S ON

Market, every Saturday
Council meeting, 14th
Litter pick, Sunday
Film night, 21st
Advertise here

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When you have replaced everything, delete any paragraphs left over rather than stretching the text to fill. White

Allotment waiting list shortens

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Bus timetable changes from the first

Practical information that people cut out and keep on the fridge. Keep paragraphs short. Two or three sentences reads as a paragraph in a column of this width, and anything longer arrives as a grey slab that the eye slides off. Break for a new speaker, a new fact or a new place. Quotations do more work than description. One sentence from somebody who was there is worth three of your own, and it gives the reader a second voice to listen to halfway down a column.

New faces at the surgery

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The main story continued from the front

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Letters and notices

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