



# Castle Fields NEWSLETTER

The latest from Berkhamsted  
Castle Trust keeping you up to  
date on progress to secure  
**Castle Fields**

Issue 1

November 2025

Welcome to our first Castle Fields newsletter.

## The Castle Fields and Our Challenge

In September 2025 **Berkhamsted Castle Trust** purchased the fields to the east of the Castle and New Road to save them from development.

Thanks go to all who participated in the Castle Fields Interest Group campaign over the last 18 months.

We must now raise **£500,000** to pay back the interest free loan over the next two years. Our aim is to make sure the Fields remain an open and accessible public space for all Berkhamsted citizens – for all time.



**BERKHAMSTED  
CASTLE TRUST**



For more information and to find out about the vital historical relevance of the Fields to the Castle visit : <https://www.berkhamstedcastle.org.uk/>

*Save Castle Fields campaign logo kindly provided by Jeanne Woodcraft of George Street,*

## FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING KICK OFF

**A BIG thank you to all of our donors who have given us an amazing start to the fundraising for Castle Fields, with donations of all sizes.**

Over the first 9 weeks you've helped us achieve a phenomenal **£30,000!**

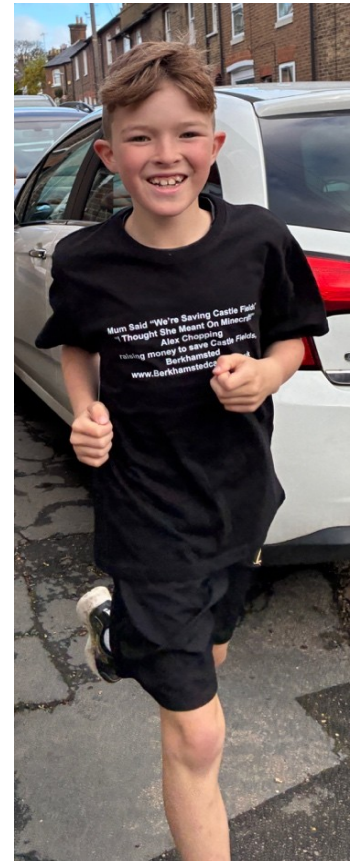
### Awesome Alex

A huge hats off has to go to **Alex Chopping** (age 10) who has raised **£1937** – including Gift Aid, through his sponsored run along George Street!

His T-shirt read 'Mum Said "We're Saving Castle Fields." "I thought she meant on Minecraft!"

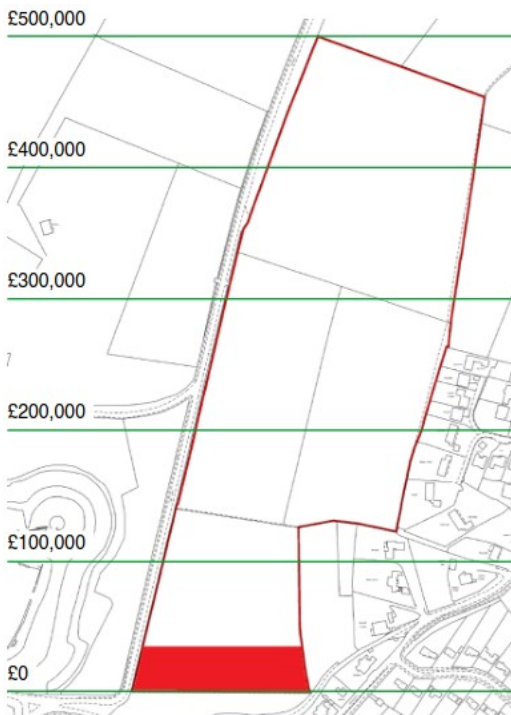
Alex said "Castle Fields is really special to us – it's where we walk our dog, Ziggy. When I heard about the campaign, I immediately wanted to do something to help."

Thank you everyone who stepped up to sponsor him. Fantastic work, and an example of how we can all get involved to make a difference – thank you Alex!



### **S O S ... Here's how YOU can get involved now**

Despite a fantastic start, our Field Thermometer shows that we have a long way to go to secure the fields. We're asking for everyone's help to raise the £500,000 of the interest free loan over the next two years.



**Any** contribution is welcome; volunteering to run or support fundraising activities, leafleting, social media expertise, or financial donations of any size.

**Spread the word** – let everyone you know that these green spaces need saving.

**Offer support** if you can, in any way. To share your ideas please contact James at [james.moir@berkhamstedcastle.org.uk](mailto:james.moir@berkhamstedcastle.org.uk)

**Share whatever you can spare** To make a donation of any size please click here: <https://www.berkhamstedcastle.org.uk/>

and help us get closer to our target.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND CONSULTATION

Berkhamsted has been identified as being “nature depleted”, largely due to the valley layout of the town. Castle Fields provide a vital green corridor for wildlife and people, connecting the town with Castle Village, Potten End, Frithsden and the Ashridge Estate, bringing communities together naturally.

The next Neighbourhood Plan consultation will run from the **26th of November 2025 until the 7th of January 2026** with a drop-in event at the Civic Centre on the **3rd of December** from **9:30 am-12 pm**.



**Please ensure you comment on the plan and register your interest in securing our green space Online using the following link: [Neighbourhood Plan Survey](#)**

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Market stall 30<sup>th</sup> November and 14<sup>th</sup> December**

Come along and support our stall at the new Artisan Market  
[www.berkhamstedartisanmarket.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedartisanmarket.co.uk)

**Christmas shopping sorted NOW**

Give a **Gift of Green** this year – donate for your children, grandchildren, friends and relatives. Help ensure they can enjoy the fields when they visit. Please click here:

**Castle Fields Christmas celebration Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

**From 2pm** - Join us for a walk in the Fields and back to the Rising Sun for mulled wine to toast the Fields.

**Half Marathon and Fun Run Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

Early-bird entries are now open for next years Half Marathon and Fun Run. Why not get training, join our team and raise some funds toward saving the Castle Fields.

**Duck Race on the Canal Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Fields Photo Competition June 2026**



More dates, details and events to come in the next Castle Fields Newsletter.

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## Spread the word. A summary from Berkhamsted Castle Trust :

- We are asking for everyone's help to raise £500,000 towards the repayment of the loan.
- These beautiful fields are part of a unique landscape of great historical significance to Berkhamsted.
- The fields will remain a bio-diverse, open and undeveloped green space, beneficial to the wellbeing of all Berkhamsted citizens and visitors now and in future..
- Footpaths will remain accessible to the public at all times, combined with some light stewardship and potential grazing.
- The fields are a key part of a jigsaw in re-connecting the Castle, the town's greatest asset, with the local community.
- Owning the fields will give the Castle Trust the platform to further interpret the heritage experience the castle offers to its visitors.



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