Hi Christopher

I just wanted to send a quick thank you to you and everyone who helped out on Sunday, it was appreciated. We had a great concert in the bandstand - you have a truly wonderful facility there that is properly designed with a good acoustic that pushes the sound out like a speaker

- what a treat!

I really think that the Town Council should consider budgeting for bands to play through the six week holidays (I'm a parish clerk myself and I've locumed at town councils so coming from this with knowledge and awareness of financial constraints!). I'll give you my reasons why and leave it with you!

- we had lots of people say how nice it was to hear a brass band in the bandstand after not having done so for years.

- lots of banding people on Facebook have said, haven't played there in years, and it was always a lovely venue!

- lots of people stopped to listen - they were enjoying it from the cafe outside seating, the fountain, and the restaurant (one couple in our break said they had planned to have one drink in the Italian next door, then they were going on to hear the band at Oulton Broad - but they decided to stay and listen as they were enjoying us).

- once you have an established setting people will come - even if you just booked a band for the six weeks summer holidays, each Sunday afternoon.

It works at Hunstanton - they have more than one band on in a day, and there's a lot of people around. Southend is also another place we've played, and had a great audience - they have bands Saturday and Sunday from May to the end of September and set out seating. Oulton Broad book bands to play each week. I did once go to Rhylstone Gardens on Isle of Wight, they had a band on in the evening once a week (weekday) as well as weekends and charge people to rent a deckchair for the evening.

People coming on holiday will look to see if there's a band playing locally - it brings footfall to the businesses in the Gardens and might in turn bring them into the town. It's a dying tradition, so supporting the local bands as well is important.

We normally receive information from the relevant councils in July, make an application to play and say what our fee is, then get confirmation in around March or April (as we need to book the date in our calendar and people need to get time off work). If bands like a venue, they'll come . Sparrows Nest is DEFINITELY top of the list of great bandstands that we like.