

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

2013/14

Lydney

Annual Town Meeting

at

The Town Hall, Lydney

On Monday 7th April 2014 at 7.00pm

All Parishioners on the Electoral Role are invited to attend the Annual Town Meeting.

B Berryman

Cllr B Berryman

Mayor – Lydney Town Council

AGENDA

(Meeting to be called to Order by the Mayor)

Housekeeping

1. Apologies
2. Adoption of the previous Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 15th April 2013
3. The Mayor's Annual Report for 2013/14
4. Annual Police Report
5. To receive the following Annual Town Council Reports:
 - ❖ Planning & Highways Committee – Chairman's Report (Cllr Bevan)
 - ❖ Amenities Committee Report (Cllr B Thomas)
 - ❖ Burial Committee Report (Cllr Harris)
 - ❖ Finance & Scrutiny Committee - Chairman's Report (Cllr Pearman)
 - To receive a copy of Lydney Town Council Accounts/Governance Statement for 2013/14 & Budget Overview for 2014/15 (Additional Hand Out)
 - ❖ CEOs Financial Report (The Budget Process/Financial Governance)
6. To receive the Annual County Councillor's Report (CCllr Preest)
7. To receive the Forest Of Dean District Council's Report
8. To note the annual Charitable Trust Reports;
 - ❖ Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust
 - ❖ Lydney Recreation Ground Trust
9. To receive a selection Community Reports (Hard copies enclosed)
 - ❖ Lydney's Neighbourhood Development Plan
10. Public Question Time (Questions submitted by the general public)
11. Close

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- ❖ **Amenities Committee Report** (Cllr B Thomas)
- ❖ **Burial Committee Report**
- ❖ **Finance & Scrutiny Committee - Chairman's Report** (Cllr Pearman)
 - *Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts*
 - *Summary of Lydney Town Council Accounts/Governance Statement for 2013/4 & Budget Overview for 2014/15*
- ❖ **CEOs Report (Financial Governance - The Budget Process (via Policy, Budget, Precept))**
- ❖ **War Memorial Officer Report**
- ❖ **Head Grounds Man Report**
- ❖ **Lydney's Flood Defence Management Meetings**

Custodial/Sole Trustee Reports;

- ❖ **Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust** (Trust Chairman – Charlotte Matthews)
 - **Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust Pavilion Tenant** (Mrs C Harris)
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- **Lydney's Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Groups Report**
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- **Lydney War Memorial Trust**
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- **The Vibe Youth Café, Lydney**
- **Lydney Dramatic Society**
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- **Royal British Legion**
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- **Lydney Area in Partnership**

Forest of Dean District Council Report (Mr P Hibberd)

Gloucestershire County Councillor's Report (CCllr Preest)

Lydney Town Council Attendance Record 2013/14/Contact Listing

**Annual Town Meeting
Held at Lydney Town Hall, Lydney
Monday 15 April 2013 at 7.02 pm**

Present: Lydney Town Council
B Berryman (Mayor), B Pearman, C Matthews, C Harris, B Thomas, V Hobman, J James, R Bonser, D Cooksley

Youth Cllrs T Cooksley & J Watkins

District Cllr T Glastonbury

Mrs J Smailes - Chief Executive Officer
Miss C Wheeler - Executive Officer
Miss K Hammond – Administrative Assistant
Mr R Lewis – Independent Internal Auditor, Wildin & Co

Gloucestershire Police
Superintendent P Haynes

13 Members of the Public

Councillor Berryman welcomed all present to the meeting and explained that no practice fire evacuations were scheduled during the event. Attendees were then informed of the location of the fire exits and were reminded that questions from the electorate would be taken later in the meeting. A warm welcome was also extended to two members of Lydney Youth Council.

All attendees were provided with a bound version of Lydney Town Council's Annual Report 2012/13.

1. **APOLOGIES**
Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs Biddle, S Osborne, W Osborne and District Cllrs Bevan and Winship
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The minutes of the Annual Assembly meeting dated 16 April 2012 were confirmed and approved as a true record and duly signed. **Proposed by Cllr Matthews, seconded by Cllr Harris.**
3. **MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012/13** – Cllr B Berryman
Cllr Berryman read out his report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.
4. **ANNUAL POLICE REPORT**
Superintendent Haynes gave an overview of the local management structure and noted that over the last 12 months crime had increased by 74 offences and the detection rate had increased to 32%. Operation Rapier was undertaken which had been targeted at key people who had caused crime. Superintendent Haynes advised that 2,500 calls had been addressed by Police in the Forest of Dean, however, he stressed that Lydney and the Forest were relatively low crime areas. Furthermore, Gloucestershire Police intended to launch a consultation event to ascertain what residents wanted to obtain from local policing.

Superintendent Haynes advised that no decision had been taken on the sale date for the Lydney Station; that Officers had been involved with enforcement action concerning the problems experienced in Albert Street and that the Store Watch Scheme had been instigated in response to an increase in shop crime, with Lydney being the first Town to embrace the scheme.

Q – ASB’s?

A – Anti Social Behaviour

Cllr Harris advised that the Lydney Store Watch Scheme was instigated by PCSO Wilce. Cllr Harris then spoke on the success of the Scheme, which encompassed both small and large retailers, with monthly meetings held at Lydney Police Station. Cllr Harris commended PCSO Wilce on his initiative.

Q – The Crime figures in the report have not been broken down in to separate categories. Are we able to obtain this information from the Police’s website?

A – Yes. However, if you are not able to locate the information please contact the Town Council who will relay your contact details to me.

5. **LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance and Scrutiny – Cllr B Pearman

Cllr Pearman read out his report, as contained in the Council’s Annual Report for 2012/2013.

The CEO then summarised the Council’s Accounts and Governance Statement for 2012/13 and gave a budget overview for 2013/14.

Cllr Pearman advised that the Council had received letters from Mr G Hill and Mr G Lewis on the same subject (i.e. why was it necessary to increase the Council tax by 9.9%?), on which he provided a joint reply, this being that i) due the changes in the calculation of Band D Property Tax the Council would have witnessed a 2%+ increase against the previous year even if it had resolved to keep the Precept the same as the previous year, ii) Forest of Dean District Council’s Council Tax Guide shows the overall Precept total for Lydney as being lower than 2012/13, iii) when compiling the budget Council are required to determine the total amount of money it needs to not only maintain but to improve and facilitate greater service delivery locally, iv) when comparing figures to that of neighbouring Towns it is important to compare on a “like for like” basis the facilities/services addressed by each Town Council (examples of the work undertaken by the Council were duly given).

Planning and Highways Committee – Cllr C Harris (on behalf of Cllr W Osborne)

Cllr Harris read out the Committee’s report, as contained in the Council’s Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Attendees were also informed that a multi agency meeting had taken place the previous week, at which the Environment Agency had agreed to “model” the canal to ascertain the flow/level of water. It was noted that multi agency meetings would continue throughout the year.

Q – Does the Town Council possess a Community Emergency Plan which includes provision for flooding incidents?

A – Yes, the Plan was formulated and addressed by Cllr D Cooksley; the Council also has a sandbag provision and all Councillors assist with the filling of sandbags in times of need. The Town Council also operates a “sandbag telephone tree”.

Q - Do you know what is happening about the Supermarket applications?

A - The application by Robert Hitchins Limited/Sainsburys Supermarkets has yet to be considered by Forest of Dean District Council; the Asda/JD Norman/MMC application we believe will be submitted to Forest of Dean District Council at some point this week and it will be the decision of Forest of Dean District Council as to whether the applications are considered at the same meeting, or separately.

The importance of the Neighbourhood Development Plan was stressed to all present as it would be a catalyst for positive change for the Town; attendees were encouraged to examine the Plan and to also contact Cllr Pearman, Chairman, NDP Steering Group to engage with the Group's work.

Amenities Committee – Cllr B Thomas

Cllr Thomas read out the Committee's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Lydney Youth Council – Youth Cllr T Cooksley

Youth Cllr Cooksley spoke on the good level of response which had been received regarding the formation of a Youth Council and hoped that it would be possible to increase the membership by a further five youths. It was noted that the Youth Council had a number of projects which it wished to pursue, which included a leaflet of all the activities available in the Town, a Skate Jam during the summer months and also a concert in Lydney Community Centre. Youth Cllr Cooksley hoped that Youth Council would be able to complete a number of the aforementioned projects during the 2013-2014 year.

War Memorial Officer – Cllr C Harris (on behalf of Cllr W Osborne)

Cllr Harris read out the Committee's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

6. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – County Cllr Cooksley

County Cllr Cooksley summarised his report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Q – As a District Councillor, members of the public have voiced concern to me over the County Council's 50% cut to the Trading Standards department and also the cuts to the local library service. What action have you taken to fight for Lydney on the matter?

A – Whilst libraries had initially been rated as a low level of importance regarding service delivery, this situation has now reversed as a result of complaints from members of the public. The County Council has attempted to minimise the impact of the cuts for members of the public.

Q – When is the commencement date for the £10,000 funding allocated to each County Councillor for use in the community? Is it at the beginning of the new financial year, or at the County Council elections?

A – I believe that the funding commences at the start of the new financial year, but I will confirm the commencement date. Part of the £10,000 funding for 2012/13 has been earmarked for Vehicle Activated Signs for the Town.

7. **COMMUNITY REPORTS**

Lydney War Memorial Trust – Mr Frank Bennett, Chairman

Mr Bennett read out the Trust's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Lydney Town Hall Trust Management Committee – Mr Colin Knight, Chairman

Mr Knight read out the Committee's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Lydney Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group – Cllr Brian Pearman, Chairman

Cllr Pearman read out the Group's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Q – Two applications have been submitted which affect the Town. Will the NDP have been approved by the time the applications are determined by the District Council?

A – Whilst the Town Council are Statutory Consultees on all planning applications which affect the Town, Forest of Dean District Council are the Local Planning Authority and as such, it is they who determine planning applications. The Town Council has already submitted Material Considerations in respect of the application by Robert Hitchins Limited/Sainsburys Supermarkets, and has also held meetings with the applicants. It is clear from legislation that the role of the NDP should be to improve the Town and to influence future development in order that it does not take the life out of the Town.

Q – Will the NDP be able to influence development on Brownfield, rather than Greenfield, sites?

A – The use of Brownfield sites for development is supported by the Sustainability Act 2007 and the Localism Act 2011. Whilst it is not possible for us to change planning approval which has already been granted, it is widely felt that Greenfield sites should not be utilised for commercial premises.

Friends of Lydney Hospital – Mr Midgeley, Chairman

Mr Midgeley read out the "Friends" report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013 and reminded Members of Lydney Town Council that the Hospital was for Lydney and District; urged all attendees to continue the fight to retain the Hospital and stressed the invaluable role undertaken at the Hospital by a number of volunteers.

Royal British Legion – Lydney Branch – Mr A Edwards, Treasurer

Mr Edwards read out the Group's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Forest of Dean Railway Limited – Mr P Adams, Chairman

Mr Adams read out the Group's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013.

Q – Is a Charity to be formed regarding St Mary's Bridge?

A – The organisation is considering a Government initiative to form a small Trust for specific items; said Trust would be of a charitable nature.

The CEO advised that the Town Council had opposed the introduction of car parking charges across the Forest of Dean and had presented a paper to Forest of Dean District Council expressing Council's view that it was detrimental for the District Council to use the income from car parks to support its budget.

Lydney Area in Partnership – Mr B Hobman, Vice Chairman

Mr Hobman read out the Group's report, as contained in the Council's Annual Report for 2012/2013; gave an overview of the Partnership's formation; stressed the importance of the Main Line Railway Station for the Town; emphasised the need to secure a safe method for members of

the public to cross to the station.

8. **QUESTION/ANSWER PERIOD**

Two questions relating to the Council's finances were addressed as part of the report by the Finance and Scrutiny Committee Chairman.

Questions were raised and responded to during individual reports. Accordingly, no questions were raised under this agenda item.

9. **CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 8.58 pm.

Mayor's Annual Report 2013/14

The last year, in some ways, has been a disappointing one for me as Chairman of Lydney Town Council. There is still no public crossing at Lydney railway station, no action with the road junctions at Bream Road and Forest Road and no movement on a new supermarket for the town. Oakdale is still a satellite of the town, being almost isolated; it is important that it becomes integrated.

The Youth Council is floundering since the loss of Councillor Janice James and the Council are working hard with The Dean Academy to try and ensure it keeps going and also attracts further youth councillors.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan is in the final stages, thanks to the hard work of Councillor Brian Pearman, his group of co-opted members and administrative support from Town Council Officers.

The standard of Lydney cemetery continues to be improved along with the closed churchyard at St. Mary's Church, which includes a wild flower garden. The space for burial in the cemetery has been increased and currently the Council are considering taking over The Millennium Wood at Aylburton for a scattering area and possible interment of caskets.

The ground staff continue to carry on their good work in and around the town with residents being very complimentary of their achievements.

The new Christmas lights purchased by the Council, organised by Councillor Osborne, proved very successful with an abundance of compliments; the Council now aims to build year on year on this success in order to promote Christmas trade within the town during the festive period.

The Town Council, working with FODDC, carried out clearance of the River Lyd adjacent to Recreational Trust Ground to increase the flow of water. This appears to have been successful as no flooding took place in the centre of the town and the Recreational Trust land/pitches cleared very quickly. The Council/Trust now aim to clear the other side of the Albany Bridge in partnership with Dean Forest Railway.

The Town Council have also worked in partnership with FODDC, Gloucestershire County Council and residents to solve the flood problems experienced in Lakeside. The culvert directly behind one property has been cleared, the main drain pipe running under the road has also been cleared and gulley tops have replaced some of the manhole covers to increase soak away. I would like to thank all those who have worked hard to facilitate this work. Currently the Flood Defence Meetings are looking to resolve the issues experienced at Faller Fields; again due to inadequate drainage having been initially installed.

This year has seen the Town Council increase the number of allotments by leasing land from Two Rivers, we will continue to look to expand the number of allotment plots in line with public demand.

Currently steps are being taken to overcome the problems associated with parking/air pollution outside Bream Road School; Gloucestershire County Council aim to introduce parking restrictions in the area to alleviate congestion.

Lydney's Annual Police Report
2013/14

Crimes.

- The number of crimes that have taken place across Lydney have decreased from 635 to 477 (158 less crimes) which is a 24.88% decrease.
- Statistics suggest that you are 24.88% less likely to be a victim of crime than in the same period the year before.
- We have detected 49.75% less crime in this period compared to last period. However this maybe due to officer's using alternative disposal methods such as restorative justice.

Incidents.

The number of incidents that get called to Police regarding your areas give an indication of the amount of requests for help or support we receive from your residents. Every incident gets categorised but categorisation is subjective thus you cannot extrapolate any meaningful information from the call grouping.

There have been 2883 calls to Police during this period compared to 3193 Calls last period. A difference of 310 calls.

Call category	1/4/2013 to 25/2/2014	1/4/2012 to 25/2/2013
Alarms	0	0
ASB	538	653
Crime	557	687
Admin	331	368
Public Safety	946	1059
Road Traffic	511	426
=	2883	3193

Lydney Response times.

The Force response time target is to attend emergency requests for help to your residents within 20 minutes.

We aim to get to every incident of this nature within this time but accept that occasionally we will fail thus set a target of 90%.

Lydney Police Issues.

- We have still not decided where a potential Police Information Point will be sited if the Police Station were to close. We have no decision on this question. The location most favoured at present is the Fire Station in Lydney.
- An official speed survey is to be carried out in Alvington and local officers will be conducting regular speed checks in the area over the coming months.
- Your local Officers are; Inspector 1369 Lynch Warden, PS1771 Kate Croudace, PC2142 Philip Hopkins, PC1205 Nick Assirati, PCSO49218 Daniel Wilce, PCSO49252 Tom Oliver, PCSO49136 Gee, PCSO49206 Lang.

SARA PLANS.

There are currently no live SARA plans for Lydney; however our priorities are Anti social driving in the town centre and its car parks and speeding on Lydney High Street and in Alvington.

PS1771 Kate Croudace

**ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL
REPORTS**

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

2013 -2014

My Planning and Highways Report is very brief due to the fact as I have only recently been appointed Chairman of said Committee I have had only a few hours in which to compile this report; I would however like to give you some insight to the workings of our Planning and Highways Committee

The role of a Town or Parish Planning Committee is very limited in power, we are in fact only Statutory Consultees which means in essence that the power to make decisions ultimately lies with the Forest of Dean District Council's (FODDC) Group Planning Officer and his Committee except other than in special circumstances, for example very large developments which could be called in and examined by the Secretary of State.

Copies of Planning Applications applicable to our area are sent to the Town Council for scrutiny by our Committee; we are permitted to respond by means of 'material comment' (which means any comment returned by the Town Council must be both factual and in line with recognised planning terminology i.e. if the planned extension to a property was too large for the plot of land the comment returned may well be - *Objection; over development of footprint*). If an application is not deemed to be seen as controversial and Members have not been lobbied by any of our constituents then we normally now state either 'no comment' or 'no objection'. FODDC Officers at District level will normally make a decision on most applications under delegated powers. Only specific applications are considered by the FODDC Committee by being 'called in' by either the Officer or Committee Members.

As part of the Town Council's planning role we can put forward recommendations as to what we would like from an application in the form of a S106 agreement which in simplistic terms can be deemed as a Planning Gain, (e.g. from large developments like the recent applications for Lydney East and Allaston S106 contributions provide the much needed infrastructure which make such developments sustainable i.e. improved footpaths, bus links, etc).

In October & November we were faced consecutively with Sainsburys & Asda applications, coupled with the redevelopment of the JD Norman Foundry.

Both supermarket applications were recommended for refusal by the FODDC Officers, the Town Council therefore found itself in a position whereby if it were to accept such a recommendation then our Town could lose out on over £12m of investment (some £800k directly to Lydney Town Council for Town Centre enhancements).

Lydney Town Council therefore decided to support both applications in the event that if one failed there was a chance the other would possibly succeed. We successfully negotiated a very advantageous Head of Term Conditions with both Asda & Sainsburys.

At the October Planning meeting at Coleford the FODDC Planning Committee overwhelmingly approved the Sainsburys application. The following month the decision was overturned on the advice of the FODDC Group Planning Officer at Coleford. That same day the Asda scheme was approved (*by just one casting vote of the FODDC Planning Chairman*), mainly on the strength of securing jobs at JD Norman which, at the time of writing my report, the planning permission has still not been signed off by the District Council, effectively freezing nearly £400k of benefit to our Town!

Another very controversial development for that of 200 homes at Allaston was thankfully refused by FODDC, this decision being very much supported by Lydney Town Council Members. This decision will obviously be appealed and may form the basis of a Public Enquiry by the Secretary of State or even a Judicial Review.

Another recent successful application was for a large Solar Farm now under construction; the site being prime agricultural land, Hurst Farm, which was not endorsed by the Town Council. The race for Solar power tariffs seems to have no bounds and little or no planning guidance from National Framework policies which give us no robust direction to work from.

As regards to the **Local Travel Infrastructure**, little progress has been made in securing a footbridge at the Rail Station; we must remember we are dealing with Network Rail, Train Service Providers & the DDA Act. There does however appear to be some progress with plans to extend the car parking facilities.

Flood Management during the last few months came under considerable pressure with several homes in Lakeside Avenue being flooded over the Christmas period; this was mainly due to a blocked trash screen. Since then I am pleased to report that several enhancements/improvements to culverts/drains have taken place in the said vicinity; there is of course more work which needs addressing to resolve issues faced in Fallers Field. We trust that FODDC Officers will also resolve the issue concerning land ownership/responsibility for the trash screen. I sincerely believe that prudent management by the Environment Agency with control of lock gates saved the Town Centre from flooding during the Spring Tides.

Traffic management in the Town Centre is a constant struggle; we are patiently awaiting the positioning of the VAS (vehicle activated signage), along with HGV information signs which we have suggested should be sited at Hams Road & Tutnalls Street advising no access to JD Norman Industries.

Congestion parking in Bream Road is currently being addressed by Gloucestershire County Council Highways Dept and yellow lines will soon appear outside of the Bream Road School in order to prevent an accident. The Town Council have successfully negotiated free off street parking at peak times in Bream Road Car Park for parents/guardians of pupils at the School.

The Bream Road/High Street Junction is back on the County Agenda and we await sight of such plans.

The long awaited **Bus & Pedestrian Link Road** from Cambourne Place to Oakdale is now under construction after a Court Order was issued to the developer; this will hopefully result in a far more frequent bus service connecting the Town Centre, Tutnalls, the Estate & the rail station.

Cllr James Bevan

Chairman of Planning Highways Committee

Amenities Committee Chairman's Report 2013/2014

This has been my third year as a Town Councillor and second as Chair of the Amenities Committee. Being involved with Council activities makes the years seem to come rolling around faster and faster.



You may recall that the Council improved the South Road allotment site by acquiring an area of grass verge on a short term lease from Two Rivers Housing Association. This has now been fenced and new paths laid to provide additional plots. To continue the good work three Intermediate Bulk Containers were bought and a roof and

guttering system installed to provide rainwater harvesting for the site. The number of tenants has increased by 5, leaving 12 people still on the waiting list.



Continuing on a horticultural theme – a new four-year grass cutting contract was agreed with Richard Cole, running from April 2013 to October 2016. Part of the new arrangements involved a proposal by Councillor Bill Osborne to leave a strip of land uncut at the gateways to the town. After scarifying, wildflowers would be sown initially and the grass left uncut until August to allow the plants to set seed for the following year. It was too late in the season to commence the work in 2013, but fresh discussions have recently taken place with Richard Cole and his nominated seed supplier, to establish the changes required in the maintenance of the verges. We are also hoping to make contact with Gloucestershire County Council after their successful introduction of wildflower planting brightening the approach to the city.

Despite improvements that help to make Lydney a better place to live, some problems seem to be impossible to deal with, the Town Council continue to receive complaints which relate to litter and dog fouling. To deal with these complaints costs money. The Railway Station and Bus Station seem to act as magnets for litter; dog fouling ‘hot spots’ can happen anywhere. Whilst the Council may choose to provide dog waste bins there is a cost, both for the initial purchase (approx. £100 per bin), plus the emptying of them. We were also advised Gloucestershire County Council would no longer carry out roadside weed spraying. This work has now passed to the Council's Ground Staff - additional work and extra cost for providing the chemicals with no recompense!

We hope that you were pleased with the new Christmas Lights. They now belong to the town. We hope to add to them each year to cover a greater area and bring a bit of festive sparkle. A new working group led by Councillor Harris has already met to plan the arrangements for Christmas 2014.

During last year a depressing note was introduced by a report commissioned by the Forest of Dean District Council, concerning the play equipment at Primrose Hill. The report classed the zip wire, basket swing and rope-log swing as “not fit for purpose”. The report and repeated vandalism resulted in the Council arranging for the equipment to be removed for safety reasons. Despite this setback we hope to secure grant funding in order to enable the Council to purchase/install new equipment as soon as possible.

Additional new machinery had to be bought to enable council staff to undertake grass cutting in the Cemetery and St Mary's Churchyard. As well as superior grass cutting this machinery is capable of a dual role, in that it can also be used to clear pavements of snow and apply grit as necessary.

On the subject of snow, 15 new grit bins were purchased and placed at strategic locations throughout Lydney. The majority of these bins have been added to Gloucestershire County Council's gritting schedule. The County Council fills the bins initially and then it's down to Town Councillors and Council staff to keep them restocked as supplies allow. In periods of adverse weather we have received reports of thefts of salt from the grit bins – we would encourage anyone who witnesses such events to report them to the Police.

The growth in housing to the east of the town, at Oakdale, has highlighted a number of problems. Difficulty with access to schools, the town centre and railway station have seemed insurmountable. Despite this there is an active Residents Association trying to foster a community spirit. To aid this, the Town Council has provided a notice board, in association with Keir Homes, to keep the community informed. We are also hoping to develop this initiative with another notice board at Primrose Hill in the near future.

Trying to extend the link with outlying areas, a working party was formed to investigate a proposed cycle path from Lydney to Parkend. David Street, a co-opted member of the Council, continues to work with the District Council, the Forestry Commission and Dean Forest Railway to establish the best outcome. Also this year discussions took place with Network Rail to try to find ways of improving the use of the station; everything from the state of the car park, ticket provision and access to the west bound platform when the automatic barriers are lowered. A Master Planner was appointed and this report can be seen on the NDP website;

<http://www.lydneyndp.org.uk/download/transport/Network%20Rail%20Station%20Masterplan%20Dec%202013.pdf>.

Once again, as last year, I end this report as much looking forward as back, that will always be the nature of the Council's work; it's not task driven but seeks to remain responsive to the needs of the community. We have seen a high turnover in the Councillors during these three years, but each new arrival in the Council Chamber brings their own unique enthusiasm and fresh vision to the matters in hand.

Cllr Brian Thomas

Amenities Committee Chairman

Burial Committee Report

'We aim to keep the Cemetery to a standard that provides a place of comfort, tranquillity and reflection for all those who visit.'

In 1955 a Cemetery, managed by Lydney Town Council, was opened on the west side of Church Road; the triangular site being on the corner of Church Road and the A48.

In May 2013 a Town Council Burial Committee was formed to oversee project improvement work planned for both the Cemetery and the Closed Churchyard at St Mary's and also the necessity to secure additional interment space.

The Town Council Ground staff have worked tirelessly to transform an area of scrubland into an area that is now called 'The Garden of Reflection', located at the bottom left hand side of the cemetery. The Mayor and Cemetery Councillor 'Champion' Cllr Bob Berryman officially opened 'The Garden of Reflection' on Wednesday 8th May 2013 adding *"This has been a very worthwhile project which we trust will provide those visiting Lydney Cemetery with the knowledge that loved ones are being well cared for and providing them with the opportunity to spend longer in what now is a peaceful and secluded area of reflection"*.



During the Inaugural meeting of the Burial Committee on 28 May 2013 the first topic Members were faced with was the maintenance of the 'Old Garden of Remembrance'. Listening to the comments raised by the public, Members resolved to issue a formal 12 month notice of its intention to remove from the area all weeds, shrubs and ornaments in order that an appropriate membrane could be laid and then covered with a suitable material to provide uniform dignity. Public Notices were placed in the local press, the Cemetery notice board and the Council's newsletter and work will commence upon completion of the notice period – April 2014.

The maintenance and upkeep of the Cemetery is of utmost importance and the grass is cut regularly during the growing period (*normally April until the end of October*). The grass cutting is now carried out by our Town Council Ground Staff, a member of Ground Staff also visits the Cemetery regularly during the normal working week (Monday to Friday), and carries out general tidying and maintenance work within the Cemetery. During the last month the tarmacking/edging of the entrance path to the Cemetery has been addressed, again raising the Cemetery standard and guarding against a slip/trip hazard.

Following recent concerns over the lack of burial space within Lydney, two tarmac areas (formally Cremated Remains Gardens C & D) have been removed in order to extend the burial area, providing approx.10-15 additional burial spaces (*whilst still allowing for a hearse and family car*). The Committee have also entered into dialogue with Lydney Park Estate to establish the feasibility of utilising the Millennium Wood as Green Burial space for scattering of ashes.

Cllr Carol Harris

Burial Committee Chairman



Finance and Scrutiny Committee Chairman's Report 2013/2014

I have just completed my second full year as Finance Chair, and as last year Lydney Town Council, like Central Government, has faced and will continue to face significant challenges on the financial front.

Following the previous year's progress in how the Council budgets and monitors/controls its expenditure and income (making the best possible use of public money) and improving governance/procedures this has been a year of consolidation.

Key benchmarks are;

- **The Year End Return was again signed off on time by the External Auditors with no issues**
- **The Council finished the year within budget and will do so again this year**
- **The Council's General Reserves are approaching the desired level. *The Council cannot afford complacency and must continue to strive to retain the high standard of financial governance.***

This increased awareness/accountability really is the result of a team effort involving both Staff and Councillors working together, and this must continue in order to enable Council to meet the challenges coming our way, such as a 'capping' of Local Councils (Parish & Town) in the next couple of years. A sound and robust financial base and the management controls implemented will enable the Council to face the future with confidence.

Last year I spoke of training, and I can report that the CEO has been awarded her **Foundation Degree in Community Engagement and Governance which she attained with Merit**, the Executive Officer is close to completion of **Certificate in Local Council Administration** and the Finance Assistant and Admin Assistant are progressing **Working With Your Council** (*all recognised local council accreditations*). Councillors have also attended training events ranging from Chairmanship to De-Fib training. Two Councillors are also registered on the Working With Your Council course, and one Councillor has achieved Foundation Degree in Community Engagement and Governance. The training needs of our Ground Staff are also being addressed to help increase their efficiency and job satisfaction as we introduce changes to working practices to deliver our service plans.

All staff regularly attend staff meetings and also take part in the Staff Appraisal Process on an annual basis. This two way dialogue not only enables the Council to learn more about its staff's aspirations and wishes, it also provides the Council with an opportunity to explain its plans for the future and also for discussion as to how we see the staff fulfilling and achieving such aims. We now have the best trained, qualified and experienced staff and Councillors in the history of Lydney Town Council and we will continue to improve in this area year on year in order to stay ahead of the game!

In summary, I believe that Lydney Town Council now have the firm foundations necessary, not just to face the challenges of the future, but to grasp the opportunities which will present themselves as we move into a very exciting time in the Town's existence.

Cllr Brian Pearman

Finance & Scrutiny Chairman/Personnel Committee Chairman

Chief Executive Officers Report 2013/14

Introduction

Prior to 2010 the Council's accounts did not meet Governance & Accountability Guidelines.

Previously the Council 'approved' its yearly budget/Precept figure based on a Net basis. This sum however was exhausted prior to each year end, resulting in the Council 'grossing' its budget (i.e. it then spent in that same financial year the VAT it had reclaimed against its years expenditure).

Despite using the VAT reclaimed Members also continued to overspend against their 'approved' budget (evidenced by the sums taken year on year from its General Reserves) in order to meet its yearly financial commitments. **[In other words Lydney Town Council spent its approved budget plus the VAT reclaim (i.e. at this year's current rate this would amount to an additional 20% - £20,000 in every £100,000!) and STILL it Members took an additional sum year on year from G/Rs!]**

Upon commencement of my employment; Sept 2010, the Council's accounts were shown as being;

Current Account of £21,570,

General Reserves of £77,613, plus additional accounts held (non-compliant with Audit Regulations).

- As opposed to today's reconciled balances which show, as of 28th February 2014, as being *(Appendix 1 – Copy of March expenditure/Februarys reconciled Accounts, duly approved by Members);*

Current Account: - £58,468.49

NDP Account: - £10,037.55

Youth Council Account: - £ 885.96

General Reserve Account; - £200,016.35

(£49,392.64 is 'earmarked' reserves i.e. allocated towards a specific project; therefore not classed as 'free' G/Rs and should therefore be discounted when talking about the Council's General Reserve)

Note: The Council should hold approx. 3 – 12 months of gross expenditure in its 'free' G/R account in order that it can meet its financial commitments at the start of each financial year whilst awaiting the Precept.

The Town Council's Budget (Yearly expenditure)

It is important that the Town Council's budget is calculated via PBP (Policy, Budget, Precept) determination.

The Process

1. Each September/October Committees meet to discuss their financial requirements for the forthcoming financial year, considering contractual payments and projects etc. and whether they wish to continue to provide a particular service or whether to expand/improve it i.e. Cemetery project/additional burial provision at Millennium Wood.
2. In Lydney Town Council's case the Charitable Trusts are required to do likewise however it must be recognised that although the Town Council have Sole Custodial responsibility, the Trusts have no power to influence the Council's decision and this in itself therefore means a balancing act between the service provision/budget which will eventually be approved by Council and the necessity to include in the Council's budget a sum of money which can be donated to each of the two Trusts.
3. Once each of the Committees (and Trusts) have considered/approved and the agreed budget for the following financial year has been duly Minuted, these sums are collated on to one financial summary sheet.
4. The collated summary sheet is then considered by the Finance and Scrutiny Committee who (should be) then looking at the total budget figure (already agreed by the Committees/Trusts) and considering it against the 'offset' figures.

(Below is an explanation as to how the 'offset' figure is calculated)

[The 'offset' figures being;

- a) *A percentage of known income (probable income should be utilised sparingly or discounted as it could change and if this were to happen when the budget had been approved it could result in a deficit i.e the probable income received may be less than the sum anticipated).*
- b) *An approved sum taken from General Reserves at the start of the financial year (its aim being to reduce the Precept request to an acceptable percentage increase).*

[Note: The difference between taking an 'offset' figure at this stage and drawing from G/Rs mid-year to meet a deficit being;

- *it enables the Council to remain within its 'approved' annual budget.*
- *Members approve the sum to be taken in advance and so should be gauging whether there is a necessity to 'bolster' G/Rs for the following year or whether it is in fact possible to utilise a greater percentage to 'offset' the Precept demand].*

(At this point, and in line with training offered, Councillors should be asking themselves;

1. *Is there sufficient in G/Rs for a specific project (or do we need to accumulate funding)*
2. *Does the Council still retain sufficient 'free' reserves to meet the accountancy guidelines (Min 3 - 12 months spend)*
3. *How are proposed changes in legislation likely to affect the Council's finances? i.e. if Parish /Town Council's in the future are capped at 2% will the Council have accumulated a sufficient sum prior in order that we can then maintain/continue to improve service delivery without potentially having to face a referendum and its associated costs?*
4. *Are we likely to be asked to take on additional services by FODDC e.g. CCTV ? What happens if we go Unitary and are expected to provide additional services within the parished area?)*

How is the 'offset' figure made up;

The 'offset' figure is made up of;

- *a percentage of the known income, together with a small percentage of probable income i.e. from interment charges*
- *the considered/duly approved sum taken from General Reserves and Minuted as such accordingly (an informed financial decision).*

So how does the Council generate General Reserves

- *At the end of each financial year (Year End) any 'saving' made against the previously 'approved' budget is transferred into the General Reserve account*
- *Income is 'banked' directly into the G/R account (recharges however are banked into current A/C and are funds used in same financial year)*
- *VAT is reclaimed (as appropriate) and placed directly into G/R account (as otherwise it would inflate the 'approved' budget)*

Note: The 'offset' figure which is considered and duly approved by Members each year as part of budget determination is therefore made up of a percentage of its previous year's VAT reclaim (Councillors making an informed decision as to how much to take from G/Rs based on forthcoming projects and the necessity to retain the guideline sum).

- ***By addressing in the aforementioned manner the Council remain in full control of its 'approved' spend and remain within budget, thereby protecting the 'public' money/ the 'public purse'.***

5. The Council's Budget (including Precept demand, which is determined by taking the total budget, deducting the percentage income to be used and the 'offset' figure (*taken from G/Rs (previous years VAT reclaim)*)), is then voted upon by the Finance & Scrutiny Committee and then becomes a recommendation to that of Full Council.
6. During either December/January each year Full Council are then presented with the Finance & Scrutiny Committee's budgetary recommendation. Members are then required to consider/approve their recommendation and consider/approve the Precept demand determined therefrom.
7. As the new financial year commences a new Daily Book, Council's financial accounting sheet (which is kept in accordance with Audit regulations) is created.

Summary

The aforementioned local governance accountancy process can be evidenced as being correct by reading; ***Governance & Accountability for Local Councils - A Practitioners Guide (England) 2010.***

Lydney's Public Interest Report dated 2011 commends how the Council have since implemented the requisite standards in order to 'protect' the 'public purse' against further ***Ultra Vires*** action/incorrectly executed spends.

It is also worth noting that the Council's Independent Internal Auditor – Wildin & Co and the Audit Commission's appointed External Auditor – Grant Thornton LLP have both commended the Council on the financial controls implemented since that of 2010.

Conclusion

As the Town Council's Responsible Financial Officer I am required to implement and also uphold high standards of financial governance which involves keeping abreast of legislative change. The repealing of LGA 1972 s150 (5) permits Parish and Town Councils to use electronic banking legally and is a significant change to 'local policy' bringing Parish and Town Councils into the twenty first century, it is however an area which will need to be 'controlled' effectively in order that it poses no risk to the 'public purse'; with stringent 'in-house' control measures already in place this Council will ensure this is the case.

To conclude; my annual report would not be complete without me extending my personal thanks and sincere appreciation to all of the Council staff; not only for their continued support and immense level of service delivery and indeed their sheer motivation, but also for the innovative approach each and every one of them is now displaying on almost a daily basis – well done and thank you!

Jayne Smailes

Chief Executive Officer

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -

MARCH 2014

Opening Bank Balances as 1st April 2013

LLOYDS BANK - Current account		51,153.97		
LLOYDS BANK - Youth Council (Current)		450.00		
LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:				
S106	29,191.50			
Lydney War Memorial	1,318.00			
Primrose Hill Play Area	8,000.00			
Cemetery	16,529.14			
Neighbourhood Development Plan	5,127.85	60,166.49		
LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve		104,183.89	164,350.38	
			<u>215,954.35</u>	

-£15,850.37 2012/13 Commitments Brought Forward

RECEIPTS

Receipts APRIL	226,497.94			Includes Precept inst 1 of 2
Receipts MAY	3,841.33			
Receipts JUNE	11,573.69			
Receipts JULY	9,189.85			
Receipts AUGUST	11,285.83			
Receipts SEPTEMBER	224,200.18			Includes Precept inst 2 of 2
Receipts OCTOBER	2,838.25			
Receipts NOVEMBER	10,567.34			
Receipts DECEMBER	1,601.56			
Receipts JANUARY	2,899.95			
Receipts FEBRUARY	13,910.88			
Receipts MARCH	0.00			
NDP: Income banked to NDP current a/c	3,882.55			
Youth Council: Income banked to YC current a/c	0.00			
		Total Receipts YTD	522,289.35	

Receipts Summary attached

PAYMENTS

Payments APRIL	24,604.10			
Payments MAY	44,666.17			
Payments JUNE	34,364.09			
Payments JULY	44,353.95			
Payments AUGUST	38,007.37			
Payments SEPTEMBER	27,191.97			
Payments OCTOBER	60,996.18			
Payments NOVEMBER	38,477.38			
Payments DECEMBER	42,773.20			
Payments JANUARY	28,691.35			
Payments FEBRUARY	36,922.31			
Payments MARCH	35,197.23			
Payments PRIOR TO YEAR END	0.00			
NDP: Cheque Payments to date from NDP a/c	12,476.01			
Cheque Payments to date from Youth Council a/c	114.04			
		Total Payments YTD	468,835.35	
		Total	269,408.35	

Detailed below

Also: £15,850.37 prior to LTC Apr & Jul (prior to NDP a/c being opened)
 Also: £450.00 included in LTC Jun (prior to set up in Financial Statement)
 £605.84

Reconciled Bank Statements as at end

FEBRUARY

LLOYDS BANK - Current account		58,468.49		See bank statements attached
LLOYDS BANK - Youth Council - current		885.96		no recent transactions
LLOYDS BANK - NDP - current		10,037.55	<< amend if cheques written	
LLOYDS BANK - Earmarked Reserves:				
S106	29,191.50			
Lydney War Memorial	1,197.00			
Primrose Hill Play Area	8,000.00			
Cemetery	11,004.14			
Neighbourhood Development Plan	0.00	49,392.64		£5,127.85 Reserve transferred to NDP current a/c
LLOYDS BANK - General Reserve		150,623.71	200,016.35	
		Bank Balances as at: 28-Feb-14	269,408.35	0.00 check

MARCH PAYMENTS

Payments made by Direct Debit/Standing Order

Glamorgan Telecom	03.02.14	240.00	Monthly	DD	Telephone
ATOS Fuel Genie	13.02.14	203.82	Monthly	DD	Fuel for van/mowers
Cablestream Ltd	17.02.14	171.70	Monthly	DD	Telephone
Tate Computer Technology	20.02.14	79.20	Monthly	STO	IT services
BNP Paribas	24.02.14	417.54	Monthly	DD	Establishment Charges
Dean Truck Repairs	28.02.14	234.00	Monthly	STO	Van Hire
		<u>1,346.26</u>			

Details/Spending Power:

via General Power of Competence

Interim Payments made in advance of meeting:

none

Interim Payments: Sub total 0.00

Payments for approval at meeting held on:

10th March 2014

Corporate Expenditure	12,104.85	Monthly	7489-7498	re March
HMRC	3,761.05	Monthly	7499	re March
Gloucestershire LGPS	3,602.44	Monthly	7500	re March
BPRT	1,290.64	Quarterly	7501	VAT repaid re Qtr3
LRT	271.16	Quarterly	7502	VAT repaid re Qtr4
Expenses: AA	33.00	Ad hoc	7503	Establishment Charges
Columbaria	84.00	Ad hoc	7504	Cemetery
Forest Equipment Services Ltd	699.10	Monthly	7505	Litter Picking: January
JAS Gas Services	51.00	Ad hoc	7506	Establishment Charges
Light Fantastic DIY Ltd	30.92	Monthly	7507	Sandbags / Play Areas
Light Fantastic DIY Ltd	112.31	Monthly	7508	Play Areas
Masterlock	51.00	Ad hoc	7509	Establishment Charges

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Office Star	494.90
Postage by Post (Pitney Bowes)	209.60
Sage (UK) Ltd	30.00
Charles Saunders	16.17
Travis Perkins	47.58
Whitehouse Press	175.00
SITA UK Ltd	93.64
Forest Driveways	9,162.00
Equipment Hire Services Ltd	51.00
Greenworks Washrooms	84.00
Kane Mailing Systems Ltd	91.19
Grant: FoD Children's Opportunity Centre	289.62
Grant: Victoria Centre	400.00
Grant: Air Ambulance	500.00
Grant: Lydney Town Hall Trust (balance)	25.20
Petty Cash	89.60

Payments for approval: Sub total 33,850.97

TOTAL PAYMENTS MARCH 35,197.23

Monthly	7510	Stationery
Quarterly	7511	Establishment Charges
Annual	7512	Payroll costs
Ad hoc	7513	Establishment Charges
Monthly	7514	Sandbags
Annual	7515	Civic Service
Monthly	7516	Cemetery: February
Ad hoc	7517	Cemetery Earmarked Reserve
Ad hoc	7518	Cemetery
Annual	7519	Establishment Charges
Ad hoc	7520	Establishment Charges
Ad hoc	7521	Grant
Ad hoc	7522	Grant
Ad hoc	7523	Grant
Ad hoc	7524	Grant balance (see also Chq 7394)
Monthly	7525	Mtg Costs, Civic, Asset Map, Telephone

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN:

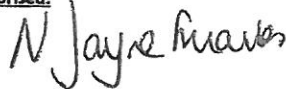
See Separate Financial Statement

NB: No transactions since previous statement

YOUTH COUNCIL:

See Separate Financial Statement

NB: No transactions since previous statement

Authorised: 
10-Mar-14

A list of unrepresented Cheques (For Information only)

Image Signs	360.00
Lydney Town Hall Trust	1,500.00
Corporate Expenditure	309.39
Tesco - deposit	165.00
Civic Service Refreshments	200.00
Total	<u>2,534.39</u>

7126	
7394	<i>Chq to be released with balance on 10.3.14</i>
7464	
7483	<i>Chq returned - to be cancelled</i>
7484	

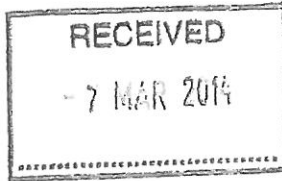
LLOYDS BANK



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 Account number: 00101278
 BIC: LOYDGB21447
 IBAN: GB48 LOYD 3095 2900 1012 78

BUSINESS ACCOUNT
 LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Account Activity

Date	Payment type	Details	Paid out (£)	Paid in (£)	Balance (£)
28 Feb 14		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			98,351.88
28 Feb 14	Cheque	007459 ✓	1,070.24 ✓		97,281.64
28 Feb 14	Cheque	007461 ✓	2,427.79 ✓		94,853.85
28 Feb 14		BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			94,853.85

Less. Chgs o/s 2,624.39 -

 92,229.46

Less. interest 11,850.97 -

 80,378.49

Messages

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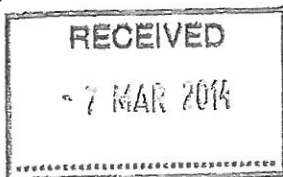
LLOYDS BANK



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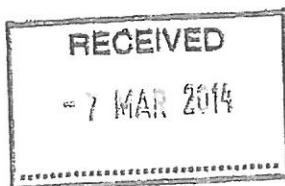
BUSINESS ACCOUNT
 LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Account Activity

Date	Payment type	Details	Paid out (£)	Paid in (£)	Balance (£)
20 Feb 14		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			119,590.98
20 Feb 14	Cheque	007469✓	28.35✓		119,562.63
20 Feb 14	Cheque	007478✓	72.00✓		119,490.63
20 Feb 14	Cheque	007476✓	10,051.58✓		109,439.05
20 Feb 14	Payment	007468✓	41.07✓		109,397.98
20 Feb 14	Payment	007487✓	229.04✓		109,168.94
21 Feb 14	Cheque	007472✓	84.00✓		109,084.94
21 Feb 14	Cheque	007475✓	161.11✓		108,923.83
21 Feb 14	Cheque	007485✓	246.72✓		108,677.11
21 Feb 14	Payment	007457✓	1,362.89✓		107,314.22
24 Feb 14	Direct Debit	BNP PARIBAS LEASIN	417.54		106,896.68
		01103094 T1457553			
24 Feb 14	Cheque	007467✓	3,580.28✓		103,316.40
25 Feb 14	Cheque	007481✓	33.48✓		103,282.92
25 Feb 14	Cheque	007458✓	1,070.24✓		102,212.68
25 Feb 14	Payment	007465✓	406.52✓		101,806.16
25 Feb 14	Payment	007456✓	1,496.85✓		100,309.31
25 Feb 14	Payment	007463✓	980.33✓		99,328.98
26 Feb 14	Cheque	007473✓	350.00✓		98,978.98
26 Feb 14	Payment	007460✓	1,070.24✓		97,908.74
27 Feb 14	Bank Giro Credit	ERNEST HEAL Inv 107 & 108		779.00	98,687.74
		E H & S			
27 Feb 14	Cheque	007462✓	716.21✓		97,971.53
27 Feb 14	Deposit	✓500155		✓670.35	98,641.88
28 Feb 14	Standing Order	DEAN TRUCK REPAIRS	234.00		98,407.88
28 Feb 14	Cheque	007486✓	56.00✓		98,351.88
28 Feb 14		BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			98,351.88

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BUSINESS ACCOUNT
 LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Account Summary

Balance On 31 January 2014	£113,521.36
Total Paid In	£19,426.88 ✓
Total Paid Out	£38,094.39
Balance On 28 February 2014	£94,853.85

Account Activity

Date	Payment type	Details	Paid out (£)	Paid in (£)	Balance (£)
31 Jan 14		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			113,521.36
3 Feb 14	Direct Debit	GLAMORGAN TELECOM	240.00		113,281.36
		TOWNCOUN			
5 Feb 14	Payment	007430 ✓	397.85 ✓		112,883.51
7 Feb 14	Payment	007451 ✓	458.40 ✓		112,425.11
10 Feb 14	Cheque	007382 ✓	258.50 ✓		112,166.61
13 Feb 14	Direct Debit	ATOS RE FUELGENIE	203.82		111,962.79
		63562950028798			
13 Feb 14	Payment	007470 ✓	221.13 ✓		111,741.66
13 Feb 14	Deposit	AC 30952901590833 <i>from earmarked Reserves</i>		✓5,525.00	117,266.66
17 Feb 14	Direct Debit	CABLE STREAM LTD	171.70		117,094.96
		CS001554			
17 Feb 14	Cheque	007466 ✓	3,061.99 ✓		114,032.97
17 Feb 14	Cheque	007479 ✓	5,525.00 ✓		108,507.97
17 Feb 14	Deposit	✓500154		✓2,294.27	110,802.24
18 Feb 14	Cheque	007482 ✓	93.64 ✓		110,708.60
18 Feb 14	Payment	007480 ✓	58.24 ✓		110,650.36
19 Feb 14	Bank Giro Credit	BLATCHLY FUN DIR <i>100 104</i>		867.00 ✓	111,517.36
		1214-104			
19 Feb 14	Bank Giro Credit	HMRC VAT REPAY		9,291.26 ✓	120,808.62
		275 9811 17			
19 Feb 14	Cheque	007474 ✓	36.80 ✓		120,771.82
19 Feb 14	Cheque	007471 ✓	78.00 ✓		120,693.82
19 Feb 14	Cheque	007488 ✓	123.64 ✓		120,570.18
19 Feb 14	Cheque	007477 ✓	900.00 ✓		119,670.18
20 Feb 14	Standing Order	TATE COMPUTER TECH	79.20		119,590.98
20 Feb 14		BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			119,590.98

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BUS INSTANT ACCESS
 LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL-GENERAL RESERVE A/C

Account Summary

Balance On 31 January 2014	£205,532.35
Total Paid In	£9.00 ✓
Total Paid Out - Transfer to Current	£5,525.00 ✓
Balance On 13 February 2014	£200,016.35

Account Activity

Date	Payment type	Details	Paid out (£)	Paid in (£)	Balance (£)
31 Jan 14		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			205,532.35
10 Feb 14		INTEREST (GROSS)		9.00 ✓	205,541.35
13 Feb 14	Payment	TO 30952900101278 To Current	5,525.00 ✓		200,016.35
13 Feb 14		BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			200,016.35

Messages

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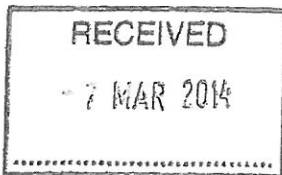
LLOYDS BANK



xi

Your account statement
Statement sheet number: 7
Issue date: 28 February 2014
Page: 1 of 2

LTC - NDP COMMUNITY STEERING GROUP
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CLAREMONT HOUSE
LYDNEY
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
GL15 5DX



Write to us at:
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX1 1LT

Call us on: 0845 072 5555 (from UK)
+44 1733 347338 (from Overseas)

Visit us online: www.lloydsbank.com

Your branch: LYDNEY
Sort code: 30-66-77
Account number: 41251860
BIC: LOYDGB21694
IBAN: GB09 LOYD 3066 7741 2518 60



C360344AC48801 3870 57571002230

BUSINESS ACCOUNT
LTC - NDP COMMUNITY STEERING GROUP

Account Summary

Balance On 30 January 2014	£12,331.82
Total Paid In	£0.00
Total Paid Out	£2,294.27
Balance On 17 February 2014	£10,037.55

Account Activity

Date	Payment type	Details	Paid out (£)	Paid in (£)	Balance (£)
30 Jan 14		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			12,331.82
17 Feb 14	Payment	000027	2,294.27		10,037.55
17 Feb 14		BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			10,037.55

C. W. G. 20/2

Messages

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Your account statement
 Statement sheet number: 5
 Issue date: 29 November 2013
 Page: 1 of 2

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL - YOUTH COUNCIL
 COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 CLAREMONT HOUSE
 LYDNEY
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE
 GL15 5DX

Write to us at:
 PO Box 1000
 Andover
 BX1 1LT

Call us on: 0845 072 5555 (from UK)
 +44 1733 347338 (from Overseas)

Visit us online: www.lloydsbank.com

Your branch: LYDNEY
 Sort code: 30-66-77
 Account number: 36323260
 BIC: LOYDGB21694
 IBAN: GB43 LOYD 3066 7736 3232 60



C3603445K96238 3870 523/1/011995

BUSINESS ACCOUNT
 LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL - YOUTH COUNCIL

Account Summary

Balance On 30 September 2013	£954.00
Total Paid In	£0.00
Total Paid Out	£68.04
Balance On 4 November 2013	£885.96

Account Activity

Date	Payment type	Details	Paid out (£)	Paid in (£)	Balance (£)
30 Sep 13		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			954.00
4 Nov 13	Payment	000005 ✓	68.04 ✓		885.96
4 Nov 13		BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			885.96

No cheques o/s.

No transactions in November 2013
u u January 2014
u u February 2014
u u March 2014

Messages

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BUDGET STATEMENT						
BANK BALANCES AT 1 APRIL 2013						
Current Account		51,153.97				
Youth Council (Current)		450.00				
Earmarked Reserves		60,166.49				
General Reserve Account (Free Reserves)		104,183.89				
Balance		<u>215,954.35</u>				
INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	Guaranteed Income		GROSS
S106	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
ALLOTMENTS	160.00	156.00	-4.00			-4.00
CHAMBER HIRE	150.00	66.00	-84.00			-84.00
CEMETERY	15,000.00	20,470.24	5,470.24			5,470.24
WAYLEAVE	32.00	68.38	36.38		re 2012/13	36.38
INTEREST	50.00	83.02	33.02			33.02
MISC INCOME	0.00	17,026.32	17,026.32			17,026.32
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (re Litter Picking / Machinery)	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00			0.00
PRECEPT	446,200.00	446,200.00	0.00	0.00	Instalment 2/2 received 13.9.13	0.00
RECHARGES: COPIER	0.00	2,238.73	2,238.73			2,238.73
RECHARGES: MOWER FUEL	0.00	1,110.77	1,110.77		contra Expenditure	1,110.77
EARMARKED RESERVES - INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
TOTAL INCOME	466,592.00	492,419.46	25,827.46	0.00		25,827.46
OFFSET FROM RESERVES	20,000.00					20,000.00
VAT REPAID To Town Council	0.00	25,987.34				25,987.34
Contra Entries:						
Corporate VAT registration repayment to Trusts	0.00					
Income Refunds	0.00					
YOUTH COUNCIL INCOME		0.00	0.00			0.00
see also separate full statement						
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN						
INCOME - see also separate full statement	3k>Corporate £5,75	0.00	3,882.55	-3,882.55		-3,882.55
TOTAL INCOME	486,592.00	522,289.35	-35,697.35	0.00		35,697.35
EXPENDITURE	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	Committed Expenditure		GROSS
S137	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.00		-25.00
TRAINING	4,908.00	2,804.97	2,103.03	420.00		1,683.03
CORPORATE COUNCIL - PAYROLL	242,160.00	220,603.66	21,556.34	3,486.00		18,070.34
CORPORATE COUNCIL - NDP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
CORPORATE COUNCIL - ADMIN/OTHER						
Advertising	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00		250.00
Establishment Charges	8,300.00	7,575.89	724.11	499.00		225.11
Meeting Costs	1,500.00	1,617.62	-117.62	475.00	Includes binding of 8 years minutes:	-592.62
Newsletters	2,600.00	1,216.38	1,383.62	635.84		747.78
Office / IT Equipment	3,500.00	3,295.98	204.02	0.00		204.02
Photocopier	4,600.00	2,483.60	2,116.40	1,400.00		716.40
PPE	400.00	377.93	22.07	0.00		22.07
Stationery	5,000.00	2,259.20	2,740.80	725.00		2,015.80
Subscriptions / Legal	2,700.00	448.00	2,252.00	1,855.00		397.00
Telephone / Internet	4,300.00	2,682.44	1,617.56	421.80		1,195.76
Website	1,950.00	0.00	1,950.00	168.00		1,782.00
HEALTH & SAFETY	7,100.00	3,988.34	3,111.66	1,677.00		1,434.66
VEHICLE COSTS	4,700.00	2,684.00	2,016.00	709.00		1,307.00
FUEL - VAN	1,200.00	904.51	295.49	99.00		196.49
FUEL - MOWERS (Quarterly Recharge to BPRP/Cemetery)	0.00	1,462.29	-1,462.29	0.00	contra: Income	-1,462.29
AUDIT	3,750.00	1,500.00	2,250.00	1,800.00		450.00
INSURANCE	9,100.00	8,053.70	1,046.30	0.00		1,046.30
CIVIC EXPENSES	1,950.00	1,612.05	337.95	50.00		287.95
BURIAL COMMITTEE: CEMETERY/CHURCHYARD	12,520.00	10,049.54	2,470.46	2,741.64	see also income above	-271.18
AMENITIES COMMITTEE:						
CHRISTMAS EVENT/LIGHTS	16,250.00	16,593.60	-343.60	300.00	Taken from General Reserves	-643.60
GRASS CUTTING	12,600.00	12,568.20	31.80	0.00		31.80
LITTER PICKING: Playareas, Cemetery etc	6,985.00	5,313.97	1,671.03	1,062.78		608.25
LITTER PICKING: Docks (see Income from Environment Agency)	2,015.00	1,677.03	337.97	335.42		2.55
Allotments	6,350.00	4,217.26	2,132.74	300.00		1,832.74
Dog Bins / Signs	500.00	4.00	496.00	496.00		0.00
Play Areas	3,130.00	2,799.66	330.34	166.00		164.34
Notice board	500.00	481.32	18.68	0.00		18.68
Oaks - Clear Shrub etc	500.00	54.98	445.02	0.00		445.02
Weed Spraying	500.00	151.20	348.80	0.00		348.80
Tree Survey / Asset Mgmt / Burial Map (Pear)	126.78	9.25	117.53	114.00		3.53
Bus Shelter	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00		500.00
Grit Bins	500.00	306.47	193.53	0.00		193.53
Street Furniture	1,500.00	95.75	1,404.25	1,301.00		103.25
Floral Displays	1,850.00	592.30	1,257.70	975.50		282.20
Trees	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	Amenities	150.00
Machinery / Tools / Repairs	15,850.00	15,541.94	308.06	0.00	Remaining: 4,349 15	308.06
FINANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	7,000.00	4,222.50	2,777.50	2,600.00		177.50
PLANNING COMMITTEE	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00		500.00
HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00		250.00
CCTV MAINTENANCE / RESITE	5,500.00	3,167.13	2,332.87	2,805.00		-472.13

Account Balances

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

2013/14

ELECTION	10,000.00	12,739.68	-2,739.68	5,900.00 : Estimated - costs pending	-8,639.68
CONTINGENCY	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
PWLB (Loan)	15,316.00	7,643.43	7,672.57	7,658.00	14.57
GRANTS - LYDNEY TOWN HALL TRUST	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - BATHURST PARK & RECREATION TRUST	22,500.00	22,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - BATHURST PARK & RECREATION TRUST - GRASS CUTTING	14,000.00	14,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - LYDNEY RECREATION TRUST	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - Free	11,473.22	11,373.22	100.00	100.00	0.00
GRANTS - Admin/Stamps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
YOUTH COUNCIL	1,000.00	564.04	435.96	0.00	435.96
see also separate full statement					
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN - see also separate full statement	5,758.00	12,631.85	-6,873.85	0.00	Funded by DCLG & LTC Grants: -6,873.85
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	486,592.00	424,893.88	61,698.12	41,275.98	20,422.14
<i>B'fwd from 2012/13 Paid during 2013/14</i>		<u>15,850.37</u>		0.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		440,744.25			
Contra Entries:					
Corporate VAT registration repayment to Trusts		7,550.74			
Income Refunds		5,455.36			
Taken From Reserves		15,085.00		8,560.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	486,592.00	468,835.35			
(VAT TOTAL) for information only	0.00	22,726.93			

BALANCE TOTALS		FEBRUARY	
Current Account		58,468.49	
Youth Council - Current Account		885.96	No transactions since last statement
NDP - Current Account		10,037.55	No transactions since last statement
Earmarked Reserves:			
S106	29,191.50		
Lydney War Memorial	1,197.00		
Primrose Hill Play Area	8,000.00		
Cemetery	* 11,004.14		
Neighbourhood Development Plan	0.00	49,392.64	
General Reserve		150,623.71	
BALANCE TOTALS (Deposit Account)		<u>200,016.35</u>	
BANK BALANCES AT:	28-Feb-14	<u>269,408.35</u>	

* £5,525 transferred re St Mary's Churchyard Work

WILL COUNCILLORS PLEASE RETAIN THIS SHEET AND BRING TO FULL COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

N. Joyce Finckles

WAR MEMORIAL OFFICER'S REPORT 2013/14



'The aim of the Trust is to bring all the Nations War Memorials up to date before their centenary in 2018. Lydney's, thanks to complete renovations in 2005, remains in pretty good condition; with the Cadet forces annual clean up it should stay a credit to our Town for many years'.

As some of you will know each year apart from the Towns Remembrance Day Service held on Remembrance Day, we also have a Citizens Act of Remembrance at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, when the children of the Town read the role of honour. All are very welcome to attend this event and it grows year on year. When this started some 10 years ago we had about 10 people turn up last year there was over 60. If you are available please put the date in your diary and come along and acknowledge our thanks to those who gave their lives in 2 world wars for our freedom, especially this year as it is 100 years since the first of those who are named on our memorial left their families and homes to fight for our future in the 1st World War.

Any kind donations offered in respect of this worthy cause are always most welcome – *Thank you!*

In closing, I would like to extend a special thank you to the lady/ladies who continually keep the memorial vase stocked with fresh flowers.

Cllr W Osborne

War Memorial Officer (2013/14)



Head Grounds Man Report 2013-2014

Lydney Town

The Ground staff's priority is within the Town and its environs; we aim to improve the overall standard year on year.

This year we have improved the flower tubs with new centre piece plants called Phormium Cookianum and different displays of winter and summer plants, which can be enjoyed by all residents and visitors.



The allotment site in Lydney has been much improved with new paths, fences and gates. The

Council has purchased a number of water butts, over which Ground staff have designed and constructed a new shelter to capture rainwater on site in order that it may be used by allotment tenants. We have received pleasing comments regarding the improvements.



Over the forthcoming year we will also undertake grass cutting on pathways and boundaries of the site, in order that the area continues its high standard.

The visual appearance of the Town is important and we try to keep on top of the weed killing in the growing months and any painting or repairing jobs as they occur.

In adverse weather sandbagging and also salting is a priority to help the people of Lydney.

Cemetery/St Mary's Churchyard

The Ground staff have worked very hard to bring the area up to a higher standard to mirror that of Bathurst Park. Throughout the summer, public gave positive comments about how nice the Cemetery and Churchyard was looking; it is always lovely to hear our hard work is paying off.

The Cemetery has been transformed with a Garden of Reflection, new fences and now with edging and tarmac which has been laid at the entrance. The walls outside have been cleaned; improving the appearance of the Old Garden of Remembrance is the next project to be undertaken by Ground staff. Trees and edges have been tidied up, bringing the complete area up to a higher standard.

Bathurst Park

We have been working hard in Bathurst Park maintaining high standards which we have set. Again, weather conditions have been challenging, but the standard has been maintained.

As well as kind comments from the public about how beautiful everything was looking, the Park received a "Highly Commended" Award from Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association and also received a County Standard Award on the Bowling Green; it makes our job worthwhile.



Overview

The Ground staff continue to strive to bring the Town to a higher standard for everyone to enjoy. Safety and tidiness are always our main priority.

It is great to see all our hard work and improvements playing off and I would like to thank my Grounds Team of Ryan Berryman, Trevor Howley, Tommy Wales and Anthony Bayliss for their dedication, commitment, hardwork and humour which is needed to keep going even on cold wet days. Well done!

James Young

Head Groundsman



Lydney's Flood Defence Management Meetings

Following the Lyd flood problems of the winter 2012/13 an initiative was proposed at Lydney Town Council to set up a body to establish the actual issues relating to the watercourse which pass through/affect Lydney, liaise with all the interested parties and agencies, challenge the long held wisdom that problems were inevitable due to Lydney being tide-locked, and, working in partnership, come up with proposals to ease the problems.

Key Stages;

- Chart watercourse with main features clearly identified
- Accurately establish riparian ownership/responsibilities
- Agree short and long term objectives

During the early meetings a real sense of cooperation emerged, with positive contributions from all parties, which carried through to the next phase of actually putting into action the identified early work required. This involved significant clearing of trees and other debris along the watercourse being undertaken by several of the partners, and partly funded by another of the partners. The benefit of this early work is clearly demonstrated by the improved flow rate of the Lyd during the period since just before Christmas resulting in fewer problems than in the previous year when rainfall was lower. More work is about to commence to the east of the by-pass and further survey work is also planned in contributory watercourses in an attempt to better understand and control the system overall. It should also be mentioned that considerable attention was paid to the situation at the harbour during the peak of the wet weather and high tides, which added to the control of the situation.

The work of the group is on-going to build on this very positive start and to list all the agencies, organisations and individuals involved would be dangerous as it would be easy to miss someone from the list, so from Lydney Town Council ***"Thank you All for your input and commitment to date, but we are not finished yet"***

Cllr Brian Pearman

Lydney Town Council

The Forest of Dean District Council attended the Lydney Flood Forum meetings which are regularly attended by many community organisations and agencies with specific interests and responsibilities both throughout Lydney and the Lyd catchment in general.

The District Council has offered interactive support in furthering watercourse clearance of the Lyd by providing funding for Personal Protective Equipment required by community groups involved in this clearance.

The District Council has also liaised closely with Gloucester County and County Highways in finding solutions to improve drainage within the catchment, and have a strong working relationship with these and other bodies in visiting local areas of concern, and agreeing, where appropriate, works which may be required to offer improvements and mitigate future flood risk.

We will continue to work closely with all agencies, and Lydney Town Councillors, and are about to plan and visit watercourses to the east of Lydney to identify possible solutions to reduce flow intensity which will have positive effects in the more residential areas where flood risk is at its highest.

Mr Chris Johns

Forest of Dean District Council Officer

**CUSTODIAL/SOLE TRUSTEE
REPORTS**

The Bathurst Park and Recreational Trust

I have been the Lead Trustee of the Bathurst Park and Recreational Trust now since April last year and would like to give the following report.

Bathurst Park still remains to be a fantastic attraction for the community and visitors alike and is admired by all those who use it. A special thank you to the Grounds men who maintain the facility all year round and to the children and teaching staff from The Heart of the Forest Community School who come once a week under the supervision of the Head Grounds man to help with some of the weeding and planting etc.

It was great to see during the hot weather last year many families enjoying all of the Park's facilities and having birthday parties and picnics through-out.

The Park continues to be used by many organisations and clubs of all types and will be encouraged to continue.

As I hope now most people are aware the Park has been protected as a Queen Elizabeth II playing field and can only have its use changed by royal approval. So the community can be assured that the Park will be there for generations to come.

We had a very successful event last summer with an afternoon tea in the Park to celebrate the Queens Jubilee, sponsored by Mr John Thurston of the Watts Group who donated the very ornate coronation gates and attended by many people including Lord Viscount Bledisloe whose family originally donated the grounds to the community. A very special thank you for all those who helped with the organisation and setting up of the marquees etc.

The firework display last November was also a massive success, I had never seen so many people attend in all my years as a Trustee and although the event was delayed slightly to allow everyone entry, it was yet another amazing display and received many compliments on the departure of the community. I wish to give a very big thank you, to all of those involved in its organisation and to those who attended.

I am hoping this year to look at securing funding to have the railings refurbished and possibly some new play equipment for all ages also to include some integrated play for children with disabilities.

We all look forward to another exciting and proactive year and encourage any members of the community with innovative ideas or would like to help in any way to please get in touch with the Trust Secretary.

Cllr Charlotte Matthews

Lead Trustee





The Really Rather Good Company - Home to "The Coffee House"

After a successful four months of planning and renovation, May 2013 saw the opening of "The Coffee House" in the heart of Bathurst Park. Providing a selection of handmade cakes, cookies and pastries, made to order snacks from fresh produce, Freshly ground Fairtrade Coffee and drinks and a delicious farmed ice-cream selection.

The Coffee House began to provide a much welcomed facility enjoyed by locals and tourists alike, with plenty of space to relax in comfortable modern surroundings, seating for 32 indoors and 34 outdoors, space for buggies and wheelchairs, a small indoor play area for the children, as well as refurbishing of the toilets, adding a much needed changing place for children and young adults with disabilities.

Arguably the best in county, Bathurst Park has something for everyone; Beautifully kept gardens to wander, vast sports fields, tennis courts, putting green, assault course, trim trail and children's play area....*you may even spot a passing steam train!*

The Coffee House is the ideal place for a relaxing family day out, making it once again, the hub of our community.

Please visit the website: www.reallyrathergoodcompany.co.uk

Opening Hours

Easter - Mid October : Everyday (except Tuesdays) from 10am - 5pm
Mid October - Mid December : Everyday (except Tuesdays) from 10am - 4pm
Whatever the weather!



Lydney Recreation Trust Annual Report for 2013/14



The land south of the By-pass has been subject to widespread discussion regarding possible future recreational use which would meet the designated criteria of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. However a wildlife adviser surveying the site has advocated that the area will need future management to preserve a balance of flora and fauna.

Heavy rain during the winter caused flooding of the pitches, but the existing land drainage system cleared the excess water. The trees and shrubs along the banks of the river Lyd have been cleared which has helped the river's flow.

Repair of the garage roofs at Hams Road was carried out following tenants' complaints of water ingress, but the repair unfortunately increased condensation which has now been treated with a coating of foam insulation.

Severn Trent increased the size of the sewer system capacity across Camborne Meadow which has restricted future use of the land either side of the sewer pipeline. A second pipeline was installed on land south of the lake, and as part of the reinstatement compensation work, trustees have requested a new stone path, augmented with wild flower meadows and replacement trees.

The decommissioning on Health & Safety Grounds of the Recreational Trust's footbridge in the autumn has caused Lydney Tennis Club members a great deal of inconvenience and stress having to access the club across the wet soggy playing field during the winter.

Derek Biddle

Trust Chairman



COMMUNITY REPORTS



UPDATE - A reminder of what it's all about

Although deciding where new houses and industrial/retail units should be sited in our town, much of which has outline permission to the east of the town, is one important factor, the Neighbourhood Development Plan is about so much more.....

The NDP is about:

1. How new retail and employment opportunities must be encouraged, thereby supporting our town centre
2. Making sure residents and traders have an equal opportunity to 'shape' Lydney's future.
3. Improving Lydney's social, economic infrastructure and wellbeing for future generations
4. Ensuring that all future proposed planning applications meet the community's needs and that our 'open spaces' are protected and enhanced. That planning proposals are in accord with the NDP, existing governmental planning strategies and environmental policies.

An 'adopted' NDP provides the statutory right to challenge, to permit or to refuse a planning application.

For further details visit our website: www.lydneyndp.org.uk

Where are we?

We are drafting policies based on community and statutory consultee feedback, received during the public consultation period. We aim to complete the final draft of the Lydney Neighbourhood Plan by the end of March 2014.

Local Population Figures:

LYDNEY

Current Population approx. 9,000

COLEFORD

Current population approx. 8,500

CINDERFORD

Current population approx. 8,000

LYDNEY'S VISION

It is fair when looking at Lydney, to also include the 6 hinterland parishes, which then bring the population up to 29,500 as Lydney services and provides facilities for such use.

Projections are difficult but Forest of Dean District Council figures suggest a further 400 new dwellings and 920 people in the next 5 years; and some 1,800 dwellings and 4,140 people in the next 10 to 12 years from the development to the east of Lydney. *"This is equivalent to building an additional settlement on the edge of Lydney half the size of Coleford. Imagine the reaction if this was suggested for one of the Cotswold towns!"* There is a predicted sharp increase in older people 65+ years, some 70% on our base figure, and a small growth in 0-19 years. Add to these figures the expected increase in overall numbers in the groups having more need of health services and the problems are obvious.

Forest of Dean District Council's Lydney Area Action Plan (P.17., 4.35) " the core strategy depends on Lydney as the town with the greatest opportunity for change, and must provide a greater degree of self-containment" "Our Forest our Future" (Forest of Dean Partnership) March 2008 reads, "Ensure access to high quality, sustained, locally provided health services which meet the health and well-being needs of the people living in the district"

In order to achieve such goals the adoption of Lydney's NDP is crucial. Your opportunity to shape Lydney's Future.... - Vote Yes for the adoption of Lydney's NDP



FRIENDS OF BATHURST POOL

ANNUAL REPORT

7th APRIL 2014

The summer of 2013 brought with it the weather that is needed to prove that we really do need an outdoor pool in Lydney. We had a period of twenty three days from 5th July until 27th July when the sun shone constantly from dawn until dusk and people flocked to the pool to spend most of the day there. All ages, from babies to pensioners, and many families, came to enjoy the swimming and relaxing in the pleasant surroundings.

The total number through the gate was 12,832, an increase of 7,372 on the previous year. The serious swim club attracted a membership of 78, many of whom attended three or four times every week. We were delighted that five of our serious swimmers constantly used our pool to practice for their successful channel swim which took place on 2nd July. On one occasion we opened the pool at 22.00HRS to enable them to get some practice at swimming in the pitch dark, as they would have to for part of the channel swim. For their appreciation of our help, Bob and I were invited as guests of the organiser of the swim to a charity dinner at The Hilton Hotel in Newport to raise funds for St Davids Hospice, a very enjoyable and successful evening.

We made several improvements this year, the main one being the installation of solar panels. This project was financed by a donation from Viscount Bledisloe who has always taken a great interest in the pool, especially as it was originally donated by his great grandfather in 1920.

We also have had some more of the surround covered with a non-slip surface and before opening this year we intend to completely cover the area where excited youngsters run and tend to slip over.

New edging around the perimeter of the pool and an automatic dosing system are both being considered at this time to improve the facility, and to ease the operating procedures. These three improvements will be financed by ourselves as we are in a position to do this following the success of 2013.

During last summer we had several groups and parties who booked and came in the evening following the serious swim club session, and we have already had enquiries for parties for the coming season.

We now have a very strong band of trustees, committee members and other helpers, all of whom are passionate about the running, and the future, of this unique facility in our town.

Sheila Berryman

Trustee/Treasurer



LYDNEY COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT 2014



The Landlords, Gloucestershire County Council Legal Department, failed to produce a long lease for LCC. The main problem is the length of the lease, GCC are offering only 15 years lease, while LCC are seeking 25 year lease which meets the Big Lottery criteria for large grants. The lack of a long lease has blocked any opportunities to apply for large grants which will be needed to complete the kitchen refurbishment, window double glazing and ceiling insulation which should reduce building heat loss and reduce heating costs.

Despite this LCC has been successful in obtaining small grants from Rotarians, Lions, FODDC Community Grant and Glos Freemasons which assisted with purchase of new main door and paint for redecoration of room two. The decoration of room two was undertaken by members of the Riverside Church and we are hugely indebted for their kindness and support.

LCC have purchased a PA system in partnership with the Riverside Church and this equipment is available for all users of the Centre. LCC is researching the installation of Hearing Loop systems, but the cost of the installation for the two rooms and the Hall is approx. £3k. Following a second attempt by lead thieves to strip the roof, the Committee had CCTV installed, plus other anti-theft equipment, which to date has deterred any other vandalism.

The Social Committee have had a busy, but successful year highlighted by the Chepstow Male Voice concert in September, The Springfield Singers supported by the Lydney Training Band and two very popular Denis Barnard Quiz Nights, with another planned for April 12th. The Christmas Carol Service organised by Riverside Church and shared with members of LCC was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The website has received a professional makeover, followed by several training sessions, but the Committee would welcome help and assistance to the maintenance of the website.

I would like to thank my fellow Officers for their time, effort and invaluable support towards the management of the Community Centre. In addition, equal praise to the Friday Cleaning Team who keep the building clean and sparkling and are turning their attention to decorating the Hall. If anyone has an hour to spare on Friday mornings please come along and join in the paint chipping fun.

Derek Biddle
Chairman



Visit of the High Sheriff of Gloucestershire
to Lydney Community Centre



LYDNEY TOWN HALL

ANNUAL REPORT OF LYDNEY TOWN HALL 2013 - 2014

The Volunteer Trust set eagerly about the daunting and interesting challenge that lay ahead for the current trading year. Now in our second year managing this iconic hall we are now getting accustomed to the day to day running and its needs. The two resident Caretakers Leslie and John are most helpful, and we are grateful for their continued assistance. John now assists with the small maintenance jobs that crop up from time to time; he really is a very handy type of person to have around.

Trustees meet on a monthly basis to debate and discuss the various topics that have to be addressed to ensure the smooth running of the hall.

Huw Lloyd Jones, the former Licensee for the hall resigned from the Committee as did Messrs John Bartle and Alan Preest. We have been joined by Janice James and Ruth Bonser.

One of our Trustees, Judith Caddogan, successfully applied for the licence to become the Hall's Licensee. The bar is staffed, when required, entirely by volunteers.

The hall has suffered financially for many years, due to high maintenance costs and low use. We were well aware that it was imperative that this situation was reversed. The Trustees are determined to achieve this goal and to this end, thanks to several "In House "Events" that have been put on, together with increased hire usage is helping to assist in the turnaround of our financial fortunes.

To move forward we knew that the bar needed complete refurbishment. Thanks to an assortment of volunteers this was achieved together with the decorating of the Bar Lounge. Thanks to a very kind and generous local businessman the job was finished off with a complete new bar frontage. Already we are seeing an increase in bar takings.

As I write we are currently establishing the best ways to deliver our catering provisions. A grant from the Town Council will go some way in fitting and equipping the kitchen, which has been somewhat neglected for so long, is in need of updating. Improved kitchen facilities will, like the bar, increase our income stream.

The Committee are now researching funding streams to assist with much needed improvements to the Hall. Most Grant Funders want to see audited accounts, to achieve this we had to be trading for twelve months and await the paperwork to come back from the accountants before we could embark on seeking grants.

During the past year both Dial a Ride, who had a permanent office at the Hall, together with the Air Cadets, who hired the Hall every Sunday Morning and Thursday evening terminated their tenancy as each moved into their own purpose built accommodation, this of course hit us with the resulting in the loss of regular income.

Over time we hope to increase the revenue from the letting of the Hall by organising more of our own functions, which should in turn, increase the potential income from the bar and catering. We have now organised several of our own events with mixed fortunes.

On the 19th April last year we were indeed very fortunate in getting the Band of Her Majesty's Grenadier Guards to play in concert at the Hall. This gave us much needed good publicity both in the press and on the radio. It was satisfying to report an early total sell out.

Later last year BBC Radio Gloucestershire did a three hour live broadcast from the Hall, this of course gave us a lot of free and much needed publicity.

We also now have a professional presence of the World Wide Web. It is interesting to see the number of "Hits" gradually increasing.

Our Wish List for the Hall is long and varied. To this end we have now produced a comprehensive Business Plan. If and when we are able to secure any grant funding, the Trustees have a lot of ideas on how we can sustain and improve the viability of the building for the residents of the Forest of Dean in general.

The Trustees can assure the town residents of their continued determination to ensure the survival and success of their Town Hall.

Colin J Knight

Chairman

LYDNEY WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2014

The Lydney War Memorial Trust is the body responsible for the maintenance and administration of the almshouses in Church Road, Lydney, near the War Memorial. The properties are divided into two houses and four flats.

The Trust continues to meet each month, at the Naas Lane Community Centre. In the last year, one Trustee has stepped down – Mr Hiley Warren (representing the British Legion). Mr Frank Bennett continues to represent the British Legion on the Committee acting alongside the other four Trustees; Mrs Ruth Richardson, Mrs Valerie Hobman, Mr Bill Osborne and Mrs Sue Osborne.

At the AGM Mr Frank Bennett agreed to continue in the role of Chair, with Mrs Ruth Richardson continuing as Vice Chair. Attendance at the meetings by the Trustees has been excellent with all meetings in the year being quorate. Gill Moir remains as the clerk for the Trust.

The Trust continues to maintain all six properties to a high standard and again this year various works have been carried out to improve the flats and houses. Because the properties are over eighty years old, maintenance costs are relatively high.

During the year, the tenant of no 46, who had been in respite care for some time, confirmed that she would not return to the house. The property was emptied and a major refurbishment was undertaken including a complete redecoration and recarpeting. A grant of just over £450 was received from Lydney Town Council to contribute to the costs. The house was advertised and we received 20 replies – selecting eventually a couple who moved in during the month of October

The last Quinquennial Survey was carried out in July 2009. We were pleased that the surveyor noted some significant improvements since the last survey and also that he did not identify any work requiring immediate attention. Any issues requiring attention “as soon as practicable” have been considered and addressed where appropriate or possible at the current time. The other points raised are being reviewed and addressed, where appropriate, over time. The next survey is due in July 2014.

During the year we have reviewed the rules and regulations governing the running of the Trust to ensure they remain applicable, and made any appropriate amendments under the guidance of the Charities Commission.

The Trust continues to maintain a good relationship with the residents, who can phone the clerk at any time should any problems arise.

Mr Frank Bennett (Chair)

St Mary's 'Closed' Churchyard



'On behalf of St Mary's Church, may I say how delighted we all are by the Town Council's continued support for our Churchyard'

Despite the horrible weather, thanks to the Town Council's support the churchyard is in a fine state and we can look forward to it being really striking once spring and (hopefully) the better weather arrives.



The planters around the doors have enhanced the entrance to the church with the grass cutting and work to the trees along Church Road having opened up the view of the church.

The Town Council's support for our team of volunteers in the conservation area has also been most appreciated.



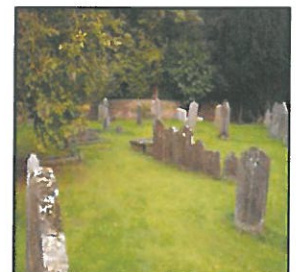
The work the Council have commissioned on the walls to the churchyard and the expert way that the work was carried out by M. Lanfear (Coleford), have not only maintained them, but have again added to the overall appearance of the Churchyard.

The improvements made by the Town Council do not go unnoticed. Revd. Sarah Fenby is delighted with the work; she and I have received many positive comments from members of our congregation. We really do appreciate your support.

Before work commenced....



And now!



On another slightly different topic, I would like to complement the Town Council on is the work the Council and its staff have carried out which has transformed the town cemetery. Although not connected directly with the church, so many people have commented on the general appearance of the cemetery and specifically on features such as the "Garden of Reflection".

Once again, we thank you for the hard work and resources that have gone into not just maintaining, but improving this part of our town. St Mary's Church, and its Churchyard, is a much loved, used not just by the congregation of St Mary's, but by many, many other Lydney citizens and tourists.

'Your work will help them to enjoy it to the full'.

Best wishes

Mr S Longton

(Churchwarden - St. Mary's Church)



....Open Access **Youth work** Thursday evenings
vibelydneyparish@gmail.com



The Alpha Course - explore the meaning of life and the basics of the Christian faith

Pre-School Play and Stay groups

Little Sparklers 9.30 am on Wednesday at the Old Vicarage &
Pebbles 9.30 am on Thursday at Holy Trinity



Marriage and Baptism Preparation and services
Enquiries: lydneyparish@live.co.uk

**Supporting Gateway Housing
& Lydney Food Bank with
Volunteer Support and Food.**



Senior Fellowship lunches and club
At Holy Trinity, Primrose Hill



▲ Venue for Concerts, Town events and Services

Lydney festival concerts:

I Sing Pop concert: Lydney and Aylburton Church of England Schools 17th June 2014

Wyedean Gospel Choir, Lakers Steel Band 19th June 2014

Yvonne Walkerdine Winners Concert 5th July 2014

Wyedean School 10th July 2014

Messy Church

Half term activities for 30 plus children and their parents, with lunch

Next time at Holy Trinity: May 29th 9.45 am—1pm



Sunday Services

St Mary's 8.15am

St Mary's 10am (with crèche and children's Sunday Club)

Holy Trinity 4.30pm

Harbour Service 29th June 10am at Lydney harbour

Parish Fayre

Fun for the community

Bereavement & Funeral Care & the annual 'In Memory Service'



The CAP Money Course has been run twice this year —
Learn budgeting skills and avoid debt. It's practical, free & for everyone.
Many households helped to avoid debt.

Budget Save Spend

Our bi-monthly magazine
The Link *Connecting Church and Community*
is distributed to 250 homes, keeping people connected.

'Open The Book' and Clergy Assemblies
in all 3 Primary Schools

Our plan for St Mary's is to add disabled access and toilets, a modern servery and bookshop to enable the community to be accommodated and served, with the church open more during the week.

Watch our film 'Building a community where everyone matters' at our web site.
www.lvdnevparish.org.uk

Managers Report 2013 Lydney Vibes Café

The Café remained open during the summer months whilst historically it has closed, numbers averaging 20-30 per session.

The Café has recruited 2 new volunteers that have joined the Youth Café over the past year.

The Café has recruited 2 new members of staff.

The Café secured funding from the District Council to open for another evening

The café has benefitted from a new television set that has been donated and has also received a beanbag sofa from James Powell and pool cues donated by Terry Hale, District Council.

Funding applications - the Café has secured £10k from the lottery and is currently working on another application to them for a new garden project. This would enable the young people to enjoy some safe outside space, under trained supervision whilst learning new skills in organic gardening and food produce.

The Youth Café is now recycling its waste via the Forest of Dean District Council using the recycling bins.

The Café has a new pool table which is widely used and enjoyed by all.
The Café has secured an Xbox plus controllers and games.

Members of the Youth Café have been on recent training courses covering first aid, food hygiene, safeguarding, self harming, drugs awareness, and autism and behaviour issues and have completed current DBS applications.

The Café held a coffee morning in June and raffle and raised over £100.
Average numbers over the 3 sessions per week are currently running at 60-90 per week.

The Café has greatly benefitted from an interior makeover during the summer and this has, in turn, benefitted the other community based groups who are currently also using the premises. These are The Orchard Trust, Churches Together in Lydney and Life Services. We have also received interest from Gloucestershire Young Carers about hiring the premises for their group.

We still have several sessions available for hire for other Community based groups.

Lydney and District Dramatic Society 2013-2014

The Society has had another busy and productive year. An evening of drama was arranged at Lydney Community Centre, and with the help of our Youth section, "The Scene Setters", a very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Our Winter pantomime was "Beauty and the Beast" by John Morley; all of The Scene Setters took part. This took place in Lydney Town Hall and our thanks go to the staff for their co-operation and for helping to make the show a success. A roll-over raffle during the performances made £144.00; the Society will make this amount up to £200.00 and donate it to the Friends of Lydney Hospital at their fete.

We are currently in rehearsal with a full length play, and The Scene Setters will enter the Gloucester Drama Association's one-act play festival in June.

The Society meets every Thursday at 7.30 pm in Lydney Community Centre, new members very welcome. The Scene Setters meet Fridays in term time at 6.30-9.30 pm also at the Community Centre.

Nancy Moore
Treasurer
March 2014



Friends of Lydney & District Hospital

Annual Report 2013/14



The past year has seen no major changes in the management arrangements for administering health care throughout Gloucestershire which were successfully implemented in April 2013; this includes how the community hospitals are owned and run. The Friends continue to work closely with the new organisation known as Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust at all levels, in particular we have an ongoing regular dialogue with senior management to ensure that the interests of the local community are represented in any future rationalisation of health provision. In this regard, we believe that the Town Council needs to be aware that health provision throughout Gloucestershire including the Forest, is under review and there may well be some important decisions made in the coming year. While we will try to ensure that any matters that relate to Lydney Hospital are brought to the notice of the Town Council, the Friends encourage councillors to maintain their own dialogue with appropriate parties so that local views are reflected in all discussions relating to health care in the community.

The service agreement whereby the Blakeney Practice took over full responsibility for medical attendance at the hospital, has been in operation since January 2013 and is working well. Staff are finding the new arrangements especially beneficial, and the Friends have seen no evidence that patient care has suffered as a result of this Gloucestershire-wide initiative.

Fundraising has continued throughout the year with a very successful Summer Fete once again providing much of the funds expended on new equipment and facilities. The major expenditure this year was on the refurbishment of the staff room which had



been neglected for many years, including the purchase of new furniture, a wall mounted TV, and a complete strip-out and redecoration. Some new items of equipment have

been purchased this year for the wards including a specialist bed for extra-large patients together with an adjustable bedside chair, and a new plastering chair for use in the MIU. Additionally six pairs of repose boots were purchased through funds generously donated by the Coventry Building Society.



The Friends Newsletter introduced in 2012 to keep the local community informed on hospital developments, continues to be produced and widely distributed every six months. This initiative appears to be appreciated by local people.

Lydney R.B.L. Branch Report

Annual Report for Annual Town Meeting

Once again the Royal British Legion Lydney Branch has had an extremely busy and productive year. We have attended many Fetes, Carnivals and Rally's around the District to put us firmly on the Forest Map.

Two major events have taken place; firstly in conjunction with the Dean Forest Railway during Armed Forces weekend and secondly in conjunction with the Town Council for our Remembrance Day Parade. The latter one being the most successful yet with some 40 Poppy Wreaths laid at the War Memorial and a marked increase in young people joining the parade. I would very much like to thank our Mayor Cllr Bob Berryman and his Staff for their wonderful support given to make this event such a success. We look forward once again to working together for this year event and also for the 100th Anniversary of the 1914-1918 War.

July 25th will be another significant date as it will be the 90th Anniversary of the formation of the Royal British Legion Branch in Lydney. I wish to thank Stan Rudge and his Poppy Team for another very successful Poppy Appeal.

The Poppy Appeal started off well and looked as if it would be another record year. There were displays at various sites including Speech House, Parkend, St Briavels, Pillowell and Dean Forest Railway which were two fold - collecting for the Poppy Fund and recruiting into The Royal British Legion. At the end of the financial year September 2013 the amount collected was £15,857.11. Once again the Poppy Concert in February was a resounding success as reported in The Review and resulted in another £1,334.20 to the Poppy Funds.

Major Frank Bennett and his Welfare Team have proved once again they are one of the busiest and best teams in the County. We now have a "Pop in" Centre operating from our premises every Thursday from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. This is for any ex-service personnel and their dependants, as well as serving personnel and their dependants, who can call in to see if we can help them and set processes in action.

There have been big changes over the last 12 months in the organisation of the welfare support to service and ex-service personnel and their families. Last year we were controlled by the Gloucester Office and we had a wonderful working relationship. Now we come under the Bristol Office which is the H.Q. of the South West Midlands, covering Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire. Work and support in the Forest of Dean continue with 8 cases closed and 4 continuing. The main support has still been with the supply and repair of E.P.V's, white goods and rest breaks at Somerset House W.S.M.

We have a committee of 3 active case workers but would welcome support from any interested parties. There is also a dedicated member (over 50 year service) who visits poorly people in their home or even in Gloucester Royal Hospital, again another volunteer would be made welcome.

As the present Chairman I am extremely proud to be the head of such a hard working Committee. Contrary to many rumours and some media reports it is the R.B.L. Club which

has gone into administration. The charity side of the R.B.L. is still going strong. We are in the process of trying to set up a new business and for this I must thank Mr John Thurston for the wonderful effort he has put in to try and get this off the ground.

The large audience who came to our Annual Poppy Appeal Concert at the Town Hall on Sunday 9th February were treated to a wonderful evening based around young people it showed how much talent we have in the area.

Mel Rudge

R.B.L. Branch Chairman



Lydney Dial-a-Ride Presentation to Lydney Town Council

April 2014

The Core Vision for Lydney Dial-A-Ride remains clear. It is to prevent social and rural exclusion by providing transport to those who are frail or elderly, people who have temporary or permanent disabilities and for those who do not have regular access to public transport or a car of their own.

Lydney Dial-a-Ride has continued to maintain it's Home to School Contracts and deliver a high level of service to its Dial-A-Ride and Voluntary Car passengers.

Louise has continued to actively promote the Charity, working closely with other Community groups within Gloucestershire and further afield; sharing best practice, policies and contacts to ensure service levels are maintained across the district.

The biggest change for the Charity was in April 2013; we made the move to the refurbished Lydney Bus Station. It houses our offices and the Lydney Charity shop under one roof as well as enough parking spaces for all of our vehicles. This has increased local awareness of the Charity, brought us new users and offers us stability for the future.

In November 2013 Lydney Dial A Ride and the other Community Transport groups within the Forest of Dean secured Lottery funding for a five-year project to increase awareness within the district of our services. This has allowed the partners to employ a Coordinator who will be responsible for marketing community transport as well as recruiting volunteers for the individual groups.

We have maintained relationships with other voluntary organisations for example Crossroads. We transport their service users to the day care facilities in Foxes Bridge Cinderford. They offer support and social opportunities to both the service users and their carers.

We have catered for 29, 141 passenger journeys during 2013-2014 and currently have a fleet of fifteen minibuses.

We employ 40 staff, mainly part-time, within the organisation including six staff across our three Charity shops based in Lydney, Coleford & Cinderford. The shops raise vital funds for the charity enabling us to maintain a modern fleet of vehicles and replace them on a regular basis.

We have continued with the five rural bus routes, and they have been a great success, with consistent numbers of passengers travelling with us each week. The advantage of these routes are the ability to take the Concessionary Bus Pass enabling passengers in these small villages and hamlets to be able to access their local services.

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to thank Lydney Town Council for their ongoing support.

Louise Currie
Manager
Lydney Dial-a-Ride



THE VICTORIA CENTRE

VICTORIA ROAD, LYDNEY, GLOS, GL 15 5DG TEL: 01594 843418)

President Mrs M Goss Treasurer Mr John King Secretary Mrs P Biddle



Gloucestershire Freemasons Fund



Two shoppers overheard in a local supermarket recently

'So where exactly is this place called the Victoria Centre?'

'No idea'.

'And what's it all about?'

'Oh, it's only for oldies or something'.

Well, we volunteers know exactly where our Centre is; beautifully situated between Tesco and Bathurst Park. Easy location, easy access!

And yes, it is for retired people and many are, indeed, elderly but, the secret is that no-one looks it or even admits it!

For nearly forty years not only has this dynamic building produced freshly cooked lunches in its 5 star kitchen but is home now to an exercise club and in the near future a computer club. There is also a special day for those who are housebound when trips and entertainment are provided too.

Many other community groups take advantage of it and the management committee is always ready to listen to new ideas. Indeed a Christmas lunch is being planned this year for those who live alone.

Soon we shall be online and all that we provide will be instantly accessible.

Meanwhile there are leaflets in the Council Office and throughout the town which summarise our service.

The support of the local councils, businesses , organisations and local people remains as inspirational as ever, showing how valued this charity is.

If you wish to visit or partake in our activities please phone Carol on 843418



Dean Forest Railway 2013 review:

In terms of tickets purchased, 2013 was the busiest year the Dean Forest Railway had had for 5 years with just over 30,000 tickets sold; this included two 'Day out with Thomas' event weekends and our annual Santa Specials in December. The railway's dining train, The Royal Forester, continued to be popular whilst the experience days where people can learn to drive a steam engine were also well subscribed. One of the newest events trialled in 2013 was the 'Ales on The Rails' event in September where a selection of local Real Ale was available on our train services and at our dedicated beer tent at Lydney Junction Station. The newest event for 2014 is the Peppa Pig day which we will be running on May 5th (Bank Holiday Monday).

Away from visitor attractions the volunteers of the Dean Forest Railway were really busy in 2013 and accomplished a lot ahead of the 2014 running season. Back in May 2013 volunteers from our line side clearance department assisted the local ramblers organisation in the installation of the new temporary footbridge at upper forge. The line side clearance work continued at a pace over the rest of the year and our visitors now have some of the clearest views of the beautiful Forest of Dean landscape from the train. In 2014 this team will be working with the Town Council to fulfil the railway's obligations under riparian ownership and clear even more vegetation from the banks of the River Lyd, in the Albany Pumps area, to further support the local community.

As well as a number of infrastructure improvements that the railway's volunteers have carried out over 2013 I am particularly pleased to see the level crossing gates in the centre of Lydney looking so well painted and think that the image of the railway in the town can only improve with this development.

Upcoming development at our Norchard site will see the replacement of our catering facilities with a brand new bespoke cafe building raising the quality of service we are able to provide our visitors with during their visit.

I look forward to welcoming you all to the railway during 2014!

Ben Gray
Chairman
Forest of Dean Railway Ltd



The Forest of Dean Ramblers has an extensive programme of walks, many of which are in the Lydney & surrounding area. If you are interested in walking you are most welcome to try some of these local walks before considering joining the Ramblers. See our website <http://fodramblers.org.uk/> for details.

As well as local walks we have holiday trips in other areas such as the recent trip to Cumbria. We also undertake maintenance on Public Rights of Way. A recent project was the new bridge, walkway & steps at Upper Forge just north of Lydney. This extensive project was funded from the sale of our book 'Exploring Historic Dean'. The man power was provided by the Ramblers, greatly assisted by the Dean Forest Railway & Gloucestershire County Council.

We are also consultees in planning applications which may have an effect on Public Rights of Way. This is an important aspect which ensures the continuing benefit to all of this important recreational resource. This is especially true to ensure that developers take due consideration to protect the footpath network.

With the continuing cut backs on funding by Gloucestershire County Council & likely privatisation of some of their functions, the maintenance work by the Ramblers is increasingly important. It is vitally important that we keep these valuable assets walkable for the enjoyment of future generations.

New bridge installed



Just in time for the winter floods!

LYDNEY TENNIS CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2014

To begin with the positive, the Tennis Club had its new floodlights activated in September and can again boast 4 all-weather outdoor floodlit courts. The 2013 season was a very good one, with a full programme of competitive, social and coached tennis taking place throughout the week. The Club entered 5 senior + 5 junior teams in to the various Gloucestershire summer leagues and 1 team in the Winter Mixed. This year we have retained 5 senior teams and have entered a total of 7 junior teams. Of the 47 Tennis Clubs in the county, this will certainly put Lydney in the top 10 of clubs entering junior teams for competitive play. Organising our 2 Open Days (early spring + post Wimbledon) involves contact with 16 primary schools + 2 comprehensives, a network of contacts with other local sports associations, displaying information leaflets in and around the Lydney area + the handing out of leaflets outside 2 of the town's supermarkets (with permission). We also aim to put articles in to the local press following our programme of senior and junior tournaments throughout the season and improve links with our Coleford colleagues. As a result, membership totals continue to grow, with the junior total over 100 which is the highest ever.

Given our current relative isolation, now that direct access to the Tennis Club via the footbridge adjacent to it has been decommissioned on Health and Safety grounds, it is the Club's resolve to continue its development in spite of what it considers a totally unnecessary current situation. Hopefully this is going to be resolved but based on recent history and experience, it is anticipated that it will be not be a process as speedily efficient as it could be.

- For future consideration, I would like to suggest that if the Town Council/ Recreation Trust as Landlord discovers some perceived issue which impacts on its Tenant, then it should endeavour to involve its Tenant from the outset, so that the two can work together to find a solution, rather than have a directive which is administered 'out of the blue' and which then becomes an obstacle that reason, debate and logic cannot appear to overcome.

Martin Godwin

Oakdale Links

In June 2013, a group of friends and neighbours brought together by a common cause, challenging the delay of a bus link with Lydney Town Centre, formed a new residents' association. The core members, from all three housing sectors on the development, have gone on to campaign for their families and neighbours, working with Lydney Town Council on a report for the Health and Safety Executive, participating in the Lydney Neighbourhood Development Plan and bringing the community together with events like the Oakdale Community Day. We now have eight active members of the committee with many and varied skills, like Pete, the retired VW mechanic, who is going to help us run a bike maintenance workshop for children and mums from Oakdale in the Easter holidays.

When we started Oakdale Links, we had been helping people out with lifts to town for food shopping and medical appointments for a year or so and became so concerned about the difficulties of being so cut off that we decided to do something about it. Our current focus is now attempting to address the fundamental questions that face our new community. How do we do our best to make sure that no one has to go to bed hungry? How do we bring our neighbours together as a community so that everyone has someone they can call on for assistance and company? How do we fulfil our role in being 'the village that raises the child'?

As one of our aims is to make links with the rest of Lydney, I have been working as a volunteer on the Lydney Food Bank. It is obvious that many people attend the Food Bank for emergency food relief (three day supply of food on three occasions per 'crisis' only) because of sudden injury or illness and other changes in their circumstances beyond their control that tip the balance between just hanging on financially and not being able to feed themselves or pay their bills. We not only offer food relief, we break the ice and help to overcome the stigma of visiting the Food Bank by finding level ground, offering a cup of tea and an ear ready to listen and our own experiences of hard times – often the reason that we volunteer. Through this we offer hope – possibly the most valuable commodity offered by the Food Bank – and a renewed sense of belonging. Hope, dignity and respect are fundamental steps to reclaiming a full and active life – but we need to go further. With our food projects, a Community Orchard for Lydney and a kitchen garden for Oakdale, the Oakdale Links team want to involve local families in home grown food production for the benefit of all. Fresh food is not currently offered by the Food Banks as it is difficult to store. If it is in the ground, there is no need to store it. If fruit is freely available to all and is still on the trees in an orchard, everyone who chooses to can gain, not only in health, but in learning new skills and having a common endeavour, shared with their neighbours.

We have been working very hard coming up with design ideas for that of a proposed Lydney Community Orchard on possibly Cambourne Meadow by the Boating Lake (*and aim to seek Council/Trustee approval for the project at the Trust meeting on 24th March*).

- If you would like to support us, please get in touch with us via the Oakdale Links website (www.oakdalelinks.org.uk). There are many ways that you can help. We have been invited to present the Community Orchard Project idea at the Annual Town Meeting on the 7th April to gauge public opinion, so we will hope to see you there.

Rachel Reeves and the Oakdale Links team

Neds Top Resident's Action Group

Monday 7 April 2014

Introduction

The Neds Top Residents Group has had a busy year supporting the development of a sustainable friendly community on the north east fringe of Lydney. The group participated in a number of events and contributed to the Lydney Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Contact with Agencies

The group welcomed the development of a Neighbourhood Development Plan and had contributed to the steering group. In response to plan consultation the group made a number of comments (10) and were particularly keen to ensure that housing and population growth were supported by infrastructure development, whether from public or section 106 or CIL funding. A 25% growth in population is not sustainable without wider investment. The transport plan that secured better access from peripheral areas and villages was welcomed. The group participated in the development of Lydney Station master plan through one of its members, and looks forward to the station improvements being delivered. The group felt that making the railway underpass accessible was a priority independent of the station improvements. Several representations were made to Forest of Dean District Council and Mark Harper (See later). The group attended the Hurst Farm (Bee-Green) Solar Development and Nibley Mill Solar Farm (AEE) development.

Highways



The Neds Top junction where the Oldcroft Road meets the Old Dam and Church Walk remains particularly hazardous because of blind corners and heavy traffic. Brian Watkins the Highways Manager (West) has visited the site. The group are monitoring road safety at the junction and continue to liaise with Mr Watkins regarding accidents and problems at the junction. Large vehicles continue to founder on sharp bends and narrow lanes after being led astray by Sat Navs and several cars have been grounded when taking detours because of closures on the A48.

The Old Dam/Church Walk/ Oldcroft Junction. The Church Walk junction is obscured by the hedge bottom right and there have been collisions with traffic descending from Neds Top meeting traffic from Lydney.

Wildlife

The number and frequency of wild boar roaming the roadsides has increased and causes major disruption to green spaces. The numbers of predatory birds increased with a buzzard nesting on the Purlieu, Goss hawks were a common sight and there were several sighting of Red Kites in the Autumn of 2013. The regular large populations of Redwings and Fieldfares visited the large grasslands fields. Cuckoos were noticeably in decline in 2013.

Motorbike Scrambling

The 'Neds Top' crown of land was used for motorcycle scrambling the year before last year and this became an environmental nuisance and hazardous when it escalated to advertised weekly practice events. The situation is being monitored,

Economy

The development of Forest Oak Farm at the bottom of the Purlieu has been very welcome bringing jobs and tourists to the area and improving the landscape and amenity of the area. Congratulations to the Dodsons for their success at Crufts 2014. The small equine and agricultural businesses continued to do well despite the wet winter.

<http://www.forestoakfarm.co.uk/site/index.php>

Renewable Energy

i) Solar

In January 2013 a German renewable energy company, AEE sought a 'screening opinion' from the District Council for the purposes on erecting a massive solar farm on a 37 hectare site known locally as Horage Wood. This is despite the field being in a prominent and highly visible position. The group attended a consultation for this development in August and were appalled at the lack of information and impact studies but voiced their opposition. The group wrote to Jürgen Doering the CEO of AEE asking him to reconsider developing the site but he chose not to answer. The developers stated that they would consult with local communities but this was a token gesture rather than serious engagement and the next development was AEE attended was a Lydney Town Council Meeting where they offered LTC, 12,000 pounds per annum to mitigate the detrimental impact of the development. The group are overwhelmingly against this massive and destructive development that will lead to a further massive loss of green field space. The company are shortly to make a full planning application that the group will campaign against. AEE recently lost a planning appeal for a similarly in appropriate development in the Mendips.



The Highly visible Horage Wood aspect of the Nibley Mill Solar development that stretches to the A48

ii) Wind Turbines

The threat of a 90 metre turbine at Nursehill has not matured into a full application. The group wrote in support of the Aylburtonsaysno campaign and have written to the District Council requesting that they disregard the claims of some developers to be community based when there is no evidence of this.

The group is committed to renewable energies meeting an important part of the Nation's renewable energy requirements. Local developments are being driven by solutions that maximise profit without due regard to communities or the landscape. The group has welcomed the development of a Renewable Energy Guidance Document for LTC members that supports developments that are of a scale and fit with the locality and will discourage those that are of overwhelming scale and impact. It hopes such a policy will be endorsed in the NDP. The group is grateful to CPRE for acting as an important voice in protecting the landscape and amenity of the area.

Save Allaston Development

The group strongly supported the aims of the Stop Allaston Development believing the further erosion of the settlement boundary was inappropriate, too many green fields had been lost and that the potential growth of Lydney with the numbers of new houses already permitted is unsustainable. Neds Top uses the same traffic arteries and these are now congested at peak times and compromising environmental capacity. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stop-Allaston-Development/164487527087725>. The use of planning appeals to challenge locally made decisions is of increasing concern.

Roger Deeks

Neds Top Resident's Action Group



2013 - 14

LYDNEY FESTIVAL

The opening event of the 2013 festival outside the Co-Op featured and celebrated Lydney's young talents, starting in dynamic style with a performance by Boogie Nights dancers.. Tom & Caroline then led a popular song medley and many young stars sang karaoke.

St. Mary's Church hosted four concerts ;pianist Alex Kirk gave a highly professional and polished performance yet again; by contrast the Wyedean Orchestra and Choirs delivered their usual high octane performance to the delight of the audience;. Percussionist & Miramba player, Rhydian Griffiths, returned for a fourth year, assisted by brother Osian ;, a witty and hugely enjoyable evening. The series concluded with an organ recital from Dr. Jane Gamble who was visiting from America..

The Town Hall played host to Lydney Primary schools with seven school choirs providing a powerful sound which was enjoyed by all. .A collection was made for the Yvonne Walkerdine Music Trust. The popular tea dance provided an elegant and popular festival event.

Maggie Clutterbuck organised an Open Mike Evening at the Cross Inn, Aylburton where a number of local poets, some performing for the first time, read their own or favourite poems. The Poetry Slam organised by Brenda Read Brown saw Lydney poets taking on visitors from Bristol, Bath and Birmingham; it proved a witty, erudite evening, with Ben Norris, a university student and national rising star, winning the event.

The Lydney Yacht Club Rally was a joint festival event; the blustery weather with little sunshine curtailed many visiting boats. The festival music was managed by Tony Davies of Banshee, among the musical offerings were the Swamp Devils with their singular brand of cachun music which soon had the crowd dancing. The Sunday Church service at the docks, led by Rev. Sarah Fenby and with music supplied by the Lydney Training band, was dedicated to SARA volunteers who give their time to rescuing sailors and fishermen who encounter problems on the Severn. .

The Festival, as tradition dictates, closed with the Last night of the Proms concert at the Town Hall featuring the ever popular Bream Silver Band supported by the Coalway singers.



With thanks to all those who helped the festival, all those who sponsored or gave finance and those who turned up to support the many events.

Derek Biddle



LYDNEY YACHT CLUB

The Old Shipyard House
Harbour Road
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 4ER
Tel: 01594 842573

Please reply to Commodore, Miss S E Pearson, 16 Bulwark Avenue, Chepstow, Mon, NP16 5QG
01291 620189/07738 3971987

12 March 2014

Lydney Yacht Club Report

During the last year we have had a constant flow of new members some of whom are new to sailing and others who have been sailing for some time and own boats but most of these are interested in cruiser sailing or own trailer sailors or cruisers.

We are continuing with a programme of improvements to the building and the facilities that we offer.

With regard to events and sailing we held our annual Rally/Open Day in June and despite the weather being wet and windy and the river being choppy many boats from clubs along the River and Channel braved the conditions and attended the event making it another successful event.

In July/August several members went on the Club's annual summer cruise unfortunately, the weather played a large part in the trip and the furthest that we got was Watchet and some boats managed to navigate the River Avon to half way between Bristol and Bath.

For the first time we participated in the Forest of Dean's annual Heritage Weekend in September. Which gave us another opportunity to open the Club to members of the public.

Over the winter months we have concentrated on training with several members obtaining their VHF radio licences and other members doing the RYA Day Skipper and Yacht Master (land based) courses all of which were open to non-members. We are looking to increase the amount of training that will be available at the Club and again some of these will be open to non-members.

Susan Pearson (Miss)
Commodore



LYDNEY AREA IN PARTNERSHIP

2013 / 14

The master planning for the future development of Lydney Station has involved several meetings and consultations with key users. The installation of fully automatic crossing barriers and signalling has highlighted the need for safe crossing of vehicles and pedestrians. Several reports of illegal crossing by pedestrians attempting to catch the Newport / Cardiff trains has raised many concerns with questions being raised as to the possibility of opening the old underpass or of installation of a passenger bridge suitable for the disabled. The other main outcome of the consultations is the necessity to increase the capacity of the car park from 72 to at least 150 spaces. Finance to achieve these improvements could result in Network Rail having to sell some land for employment or domestic use as government funding for station improvements is restricted to larger, busier stations. A bonus outcome has been that the Dean Forest Railway is applying to have a ticket office with a small waiting room, café and possibly toilets, which should prove very popular with passengers.



The cost of a survey and feasibility study for Upper Forge Stone Bridge proved too difficult to obtain and the LAiP reported back to the landowners that the project could not be progressed. The Ramblers have fortunately installed an alternative wooden pedestrian bridge, which allows safe access across the stream and up the steep roadside bank towards the Kidnalls. Dean Forest Railway volunteers may clear the trees and shrubs at New Mill Bridge to allow the public better access to this historic feature.

The Lydney Docks Partnership only met once during the year and Rob Millar reported that the Environment Agency wish to dispose of the harbour by 2015 but it has encountered many legal difficulties. Work to improve the moorings in the second basin have continued, but the dredging of the canal and safe working of the swing bridge are long overdue



**FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL REPORT**

Report for Lydney Town Council Meeting
- SELECTED FoDDC ACTIVITIES

1. The Forest of Dean District Council supports residents and businesses in the Lydney area in a variety of routine ways. These include the provision of advice on Business Rates, Council Tax and Benefits. Amongst other things in 2013 the Housing team secured homes for 128 Lydney families including preventing some from becoming homeless. It funded and arranged building work (through Disabled Facilities Grants) to enable 19 older and disabled Lydney people to remain safely in their own homes and sorted out disrepair in 22 private tenancies in the town.
2. The planning team provides advice to applicants and supports the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Building control is another routine but important function. Environmental Health support is delivered through both Food Safety and Health and Safety inspections and advice, while the Licensing team works with publicans and taxi operators based in the Town. Officers have been working closely with the Town Council and other Agencies in an effort to tackle known air quality issues in the Town. The District Council also runs the Leisure Centre based at the Dean Academy. This year the Elections and Electoral Registration Team have prepared for 7 by-elections in Lydney (including that scheduled for 3 April 2014), four of which were held.
3. The foregoing list is by no means exhaustive but serves to indicate some of the activity that we undertake. In this report we focus on the activities of our Community Engagement team - which includes our Street Wardens – whose work in Lydney over the last year has included the provision of support to:
 - The very successful and busy volunteer-led walks in Lydney.
 - The 'Walkers Are Welcome' project to attract Tourists to the Town.
 - A food bank distribution centre.
 - The Welcome Project (family support).
 - The creation of links with the River Children Centre and part of Partnership Board.
 - Church groups within Lydney, to bring them together.
4. In addition the Team has assisted with the provision of access to funding for the:
 - Tennis courts.
 - Naas Lane community centre.
 - Victoria Centre.
 - Town Hall.
 - Oakdale community (and ongoing support).
 - Lydney Dial-a-Ride, in particular to assist in the relocation and as a partner on the lottery funded project for future awareness-raising.
5. A great deal of work has gone in to tackling the known flooding 'hot spots' in Lydney, notably in Lakeside Avenue. Recent meetings with the Town Council and representatives of the Lakeside Community have led to an agreed action plan that focuses on the creation of low-cost rustic attenuation measures upstream from Lakeside. These are intended to slow down the flow of water so that the culvert system is not overloaded. More widely FoDDC is part of the Town Council led group that considers all flooding issues in the Town, including the River Lyd.

P J HIBBERD

Strategic Director

Forest of Dean District Council

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**



County Councillor's Report

Having had four years away from Shire Hall it was a far different organisation that I returned to in May last year. Albeit a far less crowded building, but a very friendly workforce, yes there have been severe cuts, but in my view, what we have now, for the most part, is a more focused, economically driven County Council. Yes, there will be more constraints, with savings of 25 million having to be saved each year for three years beginning in 2015, but, what we must strive to ensure is that our residents are effected as little as possible.

Local issues continue to dominate around Lydney, but what I do see is a more dynamic Lydney Town Council, There is a determination through our Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) to constructively drive the Town forward using a teamwork approach. Teamwork is the key, sadly, from time to time I still see personal agendas, petty squabbles and ignorance clouding and wasting valuable time and thus diverting from our key aim in taking Lydney forward.

Closer contact with the County Council has been achieved and regular positive visits, both by Officers and Members are on-going. I have a monthly meeting with County Leader Mark Hawthorne specifically to discuss Lydney issues, which I also invite a Lydney Town Councillor to attend to enable them to see the wider picture.

Unfortunately, I still feel that the District Council still see Lydney as an irritation that sometimes has the audacity to distract them from their Cinderford Regeneration priorities, and our positives that clearly outweigh any of the other Forest towns are ignored. I urge our six District Councillors to fight our corner - regeneration of the Forest of Dean as a whole - not one part at the expense of another, and certainly not at Lydney's expense.

Concerns that continue to dominate my remit are unnecessary house building particularly on agricultural land, house building without the relevant infrastructure to suit, safety issues at the rail station, safety and congestion issues on the A48, the need for the removal of feed-in-tariffs that impact on domestic energy bill payers, faster broadband delivery, bus services., potholes (feel free to report via 08000514514 or highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk) and (not my remit but a continuing blight on our Town), car-park charging.

I would like to thank three of my Town Council colleagues; our Mayor, Cllr Berryman for his continued excellent work at Bathurst Pool; Cllr Pearman for driving the NDP forward, and Cllr Bevan for his hands-on approach to the flooding issues. Also I would like to thank the Lydney Town Council staff led by the diligent CEO Jayne Smailes for their professionalism.

Cllr Alan Preest

Gloucestershire County Councillor

**LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE RECORD
2013/14 AND CONTACT
LISTING**

Lydney Town Council

2013 – 2014 CURRENT LIST OF COUNCILLORS

<p>Mr Robin Berryman Stedman 77 High Street Aylburton Glos GL15 6DE Tel: 01594 842036</p>	<p>Mr James Bevan Dene Hollow Cottage Highfield Lane Lydney Glos GL15 4LL Tel: 01594 842146</p>	<p>Mr Derek Biddle Hurst Farm Lydney Glos GL15 4LN Tel: 01594 842180</p>
<p>Mrs Ruth Bonser 24 Forest Road Lydney Glos GL15 5LB Tel: 01594 841813</p>	<p>Mr James Greenwood Old Severn Bridge House Purton Lydney Glos GL15 4AX Tel: 01594 842454</p>	<p>Ms Carol Harris 63 Klondyke Avenue Lydney Glos GL15 5PN Tel: 01594 841026</p>
<p>Mrs Valerie Hobman 31 Albert Street Lydney Glos GL15 5LU Tel: 01594 841079</p>	<p>Ms Charlotte Matthews Parkhill Lodge Parkhill Whitcroft Lydney GL15 4PQ Tel: 01594 780203</p>	<p>Mr William Osborne 25 Valley Road Lydney Glos GL15 5QN Tel: 01594 841970</p>
<p>Mr Brian Pearman 18 Bracken Close Lydney Glos GL15 5AH Tel: 01594 841452</p>	<p>Mr Alan Preest 7 Greenacre Bream Lydney Glos GL15 6AP Tel: 01594 564107</p>	<p>Mr Stan Rudge 4 South Road Lydney Glos GL15 5LG Tel: 01594 841512</p>
<p>Mr Brian Thomas Soilwell Barn Allaston Road Lydney Glos GL15 4EX Tel: 842373</p>	<p>Ms Claire Vaughan 20 Bledisloe Way Lydney Glos GL15 5GF Tel: 07581 146903</p>	<p>Vacant Seat</p>
<p>DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <p>Cllrs: Hobman, Osborne, Bevan (Lydney East)</p> <p><u>(Details as above)</u></p>	<p>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</p> <p>Cllr J Davis 1 The Spires Lydney Glos GL15 5QX Phone: 842884 Email: Judv.davis@fdean.gov.uk</p> <p>Cllr M Winship Severn Lodge Church Lane Alvington Lydney, Glos GL15 6BQ Phone: 01594 528289 Email: Marion.Winship@fdean.gov.uk</p> <p>Cllr T Glastonbury Tall Pines The Tufts Bream Glos GL15 6HL Phone: 01594 562102 Email: Terry.Glastonbury@fdean.gov.uk</p>	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLOR</p> <p>Cllr A Preest</p> <p><u>(Details as above)</u></p>
<p>CEO & Executive Officer</p>	<p>Mrs Jayne Smailes CEO/RFO/Proper Officer Tel: 01594 842234 E-Mail: ceo@lydneytowncouncil.co.uk</p>	<p>Miss Carol Wheeler Executive Officer Tel: 01594 842234 E-Mail: exec.officer@lydneytowncouncil.co.uk</p>

Councillor Full Council Meeting Attendance Record

Councillors 2013/2014

	May-12	Jun-12	May-13	Jun-13	Early July 13	Late July 13	Aug 13 - Annual hol	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-12	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Total Number of Absences
Cllr B Berryman	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Cllr J Bevan	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Cllr D Biddle	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Cllr R Bonser	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Cllr D Cooksley	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	N/A	A	A	R	R	R	R	R	4
Cllr D Edwards	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	N/A	A	A	A	A	R	R	R	6
Cllr J Greenwood	N/A	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0
Cllr C Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Cllr V Hobman	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Cllr J James	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	N/A	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	3
Cllr C Matthews	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Cllr B Osborne	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	4
Cllr S Osborne	✓	✓	✓	A	A	N/A	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	4
Cllr B Pearman	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Cllr A Preest	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
Cllr S Rudge	N/A	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0
Cllr B Thomas	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	N/A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2
Cllr C Vaughan	N/A	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0
CEO	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Minute Taker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0

Codes
 Attended
 Absent
 Resigned
 Not yet a councillor

Town Council of Lydney

Council Chambers, Claremont House, High Street, Lydney, Glos, GL15
5DX

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www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk



Customer Information Point/ Opening Times

9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Thursday
9.00 a.m. to 12 Noon Friday

Purpose Statement

"Lydney Town Council is dedicated to meeting the needs and aspirations of the whole community by:

- ***Proving cost-effective services***
- ***Promoting a clean, safe and low-crime environment***
- ***Supporting local activities and facilities for all***
- ***Encouraging citizenship and localism***
- ***Supporting the local economy***
- ***Encouraging appropriate development which will sustain a vibrant town"***