



About Town

Lydney Town Council Newsletter



Spring 2013

Lydney Youth Council



- a new initiative



Members of the Youth Council, Tiffany Cooksley (Chair), Ellie James, Oscar Prattern, Councillor Janice James, Youth Council Champion, Alice Bolten and Cara Brown

Lydney Youth Council is a newly formed addition to Lydney's existing Town Council.

The Youth Council is taken from schools all over the Forest Of Dean and all of our members live in and around Lydney which means there is a diverse input of opinions and ideas.

It is our aim to improve the facilities, activities and address general issues within the Lydney area that concern young people. The Youth Council has 9 members currently, however we are looking for new participants between the ages of 11 – 18 as we hope to fill the 6 seats which are still available. So far our meetings have been hugely successful and we have recently designed our own logo so we will be recognisable to the public eye.

We are hoping our first target will

be reached within the next few months; our aim being to produce a seasonal leaflet of all the activities that are taking place, the pamphlet will be aimed at all ages.

The second idea we hope to address is that of staging a 'Skate Jam' during the summer, to take place at Lydney Skate Park.

Not only are we interested in introducing and hosting new events within Lydney Town, but our aim is to help and assist existing organisations and charities by volunteering where we are able.

For more information about Lydney Youth Council or to inquire about joining, please visit our website at

<http://www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk/communityevents/youth-council> or contact Carol or Jayne on 01594 842234

Ellie James

Why set up a Youth Council?

Young people are the future of our communities and it is important that we, as parish and town councils, invest in them. According to the Office of National Statistics, nearly a quarter of our national population is made up of people under the age of eighteen. They may not yet be able to vote yet but it is essential that these people are not ignored in our communities.

Fact: Article 12 of the UN Human Rights Convention states that young people, under the age of 18 have the legal right to formally express their opinions and for those opinions to be taken seriously. It places a legal responsibility on the decision-makers to consult young people about the things that will affect them and recommends that this be done through establishing youth based groups such as youth councils as young people are finding themselves increasingly marginalised in their local communities.

Developing youth councils can act as a real means of incorporating young people into our communities and can lead to a more safer, vibrant and sustainable community for all residents.

Who Benefits?

Not only do young people benefit from setting up a youth council but the local community as a whole benefits.

Youth Councils enable Young People to;

Voice their concerns

Participate in local government

Be empowered to take decisions and action to improve their local community.

Useful Publications

The British Youth Council (BYC)

www.byc.org.uk

Annual Town Meeting at the Town Hall, Monday 15 April 7pm

See back page for details

Your chance to talk to your councillors and other community representatives

The Council's new i



Head Groundsman - James Young shown with the Lydney Town Council cemetery planting plan he has devised.

'all of the Ground Staff and I are keen to improve the standard of both the Cemetery and the 'closed' Church Yard'

The planting plan is just the start of the Town Council's overall visual improvement plan for the Town.



Lydney Town Council Ground Staff

Lydney Cemetery

Work has already started in earnest to improve the Cemetery and to also create a Garden of Reflection
Championed by the Mayor, **Councillor Bob Berryman** –

'our aim is simple, to improve the standard of both the Cemetery and the 'closed' churchyard so that given time they appear of the same standard as Bathurst Park'



initiatives in 2013



Allotments

Allotments provide a year round activity which is socially inclusive and reflects the ideals of sustainability and well-being, they also provide areas of green space in built up areas, often used by wildlife, thereby contributing to the protection of rare species and promoting biodiversity.

While 'allotment management' can be complex, and indeed places a very real obligation on local councils, currently in Lydney Town Council's case they remain an undervalued 'community asset'

For the aforementioned reasons the Town Council have recently convened two public meetings in order to discuss the future use of Allotments in Lydney and to discuss the arrangements for that of an additional allotment site and those facilities that such a site should look to include.

Further meetings are planned and so if you are interested in either renting an allotment and/or attending one of our informal meetings please contact Carol on 0159842234

Gateway Planting

Improving our 'Gateways' is aimed at attracting additional tourism and reinstating a sense of pride in our local community.

The Town Council have recently adopted a Lydney 'style' - Black & Gold, and you will see that the signage and the planters now match this corporate style

Whilst planting has started in earnest, we were dismayed by the senseless theft of miniature conifers (weekend of 2&3rd March 2013) from the two planters on Cross Hands Junction and the one on Centurion Road - it needs to be recognised that these individuals are not stealing from the Town Council but are instead stealing from YOU! as all such initiatives are funded via the Precept/Council Budget and replacements increase these charges. (Please report to either the Police or the Town Council any similar acts, if witnessed).

Let's work together towards improving our community!



Councillor 'Champion' Scheme

To comprise initially of five specifically 'targeted' areas Individual Councillor 'Champions' have been elected by Lydney Town Council, each assigned to a specific area; the idea is to champion and promote the area, monitor the work /support the work and report back accordingly

Areas to be targeted:

Gateways (Councillors D Biddle and B Osborne)

Cemetery/St Mary's Churchyard (Councillor B Berryman)

Allotments (Councillors S Osborne and V Hobman)

Litter Collection (Councillors A Preest and B Thomas)

Winter Maintenance/Highway Safety (Councillor C Harris)



Annual Meeting for the Town of Lydney

The Mayor of Lydney, invites you to the Annual (parish) Meeting, to be held at the Town Hall, Lydney on Monday 15th April 2013 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting will receive reports from the Town Mayor, Council Committee Chairman, Lydney Town Council's CEO, the Police and a number of local organisations; agendas will be displayed in advance of the meeting on all parish Notice Boards.

Following the meeting, cheese and wine will be served.

For more information please contact the CEO tel: 01594 842234

LYDNEY - OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE MATTERS!

The introduction of the Localism Act 2011, has allowed local communities to have a voice; providing an opportunity for them to be more definitive in their local vision. It is this concept that the 'independent' community led NDP Steering Group is keen to embrace.

The NDP group which consists of community representatives/voluntary groups/statutory and non-statutory groups are currently working towards producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan,



which if it passes both an independent review and public referendum will become a legal statutory planning document in its own right

If being part of this innovative approach to 'local' sustainable planning interests you why not attend one of our meetings/or consider joining the community led panel?

For more information why not visit our website: www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk/events/NDP or contact either **Councillor Brian Pearman** or **Alison Crawshaw** 01594 842234

USEFUL

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Councillors

Bob Berryman (Mayor)	842036
Derek Biddle	842108
Ruth Bonser	841813
David Edwards	840106
Carol Harris	841026
Janice James	843847
Charlotte Matthews	836105
Sue Osborne	841970
Brian Pearman	841452
Alan Preest	564107
Brian Thomas	842373
Georgina Thompson	840207

Town & District Councillors

Valerie Hobman	841079
William Osborne	841970

Town & County Councillor

David Cooksley	844351
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District Councillors

James Bevan	842146
Judy Davis	842884
Terry Glastonbury	562102
Marion Winship	528289

Council Staff

Chief Executive Officer/RFO – Mrs Jayne Smailes	842234
Executive Officer – Miss Carol Wheeler	
Finance Assistant – Mrs Hilary Exton	

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Although your Town Councillors may be contacted at any time should you have any form of concern, this Newsletter is an excellent way to bring your views, ideas, concerns and comments to a wider audience - in other words, to everyone within our community!

Any subject is permitted; You may wish to ask a question You may like to 'air' a concern or just generally pass comment relating to a community issue?

Whatever your thoughts, the Town Council cannot assist if they are unaware — so help us to change this

C/O Lydney Town Council, Council Chambers Claremont House, High Street, Lydney GL15 5DX.

Your views matter!



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