

About Town

Lydney Town Council Newsletter

Summer 2013



Mayor's Annual Report 2012-2013

The past year has been a busy and productive year for Lydney Town Council.

The Council has, with the help of its CEO - Mrs Jayne Smailes and her staff, obtained Quality Status and Power of General Competency, with the End of Year accounts being passed by the external auditors, Moore Stephens, without comment; a great success given the previous issues.

A Youth Council has been formed to mirror the Full Council under the guidance of Cllr Janice James.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan is well advanced under the Chairmanship of Cllr Brian Pearman. Members of the public with valuable knowledge and expertise have been co-opted onto this group and interested parties invited to join.

With the help of Cllr Charlotte

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that work will commence in Lydney Cemetery, in the area referred to as the Old Garden of Remembrance, as of April 2014. The work planned will involve the removal of all weeds/shrubs/ornaments. The area will then be covered with a suitable material designed to remove the necessity to continually weed, thereby ensuring uniform dignity is continually evident. Any existing memorial vases will remain in place for those relatives wishing to place flowers. Any ornaments removed from site will be kept for 6 months and may be reclaimed via Town Council Office.

Tel: (01594) 842234. E-mail: ceo@lydeytowncouncil.co.uk



The Official Opening of the Garden of Reflection

Mathews, Bathurst Park obtained Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Playing Field status, thus protecting the Park for future generations. The same Councillor obtained Big Lottery Funding for the successful outdoor gym equipment at the same location.

One of the main changes introduced this year has seen the Council's ground staff no-longer being confined to Bathurst Park; instead they are now visible in the town. The gateways have been planted with bulbs and flowering tubs have been placed on the round-a-bouts and throughout the town. New 'Welcome to Lydney' signs have been erected.

The standard of the Cemetery has been raised and a 'Garden of Reflection' planted! Each facet of the town, from litter to the Cemetery, now falls to specific Councillors to 'champion', with each being responsible for ensuring these worthwhile improvements continue.

During the year Lydney Town

Hall was handed over to its users and local residents. Local sports clubs have also been given long commercial leases by the Council.

The highlight of the year, on a personal basis, was the invitation to Buckingham Palace to the Queens Garden Party. It was a privilege to attend and at the same time represent Lydney as its Mayor.

My aim for this forthcoming year is very much to continue to push Lydney forward for the benefit of its inhabitants, making it a better place to live.

Bob Berryman

Mayor 2012-2013



Summer in the Park



Marie Fraser Griffiths

BHP Commemorative Event

On Sunday the 9th of June the Bathurst Park & Recreational Grounds Trust, in conjunction with Mr John Thurston of the Watts Group Lydney, hosted a community event to celebrate the gifting of the Gates 60 years ago to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Coronation and also the donation of the Park 121 years by The Bledisloe family to the community of Lydney.

The afternoon was a great success in many ways; attended by Mr

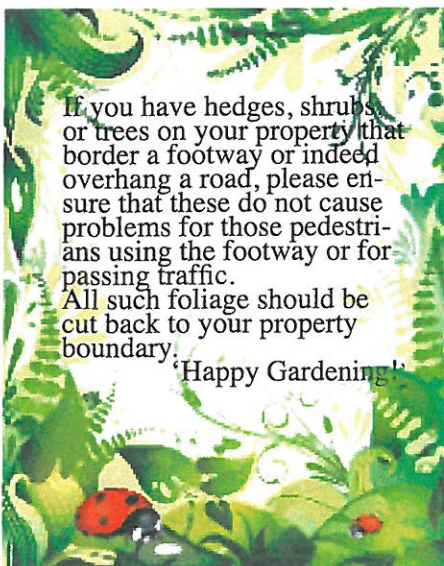
John and Mrs Mary Thurston, Mr Cecil Watts and Mrs Jane Watts the wife of the late Mr Melville Watts, Viscount Bledisloe, Vice Lord Lieutenant Robert Bernhays, Lydney Town Mayor, members of the Lydney Branch of the Royal British Legion, Trustees and members of public.

Performances by the Lydney Training Band and the Severn Banks Cygnets added to the festive feel, as did the children's entertainer and face painter. The day's events

included the planting of an oak tree which was kindly donated by Cllr/Trustee Derek Biddle.

The weather fortunately remained lovely for the entire day, encouraging the public to join in the celebrations whilst making the best possible use of the Park and its facilities. Bathurst Park, which was 'protected' last year under the QEII Fields in Trust Scheme now remains in safe custody for many generations to enjoy; the park's use cannot now be changed from its use as that of recreational space.

Trustee Chairman & Councillor Charlotte Mathews commented; 'It was great to see the newly refurbished café which is situated within the Pavilion in full swing; I would personally like to thank Claire Harris (pavilion café tenant) for all of her hard work on the day not to mention the delicious refreshments which were provided. I would also like to thank fellow Trustees and the Council Staff for all of their hard work which ensured the day went without a hitch. It would be nice to see the Park used in the future for other community events; it is after all a facility given to the community so let's make the most of it'



If you have hedges, shrubs or trees on your property that border a footway or indeed overhang a road, please ensure that these do not cause problems for those pedestrians using the footway or for passing traffic. All such foliage should be cut back to your property boundary.

Happy Gardening!



Come and visit our fantastic new Coffee House in the heart of Bathurst Park.

Sample our homebaked pastries and cakes, fairtrade freshly ground coffee, Made to order snacks, organic Farmed Icecream and so much more.....

**We look forward to seeing you soon!
Now open everyday (except Tuesday's)**

**Date for your Diary
3rd August "Saturday Sundae's" - 5.30 - 7.00pm.**

Bring your family and friends after tea for a selection of your Old Favourite Icecream Sundae's and a few with a Modern Twist.

Walkers are Welcome



Members of the Network are frequently asked to outline the benefits of joining the WAWT Network. Of course these will vary from town to town but the benefits outlined below provide a general summary gathered from current members. The process of applying for membership brings community groups and businesses together in partnership for the benefit of the whole community. Allows communities to benefit from regular networking opportunities with the Town and with other members of the Network. Tourism/Economic Benefits Attracts more people to visit your Town to enjoy local walks Economic benefit for local shops, B&Bs, Hotels, Pubs, Cafés, Restaurants, etc. through increased footfall

Strengthens Towns' reputation as a walking destination when signed walks/walk guides are available Promotes local visitor attractions Compliments Towns' economic generation/tourism plans and strategies Demonstrates that walkers will be given a warm welcome by the local community Ensures that public footpaths remain open and maintained for the benefit of local people and visitors Promotes effective liaison arrangements with local councils and agencies responsible for footpaths. Members provide a focus for cooperation. Helps to create new footpaths and walking groups



Encourages preparation of local walking guides and signage Promotes the health benefits of walking and being in the countryside Gives local people and visitors the opportunity to learn about the culture, history and biodiversity of the Towns and surrounding countryside Helps ensure that footpaths and facilities for walkers are kept in good condition

Contact:
walkersarewelcomlydney@gmail.com
Or Kate Wyatt, Community Engagement Officer, FODDC
Tel: 01594 812636
Email: kate.wyatt@fdean.gov.uk

Gloucestershire
**VILLAGE
& COMMUNITY
Agents**

A guide to Community Safety in the Forest of Dean is available for 2013 from the Forest of Dean District Council. The guide deals with Community interest items including Forest Linkline, 'Rural Watch', Community Transport in the Forest of Dean, Fly-tipping and many other important matters.

Do you know anyone over 18 in the Forest of Dean who would like to improve their reading skills? If so tell them about the Forest Read Easy Deal. FRED offers free, confidential, one-to-one coaching to improve reading skills. Learners and coaches meet at a time and place to suit them both, usually twice a week. FRED is suitable for most adults who have difficulty with reading and would like to improve their skills. FRED offers on-going support so that learners go at their own pace and it is available throughout the Forest. Age is no bar to learning to read: FRED has learners over 70.

FFI Tel Sheila on 01594 861712 or visit www.forestreadeasydeal.org.uk

If you are over 50 and live in Lydney, West Dean Parish, Coleford, Cinderford or Ruspidge/Soudley and you need help with daily living, please contact me, Mike Morgan, your Village Agent and I will arrange a visit at your home or elsewhere to discuss how I can help you. My contact telephone number is: 07776 245 712.



Lydney Town Council Accounts for Year Ending March 2013

	2011/12	2012/13	Difference
Balances brought forward	25,036	123,685	
Annual Precept	387,765	415,765	(+28,000)
Other Receipts	50,861	52,690	(+1,829)
Corporate	171,434	186,278	(+14,844)
Loan interest and Capital Repayments	15,287	15,287	
Total Other Repayments	153,256	188,437	(+35,181)
Balance C/Fwd	123,685	202,138	(+78,453)
Total Cash and Investments	127,118	215,954	(+88,836)
Total Fixed Assets	674,268	722,067	(+47,799)
Total Borrowings	129,446	125,686	(-3,760)

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 Derek Biddle and Bill Osborne)

Cemetery/St Mary's Churchyard

(Councillor Bob Berryman)

Allotments

(Councillors Sue Osborne and Valerie Hobman)

Litter Collection

(Councillors Alan Preest and Brian Thomas)

Winter Maintenance/Highway Safety

(Councillor Carol Harris)



WANTED!

'For Fouling on our Pavements'
'Please, ensure that the Dog

Waste Bins provided are used, not only is it unpleasant for those that may 'step' in yesterday's dinner, but it gives me a bad reputation!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Councillors

Bob Berryman (Mayor)	842036
Derek Biddle	842108
Ruth Bonser	841813
David Cooksley	844351
David Edwards	840106
Carol Harris	841026
Janice James	843847
Charlotte Matthews	836105
Sue Osborne	841970
Brian Pearman	841452
Brian Thomas	842373

Town & County Councillor

Alan Preest	564107
-------------	--------

Town & District Councillors

James Bevan	842146
Valerie Hobman	841079
William Osborne	841970

District Councillors

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!