



About Town



Lydney Town Council Newsletter - Autumn 2014

Am I Registered To Vote?

You need to be on the electoral register to vote in all UK elections and referendums. You are not automatically registered even if you pay council tax. If you receive a request for your registration information from your local electoral registration office then you are legally obliged to respond. If you do not respond, or if you provide false information, then you could receive a fine.

You need to be included on the Electoral Register if you are:

- 18 and over
- British, Irish, European or qualifying Commonwealth Citizen living in the UK - Please see the list of Eligible Nationalities (available via the FODDC Website for more information). If you are 16/17 years old you can fill your details out on the form, but you must provide your date of birth, so that you are eligible to vote as soon as you turn 18.

If you are not on the Electoral Register, you will not be able to vote come polling day. You will also find it hard to obtain credit, a mobile phone contract or open a bank account.

The way we all register to vote has changed

The registration system changed in June 2014. The new system is called 'Individual Electoral Registration'. For more information please visit www.gov.uk/yourvotematters

How is the new system different?

- You can now register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
- Everyone is responsible for registering themselves. Under the old system the 'head of every household' could register everyone who lived at their address.
- You need to provide a few more details to register - including your national insurance number and date of birth. This makes the electoral register more secure.



How do I register under the new system?

- 1) Go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
- 2) Fill in your name, address, date of birth and a few other details. You'll also need your national insurance number, which can be found on your national insurance card, or in official paperwork such as payslips, or letters about benefits or tax credits.
- 3) Look out for a confirmation to say you're registered.



Remember, No Vote = No Say!



CASUAL VACANCY – LYDNEY NORTH WARD

Following a recent resignation notice is hereby given that a vacancy for a Councillor wishing to represent Lydney North Ward now exists.

Any person wishing to be considered for co-option should send a written letter expressing their interest to the Chief Executive Officer to the Council, **on or before 12 noon on 3rd October 2014**. The letter should include details of interests, experience and reasons for wishing to serve.

The applicant must not be disqualified from holding office as a Councillor (details available upon request).

It is anticipated that the vacancy will be filled by co-option at a meeting of the Town Council to be held on 13th October 2014 @ 7pm. At this meeting you will therefore be required to give a short presentation, once again outlining your reasons for wishing to become a Lydney Town Councillor .

Contact: Mrs J Smailes (CEO, Lydney Town Council)

Email: ceo@lydeytowncouncil.co.uk or Tel 01594 842234

Address: Council Chambers, Claremont House, High Street, Lydney, Gloucestershire. GL15 5DX.

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

'Lydney Town Councillors are keen to hear your views'

- Why not visit one of the Town Councillor Surgeries?





Lydney Town Council are looking to re-instate a 'Youth Council' which will comprise of a range of ages and genders taken from schools and youth organisations based within Lydney or with a direct connection.

The aim of the Youth Council will be to improve facilities, activities and address general issues within the Lydney area that concern young people. We are currently looking for participants between the ages of 11 – 18 years of age.

Not only are we interested in introducing and hosting new events within Lydney Town for young people to get involved in, but our aim is to help and assist existing organisations and charities by volunteering youth members where and when we are able.

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.

Information/ Useful Publications, The British Youth Council (BYC) www.byc.org.uk.

For more information about Lydney Youth Council, please visit our website at www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk or contact Councilor C Vaughan on 07581 146903 or Lydney Town Council Offices on 01594 842234.

Join Lydney Youth Council!

DON'T MISS OUT!!



What does your Town Council do all year?



A good question! The standard answer is that we are the first tier (local council) of a three tier system of local government, with Forest of Dean District Council, and Gloucestershire County Council (local authorities) being the next two tiers, all elected by people in the area. Parish and Town Councils were formed by an act of parliament in 1894, to look after the interests of those who live within the parish/town community, with the District and County Councils being responsible for health, police, education, planning, litter, public transport & highways amongst other things. Parish and Town Councils do however have a wide and varied range of powers in relation to the provision of services and facilities which can and does bring direct benefit to the local community. As Lydney continues to grow and prosper, the representational aspect becomes increasingly more important. Decisions taken by the District and County Councils may vitally affect the quality of life within our town, therefore the role of the Town Council is of utmost importance.

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!

Forest of Dean CAB Advice Pathway Project

What is the Advice Pathway Project?

Forest of Dean Citizens Advice Bureau has received two years Big Lottery funding in partnership with Age UK Gloucestershire to work on a Forest wide 'Advice Pathway Project'. Project aim:

- building a cohesive advice network for the Forest of Dean area;
- recruiting 100 volunteers in a variety of roles and placing them in venues throughout the Forest.

Project update

CAB have exciting plans for the Autumn including the creation of 'Budget Buddies' - peer to peer mentoring on financial capability. They have developed a training package and will be working with Newent High School, training Year 9 students to become Budget Buddies who will then cascade their learning down to the lower years.

Their Advice Pathway Home Visiting Specialist Liz Spoor has raised £60,297.86 in benefits awards, provided 50 home visits, attended 4 Tribunals and prepared submissions for another 7 between October 2013 and June 2014.

They have recruited and trained 33 CAB volunteers to date.

Upcoming events

CAB 75th Birthday Party Extravaganza!

Hosted by Baroness Jan Royall our event will be held at **Forest Hills Golf Club, Saturday 8th November from 7pm until late. The evening will consist of various local entertainers**

along with a 2 course buffet. Tickets £25.00. For further details contact: admin2@fod.cabnet.org.uk

CAB will also be attending the following events:

- Forest Vintage Show at The Speech House 14th September 9.30-5pm
- Forest Show Case Food & Drink Festival at The Speech House 5th October 10-5pm
- Rotary Club Fun Run 28th September. Two volunteers are running the Fun Run to raise funds for the CAB and members will be there to cheer them on! For sponsors/donations please get in touch.

The project vision:

A client will be able to walk into any partnership venue and receive a pathway into the advice they need.



Report provided by: Sophie Pryce - Advice Pathway Project Manager/Volunteer Development Officer, Forest of Dean CAB

Dates for your diary 2014

⇒ 5.11.14 -

Remember ,Remember the 5th November 2014!
Fireworks at Bathurst Park Lydney



⇒ 29.11.14 -

Christmas lights switch on in Lydney Town



HELP US TO REDUCE FLY TIPPING

The Forest of Dean District Council is responsible for the investigation and removal of fly tipping on highways, laybys and council owned land e.g. car parks and recycling bank sites. If waste is dumped on private land such as Forestry Commission or housing association land, privately-owned car parks, farms, domestic or industrial premises, these landowners have to clear it at their own expense. Illegal dumping or fly tipping costs the tax payer thousands of pounds a year and is also detrimental to the environment.

To combat the problem the Forest of Dean District Council is launching a pilot waste crime reduction project aimed at preventing and reducing fly tipping in the district.

Fly tipping often occurs when rogue waste carriers illegally dump the waste that they collect to avoid proper disposal fees and maximise their profits. One aim of the project is to provide advice to householders and businesses on how to deal with their waste correctly and legally to prevent this happening.

The other emphasis of the project is to hold culprits to account through proportionate enforcement. To enable this we have commissioned the service of a specialist Waste Crime Enforcement Officer from Herefordshire working one day a week for a 6 month period. Their focus will be criminal investigation of fly tips which could result in fixed penalty notices and prosecutions for those held responsible – which we hope will deter others from dumping waste. The outcome of the pilot will be announced later this year.

Report It

If you see waste that has been fly tipped contact the Forest of Dean District Council on 01594 810000 or email ECBO@fdean.gov.uk. Alternatively you can report it via the Environment Agency's 24 hour Hot Line 0800 807060.



- Report provided by Joint Waste Team, Forest of Dean District Council



In the Park Pleased to announce we will be open for business on Firework night from 5.30pm - Finish

serving:

Hot Roast Pork Rolls with all the trimmings plus our usual provision of hot and cold drinks, homemade cakes, hot sugared doughnuts and chips

We look forward to seeing you!

Open 7 days a week ,10am - 4pm throughout the autumn.

Whatever the weather!!

Plus we are launching our new

Ring and order service

Ring and order your homemade soup, bloomer sandwiches, melts, jacket potato and drinks before 11am and we will get it ready for your arrival.

Saving you valuable time.

available for eat in or takeaway

Call us on: 07779820346



Gloucestershire Constabulary Family Open Day

Come on over, bring the whole family and help us to celebrate... we've got loads going on!

Enjoy a great day out with
Roads Policing
Dog display
Arena events
Face painting
Sponge a bobby
Balloon modelling
Forensics

FREE entry for all

Road Safety displays
Bike security marking
Fitness testing
First aid demos
Firearms
Police and Crime Commissioner's Office
Volunteer recruitment

To mark this special occasion we're welcoming everybody to our Police Family Open Day, to come along and join in the fun!

ALL TAKES PLACE AT
Police HQ, No 1 Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley GL2 2AN
Parking at park and ride. Disabled parking on site.



Sunday 14th
September
10am until
3pm

LYDNEY TOWN HALL



*Lydney Town Hall available for Hire,
Private, Charity or Commercial.*

Please telephone

01594 843313 or email

bookings@lydneytownhall.com

for availability and rates



Village Agents try to provide easier access to



services and information for the over fifties. They act as signposts to put clients in touch with people or organisations who may be able to help with their particular problems. Village Agents have contacts with services such as Adult Helpdesk, Forest of Dean CAB, Age UK, various volunteer transport services such as Dial a Ride or Bream Transport, plus helping with applications for those with mobility problems to obtain a Blue Badge for use in any car they are in. If you wish to contact me in confidence for help with any problems or to be directed to a particular service, please telephone, Mike Morgan Tel. No. 07776 245712 or email: mike@communityagents.grcc.org.uk.

FREE Informal Dementia Awareness Sessions

Would you like to gain some practical information and understanding about Dementia?

These sessions are for everyone—individuals, community groups,

businesses, carers, family members, friends.

All to be held at Forest of Dean Council Offices

Coleford

To book onto a session contact:

Lena Maller

Community Engagement Officer

Forest of Dean District Council

Tel: 01594 812609

lena.maller@fdean.gov.uk

Wednesday	20 th August	10.30am -12.30
Friday	3 rd October	10.30am-12.30
Wednesday	12 th November	2pm-4 pm
Monday	8 th December	10.30am-12.30
Monday	12 th January	2pm-4 pm
Wednesday	18 th February	10.30am-12.30
Tuesday	24 th March	2-pm-4 pm

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 (*replies printed in the same edition wherever possible*), 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.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Councillors

Bob Berryman (Mayor) - 01594 842036

Derek Biddle - 01594 842180

Ruth Bonser - 01594 841813

James Greenwood - 01594 842454

Carol Harris - 01594 841026

Harry Ives - 07771 704826

Brian Pearman - 01594 841452

Stan Rudge - 01594 841512

Brian Thomas - 01594 842373

Claire Vaughan - 07581146903

Town & County Councillor

Alan Preest - 01594 564107

Town & District Councillors

Valerie Hobman - 01594 841079

William Osborne - 01594 841970

James Bevan - 01594 842146

District Councillors

Judy Davis - 01594 842884

Terry Glastonbury - 01594 562102

Marion Winship - 01594 528289

Council Staff

Chief Executive Officer/RFO

- Mrs Jayne Smailes - 01594 842234

Executive Officer

- Miss Carol Wheeler

Finance Assistant

- Mrs Hilary Exton

Admin Assistant

- Kate Hammond

Part-time Admin Assistant

- Alison Crawshaw

Please note: Councillor Public Surgeries are held every month outside Co-op or Tesco stores. Any member of the public requesting a 'private' councillor/police appointment is advised to contact the office (private appointments, whenever possible, will be arranged during office hours when the Council Chamber will be made available).

Your views matter to us!



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