



About Town

Lydney Town Council Newsletter

Spring 2014



Lydney Neighbourhood Development Plan



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.



- Vote Yes for the adoption of Lydney's NDP



**Your opportunity to shape
Lydney's Future....**



Annual Town Meeting at the Town Hall, Monday 7 April 2014, 7pm



See back page for details - Your chance to talk to your councillors and other community representatives!

forest of dean ramblers

fodramblers.org.uk

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!



Forest of Dean Ramblers

Flooding at Lakeside

On Christmas Eve, a blocked trash screen at the rear of 115 Lakeside Avenue, Lydney, resulted in seven properties being flooded in the area, six for the first time ever.

Timber, which had been felled many months earlier, the removal of which had been requested by residents on numerous occasions to avoid the impending disaster, was the cause.

Unfortunately, the Forest of Dean District Council (FODDC), who have powers in such matters, appear to have ignored the pleas of the residents, who through no fault of their own, now have to worry as to whether they will be able to get future insurance and will it be inflated, also will they be able to sell their properties.

Since the flooding it has also been established that in addition to the trash screen, the main culvert was 90% blocked. However, FODDC have now finally authorised the removal of any offending material which caused this man made disaster which should never have happened.

Discussions with FODDC are still ongoing and subsequent meetings after the flooding appear to have established that land/riparian ownership is a major important issue in taking matters forward. Another issue still in discussion are the

broken fences, allowing children and adults to enter the site for the disposal of litter and fly-tipping to take place, which in turn enhances the blocking of the watercourse and the trash screen/culvert.

This latest incident has, unfortunately, brought a further stigma to Lakeside Avenue, which is already renowned for its past flooding issues.

The residents are appreciative of the part played by the Officers and Councillors of Lydney Town Council for their unblocking of the watercourse in the first instance, the issue of sandbags and for its on-going assistance, advice and shared concern.

(Letter submitted by resident's elected representative - Mr Gordon Blake)

Update on the Stream Culvert

After all the rain and since FODDC have unblocked the culvert, the stream level is now very low and running free and fast. There is however a couple of pieces of concrete still in the culvert probably caused by the base of the trash screen which is breaking up, this has the poten-

tial to cause further blockages at a later date if left unchecked or not removed.

FODDC have been asked to survey the whole length of culverts (main and divert) as there may be blockages further down, and I believe this is now in hand.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Town Council and Office Staff for the support I have received.

(Update submitted by Lakeside resident - Mr Colin Legg)



Logs/Debris removed from Trash Screen



Images of the fly-tipping and Flooding

Below are pictures from the Lakeside Floods of 2007



LYDNEY'S COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

It has been a busy start to the year; below is just a sample of issues which are receiving my attention:

Wild Boar: I have been seeking to obtain a definitive opinion on the responsibility for managing the wild boar in the forest. DEFRA have advised that the primary responsibility for feral wild boar management lies with communities and individual land owners. The Forestry Commission does not need a mandate from anyone, as a responsible land owner it listens to views from all interested parties, including those of wildlife management. DEFRA have no plans to hold or fund a referendum on the management of wild boar.

A Unitary Authority: Gloucestershire County Council formed a Unitary Authority working group to investigate the possibility of adopting a unitary system, which would result in the cessation of District Authorities. However, as only one District Council positively co-operated with the investigation the working party has been deferred for the time being.

Further savings at Gloucestershire County Council: The County Council has to save a further £25 million a year until at least 2017/18. Shortly the five Group Leaders will begin a process which

will (hopefully) lead to a saving of £75 million whilst still meeting the real need of the people of the county. This in itself is going to be difficult to balance.

A48 Safety: At the beginning of March 2014 a Gloucestershire County Council Scrutiny Meeting will take place which will focus on safety issues on the A48 and the very real necessity to reduce accidents on the roads we all tend to use frequently.

Lydney Town Council: The Council's CEO has worked tirelessly to secure vehicle activated signage (VAS) for the town which will be implemented within the 20 mph zone. It is hoped that the VAS's will be operational shortly after beginning of April 2014.

County Cllr Alan Preest



Police Report

New Lydney PCSO

Tom Oliver and I am 25 years old, I am Forest born and bred.

I have always wanted to work for the Police from Secondary School onwards and decided to go to what is now GlosCol at the Five Acres campus in Coleford where I achieved 2 A levels in Law and Psychology and then went on to complete a 2 year BTEC National Diploma in Public Services where I achieved 2 distinction grades. After College I then went to work at a local Supermarket where I obtained the role of Customer Service Assistant, I held this role for 5 years which gained me valuable experience working directly with the public. In February 2012 I became a Special Constable within Gloucestershire Constabulary working out of Cinderford Police Station, this gave me invaluable experience over the 12 months I was in this role, and only left the role as I obtained the role of Police Community Support Officer within the Constabulary which was one of the proudest moments of my life as its what I had

been working towards for so many years. I became a Police Community Support Officer in February 2013 and have been in the role for 12 months, recently completing my probationary period in November 2013. Throughout my 12 months as a Police Community Support Officer I have worked out of Cinderford Police Station, Coleford Police Station and now Lydney Police Station, this has again given me a lot of experiences working within different Towns within the Forest.

I am looking forward to a successful career within my current role and look forward to serving the people of Lydney with my colleagues in the Forest to the best of my ability. If you see me out and about please come over and have a chat, I look forward to meeting as many people within the community as I can as it can only enhance my time in Lydney as a Police Community Support Officer. Kind Regards

PCSO Tom Oliver 249252



New Lydney Beat Manager

Phil Hopkins. From Pontypridd in South Wales. I have been a Police officer for the past six years.

I started my career at Barton Street Police Station where I worked on the response car and then went onto the community team. During this time I worked as the Police Liaison Officer at the Rycroft bail hostel where I dealt with dangerous ex prisoners.

I moved to Coleford Police station approximately eighteen months ago where I worked on the response car and recently moved to Lydney two months ago as the local Beat Manager.

If you see me out and about please feel free to stop for a chat.

Thanks,

PC2142 Phil Hopkins.

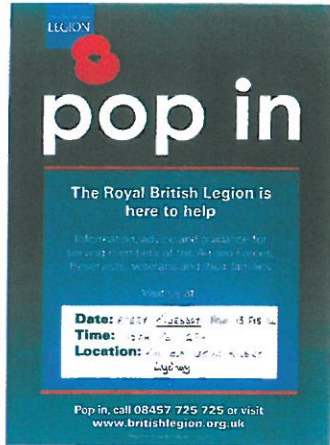


HAVE YOUR SAY!

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.

**Your views
matter to us!**



LEGION
pop in
The Royal British Legion is here to help
Information, advice and assistance for
veterans and their families
Date: Friday 18th April 2014
Time: 10am - 4pm
Location: The Whitehouse Press
Lydney
Pop in, call 08457 725 725 or visit
www.britishlegion.org.uk

Taurus Crafts EVENTS DIARY

Beer Festival
29th March
Children's Activities
5th-28th April
Antiques & Vintage Fair
20th April
Food Markets
2nd Sat of the month
Taurus Crafts, Lydney, GL15 6BU
01594 844841 tauruscrafter.co.uk



In The Park

The coffee shop will be open from
Friday 18th April 2014—10am until
4pm (springtime)

and 10am until 5pm (throughout the summer)

Come and sample our homebaked pastries and cakes,
fairtrade freshly ground coffee, organic farmed icecream
and so much more....

We look forward to welcoming all new
and existing customers!

Please also visit our website:
www.reallyrathergoodcompany.co.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Councillors

Bob Berryman (Mayor) - 01594 842036
Derek Biddle - 01594 842180
Ruth Bonser - 01594 841813
Carol Harris - 01594 841026
Charlotte Matthews - 01594 780203
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



Annual Meeting for the Town of Lydney

The Mayor of Lydney, invites you to the Annual (Town) Meeting, to be held at the Town Hall, Lydney on Monday 7 April 2014 at 7.00pm.

The meeting will receive reports from the Town Mayor, Council Committee Chairmen, 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



WANTED!

For Fouling on our Pavements' and
our 'open' spaces.

'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!'

