

# About Town

Lydney Town Council Newsletter - Spring 2017

LOCAL COUNCIL  
AWARD SCHEME  
QUALITY GOLD



## 2017-18 REDUCTION IN LYDNEY'S BAND D CHARGE

Despite Forest of Dean District Council (*Billing Authority*) making the conscious decision to withdraw, as of April 2017, the proportion of Local Council Tax Support Grant previously passed to each Parish and Town Councils, Lydney Town Council is pleased to be able to announce that there is to be a 'parished' reduction in Band D charges for its residents.

With Lydney Town Council losing what amounts in monetary terms to £40k+ in Local Council Tax Support Grant per annum you could be forgiven for expecting the worse however this is not so in Lydney's case.

Cllr Brian Pearman, Lydney Town Council's Finance & Scrutiny Committee Chairman said ' *The town council's sound financial management has yielded a 0.36p reduction in Band D Charges for Lydney's electorate whilst maintaining community/public service delivery, this is a trend that we now intend to capitalise on year on year, allowing our electorate to reap the benefits of this councils continued financial prowess and its due diligence.*

As well as addressing the usual functions one would associated with a council of this size, the Town Council are also; **Custodial Trustee's of Bathurst Park Recreation Trust and Lydney Recreation Trust**, maintaining both Bathurst Park and Lydney Recreation Ground community assets to an exceptionally high standard; the council is also a lead **Burial Authority**.

A copy full copy of Lydney Town Council's Spending Plan for 2017/18 is available to download at :

[http://www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk/?page\\_id=111](http://www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk/?page_id=111)

**SAVE THE DATE!**



**Saturday 10th August 2017  
PARTY IN THE PARK!**

at Bathurst Park, Lydney.

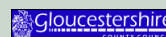
- check our facebook page for info with further details to follow....



[www.facebook.com/Lydney-Town-Council](http://www.facebook.com/Lydney-Town-Council)



**Register to vote now  
ready for the 4 May**



On Thursday 4 May 2017 people across the County will go to the polls to vote in the Gloucestershire County Council elections.

The District Council is urging residents to make sure they are registered to vote.

You can register to vote at any time, but the deadlines for registration ahead of the County Council elections are:

Last date for Registration – Thursday 13 April 2017

Last date for Postal Vote Applications – Tuesday 18 April 2017 by 5pm

Last date for Proxy Vote Applications – Tuesday 25 April 2017 by 5pm

The names of the candidates will be available from Wednesday 5 April 2017.

Claire Hughes, Deputy Returning Officer for the Forest of Dean district said: "People living in the district will need to register to make sure that they don't miss out on having their say in the County Council elections on polling day."

"If you are already registered, you don't need to re-register, however, if you have moved house recently or if you are unsure if you're registered you can check by calling the Council's Elections Team on 01594 812692."

"Registering is easy and you can apply online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) in just a few minutes. You will need your date of birth and national insurance number. Alternatively for those who would prefer you can still apply using a paper form which can be downloaded from the registration site or requested from the Elections Team on 01594 812692."

"Anyone not yet registered to vote should do so as soon as possible as the deadline to register to vote is **Thursday 13 April 2017.**"



## Annual Town Meeting at the Town Hall, Monday 24 April 2017, 7pm

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

## Lydney Town Mayor's Civic Award



Each year the Town Mayor awards a grant of £200 to a young person who has demonstrated outstanding ability and who would benefit from financial assistance to help them progress in their chosen sport or art.

### **Application For Grant From Town Mayors Gift Fund**

Each year the Town Mayor's Gift Fund awards one young person from Lydney a grant of £200 to help towards their development in sport or the arts. If a financial grant would assist you in progressing in your discipline, and you are aged between 11 & 18 living in Lydney, you can apply to be considered under this scheme. Only one grant is awarded each year.

### **CRITERIA FOR APPLICATIONS**

- ⇒ Applicants must be a resident of Lydney.
- ⇒ Applicants are to be between the ages of 11 and 18 at the time of award of the grant.
- ⇒ Grants are not made retrospectively.
- ⇒ The applicant should be able to demonstrate how any grant would be used, e.g. travel costs, specialist clothing / equipment, coaching/tutorship.
- ⇒ Any successful applicant will not be eligible for further awards.
- ⇒ The Town Council will request a receipt from the applicant for any award.
- ⇒ Applications must be received by the date outlined on the award form.
- ⇒ Applications must be supported by a parent or carer, school teacher, tutor or sporting group leader, and countersigned as such by the proposer, who must be over 21 years of age.
- ⇒ The award is to be used only for the activity specified.
- ⇒ The Town Council will require feedback on the progress of the successful applicant.
- ⇒ Only one grant award is made each year in September and is awarded at the Mayor's discretion. The council's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

**To apply please download a form from our website: [www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk](http://www.lydneytowncouncil.co.uk) and return completed form to; Lydney Town Council, Council Chamber, Claremont House, High Street, Lydney, GL15 5DX.**

### WARM AND WELL HELP



Warm and Well offers home owners and private tenants free energy advice, free home energy visits (subject to eligibility), information and grants for heating, cavity wall and loft insulation (subject to funding and eligibility). Warm and Well can help you save energy in your home, reduce your energy bills, switch energy supplier, find local installers and tradespeople. FFI Tel: 0800 500 3076 Visit [www.warmandwell.co.uk](http://www.warmandwell.co.uk) Email [warmandwell@severnwyenergy.org.uk](mailto:warmandwell@severnwyenergy.org.uk)

Warm and Well is delivered by the Severn Wye Energy Agency charity

If you are over 50 and live in West Dean, Coleford, Lydney, Cinderford, Ruspidge, Drybrook, Ruardean, Blakeney and Awre and you need help with daily living, please contact me, Mike Morgan, your local 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



### IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS

**BEWARE!**

***Fines &/or enforcement action will be taken against you.***

Please, ensure that the Dog Waste Bins provided are used, especially those sited on Lydney Recreational Ground as **you** are otherwise placing in jeopardy junior sporting events in our town.



### Dates for your Diary

Newent Technology Day & ECLO Drop in Thurs 16th March 2017 at Newent Library 10:30 -2:00. With appointments available at Cinderford afterwards. This event will be attended by Humanware with the new Prodigy Tablet, Optima with the newest in magnifiers and Action for Blind with the best in assistive technology.

Week commencing March 20th FREE Course Taster Week – come and have a go at balance class, computers, singing, bells, lunch club(£5 for food). FREE TRANSPORT & FREE CLASSES.

Losing your sight and staying independent - A course full of tips to help you maintain your independence. Teaching you a variety of skills to aid daily living with sight loss

Part1 9:30am – 3:30pm April 4th

Part2 9:30am – 3:30pm April 11th

BOOK EARLY ONLY 30 PLACES AVAILABLE RING JACKIE  
01594 827711

Willow Boat Trust - A trip out to the Willow Boat Trust - FREE admission FREE transport . The willow boat is a wheelchair accessible boat on the Gloucester – Sharpness Canal. A relaxing and exciting day on the water. Picnic lunch provided (We would appreciate a donation for this). On wed 19th April 2017 8:30 start from Forge Centre returning at 4:30

BOOK EARLY - Only 30 spaces ring Jackie 01594 827711 to book your space.

Macular Disease week - Thursday June 29th at 2PM at Forge Centre – come and meet Tom Mcinulty of Macular Society who will be talking about the condition.

We are in desperate need of your old talking books please. Our stocks are running low.

If you would like to attend any of these events please ring Jackie on 01594 827711 to book your place and arrange your transport to events if needed.



Forest Sensory Services  
(Formerly FORGE)  
Forge Centre, Valley Road, Cinderford, Glos. GL14 2LJ  
T: 01594 827711  
E: forestsensoryservices@btconnect.com  
W: www.forestsensoryservices.org.uk

## County Councillor Report

On the 15 Feb 17, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) adopted its budget for the forthcoming financial year. Full details of the budget can be found on the GCC website, highlights include; Funding for Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership to continue its work in light of the Police and Crime Commissioners withdrawal.

A additional £10,000 for every county councillor from £20,000 to £30,000 to enable smaller scale Highway work to be carried out in their Divisions. (In 2016/17, the resurfacing in Templeway, the Bream Road bus shelter and a Vehicle Activated "Slow - Down" Sign close to Lydney CE Primary School were beneficiaries of this scheme). Continuation of the localised Highways Lengthsman scheme which allows dedicated teams to visit the Divisions during the year addressing drainage, minor potholes and obstructive plant/tree growth.

An extra £9 million specifically for major Highway improvements. Extra support for people with disabilities.

Investment to improve adults physical and mental health.

The extension to the mainline Railway Station Car-Park was finally opened on the 16 Feb 17. Circumstances outside of GCCs control caused the delay. Unfortunately, appropriate signage indicating the entrance to the car-park still awaits delivery and erection, this will be resolved shortly.

Driffield Road was subject to a landslide on the evening of 27 Feb 17. A relatively small section at the foot of the cutting has slipped. Unfortunately the road had to be closed. I have every confidence that GCC engineers will do their utmost to correct the situation expediently.

Dean Academy is just one of 25 schools in the country, and the only one in Gloucestershire, to benefit by £50 million of government funding (fines from the banking industry) to enable the school to join the Cadet Expansion Programme. The school will forge close links with the existing Forest of Dean Sea Cadets, which are based in Lydney. The scheme will give a fantastic opportunity for students to learn new skills, engage in adventurous pursuits and help them achieve BTEC qualifications. The school has had some difficult times of late, but, now with a committed Head Teacher in Mr Tom Beveridge in post, the future of 11-16 education in our town does appear to have solid foundations.

Finally, all the very best to Kevin Ford and the Lydney Town Band during March at the West of England Brass Band Championships in Torquay.

- County Cllr Alan Preeest

### Gardening Tips for April - Sunshine and showers



Spring is finally in evidence as daffodils and flowering trees start to bloom. Expect the inevitable April showers this month but with sunny days too, when you can turn your attention to the lawn. It's an exciting month, with indoor-sown seeds well into growth, and it's also time to start sowing outdoors. Just watch out for frosts...

Also... 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'



## Lydney Town Council Improvements in the Town

The Town Council Ground staff have been busy throughout the Town, painting street furniture and tidying the paths and flower beds. A new flower bed has also been created in Church Road which has been planted with grasses and shrubs and the flower tubs and hanging baskets in the Town have been maintained and replanted as required. The Council continue to carry out weed killing throughout the Town, with this year extending the area it treats and brushing and treating weeds on the curbs and paths from Taurus Crafts though Lydney to the Cross Hands junction.

The wildflower areas continue to improve each year giving visitors and locals enjoyment, not to mention the bees and wildlife. The Town Council Ground staff have also designed, planned and constructed, as part of the 'In Bloom' Project, two new flower beds at Bathurst Pool, which will hopefully give colour and pleasure to that part of Town, both now and in the years to come.

A new fitness trail has also been installed in Bathurst Park to add to the facilities offered in the Park. The bandstand has also been given a roof, its appearance now in keeping with its surroundings, lending itself to summer band performances and the like.



*Pictures of the new 'fitness trail' and new bandstand roof in Bathurst Park. Also the new flower bed outside Bathurst Pool.*



## Bathurst Swimming Pool Public Session 2017

From Saturday 27th May 2017 - 12 noon - 6 pm



This session is weather dependent, so please check our local weather forecast or call us prior to making your journey.

We are pleased to announce that our public session will recommence from Saturday 27th May from 12 noon and our very reasonable entry fees have been maintained.

**The following entry prices will apply for 2017:**

**Adults (Over 16) - £3 \* No Concessions**

**Children (Over 3 - Under 16) - £2**

**Under 3 - Free**

\* A £3 entry fee applies to Students, Senior Citizens and Spectators.

We look forward to seeing you all at the pool!





## In The Park

We look forward to welcoming both existing & new customers with our new and exciting menu for 2017.

Open from Monday 3rd April 2017

from 10am - 4pm

See you soon!



## Lydney Parkrun



The winter months have not stopped runners turning up each week, with ice, rain and a few flakes of snow, we have still be running and walking the Lydney parkrun every Saturday morning at 9am.

We celebrated our first anniversary in style with plenty of cakes. The 4th of March saw runners stay behind and take part in the "Great British Spring Clean" and collect eight black bags of rubbish from around the course. On the 18th March we welcomed the latest graduates from the Lydney 0-5k beginners group.



If you would like to find out more about the 0-5k group or parkrun, then please either come and see us one Saturday morning, or drop us an email [lydneyoffice@parkrun](mailto:lydneyoffice@parkrun), or search for Lydney parkrun on Facebook.

## FOREST READ EASY DEAL - FRED

FRED is a FREE service for people who live in the Forest of Dean and who would like to improve their reading. We probably all know someone who doesn't read. It is very common and can restrict a person's life in many ways. Everyday tasks that those of us who do read take for granted, such as shopping, applying for jobs, helping your children and grandchildren and taking part in community life are much more difficult. We know that it can be a huge step for people who have always found reading difficult to ask for help and put their trust in us. This is why we ensure that all the coaching we provide is:

**One-to-one** – much less intimidating than joining a class. It means that learners can work at their own pace with reading materials that interest them. **Free** – to anyone who lives in the Forest of Dean. **Flexible** – learning sessions are short and regular. No more than 30 minutes, twice a week at a time to suit the learner. **Confidential** – learners meet their coaches at local venues which provide privacy for learning. Learning to read makes life easier to:

- Take part in all those things mentioned above
- Be more independent, so more confident
- Get a job
- Join in with more social activities



So - get in touch!

If you can read and would like to coach someone else, download an application form from our website [www.forestreadeasydeal.org.uk](http://www.forestreadeasydeal.org.uk)

For more information please telephone: 07746 371353 or email: [info@forestreadeasydeal.org.uk](mailto:info@forestreadeasydeal.org.uk)

## Potholes!

Reports of defects from the public are appreciated therefore if you spot a pothole call free on: 08000 514 514 to put in a request for it to be filled.

Alternatively visit the website to report it at <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/potholes>





**ccp**  
transforming lives

**Easter**  
EGG APPEAL

6th-31st March

Can you support our appeal by organising a workplace Easter Egg collection for the CCP Easter Egg Appeal?

All Eggs donated to the appeal will be gifted to vulnerable children, homeless young people, & disadvantaged families across Gloucestershire making Easter an Eggstra-special time.

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

We will be organising collections from work places between 27th & 31st March  
If you would like to organise an egg collection please get in touch with ccp:  
easter@ccprojects.org.uk

## 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 St, Lydney GL15 5DX.

**Your views matter to us!**

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS



### Town Councillors

Bob Berryman (Mayor) - 01594 842036  
Derek Biddle - 01594 842180  
Rose Christodoulides - 07546 552773  
James Greenwood - 01594 842454  
Harry Ives - 01452 427612 or 07443 343395  
Walter Leach - 07976 608908  
Colin Legg - 07901 228802  
Brian Pearman - 01594 841452  
Donald Pugh - 01594 845161  
David Street - 01594 844721

### Town/District & County Councillor

Alan Preest - 01594 564668 or 07762706421

### Town & District Councillor

Carol Harris - 01594 841026

### District Councillors

Frankie Evans - 07951125597  
Jim Simpson - 07747048976  
James Bevan - 01594 842146  
Bill Osborne - 01594 841970

### Council Staff

#### Chief Executive Officer/RFO

- Jayne Smailes - 01594 842234

#### Executive Officer

- Carol Wheeler

#### Finance Assistant

- Carolyn Whittington

#### Admin Assistant

- Kate Hammond

#### Head Groundsman

- James Young

#### Leading Hand/ Groundsman

- Peter Edwards

#### Groundsman

- Tommy Wales  
- Anthony Bayliss

Your next Councillor Surgery is

Saturday 20th May 2017

- Keep an eye on our facebook page for further details including time & location!



# 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 24th April 2017 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.

**Please note: any member of the electorate wishing to raise a public question must do so in writing (submitted to the CEO) by 12 noon on Friday 7th April 2017**

**A written response to all questions raised will be made available at the Annual Town Meeting however no further verbal public questions will be addressed on the night.**

For more information please contact the CEO tel: 01594 842234

**Following the meeting, refreshments will be served.**

