



About Town



Lydney Town Council's Newsletter - Autumn 2018



Party in the Park 2018

On Saturday 7th July 2018, the Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust hosted 'Party in the Park' for a second year running.

Opened by Mark Labbett ('The Beast' from ITV's popular quiz show 'The Chase'), attendees were treated to exceptional displays of live music and dance from a wide variety of performers, all did themselves proud and were well received. Very well done to Wydean School Gospel Choir, Dance Academy 1, Friends Ukenited, The Angel School of Dance, The Dean Academy, Lydney Music School and local rock band 'OCD', we hope to see all groups performing in Bathurst Park again soon.



The range of stalls and attractions included; a local petting zoo, fun dog show (*special thanks to Glenda and David Adams*), fully licenced bar (including 'craft' Beers), a free climbing wall, bouncy castle, ice cream van, free magic shows, balloon sculpting, puppetry, face painting, kick-boxing demonstrations, water/wine stall, human fruit



machine, stocks, a variety of local traders (selling beauty products, clothing, craft items, accessories, floral displays, seasonal gifts and even a Medium!), Relay for Life, Natwest Bank, the Police Community Engagement Van and more. Forest police sergeant Mark Burns even took a turn in the stocks to raise money for the local scout group.

With the weather on our side, attendance was higher than last year (despite clashing with the world cup) with people really getting into the spirit of things. Our on-site pavilion café served exceptionally good food & drink throughout the afternoon. Mark Labbett, after opening the event and being swamped with 'selfie' requests proceeded to judge our popular dog show. Huge congratulations to Maria Christodoulides and her dog 'Cookie' for winning 'Best in Show'.

It was a pleasure to see the Trust event further evolve and I hope this trend continues with 'Party in the Park' 2019 being bigger and better still. To conclude my report I would like to extend special thanks to our event sponsor— Robert Hitchins, who generously donated £3,500, our celebrity guest, Mark Labbett, to Trevor Davis of Lydney Music and to the stall holders and performers for their attendance, I would also like to thank the event Working Party and the Office and Grounds Staff for all of their hard work, both before the event and indeed on the day.

Harry Ives (Chairman – The Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust)



Bathurst Park Trust



South Road Allotments

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.

What we are not is possibly easier to list.

- We are nothing to do with the church, who are governed by Parochial Councils (PCC)
- We are not politically affiliated
- We are not “residents” associations or “lobby” groups

However, what we do is represent the residents who live within our Parish in matters of local government. Some of these include:

- Local Planning (which covers anything from satellite dishes to new developments and roads)
- Economic development
- Environmental matters
- Community projects
- Leisure and recreation
- Contact with the District and County Council
- Complaints(!)
- Information and advice

As well as providing allotments, rubbish and dog waste bins,, planting wildflower areas the town’s gateways, the Town Council are also Custodial Trustee of Bathurst Park and Lydney Recreational Ground



‘Closed Church Yard - St Mary’s



Lydney Cemetery



Lydney Recreation Ground Trust



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.



What's new in & around Lydney

Primrose Hill Mesne

The Summer saw the installation of a new play area for the under 5s at The Mesne Primrose Hill

- Further work is planned, such as the reinstatement of a footpath making access to the Beacon easier for those less mobile.
- 'The Friends of Primrose Hill' are also keen to plant a section of the bank area which they intend maintaining themselves on behalf of the Council.

Bathurst Park

Following the successful submission of a funding application an archway and new railings have been erected and the public toilets in Bathurst Park toilets have been fully refurbished, raising the standard of the park further.

- The Trust's (Council) aim is to secure further funding in order to fully enclose the Memorial Gardens and returning it to its former Victorian splendour.



Recreational Sports Pitch Drainage

Following the decision taken to fence the Sports area to prevent dogs from fouling on the pitches, the 9th July 2018 saw the commencement of works on the Recreational Trust Ground, a project that is likely to take 18-24 months to complete.

It is hoped that by installing a drainage scheme across all of the sporting pitches the ground will be playable for the majority of the year thereby providing each of the sporting clubs in Lydney, all of whom now hold leases, with a suitable training and 1st's pitch/Cricket Square.



Public Realm

The Council continue to add to its benches and street furniture, recently purchasing a commemorative WW1 Bench which it hopes to site o/s of Lydney Fire Station.

- Partnership working with the Environmental Agency has resulted in the Council having the additional funding required to purchase/site two new bins at the harbour.



Planting / Lydney In Bloom

As well as planting wildflower mixes at the Gateways the Council has continued to add to the array of planters in the town with both lamp post and barrier baskets now complimenting the existing tubs.

- The Council also continue to create and maintain planted areas in the

WE NEED YOU! TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

WITH FOREST LOCAL ELECTIONS JUST AROUND THE CORNER (May 2019), now is the time to consider whether you have what it takes to be a committed Town Councillor for Lydney.

Becoming a councillor is a most rewarding experience. It gives you the opportunity to help your local community and be part of a dedicated team providing key services for your area. Being a councillor is a great way to gain political experience and useful skills in public speaking, debating and problem solving.

New councillors are good news. They mean fresh ideas and fresh enthusiasm.

To be eligible you must be:

- *A British subject or a citizen of the Irish Republic or the EU and resident in the UK.*
- *At least 18 years old on the day you are nominated.*
- *Either on the electoral register for the council area in which you are seeking election, or have lived or worked in that council area for at least the last twelve months.*

In accordance with section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972, a person is disqualified from being elected to a local authority if he/she:

- **is employed by the local authority, holds a paid office under the authority or holds a politically restricted post within a local authority, as defined in s.2(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989; or**
- **is subject to a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order; or**
- **has within five years before the day of election been sentenced to a term of imprisonment of three months or more (including a suspended sentence) without the option of a fine; or**
- **has been disqualified under Part III of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (which relates to donations and other offences).**

DO I HAVE THE TIME?

It is possible to spend much of your time on council work but the vast majority of councillors have full-time jobs, families and hobbies.

Unless you take on responsibility as a Chairman or Vice-Chairman of a committee, your work for Lydney Town Council should not involve more than a few meetings a month (although this depends on the number of committees/panels you serve on).

In addition to this there are community consultancy discussions and public forums all of which you enable you to engage actively with the community and local issues.

HOW MUCH DO I NEED TO KNOW?

You are not going to be expected to take direct responsibility for running the council on the first day you are elected. The main qualifications are an interest in your community and a willingness to learn.

Knowledge, experience and confidence will soon follow.

You will receive support from the Town Clerk and Council Officers who are there to help you, they are professionally trained staff who are employed to carry out the lawful functions and duties the Council.

You may also 'call' upon the experience of a fellow council member!

In addition you will be encouraged to attend training sessions provided by GAPTC and the District Council.

CAN I AFFORD IT?

Lydney Town Council Members previously resolved they would not seek to claim expenses, instead volunteering their time however Members have the opportunity to reconsider this point at the start of every four year term of office in order to ensure anyone wishing to stand is not placed at a financial disadvantage.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM INTERESTED?

You may like to consider attending the Town Council Meetings which will provide you with 'first-hand' experience of how Lydney Town Council conduct council business, giving you a better understanding as to the work of a councillor and the commitment involved.

The 'term' of office following election in May 2019 would be 4 years,.

Occasionally Council member vacancies occur mid-term, these such vacancies are publicised on the Council Notice Boards, and on our Website and Council publications. Such vacancies are then addressed by either means of a Bye – Election or Co-option.

To find out more about becoming a Councillor/Standing for Election in May 2019 contact:

The Chief Executive Officer Tel: 01594 842234 E-mail: ceo@lydneytowncouncil.co.uk or contact: The Elections Team, Forest of Dean District Council Tel: 01594 812628

IMPORTANT DATES



**i. Notice of Election—This will be posted on Notice Boards
March 2019**

**ii. Election Packs—These will be available for Forest of Dean
District Council - March/April 2019**

iii Ordinary Elections—2nd May 2019

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.

Whatever your thoughts, the Town Council cannot assist if they are unaware

Send your letters to:

Lydney Town Council, Council Chambers, Claremont House, High St, Lydney GL15 5DX.

Your views matter to us!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS



Police: 101

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

NHS Direct: 111

Samaritans: 01452 306333 or 08457 909090

National Drugs Helpline: 0800 776600

Hospitals:

Dilke Hospital 0300 4218640

Lydney Hospital 0300 4218722

Gloucestershire Dental Helpline: 08454 220505. Out of hours 08451 207179

Pregnancy Crisis: 01542 308700

Child Protection: 0800 800500

Alcoholics Anonymous: 0845 7697555

Al-Anon for friends & relatives of alcoholics: 0207 4030888

Forest of Dean District Council: 01594 810000

Cinderford Town Council: 01594 822599

Coleford Town Council: 01594 832103

Lydney Town Council: 01594 842234

Newent Town Council: 01531 820638

Injured sheep and sheep nuisance: Commoners Association 01594 827485 or Forestry Commission 0300 064 4800 (switchboard open 9.00am—3.00pm Monday to Friday)

Gloucestershire County Council: 01452 425000

County Council Highways Dept: 08000 514514

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

Walter Leach - 07976 608108

Colin Legg - 07901 228802

Brian Pearman - 01594 841452

Claire Vaughan—07581 146903

Kevin White - 01594 842234

Roger Holmes—01594 840316

Kevin Greening—01594 840788

Alan Preest - 01594 564668

Carol Harris - 01594 841026

County Councillor

Alan Preest - 01594 564668

District Councillors

Frankie Evans - 07951125597

Jim Simpson - 07747048976

James Bevan - 01594 842146

Bill Osborne - 01594 841970

Carol Harris - 01594 841026

Alan Preest - 01594 564668

Lydney Town Council

Chief Executive Officer/RFO

Jayne Smailes - 01594 842234

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5th November 2018 — Firework Display, Bathurst Park

11th November 2018— Remembrance Parade

Battles Over/The Lighting of the Beacon, Primrose Hill Mesne

24th November 2018— Christmas Light Switch On @ Bathurst Park (*Meet Santa and his animals*)



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