

# Bridport Town Council



## Market Newsletter No 5

### Attendance Figures for the Market

The average number of stalls this financial year on a Saturday is 97 (Wednesday 42), as at the end of August. This compares with 95 and 46 respectively for the corresponding period of the last financial year 2010/11.

Once again, the market has performed very well so far this year. The Town Council is very pleased at the level of support shown by traders and the Council continues to receive regular enquiries from people wishing to come on to the market.

### Town Hall

Work on the Town Hall is proceeding with a view to completion by the end of the year. The building should then be available for hire as from February next year. We will be looking at holding craft fairs on market days, to act as a further attraction to bring people into the town on those days. Further information on this will be issued in due course. The Town Hall will be a major attraction with the Fra Newbery paintings and regular events, with the building open six days a week.

Now that planning permission has been obtained for new town centre toilets in South Street car park, discussions are taking place with West Dorset District Council, who will fund the new facilities, regarding the timetable for the building work.

### Forthcoming Events

This has been a busy year for the town with a large number of events and it is pleasing that, even with the Town Hall works, we have managed to keep Bucky Doo Square open.

The next big town event is the Hat Festival on the weekend of 16 -18 September. The Saturday of the Festival will see a late night market and any stall holder able to attend is asked to contact the Market Superintendent.

The Town Council continues to look at ways to support the market. It is keen to encourage music on a Wednesday on Bucky Doo Square through the year, as well as on Saturday, as this is always very popular.

Other events coming up this year on market days include:

#### October

8 Farmers Market Arts Centre  
8 Apple Day Community Orchard  
22-30 Dorset Food Week various venues

#### November

5 Fireworks Leisure Centre  
6 -13 Bridport Literary Festival, various venues  
12 Vinyl Saturday, various venues  
12 Farmers Market, Arts Centre  
19 - 26 Bridport Open Book Festival inc Bridport Prize, Arts Centre and various venues

#### December

7-14 Bridport Christmas Tree Festival, Bridport United Church inc various events in the week  
7 Bridport Christmas Festival 6-8.30p.m. South Street closed  
10 Farmers Market, Arts Centre  
17 Nativity, Bucky Doo Square

### Christmas Festival

As stated above, this year's Christmas late night shopping festival is to be held on Wednesday 7 December. More information will be issued nearer the time, for traders wishing to stay on for the evening.

## **Community Web Site**

The local community web site ([www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk](http://www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk)), which is hosted by the Town Council, has been re-designed and is being re-launched this year. There will be dedicated pages to promote the market and it is proposed to have links to information about registered stall holders for a small annual fee. If you would be interested in being featured, please let the Town Council know.

## **Park and Ride**

Once again this summer, the Town Council, in partnership with West Dorset District Council, is running the park and ride service from West Bay into town on market days. The service has also been extended for a further two weeks to cover the Hat Festival.

## **Advertising**

The Town Council looks to advertise the market widely during the year, including publishing adverts in Coach Operators' publications and in the popular and widely circulated Resort Magazine. Information on the market is also available at all the events that the Town Council attends during the year including the Food Festival and the Melplash Show.

## **Town Plan**

The Town Council is reviewing its Town Plan, which sets out the projects that it intends to pursue over the next four years. The Town Plan is the strategic plan of the Council and includes projects that the Council will lead on, but can also include projects where it will work in partnership with others, in the interests of the town.

As part of the review, the Town Council would like to hear from people on what they think of the town and to suggest any specific projects or issues that they would like to see taken forward by the Town Council through the Town Plan. Consultation forms are available

from the Town Council's offices, Bridport library and the Tourist Information Centre or can be downloaded from the Town Council's web site [www.bridport-tc.gov.uk](http://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk).

It is pleasing to see a number of favourable comments about the market, in a number of the initial responses received. The continual promotion and support of the market will certainly be considered further by the Town Council, in its development of the new Plan.

## **Market Bags**

Just a reminder that any trader that wishes to sell the "Support Your Market and Your Local Shops" bags on their stall, is asked to contact the Market Superintendent or the Town Council offices, for details.

A large number of the bags were sold by the Town Council at the Food Festival, Charter Fair and Melplash Show.

## **Future Newsletters**

If there is anything you would like to see in future bulletins, please contact Daryl Chambers, on the Mountfield number below.

## **Contacts**

Daryl Chambers, the Town Surveyor, is responsible for the overall management of the market and can be contacted at Mountfield on 01308 456722.

The Market Superintendent, who is responsible for the day to day running of the market, is Ray McLaren and he can be contacted on 0796 7972 663. If you have any questions on the day, then please contact Ray.