



Arrival of New Bridge from Asker Meadows to New Zealand

Asker Meadows

The Town Council was in the fortunate position last year of being able to push ahead with one of its key Town Plan projects, earlier than anticipated, thanks to support from Dorset County Council and West Dorset District Council. The landscaping scheme for this site, including new pedestrian/cycle paths, fencing and tree planting, alongside the new bridge across to the New Zealand site, has meant that this popular area is now fully accessible and provides a good new route into town for cyclists and pedestrians.

The Town Council will be establishing a Steering Group to oversee the management of the site and the open space at New Zealand.

Christmas 2012

The Christmas Festival in December went very well indeed, with a large number of people in town and the stalls reporting very good business. The event, supported by the Town Council, was organised by the Christmas Festival Committee.

Environmental Initiatives

In November 2011, a system of photovoltaic panels was installed at the Town Council's Plottingham depot. It is estimated that, with the favourable feed in tariff rates at the time, the costs of the panels will be met within 5 years.

The Town Council is also considering the findings of an environmental audit of all its buildings, which was undertaken by local Msc student Brian Atkinson.

Youth Council

The first meeting of young people, who will form the Bridport Youth Council, took place in October. The meeting comprised 2 representatives from each primary school in the Bridport area, plus 12 students from Colfox School, two of whom were Youth Club representatives. The meeting discussed how to organise the Youth Council, how to involve more young people and looked at issues that could be taken forward by the group.

The Youth Council will meet again in March and in the meantime, a number of the students from Colfox School are looking at issues in the Council's Town Plan, to see which projects they would like to be involved in and work with the Town Council to develop. The students are also working on their own Plan, for the Youth Council to consider.

South Street—Traffic

The Town Council has always said that it would look at the issue of South Street, as part of a review of the town centre traffic changes. A review of the changes is listed as one the projects in the current Town Plan.

It is intended to report to the Town Council later this year on possible options for South Street and to seek approval for a full consultation exercise, before any recommendations are made. Any recommendations would then need to be approved by the County Council, as the Highway Authority.

Grants

In 2012, Bridport Town Council awarded grants totalling almost £25,000 to local community groups and organisations working in the town.

The Last Year

2012 was another very busy year for the Town Council. The Council worked on a large number of projects, including some that we did not anticipate coming to fruition so quickly, such as Asker Meadows.

Amongst many other things, last year saw the Town Hall open and the building of new toilets in South Street (on behalf of the District Council). Also last year, the Town Council supported a large number of events, including the Spirit of Bridport and Christmas Festival and organised the welcome of the Olympic Torch. This was alongside continuing to deliver the Council's core services and working with surrounding parish councils on the Lengthsman scheme. In 2012, the Town Council was also formally designated as a Quality Council.

The New Year

2013 will see the Town Council progressing a number of projects from its Town Plan, including:

- New Multi Use Games Arena at St Mary's.
- New West Bay Water Sports centre on the site of the former public toilets.
- Management of land to be transferred from the District Council, including land at the football club at St Mary's.
- Reviewing the use and further development of the skate park.
- New town centre street lighting proposals, bearing in mind the conservation area and number of listed buildings.

Town Hall

The Town Hall has now been open almost a year, and for the first time in its history, is fully accessible. Following the refurbishment work, as part of the Heritage Lottery Funded project, the Town Hall is now open six days a week.

The Main Hall and Committee Room are proving popular for meetings and events, as well as hosting monthly craft fairs and meetings of the full Town Council. On the ground floor, the Tourist Information Centre has settled in very well and the Exhibition Space on the ground floor is available for hire, by artists and local groups.

The Town Council

All Town Council meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held in Mountfield, with the exception of the Council meeting, which is held in the Town Hall. There is a Public Forum at the start of each meeting.

Agendas are displayed on notice boards and, alongside reports and minutes, published on our web site (www.bridport-tc.gov.uk). The annual calendar of meetings is also available on the web site or from the Town Council's offices.

The Town Council's Offices are in Mountfield and are open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm (4.30pm on Fridays).

Your Town Councillors

South Ward

G.J. Ackerman	31, Crock Lane	458098
Miss S.A. Brown	67, North Allington	423078
E.T. Colfox	North End Farm, North Chideock	07768 646434
D.G. Rickard	Rydens, Westown, Bothenhampton	420908
Ms G.E. Summers	31, Victoria Grove	421966
D.R. Tett	1, De Legh Grove, West Allington	425070
Ms A-M Vincent	96, South Street	459308
K.G. Wallace	The George, 43 Main St, Bothenhampton	456454
Ms S.J. Williams	88A, South Street	459433

North Ward

P.J. Colfox	1, Mill Lane, Symondsburry	07918 188497
Ms L.L. Glover	8, St. Swithins Avenue	427091
Ms R.C. Kayes	4 Gore Terrace, Bradpole	427902
P.J. Lathey	83 Orchard Crescent	456776
Ms G.E. Massey	The Retreat, 15 Rax Lane	423817
J.T. May	3, The Sidings, St. Andrews Road,	07748 682810
C.O. Michell	8, The Buildings Symondsburry	423833
C.M. Ray	9, St Andrews Road	459095
Mrs M.J. Ray	9, St Andrews Road	459095

Town Clerk: Bob Gillis 456722 (r.gillis@bridport-tc.gov.uk)