



BRIDPORT AND WEST BAY BULLETIN

the official newsletter of Bridport Town Council

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2010/11

Town Hall Heritage and Conservation Project



Building work on the Town Hall Heritage and Conservation Project has now started. Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and with support from West Dorset District Council and Dorset County Council, the driving force of the project is to open up the Town Hall for everyone to visit and enjoy.

The project will provide level access from Bucky Doo Square, with a new lift enabling everyone to take part in activities and appreciate the historic Fra Newbery interior on the first floor. The Town Council will be improving the facilities on offer, including the heating, lighting, acoustics, kitchen and IT provision as well as improving the energy efficiency of the building. In addition, a new community exhibition space will be created at the southern end of the ground floor alongside proposed new accommodation for the Tourist Information Centre.

The contract for the building works has been awarded to Farnrise Construction Ltd, who have a proven track record in

working on similar conservation projects and the external work has now started. The Town Hall toilets have been decommissioned, with hoardings, a mural and interpretation board around the south side of the building. At the same time, replacement temporary toilet facilities have been provided alongside the Town Hall.

It is intended that access will be maintained around the building and to local businesses, including Framptons butchers, which will be unaffected by the work. Bucky Doo will also remain in use for charities and bands.

Information on the building works will be posted on the site and on a new Town Hall web site (www.bridporttownhall.org), which is now on line. There will also be regular project newsletters.

Bridport Area Lengthsman

The Bridport Area Lengthsman is now at work in the area. With funding from Dorset County Council, Bridport Town Council and participating parishes, the Lengthsman will be undertaking minor works and repairs. Kevin Eden is the Lengthsman, employed by the Town Council and available to work throughout the area.

The Lengthsman is also working in partnership with the parishes of Bothenhampton and Symondsburry and it is hoped that other parishes will also join the scheme.

Community Justice Panels

The Bridport Local Community Justice Panels are now beginning to hear cases following the successful recruitment and training of a number of local volunteer facilitators. Bridport Town Council has been working with Bridport Police, Magna Housing, West Dorset District Council and Mediation Dorset on a project to introduce community justice panels in the Bridport area. The agencies are represented on a Steering Group, which is overseeing the project, and which also now includes Raglan Housing.

Ten local volunteers have been trained in restorative justice skills, to enable them to facilitate the panel meetings. The training was an intensive three days, led by Jon Sweet from the Dorset Police Safe Schools & Communities Team and will enable the facilitators to conduct the panel meetings, which will be held in Mountfield, Bridport. The meetings will bring an offender together with their victim, to see the harm that they have caused and to recognise the consequences of their behaviour. Both victim and offender will agree a course of action to allow the offender to make amends for their behaviour. However, this is not a "soft option" and for the cases to be considered by a panel made up of the trained facilitators, the offender must accept their guilt and abide by the outcome of the panel meeting. The panels initially will deal with anti-social behaviour and low level criminal cases.

Bridport Market

The regular Saturday and Wednesday markets have been exceptionally well supported this year and the Town Council continues to work with the Market Traders' Federation, to look at how the market can continue to be supported and promoted, particularly on a Wednesday.

Message from the Town Mayor

I was elected Town Mayor in May for the municipal year 2010/11. It is a great honour to serve the town and it has been a very busy and enjoyable seven months. I would like to mention just some of the highlights. As always, there was tremendous support from the town for the November Remembrance Parade and Service, especially bearing in mind the weather. The Food Festival at Asker Meadows, the Charter Fair, the Melpash Show, the Christmas Festival, the Carnival, and the Blessing of the Boats ceremony in our twin town of St Vaast La Hougue, were just some of the other events that I was pleased to attend. I was also pleased to begin the preparations for what I hope will be a very special event for the town, when we award the Honorary Freedom of the town to the Rifles Regiment, at a civic event to be held on Saturday 26 March 2011.

Wherever I travel throughout Dorset and beyond, people remark on how much they like Bridport and I am very proud indeed to represent the town.

Geoffrey Ackerman
Bridport Town Mayor

Launch of Energy Monitors

This winter, libraries in Dorset are offering energy monitors for loan, at no cost. This is a project that has been supported by the Town Council, through the Environment and Social Wellbeing Committee and Transition Town Bridport. The monitors can be connected to an electric meter and give an accurate reading of how much electricity is being used. It is hoped that people will then start to reduce their impact on climate change by switching off appliances left on unnecessarily.

The scheme was launched at Bridport Library and a leaflet is also available for people to feedback, if they wish, on their use of the monitors and their findings.

Forthcoming Meetings

All Town Council meetings are open to the public. Meetings held in Mountfield at 7pm unless shown otherwise and there is a Public Forum at the start of each meeting.

Council
1 February 2011 at 7pm
(Mountfield)

Plans Committee
7 February 2011 at 7pm
(Mountfield)

Market & Business Liaison
15 February 2011 at 10am
(Mountfield)

Plans Committee
7 March 2011 at 7pm
(Mountfield)

Your Town Councillors

South Ward

G.J. Ackerman	31, Crock Lane.	458098
P.J. Colfox	1, Mill Lane, Symondsburry	07918 188497
K.A. Day	Delapre Lodge, St Andrews Road	425465
J.D. Hunt	8, Meadow Court, Folly Mill Lane	422719
D.G. Rickard	Rydens, Westown, Bothenhampton	420908
D.R. Tett	1, De Legh Grove, West Allington	425070
K.G. Wallace	The George, 43 Main St, Bothenhampton	456454
C.D. Wild	Flat 3, Montrose, 91, Crock Lane	420808
Ms S.J. Williams	88A, South Street.	459433

North Ward

Miss S.A. Brown	67, North Allington	423078
N.K. Cast	217, St Andrews Road	456861
Ms R.C. Kayes	4 Gore Terrace, Bradpole	427902
P.J. Lathey	83 Orchard Crescent	456776
Ms F.K. McKenzie	204, Orchard Avenue	425068
M.P. Parsons	3, Sparacre Gardens	456697
C.M. Ray	9, St Andrews Road	459095
Mrs M.J. Ray	9, St Andrews Road	459095
R.J. Stoodley	Rogers Cottage, 88 St Andrews Road	456797

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