



BRIDPORT AND WEST BAY BULLETIN

Jan 2015

the official newsletter of Bridport Town Council

Neighbourhood Plan Underway

The Town Council is working with Allington, Bothenhampton and Walditch, Bradpole and Symondsburry Parish Councils on a neighbourhood plan for the area. Following a successful open day in the Town Hall in November, the councils have formed a joint committee to oversee the production of the plan, which is now being led by a community Steering Group. More information will be issued as the work progresses and a new dedicated web site is also being set up.

Highway Verge Maintenance

The Town Council has agreed to take on responsibility for the maintenance of highway verges around the town. The Town Council will undertake this work on behalf of Dorset County Council and will receive £12,000 per annum towards the costs. The agreement with the County Council is due to commence in March and the Town Council will be required to undertake at least 7 cuts a year.



Skate Park Improvements The Town Council has completed the latest phase of its improvements to the skate park at Plottingham (new equipment shown above), following consultation with a steering group of young people and skate park users.

New Town Guide and new Car Park Signage

The Town Council's Market and Business Liaison Sub Committee now meets more frequently and includes representatives from the Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Market Traders, Tourism Association and Bridport Local Area Partnership. It also established a working group of representatives, which has overseen the publication of the new official Town Guide and the production of new car park signage. The car park signage was funded by the District Council and provides more information for visitors to Bridport and West Bay.

Events

2014 saw a large number of events in the town. The Town Council supports the larger town community events, including arranging the road closures and last year arranged the Freedom March by the Rifles Regiment.

2015 looks like being another busy year and a calendar of events has been published on www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk.

Water Sports Centre

The work on the new Water Sports Centre in West Bay was completed early this year and will be formally opened in the Spring. The centre will house the Canoe Club and the Gig Club. Funding for the new centre has been provided by West Dorset District Council, which also transferred ownership of the Salt House and Fisherman's Green to the Town Council. Both the Green and the Salt House are available to book for events.

Town Council Elections

Elections to the Town Council are to be held on 7 May 2015. All 18 seats on the Council are up for election. Nomination papers will be available from the District Council or from the Town Council, following the publication of the Notice of Election in March. More information on standing for council will be available on the Town Council's web site, or if you wish to find out more, please contact Bob Gillis, Town Clerk, [contact details below](mailto:enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk).

Local Plan

The Town Council was represented at the West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan Examination hearing in Dorchester in December. The Town Council spoke on all of the issues concerning Bridport, which had been raised by the Local Plan Inspector.

The District Council is due to consult on further proposed modifications to the draft Local Plan in February/March and then the Inspector will issue his report later in the year, which could enable the District Council to adopt the Local Plan. The Town Council will consider the further proposed modifications, when they are issued for consultation.

Community Grants

In 2014, the Town Council awarded over £26,000 in grants to local organisations, including ongoing support to the Museum, Leisure Centre, Citizens' Advice Bureau and the Arts Centre.

District Council Service Reviews

West Dorset District Council is currently reviewing a number of its services and the Town Council has been in discussions on the future of those services that could most directly affect the Town Council and the town, namely: Local Area Partnership funding, Tourist Information Service review, the future provision of public toilets and District Council funding for CCTV in the town.

The Town Council will continue to consider the service options, as decisions are taken by the District Council during 2015.

Christmas

The Town Council provided the Christmas lights in the town this winter.

It also supported the Christmas Cheer, late night shopping event, arranged by the Christmas Cheer Committee and which was very well supported.

Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 17 March at 6.00 pm in the Town Hall. This is an opportunity for everyone in Bridport and West Bay to hear about the work of the Town Council and also to raise any issues that you may wish to discuss.

All electors in the Bridport parish are welcome to attend.

Forthcoming Council Meetings

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

Agendas for meetings are displayed on Council notice boards and published on the Council web site.

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	9, Newfoundland, Bradpole	459308
K.G. Wallace	Brookcroft Hornsbury Hill, Chard	07702 276540
Ms S.J. Williams	88A, South Street	459433

North Ward

P.J. Colfox	1, Mill Lane, Symondsburry	07918 188497
Ms R.C. Kayes	4, Gore Terrace, Bradpole	07920 850167
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	11, Cordova Gardens	459095
Mrs M.J. Ray	11, Cordova Gardens	459095
Mrs E.A. Rickard	Rydens, Westown, Bothenhampton	420908

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