



BRIDPORT AND WEST BAY BULLETIN

Feb 2016

*the official newsletter of Bridport Town Council
For the Community Fair*

A New Town Plan

The coming year will see the Town Council adopting its new Town Plan, which will be published in April. This will set out the major projects that the Town Council will be delivering itself or working with partners to deliver over the next 3 years.

The Town Council's budget, recently agreed for 2016/17, will enable support for these projects, alongside supporting the delivery of its core services.

Town Plan Projects

Projects to be in the new Town Plan for 2016 include:-

Support the Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP), Vision 2030, the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan and the Coastal Communities Team and the delivery of actions in the Economic Plan for Bridport and West Bay.

Agree options for the management of the Tourist Information Centre, to ensure its future in Bridport.

To support and facilitate the project seeking to safeguard the Youth Centre and Youth Services in the town.

To deliver the fully accessible extension of West Bay Play Area, in partnership with the Bridport Young Persons' Action Trust.

To establish new allotments St Cecilia's Fields, Pymore Road.

To support work on a feasibility plan on options for a community bus scheme for the area.

To consider and consult on a town centre traffic feasibility study including options for South Street.

To support the Bridport Area Development Trust with its project to bring West Bay Methodist Church into community use as an interpretation facility/visitor attraction.

To support development/extension of cycle routes (and cycle parking facilities), working with Sustrans.

More information on these and other longer term projects will be in the new Town Plan, to be published in April.

Grant Funding The Town Council has agreed to continue funding the Leisure Centre, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Museum and Arts Centre at existing levels of grant for 2016/17 and for a further two years under service level agreements. It has also earmarked one off funding to support proposed redevelopment projects at the Arts Centre and Museum. Grants will once again be available in 2016/17 for smaller organisations, for one off projects.

Bridport Youth Centre

The County Council confirmed in January that it will be withdrawing from running Youth Centres and will offer the buildings to community groups interested and able to take them on.

The Town Council has been supporting the work of a small group of stakeholders, which has been meeting to consider the options for establishing a new Trust to take over and manage the Youth Centre. Before Christmas, it submitted a draft business plan. In the light of the decision by the County Council, it is moving forward with the Trust proposal and looking to finalise the Business Plan. The Group is looking to establish an interim Trust Board. Anyone interested in helping or being a Trustee is very welcome to contact the Town Council.

The final business plan needs to be with the County Council by the end of March, to consider the feasibility of transferring the building by September 2016

Newsletters

This update, mainly of projects for the coming year, has been produced for the Community Fair. More information on the Town Council's services and projects is on our web site and will also be included in the next Newsletter, to be issued in early March. The Annual Report on the Council's activities will then be issued by the end of June 2016.

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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.

Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 5 April at 7.00 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 issues that you may wish to discuss. All electors in the Bridport parish are welcome to attend.

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