

Age Concern

Funded by the West Dorset Partnership, Age Concern Dorchester's Information and Advice team is raising awareness of issues giving rise to, and how to tackle, fuel poverty. It is looking to support and advise older people to enable them to have a greater sense of wellbeing, quality of life, and to help them to live independently and reduce anxiety and depression. Awareness raising sessions will be run throughout the year at Age Concerns, Older People's Forums and lunch clubs in Dorchester, Bridport, Lyme Regis, Sherborne and Beaminster to inform about insulation, grants and winter warmth tips, and how to make housing and heating costs more energy efficient. Benefits advice and assistance can also be accessed through Age Concern Dorchester's Information & Advice outreach benefit advisors, who provide free information and help in identifying entitlements, and in claiming benefits such as Pension Credit and Attendance Allowance.

Factsheets, information guides, thermometers, details of Warm Front grants, and CD's containing information on fuel poverty, energy-saving tips and welfare benefits will be available free at any of these events, or directly from Age Concern Dorchester by telephoning 01305 269444, or by visiting Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester DT1 1PW. If any organisations that support older people would like Age Concern Dorchester to provide such information at one of their meetings, please contact Peter Lindsley, Information & Advice Manager on 01305 269444.

Lyme Regis Voluntary Car Service - New drivers needed for local service!

Lyme Regis Voluntary Car Service provides transport for people living in the town and surrounding villages to attend medical appointments within the local area and further afield including Dorchester, Axminster and Exeter. The service is provided by locally based volunteer who give their time but are reimbursed for mileage expenses and is administered by TRIP Community Transport in Honiton. The service is mainly for older people and those who are unable to use public transport. To find out more, become a volunteer driver, or request transport, please phone TRIP on 01404 46529.

Royal British Legion - Lyme Regis Branch For information, news and views please contact

Website - <http://lymeregis.legionbranches.net> **Blog** - <http://rblymeregis.blogspot.com> **Welfare:** Mobile No. 07971631380.

Lyme Regis Town Council Calendar of Meetings

All meetings commence at 7pm in The Guildhall

Date	Committee
4th November	Planning
11th November	FULL COUNCIL
18th November	Community Plan Implementation
25th November	Planning
9th December	Policy
16th December	FULL COUNCIL
2010	
6th January	Planning
13th January	Policy
20th January	Community Plan Implementation
27th January	FULL COUNCIL
3rd February	Planning
10th February	Policy
17th February	Community Plan Implementation
10th March	Planning
17th March	FULL COUNCIL (MAYOR ELECT)
24th March	Community Plan Implementation
31st March	Policy

Councillors Contact Details

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs M. Ellis, 1 Resthaven, View Road, Lyme Regis DT7 3AA - Tel: 443942

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr O. Lovell, Lucerne, View Road, Lyme Regis, DT7 3AA - Tel: 443752

Cllr Mrs B. Austin, 4 Chideock Court, Clappentail Lane, Lyme Regis DT7 3NW - Tel: 443058

Cllr Mrs A. Bradbury, 21 Woodmead Road, Lyme Regis, DT7 3AD - Tel: 445281

Cllr Miss L. Campbell, Kara, Woodmead Road, Lyme Regis, DT7 3AB - Tel: 442390

Cllr D. Cozens, 11 Fairfield Park, Lyme Regis, DT7 3DS - Tel: 442743

Cllr K.Hitchcock, 15 King's Way, Lyme Regis, DT7 3DY - Tel: 445583

Cllr Dr. S. Hogg, Green Hedges, 12a Haye Close, Lyme Regis, DT7 3NJ - Tel: 442207

Cllr Ms S. Holman, Shaddie's Cottage, 6a Cobb Road, Lyme Regis DT7 3JU - Tel: 442373/444962

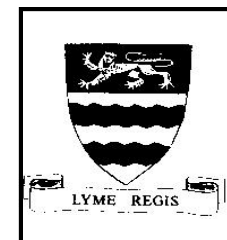
Cllr Mrs L. Jenkin, Studley, Woodmead Road, Lyme Regis DT7 3AD - Tel: 443703

Cllr K. Meech, 24 Fairfield Park, Lyme Regis DT7 3DS - Tel: 442744

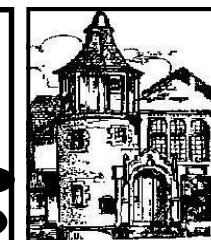
Cllr K. Whetlor, 6 Applebee Way, Lyme Regis DT7 3EE - Tel: 442811

Cllr P. Williams, 41 Summerhill Road, Lyme Regis DT7 3DT - Tel: 442807

Cllr S. Williams, Penwaye, Whalley Lane, Uplyme DT7 3UR - Tel: 443138



NEWS & VIEWS



The Newsletter of Lyme Regis Town Council

Issue 9 Autumn 2009

FROM THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR

As this is the first edition of the Newsletter since my election as Mayor, I would like to take the opportunity to thank my fellow councillors for their confidence in me and I shall do my utmost to repay that trust.

In the past, work commitments made it impossible for me to consider seeking election as Mayor but developments outside my control presented the opportunity at last.

Alan and I have had a very busy five months of civic engagements which we have both enjoyed greatly and I would like to thank him especially and my family as a whole, for their support and encouragement in enabling me to fulfil my ambition of becoming Lyme's First Citizen.

My civic team is completed by Owen and Chris Lovell as Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress respectively and their support has been, and will continue to be, invaluable throughout the remainder of my civic year.

In Lyme the role of Mayor also involves being Chairman of the Town Council. So in addition to an extensive programme of civic events my attendance is also required at a variety of committee and sub-committee meetings, plus of course chairing all the meetings of Full Council. At each Full Council meeting I and my fellow councillors hear and respond to issues of concern raised by the general public as well as considering the reports and recommendations of the Council's committees that deal with the detailed work of the authority. Despite what some may believe the process of local government, certainly in our small part of it, is more transparent, consultative and accountable than at any time in its history.

My period of office will undoubtedly present some challenges but despite the economic gloom of the past year I feel that our town has been very fortunate, so far escaping relatively unscathed. But I would also like to see progress in the projects that are important to our town and its future. I am thinking in particular of the Phase 4 works to protect and stabilise the eastern side of town, also the forthcoming regeneration of the Marine Parade Shelters, the building of public toilets for the gardens and a resolution of the long-standing issue of new byelaws and the management of our seafront.

With the support of the other members of Council, ably assisted by our Town Clerk and his team, I am confident that this will be another exciting and successful year for the town.

Cllr Mrs Michaela Ellis - Mayor of Lyme Regis.

Staff Profile

Over a year has passed since Chris Mitchell commenced the role of Enforcement Officer for the town and much has happened since. His first year has been made all the more enjoyable because of the warm and generous welcome and support he has received from all who live work and holiday in Lyme. Chris says "I couldn't have been offered a better place to work. I like to help people and in this role I see myself as an ambassador for the people of Lyme and the Town Council. Anyone can call me and I will always help".

During the year Chris has helped at many events, such as the Mayor's day, Remembrance Sunday, Candles on the Cobb, the firework display and the Carnival. He enjoys developing positive relationships with the people of Lyme including young people who are enjoying the facilities of the town.

The Dog Orders covering Lyme Regis were amended recently following consultation with townspeople, the result of which means an extended period when the main beaches are restricted for dog access.

All dogs:

- ◆ must wear a collar with a tag showing the name and address of the owner on it
- ◆ waste must be cleared up and disposed of properly
- ◆ must be under the handler's control at all times

Continued over

Staff Profile continued from front page.....

New information signs are being erected and clearly show those designated areas where dogs are welcome to be exercised all year round off the lead.

Please note:

- ◆ Dogs are banned from the front beach from 1st April to 31st October. Outside this period dogs can only be exercised on the front beach whilst on a lead.
- ◆ Dogs need to be on a lead all year whilst on Marine Parade, Cart Road, Gun Cliff Walk, the Harbour and in the seafront Gardens

Please help to keep Lyme Regis the most sought after holiday destination, after all failure to comply may result in a fine or prosecution.

You can telephone Chris on 07912 387890 or email:enforcement@o2mail.co.uk



Chris Mitchell



Restoring the Shelters: Steady Progress

Planning

After a year of consultation with Conservation and Planning Officers at West Dorset District Council, with English Heritage, and with the CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment), revised plans for the Shelters were submitted to the District Council in June. They received planning approval in mid-August.

You can see these plans in either of two ways:

- on display in the Shelters themselves
- on the Town Council website (<http://www.lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk/pages/shelters.htm> - click on the link in the second box.)

Funding

As with the earlier proposals, the revised scheme is designed so that the reconstruction can, if necessary, be phased. This would give a partial, but still complete-in-itself, improvement through money available to the Council with little or no further fund-raising.

A preferable, and more cost-effective way forward is to complete the work in one go. At the end of June a submission was made to ‘Sea Change’, a government funding programme for seaside towns. If successful, this could give the town almost all the rest of the money it needs to raise for the complete scheme.

With 32 coastal towns bidding, the competition for this nationwide programme with limited funds is intense, so nobody is counting any chickens, but we should know the result within the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, the volunteers leading the fund-raising effort will be starting on other efforts to tap into appropriate sources of money in these difficult times.

The next steps

Work is now under way on the detailed construction drawings following submission of the Building Regulations application. In this process the Shelters team is drawing on the freely-given advice of potential user-groups for the new and revived facilities.

That step will be followed by the lengthy process of drawing up all the documentation required to invite construction firms to tender for work, assessing the different tender bids, and making decisions on which contractor to appoint.

If all goes well (that’s a big ‘if’!) work could begin around the middle of 2010, organised to avoid disturbance on the seafront during the high season and aiming to complete everything in readiness for the summer of 2011.

Thank You

The volunteer working group for the Shelters has received a huge amount of help from many people and organisations in the town as the plans have been developed. They are grateful for the interest shown and for the generous amount of time given in the meetings and discussions.

They hope that this level of involvement will continue through the detailed work on fit-out and finishes and into careful planning of how the restored Shelters will be managed, operated and maintained to everyone’s benefit.

Possible links between Lyme Regis and Barfleur, Normandy

The Mayor of Barfleur in Normandy has formally invited the Town Council to consider the possible establishment of cultural links between the two towns leading eventually perhaps to formal twinning arrangements.

Barfleur is a small, attractive and unspoiled coastal town steeped in history with fishing and tourism as its main industries. Sound familiar? Like Lyme, it was in its time a major port with an importance beyond its size.

The strong historic connection with Bermuda is a sound basis for the current twinning agreement and a separate twinning committee fosters and promotes this relationship. However very few of our residents have the opportunity personally to experience the delights of our twin town, particularly in the current economic climate.

A second twin town is perfectly feasible providing there is sufficient public support with a small number of volunteers willing to serve on a committee. Certainly reciprocal visits would be a lot simpler and cheaper with regular sailings from Poole to Cherbourg and Barfleur situated a mere 15 miles east along the coast. As with Bermuda any visits including those by civic dignitaries would be entirely self-funded rather than subsidised from the public purse.

Bridport is twinned with the neighbouring town of St. Vaast-la-Hougue which is on the way south from Barfleur to the D-Day beaches further along the Normandy coast. Close by these historic landing beaches is the small village of Cruelly whose footballers have long standing links with our own Lyme Regis Football Club. Cruelly is not seeking to twin at the present time but would in any case have to establish links with a Devon town or village rather than Dorset.

The Mayor of Barfleur has been advised that the residents of Lyme Regis would need to be consulted in respect of his town’s kind invitation and in addition the schools and local organisations have already been circulated to this effect. **It is vital therefore to assess whether there is sufficient public support to proceed with the next stage of this proposal which, it is suggested, would be a public meeting.** The Town Council would as a consequence welcome your views either for or against formal links with Barfleur via the contact details at the bottom of the page.



Town Bus Service

Over the past 5 years, Lyme Regis Town Councillors Barbara Austin and Lorna Jenkin have listened to town bus users and potential passengers.

As a result, with much support from the bus company and Dorset County officers, the town bus now has an extended route, an extra three shelters and several new bus stops, with more planned.

Councillor Jenkin said “Every bus passenger represents one less car journey and one more person using local shops. Every ratepayer with a bus pass can use the 71 service free of charge and new users may like to know that our wonderful bus drivers are sometimes able to drop homegoing passengers nearer their door. I look forward to a more sustainable future when everyone uses the buses rather than their cars to go into town, leading to more frequent buses, fewer cars, a thriving town centre and an enhanced bus route. This will be good for Lyme in a time of economic stringency and increased energy costs.”

Timetables for the number 71 Town Bus service are available from the Tourist Information Centre.

Community News

Dorset HomeChoice

The system for the allocation of social housing in West Dorset has changed! All housing association properties that become available in West Dorset are advertised so that people on the housing register can say if they want to be considered. This way of allocating social housing is called choice based lettings and is called Dorset HomeChoice locally.

Available properties are advertised every Wednesday at 12noon. There are a number of ways you can get this information:

- * Online at www.dorsetforyou.com
- * Call 01305 252427
- * View the HomeChoice lists at Lyme Regis Town Council, LymeNet or the Library

Details of how to apply to be considered for an advertised property are also available from these locations.