



QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL

The Town Crier

Quarterly newsletter of
Dawlish Town Council

Volume 4 Issue 4

March 2007

Forthcoming Meetings:

March 2007

- 5th Planning
- 7th Town Council
- 15th Finance and General Purposes
- 20th Planning
- 24th **MAYOR'S CIVIC EVENING** (See pg. 3)
- 28th Civic Amenities

April 2007

- 3rd Planning
- 4th Town Council
- 17th Planning
- 19th Finance and General Purposes
- 25th Civic Amenities
- 26th April—**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

May 2007

- 1st Planning
- 3rd May—Elections for Town Councillors
- 16th May **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL and INAUGURATION OF TOWN MAYOR FOR 2007/2008**
- 22nd Planning

June 2007

- 5th Planning
- 5th Town Council
- 19th Planning
- 21st Finance and General Purposes

The Town Council offices will be closed on the following dates:

- 5th to 9th April—Easter
- 7th May—May Day Bank Holiday
- 18th May—Spring Bank Holiday



Where to find us:

The Town Council offices located at:

The Manor House, Old Town Street, Dawlish

Open Monday to Friday 9.30a.m. to 12.30p.m. and 1.00p.m. to 3.00p.m. or telephone 01626 863388

Town Council Elections in May 2007

In early May 2007 local elections will take place for new Councillors in Dawlish.



All 16 seats on the Council will be up for election.

Become a Town Councillor and make a difference to your community!

Did you know that Town Councillors are responsible for, take an active part in or are consulted on nearly everything happening in your local area that affects you and your family? Town Councillors are consulted on planning applications, highway improvements, street signs, grant funding and projects that affect where you live and what facilities your community has or receives.

Town Councillors live side by side with you in the community. They are the most local level of government.

The range of powers the Town Council has continues to change and grow including:

- the purchase of land and buildings
- providing and maintaining village greens
- provision of recreational facilities
- crime prevention measures including the provision of CCTV.

It is how and which of these powers that Councillors decide to use that makes a vibrant, forward-thinking Town Council and brings positive benefits to the community. It is the Town Councillors' responsibility to make the lives of their local electors more comfortable by representing the whole electorate within the town, delivering and co-ordinating services to meet local needs and striving to improve the quality of life.

A Town Council is the collective voice of its community.

Councillors consider information gathered and make a group decision. No one Councillor is responsible for any single decision. This is democracy at its best. The single most important task for a Town Councillor is to listen to the views of the people in their town.

If you are interested in becoming a Town Councillor, please contact the Town Clerk for further information.

**Your
Town
Council
needs
you!**



Precept and Budget for 2007/2008



At their meeting in February, Dawlish Town Councillors elected to precept to the District Council in the sum of £180424, an increase of 5%.

This is an increase of £8,591 on last year's precept and brings the Dawlish Town Council element of the average Council Tax payment for a Band D property in Dawlish to £28.69. This means that to fund Dawlish

Town Council's services costs the average band D household **only 55p per week.**

The Town Council's Annual Report will be published in April 2007 and will show income and expenditure for the last financial year to the 31st March 2007 with predictions for income and expenditure in the coming year. Copies will be available before the Annual Town Meeting on April 25th.

Purchase of old toilets

The Town Council has been in negotiations with Teignbridge District Council to purchase the redundant toilet block at the entrance to the Manor House for a nominal sum.



The toilet block has been unused for some years, becoming run-down and a site for vandalism, graffiti and an eye-sore at the entrance to The Manor House which is a fine Grade II Listed Building. Subject to necessary permissions, the Town Council hope to demolish the old toilet block and remove it completely, re-instating the grassed and shrub areas and also providing an improved entrance to the Manor House for pedestrians with improved visibility for vehicular access at Old Town Street.

Avian flu and the Black Swans

At the present time, there are no reported incidents of Avian flu in Devon. However, the Town Council takes the view that it is sensible to take all necessary steps to avoid the spread of infection and the situation is being constantly monitored.

Birds die all the time for all sorts of reasons and you are likely to come across them from time to time. Current advice is

Do not touch any dead or sick birds.

If you find a dead or sick bird, contact Defra on: 08459335577

Town Council Website

The Town Council would like to point out that the only accredited website for the Town Council is:

www.Dawlish.gov.uk

The Town Council has no connections with nor any control over any other website. Any comments contained within any website other than www.Dawlish.gov.uk are wholly unconnected with Dawlish Town Council.

Browns Brook Allotments



Over 30 people attended at the Manor House in February when the Town Council held a meeting on the new allotments at Browns Brook.

The first thirty residents on the waiting list were given draft tenancy agreements to peruse at their leisure and a presentation was given by the Town Clerk and staff on the conditions imposed upon the Town Council by the owner of the land where the allotments are sited.

At the meeting a random draw was held to allocate plot numbers at the allotment site and discussions took place concerning the formation of the **Browns Brook Allotments**

Association.

There is still some work to complete, including fixing of water stand-pipes, laying of turf paths and provision of a small car-parking area within the site and it is hoped that residents will be able to start cultivating their plots by Easter.

The allotments list remains closed as there are still people waiting for plots to become vacant. It is hoped that the list will be re-opened in the summer.

The Town Council would like to thank the landowners for the use of the site, everyone who has been involved in preparing the allotments and those who have created refuges for wildlife and hope that this new venture for the Town Council will be a success.

Skateboarding in Dawlish

In 2006 the Town Council pledged £500 to support provision of temporary skateboarding facilities in Dawlish whilst the town awaits developments on the proposed new Youth Centre .

Following further consultation with local skateboarders, it became clear that interim action was required. The Town Council has therefore agreed that the £500 pledged can be utilised to purchase portable skateboard equipment and a cheque has been presented to the Youth Worker for Dawlish.

Further good news was received from Teignbridge District Council who have now given permission to run skate events on the leisure centre car park.

Skateboarding events will initially take place on a Saturday, once a month with a review after that time.

Hopefully, further sessions will be arranged following the initial trial, which will begin in March 2007.



CCTV

At its meeting in January, the Town Council published its CCTV Operation Protocols. The full document is available at the Town Council offices for any member of the public wishing to inspect it.

The Protocols set out what information the Town Council is able to gather from CCTV operation, how it can be used and sets out how members of the public may gain access to the information in certain circumstances. The document also details management of the CCTV system and how evidence can be given to the Police and other authorities (such as HM Revenue and Customs) in order to support crime prevention in the Dawlish area. Staff have undergone training so that the information supplied to these authorities is admissible in court proceedings.

A leaflet on CCTV information has also been produced for residents and is available from the Town Council offices.

Alcohol Order

The Town Council has requested Teignbridge District Council to prepare an *Alcohol Designation Order* for the central areas of the town.

The Alcohol Designation Order is NOT a ban on alcohol

but gives Police and Community Support Officers powers to confiscate and destroy alcohol in designated areas of the town where its consumption is causing nuisance or annoyance or where there is underage drinking taking place.

“The order will not prevent families and others having wine or beer with their picnics and is designed to allow every-



one the opportunity to enjoy the open spaces of the town in safety.”

Freedom of Information Act Dawlish Town Council Publication Scheme

The Town Council has recently amended its **Freedom of Information Publication Scheme** to include data in relation to the CCTV System.

A copy of the amended Publication Scheme is available to any member of the public wishing to view it at the Town Council offices and will shortly be made available on the website.

Also available at the Town Council offices are copies of the Government’s leaflet on the Freedom of Information Act containing details of what information held by the Town Council is open to them. A helpful chart is displayed at the Manor House to assist residents with their enquiries.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 s9

The Annual Meeting for Dawlish
will be held on 25th April 2007
in the Council Chamber, The Manor House,

Old Town Street, Dawlish commencing at 7.00p.m.

Members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

Electors of the Parish of Dawlish who wish to discuss Parish affairs at the meeting should inform the Town Clerk in writing no later than 12 noon

on the 18th April 2007

Signed: Tom Bush
Town Mayor

Don't miss
The Mayor's
Civic Evening and
dinner dance
at
The Langstone Cliff Hotel

Saturday 24th March 2007

All Welcome

Tickets £26.50
available from the
Town Council Offices



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 s15 ss1-10

The Annual General Meeting of Dawlish Town Council
will be held on 16th May 2007
in the Council Chamber, The Manor House,
Old Town Street, Dawlish commencing at 7.00p.m.

Members of the public are cordially invited to attend and witness the election of the Town Mayor for the coming year 2007/2008.

Public participation is suspended for this meeting only.

Signed: John Winchester
Town Clerk.



Your Councillors and how to contact them:

Your local Councillors can be contacted at the following telephone numbers.

If you are unsure of which Councillor to contact, please call in or telephone the office on 01626 863388 where staff will be pleased to direct your enquiry to the Councillor best able to deal with your enquiry.

- Clr. Rev. Dr. Tom Bush **Mayor of Dawlish** Tel: 10626 865704
- Clr. Mrs. Rosalind Prowse **Deputy Mayor** Tel: 01626 866621
- Clr. John Clatworthy Tel: 01626 864091 **Devon County Councillor** **Teignbridge District Councillor**
- Clr. Humphrey Clemens Tel: 01626 863020 **Teignbridge District Councillor**
- Clr. Mrs. Margaret Dickson Tel: 01626 770893
- Clr. Tom Edwards Contact: 20 Fairlea Close, Dawlish
- Clr. Will Forrow Tel: 01626 863013
- Clr. Ted Hockin Tel: 01626 862088 **Teignbridge District Councillor**
- Clr. Mrs. Valerie Jeffery Tel: 01626 890730
- Clr. Mrs. Helen Humphries Tel: 01626 862233
- Clr. Mrs. Mary Mugford Tel: 01626 863516 **Teignbridge District Councillor**
- Clr. Mrs. Hazel Percy Tel: 01626 865942
- Clr. Graham Price Tel: 01626 867088
- Clr. Wally Protheroe Tel: 01626 863151 **Teignbridge District Councillor**
- Clr. Clive Samuel Tel: 01626 865824
- Clr. Geoff Wills Tel: 01626 888074

Open Daw

“The Open Daw is here to help.”

Open Monday to Friday from 10.00a.m to midday at The Methodist Church, Brunswick Place, Dawlish, the Open Daw is a ‘signposting’ service for anyone who needs help or advice.

Mrs. Sue Hill, Co-ordinator, can be reached during opening hours on 01626 867722 and there is also a website: www.opendaw.co.uk

Representatives from local organisations make regular visits to the centre, including Community Wardens, local Beat Officers, Councillors and the Volunteer Bureau. There are also table top sales run by volunteers for various charities.

*“Drop in for a tea or coffee and a chat.
Check out the information boards.
Find out what we can do to help you.
Tell us what you can do help us.”*

Dawlish Town Council
would like to wish all residents a very

Happy Easter!



The office will be closed on
Good Friday 6th April
and Easter Monday 9th April



Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

Public consultation on this important piece of new legislation started in June 2006 and ended in November 2006.

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 gives Parish Councils a range of new powers to tackle environmental crime in their communities and to help reduce:



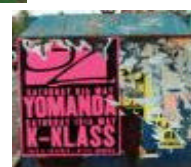
litter on our streets

graffiti in our shelters



dog fouling in our parks

fly posting on our streets.



Response to the consultation was disappointing. Over 2000 forms were circulated which is a 20% circulation of electors but only 137 forms were completed and returned. This represents only 1% of the population and although the information gained was useful, the Town Council is mindful that this is a tiny cross-section of the community.

The good news is that most of those who responded thought there were few problems in Dawlish but nevertheless wanted the Town Council to adopt powers to deal with them where they arose.

The Town Council will now consider carefully whether it will adopt any new powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.