

BAWTRY TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2010

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR

This report highlights the work of members including attendance at council meetings, committee meetings and on outside bodies and thanks are expressed on behalf of Bawtry for their time, enthusiasm, determination and commitment.

Despite best efforts DMBC Planning Committee approved Robin Hood Airport's request to vary night flying restrictions; obnoxious smells still emanate from Tunnteltech; Station Road is still difficult to cross, and the state of Bawtry's road continues to deteriorate. We promise to battle on!

The last and present Mayors of Doncaster have attended council meetings. Mayor Davies' visit highlighted again the condition of Spring Gardens and we have received written confirmation that this will be resolved in 2013/2014. We have quarterly meetings with the Neighbourhood Management team, our ward councillors and others. These have proved to be of enormous value and I thank our neighbourhood manager, Debbie John-Lewis for all she has done on our behalf. Debbie and team leader Mick Eardley will be attending quarterly council meetings. Residents will have opportunities to meet the neighbourhood team starting with discussions which are to be held regarding the development of a leisure area at Pemberton Ings.

Our three ward councillors report to our meetings and this year they have been responsible for the purchase of a hand held traffic speed gun for use by the police. This has already been responsible for drawing to the attention of a number of motorists exactly where our 30mph zones are. To the ward councillors – thank you!

We are kept updated on local crime statistics and are pleased to hear they are low in number. The police hold regular open meetings in our area when local residents have the opportunity to discuss issues. Our local officer PC Venables attends our meetings when he has no other commitments. The council appreciates the value of a close relationship with the police, ward councillors, neighbourhood team and ourselves, and will continue to support all innovations to make Bawtry a pleasant town in which to live and work.

The car park on Market Hill generates income which has enabled the council, yet again, to maintain the precept level of £26k. The charging period has been extended in respect of the ever changing face of Bawtry as a place for evening entertainment. This increase in evening trade is made evident each morning by the numbers of cigarette ends left on pavements or stubbed out on top of our new litter bins. The southern end of Market Hill has been repainted to encourage a smoother and safer flow of traffic. The Butter Cross has been renovated – a renovation which it is hoped will need no attention for generations.

The pinfold looks as it should now, so much better than it did after a car had landed on top of it. New litter bins and the seat at the bus stop are welcome additions to the town centre.

The allotments continue to be much appreciated and well used, and there is always a waiting list of home growing enthusiasts.

The town council is resolute in its determination to maintain a high standard of presentation in the cemetery and its approaches. A new sign has been ordered for the Station Road entrance and a special eye is being kept following the recent incident of the damaged water tap.

Discussions are ongoing regarding the War Memorial and its present situation. There is a lot of information to gather before any decision can be made, and the council is grateful for all views and suggestions which have been received to date.

Bawtry businesses will be pleased to know that DMBC is prepared to lease the toilets on Gainsborough Road to the town council. The process of handover is underway and it is hoped the toilets will re-open this year.

A group of business people in Bawtry added to the already established Christmas traditions of Carol singing around the tree, and the Christmas window competition, by organising a late night opening and the installation of about 80 lit trees around the town centre. We were happy to sponsor these much appreciated efforts. The business group intends to make even more of an occasion of the late night opening and already another 30 premises have asked to be included on the Christmas tree list. Our special thanks to Ruth Worsman of Limited 2 Art who set the whole thing in motion.

The sports clubs continue to use the facility on the Memorial Sports Field, the play area and the MUGA at Wharf Street are well used and much valued. This year BARS presented the council with its current thinking on the development of the MSF, ideas which offer the prospect of an exciting future for the sports field and the opportunity for more people to participate in a greater variety of sporting activities.

Earlier this year, one of the council's handymen retired. Mr Raymond Henshall was with us for 16 years and he will be much missed. Interviews recently took place when we also decided, in view of increased activity in the town, to employ a third part time handyperson. Welcome to Mr Michael Edwards and Mr Steve Martin, who join Mr Alan Prest on the team. Thank you to all.

Mr Brierley, who reported our deliberations, has retired and at present no member of the press attends our meetings. However, local papers receive information from the minutes and news from the council is published in *Bawtry Today*. Local people like to know what is going on in their town and we want them to know. Of course, coming to council meetings is the easiest way to find out and here special thanks go to Mr Vallow whose attendance is much appreciated as is his invaluable local knowledge.

In conclusion I thank the Deputy Town Mayor, George Spencer, for his commitment to Bawtry and for the help and advice given during the year. Thanks are also expressed to the Clerk for her work, and keeping the council informed and updated.

Vivienne Wilcox
Town Mayor

USEFUL NUMBERS

Robin Hood Airport – to report severe aircraft noise 01302 623499. Leave name, address, telephone number, time of flight, whether taking off or landing, and airline if possible

Doncaster Council Main Switchboard – 01302 734444

Faulty Street Lights, DMBC, 01302 735111, quote number of lighting column

Neighbourhood Team, DMBC - 01302 736000

Anti litter and dumped cars, DMBC - 01302 736050

Smell nuisance, Tunneltech, Misson – 01909 53317

or email: julianproudman@bassetlaw.gov.uk

LIST OF TOWN COUNCILLORS

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