

BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Edition 5 - July 2022

Dear Residents,

A warm welcome to the 5th edition of the Bridgend Town Council Newsletter. Local elections were held in May and we are pleased to introduce your new councillors for the 2022-2027 term of office.

We have also been preparing for the reopening of Carnegie House and are very much looking forward to welcoming you back to regular classes as well as introducing some new activities.

New Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor

At the Annual Meeting of Bridgend Town Council on Monday 16th May, Cllr Tim Wood was appointed Mayor of Bridgend Town Council for 2022-23. Cllr Wood appointed Claire Ayres as his consort.

Cllr Freya Bletsoe was appointed as the Deputy Mayor of Bridgend Town Council and appointed Cllr Steven Bletsoe as her consort.

Cllr Wood congratulated the Councillors on their recent election, thanked them for appointing him as Mayor of Bridgend Town and stated that he hopes all Councillors can work together for a productive term of office.



Mayor Cllr Tim Wood and his consort Claire Ayres



Mayor and Deputy Mayor Cllr Freya Bletsoe



Back row L-R: Councillors N. Deere, F. Sullivan, A. Lloyd, C. Webster, T. Wood, F. Bletsoe, S. Bletsoe, B. Johnson
Front Row L-R: Councillors C. Harding, A. Wathan, M. Blundell-Humphreys, I. Williams, D. Unwin, S. Easterbrook, D. Evans.
NB - Councillors A. Felton, I. Spiller and A. Morelli attended remotely.

Your Town Councillors

Following the election on Thursday 5th May the following councillors were elected to represent the wards of Morfa, Oldcastle and Newcastle.

Please see the Bridgend Town Council website for contact details of all councillors.
www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk

Morfa Ward:

Steven Bletsoe (Ind)
Nathan Deere (Ind)
Dominic Evans (Labour)
Chris Harding (Labour)
Francesca Sullivan (Ind)
Vacancy

Oldcastle Ward:

Freya Bletsoe (Ind)
Michelle Blundell-Humphreys (Ind)
Alison Felton (Labour)
Ann Lloyd (Ind)
Angela Morelli (Labour)
Ian Williams (Ind)

Newcastle Ward:

Steven Easterbrook (Ind)
Barry Johnston (Ind)
Ian Spiller (Ind)
David Unwin (Ind)
Alan Wathan (Ind)
Clair Webster (Ind)
Tim Wood (Ind)

HMS URGE REMEMBERED

To mark the 80th anniversary of the sinking of HMS Urge the Mayor and Mayoress of Bridgend Town attended civic events in Malta in April 2022 to represent the residents of Bridgend.

These included a service at St Pauls Pro-Cathedral, a talk on the discovery of HMS Urge at Malta University, a reception given by the British High Commissioner to Malta, a visit to the site of the wreck of HMS Urge to lay a wreath and the unveiling of the HMS Urge Memorial at Fort St Elmo.



Image courtesy of the British High Commission Malta

ROYAL MARKET CHARTER TUDOR PLAQUE UNVEILED



On Saturday 19th February 2022 Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Peter Vaughan unveiled a blue plaque to celebrate 500 years of the granting of a Royal Market Charter to Bridgend Town by King Henry V111 in 1516. The Tudor Plaque is situated in The Rhiw Shopping Centre, Bridgend Town Centre, on the outer wall of Bridgend Indoor Market.

Bridgend Town Council introduced the Blue Plaque Scheme to recognise the significant contributions made to the area by notable people who were born in or have close associations to the wards of Morfa, Oldcastle and Newcastle. The Tudor Plaque was commissioned as part of this scheme and will form part of a Blue Plaque Trail throughout the town.



After the unveiling, a delegation of councillors escorted the Lord Lieutenant on a tour of Bridgend Indoor Market, followed by tea and freshly made Welshcakes in the food court.

The Mayor thanked everyone who had assisted including The Civic Trust, The History Society and local historian Louvain Rees for their invaluable guidance, and also Rachel Bell, Rhiw Centre Manager for arranging for the plaque to be sited.

TOWN CENTRE FLOWER TOWERS

Early on 23rd May, 20 Flower Towers arrived to brighten up Bridgend Town Centre for the summer. 50% of residents who completed our survey in 2021 said that they would like to see more floral displays in the town centre while 41.5 % said they would like to keep the same amount of displays!



TOWN TWINNING

In May, Bridgend Town Council and the Bridgend Town Twinning Association were delighted to welcome a delegation from French twin town, Villenave d'Ornon.

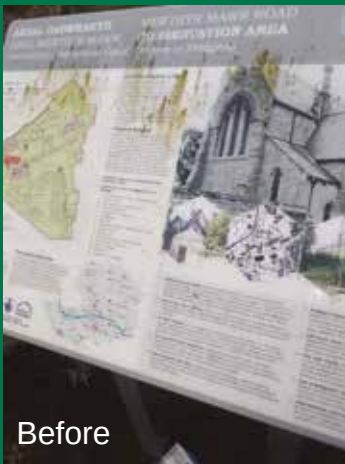
The trip, organised by the Bridgend Town Twinning Association, included a concert of the Bridgend Tabernacl Choir and Chorale Du Lac to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal. On Friday morning a meeting was held in the Bridgend Town Council Chamber to discuss strengthening links between the towns with an exchange visit for young people and a possible youth rugby tour. A civic event, which had been rescheduled due to the pandemic, was also held to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the town twinning relationship.

The Deputy Mayor of Bridgend Town Council, Cllr Freya Bletsoe presented Patrick Pujol, Mayor of Villenave d'Ornon, with a Welsh National Anthem Plate purchased from Lizzi Gifts in Bridgend Town Centre.



OUT AND ABOUT IN THE WARDS

Our Facilities Team are continuing to make improvements in our wards.



Before



After



Before



After

Recent work undertaken has included: cleaning and re-painting of litter bins and benches in and around Newbridge Fields; repainting of Memorial Benches outside the Post Office, cleaning notice panels and milestones; cleaning and weeding of the War Memorial, uplighters and public areas in Bridgend Town and cleaning and repainting bus shelters.



Before



After



Before



After



REMEMBERING THE FALKLANDS

On Tuesday 14th June, the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands War, Bridgend Town's Mayor Cllr. Tim Wood laid a wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the residents of Bridgend, to remember all those who lost their lives in the conflict.

CARNEGIE HOUSE IS NOW OPEN

We are delighted to announce that Carnegie House is now open to the public. For more information on our weekly classes please visit our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/carnegiehouse

If you would like to hire the ground floor of Carnegie House, please e-mail carnegiehouse@bridgend.gov.uk or call 01656 815 757 and press Option 2.



HAVE YOUR SAY

The Town Council really want this newsletter to be valuable for you so please, share your feedback and suggestions to help us improve. If you have a subject matter or project in your community that you would like the Town Council to get involved in, please contact our Community Engagement Manager by e-mail: carnegiehouse@bridgend.gov.uk

DID YOU KNOW?

Residents can watch Full Town Council meetings and Committee Meetings as they happen. Members of the public can even ask questions at every Full Council meeting. All meeting links are published on the Bridgend Town Council website and following the meetings all minutes are also published.
www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk/committees-and-minutes.aspx

GET IN TOUCH

Town Councillor's details can be found on our website
www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk/contact-us

COUNCIL STAFF

The Town Council's affairs are managed by an appointed Town Clerk who is supported by a Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer and a team of part-time managers, administrators and manual staff.

Your Town Clerk is Mrs Leanne Edwards





bridgend.tc@bridgend.gov.uk



You can also write to us at:



Bridgend Town Council
Carnegie House,
Wyndham Street,
Bridgend, CF31 1EF

You can also keep up-to-date with news from the Town Council and local matters on our social media pages:

 Bridgend Town Council
 Carnegie House Arts Centre

 Carnegie House
 Carnegie House

This newsletter is also available online in Welsh at www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk