

Community News - Issue 38

an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group

The Town Clerk has recently sent out this Press Release in connection with the recent community consultation....Town Council Receives Strong Support From Community! At the recent Town Council meeting on the 15th March, the Mayor presented the results of the recent Community Consultation. Our Town Council is trying to find ways to preserve the important Community assets and services that are under threat due to government austerity measures and cut backs in public funding. These are the Old School and Youth Club, the Drill Hall and Community Support, the Library, and the Cemetery. The Council worked out the costs involved and delivered a Consultation to every residence in the Community, explaining the proposals along with the associated costs. Residents were able to respond, using the form delivered, or online, ranking each proposal for importance. All the proposals were strongly supported with support varying from 64% to 89%. The Council took the opportunity to ask residents to rank the importance of all the significant services and organisations that the Town Council currently provide or grant support. Most received very positive support with the greatest percentage being for the East Radnor Day Centre at 94.5%! A very few activities received notably less support and the Town Council will be reviewing its support for these in the coming months. The Consultation also provided an opportunity for individual comment and just under 100 of these were received. Copies of the comments have been forwarded to all Town Councillors for consideration. For the full analysis of the responses and explanation of the Consultation and its Methodology, go the homepage of the Town Website and click the links shown. The Mayor, James Tennant-Eyles would like to thank all the residents that took part in the survey and also the Chair of the Community Group, Maggie Taylor Saunders, for the all the work work she did in preparing the consultation and analysing the results for the Town Council. James says he is delighted with the strength of the results which give very positive support for the Town Council's proposals and will strengthen their position in negotiations with the County Council. **Tabulations of the results can be seen on poster boards at various locations around town, at the Library, and in the phone box in Norton.**

ELECTIONS TO OUR TOWN COUNCIL will take place this May - nominations opened on 20th March and will close at 4pm on 4th April. The P&N Town Council has thirteen Councillors - nine (9) for the Presteigne Ward and four (4) for the Norton Ward, and several councillors are understood to be retiring and standing down this time. Could you help serve your community ? **If you're thinking of standing, time is running very short and you need to act quickly !! If you're not sure what's involved in being a Town Councillor, you can talk to any current councillor or contact the Town Clerk on 01547 528575.** For nomination papers, contact the County Council elections section on 01597 826717 or 826747. We will keep you informed in the News about who is standing for election in both the County Council and Town Council elections.

Please don't throw your daffodil or narcissi bulbs away..... maybe you grow daffs or narcissi in pots on a patio or in window boxes and don't have room to store them for next year ? If so, when they've finished flowering, please don't throw them away - bring them up to the Local Food Market in the Memorial Hall on Saturday - there'll be a collection box by the main entrance. The PACDG Guerrilla Gardeners will replant them around town in the Autumn. You'll have seen many more daffodils around town this year thanks to donations of bulbs and the efforts of volunteers, and we plan to plant many many more this year to put Presteigne & Norton on the map as 'the Daffodil Town'.

A message from Rhiannon in the Library - there is a retirement card for library users to sign for Margaret in the Library.

Don't forget the Presteigne Local Food Market on Saturday 1st April from 9am to 1pm at the Memorial Hall.....this month's special attraction will be a chocolate demonstration by Alexandra Pechabaden of Continuum Conceits - one of our customers' favourite producers!

New to our growing range of artisan produce will be Hundred House Coffee. They supply a range of micro roasted coffee beans which they can grind to customers' requirements.

As well as new producers joining the Market, it is hoped that all the regulars will be there including plants - organic veg - homemade pies - smoked meats, pickles and jams - shampoo, natural face and hand creams - lamb, hogget, mutton and apple juice - sourdough breads and savouries - goat milk and meat - pork - Presteigne honey and beeswax produce - Indian snacks and curries - herb plants - goat milk soaps - whole foods, many of which are organic - Pukka teas and Silvan Massage. There will also be a seed swap, supported by Garden Organic's Heritage Seed Library.

As more space is needed for new producers, some stalls might be in the small hall.

Whether serving from a table in the hall or from the kitchen hatch the Community Cafe will be there, serving Fairtrade coffee and tea and homemade cake for you to enjoy with friends.

Market customers have, by supporting the Cafe since June 2013, raised over £2,800 for thirteen local organisations. Please come and help them by reaching £3,000. THANK YOU.

Also on Saturday 1st April, make your way to the Assembly Rooms for the monthly Artists and Makers - a selection of work from Local Artists and Makers working with Wood, Wool, Stone, Silver, with Paintings, Prints, Jewellery, Salt Glaze Pottery, hand-made Artist's Paper and Books each month this year we will be showcasing new work from a different artist ,this month Lottie O'Leary, Stonecarver will be demonstrating and showing some examples of her work. Teas and Cakes in the Green Room. All enquiries 01544 260777

Presteigne Pop Choir.....we meet on Thursday evenings 7.30pm in the Youth CENTRE (Old School). Repertoire includes: Radiohead, Take That, Neil Young, Wet Wet Wet, Imagine Dragons, Lorde and many other pop artists. Ability to read music is a help but not essential. **Please contact John Hymas for an easy and friendly audition 07969440183/ john@johnhymas.com**

Signed up yet with DPCM?.....You may find it useful to sign up for Police and Trading Standards warnings sent out through the Dyfed Powys Community Messaging service DPCM. Go to their website at www.dyfedpowyscommunitymessaging.org. The most recent message was: *Officers are appealing for information in relation to the theft of a black/ brown 8 months old Belgium Shepherd dog from a farm in Heyope, near Knighton, between the 18/03/2017 and the 19/03/2017 - followed a few days later by: Officers are pleased to announce the Belgium Shepherd dog has been reunited with its owner. Thank you for your assistance with this incident. Success !*

If you use Facebook and would like to be kept more up to date with what's happening with our Town Council, please access the PNTC Facebook page by cutting and pasting the following link into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/presteigneandnorton.towncouncil>. There will be a TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY on Saturday 1st April at the Memorial Hall in conjunction with the Local Food Market.

On Friday 7th April, the Poobahs play the Music of Merle Haggard at The Dukes Arms.....Dave Luke with top flight musicians and some very special guests play fine country music as it should be played. 8.30pm. £3 entry.

DID YOU KNOW ?

.....For all those with a piggy banks... **don't forget you have until 15th October to spend any £1 coins** or convert them before the new hexagon coin is released. The old larger £5 note will also be obsolete after 5th May. Get spending or converting!

.....More bad news for our purses - **the price of both classes of postage stamps are to rise on 27th March** so if you use a lot of stamps - buy now!

.....In their infinite wisdom, **PCC have announced reduced opening days for Household Waste Recycling Centres from next month....** from Monday 3 April, the opening days at the centres in Brecon, Llandegley, Newtown, Welshpool, and Lower Cwmtwrch in Ystradgynlais will be reduced to a minimum of three days a week.

The new opening days and times for our nearest centre at Llandegley will be:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturdays (10am-4pm)

Restrictions on the type of vehicles that can access the centres will also come into effect on the same day as the new opening hours.

Vehicles that will be allowed at the centres include:

- Cars, sport utility vehicle (SUVs) and people carriers (with rear seats and windows)
- Camper vans and Land Rovers (with rear seats and windows)
- Pick-up trucks / double cab vehicles with sliding cover / fibre glass back
- Single axle trailers towed by any of the above.

Vehicles that will **not** be allowed at the centre include:

- Pick-up trucks / double cab vehicles with open or a metal back
- All vans (including hire vans)
- Agricultural vehicles
- Sign-written vehicles
- Any trailer that is not single axle (regardless of what it is towed by).

Trade waste recycling permits aimed at small traders will also increase in price from £150 to £200.

PCC said "The centres are designed to take household material for recycling or disposal that is not collected from the kerbside. Unfortunately, the sites have been used either by illegal traders getting rid of their waste and by householders getting rid of large quantities of waste when they should be hiring a skip.

This is why we need to restrict certain vehicles including commercial vehicles from accessing the sites."

Don't forget that there is a brand spanking new HRC just across the border in Kington (on the Eardisley road opposite the Health Centre) - fewer vehicle miles(!) It's open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8am to 6pm and you can buy Green Grow soil conditioner made from your composted green waste at a cost of £2 per bag.

If you have any questions on what's happening - or not happening - in our community, do let us know and we'll do our best to provide an answer, or at least point you in the right direction - simply email pacdg@icloud.com.

We're happy to help publicise community and charity activities and events (but only for events in the immediate Presteigne area) - mail pacdg@icloud.com. Feel free to tweet or forward this to others. If you would prefer not to receive further issues of the News, please email us with REMOVE and we'll immediately take you off the the distribution list.