



# BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk's Office, Church Lane, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AD  
Tel: 01258 454500 • Fax: 01258 454432 • admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk • www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk



## CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Friday 3 December Christmas celebrations at 6pm in the Corn Exchange, with Father Christmas in his grotto and seasonal refreshments. Tree lighting at 6.45pm in the Market Place, followed by the Civic Carol Service in the Parish Church at 7pm. All welcome!
- Saturday 11 December Mayor's Christmas Bingo in the Corn Exchange 7pm-10pm
- Wednesday 15 December Blandford Yuletide Festival/Late Night Shopping 6pm-9pm (throughout the town)

## NEW COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Following a request from a local organisation the Town Council has erected a new notice board on the Tabernacle toilet block next to Woodhouse Gardens and the Post Office for the purpose of advertising community events. Please bring any posters you would like to be displayed to the Town Clerk's Office and we will do our best to put them up for you.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Last year the Town Council budgeted to light up the large tree in the Marsh & Ham car park, and is very pleased to confirm that it has received a generous contribution to the costs from Tesco. The Christmas tree in the Market Place will be surrounded by banners displaying drawings done by children from the two primary schools in Blandford Forum.

## STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT SCHEME

The Town Council has been informed that the lighting column replacement programme in Dorset to repair and replace the street lighting will soon start in Blandford Forum. A total of 510 lighting columns will be removed and 532 installed. This matter will be referred to the Town & General Purposes Committee on Monday 15 November 2010. In the meantime residents are encouraged to visit [www.lightsonindorset.co.uk](http://www.lightsonindorset.co.uk) or to call 0800 068 4145 if they have any queries.

## INDOOR MARKET

The Town Council has an Indoor Market in the Corn Exchange every other Thursday with stalls selling a variety of goods including jewellery, books, crafts and antiques, and there is also a small café area. There is currently stall space available, so if you are interested in joining this lively market please contact Rachael on 01258 454500 or email: [bookings@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk](mailto:bookings@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk).

## SPOT THE ODDITY CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

A 'Spot the Oddity' Christmas competition will take place during the festive season. The competition will run from Monday 13 December 2010 until Thursday 30 December 2010. You can get entry forms from Jeans in the Market Place.

## COME AND MEET YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS!

You can always contact your councillor using the details overleaf but the Town Council has introduced regular councillor surgeries so that members of the public can discuss any issues or concerns on Blandford Forum face to face with their councillors. There will be one session per month at Woodhouse Gardens (excluding December) at times aimed to suit all lifestyles. Each of the five wards in Blandford Forum will be represented by a councillor at the sessions. So, why not come for a coffee and a chat with your Town Councillors! If you cannot make any of the dates below please do not hesitate to contact your councillors direct to speak to them.

Your councillors will be waiting to meet you at Woodhouse Gardens Pavilion on:

**Friday 14 January 2011**

**1pm-2pm**

**Monday 14 February 2011**

**5.30pm-6.30pm**

**Saturday 12 March 2011**

**10am-11am**

**TO RECEIVE THIS NEWS UPDATE IN LARGE PRINT  
PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01258 454500**



# BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk's Office, Church Lane, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AD  
Tel: 01258 454500 • Fax: 01258 454432 • admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk • www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are welcome to attend council and committee meetings and can make comment via the public sessions held at 7.00pm at the beginning of meetings, which are held on most Monday evenings in the Community Room at the address above. The public can also contact councillors or officers through correspondence/email, by telephone, or in person at the Town Clerk's Office, which is open Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 12.30pm. Forthcoming meetings are listed below:

- Monday 22 November           Town & General Purposes Committee
- Monday 6 December           Finance & Staffing Committee (setting budgets for 2011-2012)
- Monday 13 December           Town Council
- Monday 20 December           Planning

The Town Clerk's Office will close at 12.30pm on Thursday 23 December 2010 for the Christmas period and will open again at 9.30am on Tuesday 4 January 2011.

**Acting Town Clerk** – Linda Scott-Giles

Email: linda@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk

Tim Woolford will join Blandford Forum Town Council as the new Town Clerk from 1 December 2010. Tim has 19 years local government experience and is currently Operations Manager at East Dorset District Council, where he has been for 7 years.

## CONTACT YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

COUNCILLOR	WARD	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Robert Brannigan	Langton St Leonards	1 Hambledon Gardens DT11 7SE	459452
Esme Butler (Mayor)	Langton St Leonards	7 Staverton Walk, DT11 7TN	480756
Harold F Galpin	Damory Down	Russell House, Durweston DT11 OQA	454294
Tony Harrocks	Hilltop	1 Mortain Close, DT11 7XA	480062
Steve G Hitchings	Hilltop	27 Kings Road, DT11 7LD	455840
Sylvia Hixson Andrews	Old Town	15 Bryanston Street, DT11 7AZ	458911
Rosemary J Holmes (Deputy Mayor)	Damory Down	16 Liddington Crescent, DT11 7RP	480451
Hilary Lawson	Damory Down	10 Avebury Court, Medbourne Close DT11 7UA	450935
Lynn Lindsay	Station	31 Barnes Close, DT11 7NG	456209
Sara Loch	Old Town	The Old House, The Close DT11 7HA	450278
Mike Owen	Station	63 Damory Street, DT11 7HD	459170
Andrew Pemberton	Old Town	The Rectory, The Tabernacle DT11 7DW	459672
Isabel C Rose	Langton St Leonards	Endellion, St Leonards Av, DT11 7NY	451557
Jackie Stayt	Hilltop	29 Damory Street, DT11 7EU	456999
Frances West	Old Town	Langham House, 81 Salisbury Street, DT11 7PY	458055
Haydn White	Station	79 Salisbury Road, DT11 7LP	453666

This News Update has been compiled by both Blandford Forum Town Council and North Dorset District Council, which saves money and gives you all the essential news on your area in one document.

## **COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW – WHAT IT MEANS FOR NORTH DORSET**

The Government announced its long awaited Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) on 20 October. But what does it mean for North Dorset District Council and the services it supplies? The day after the announcement The Times newspaper said: “Local government was handed one of the worst settlements in the spending review ... local government will lose more than a quarter of its funding.”

Liz Goodall, Chief Executive of North Dorset District Council, said: “We will not know the full picture until probably December when we will learn the full details of our allocations. In the meantime we know that in the next four years there will be a 30% decrease in Government grants but we welcome the new homes bonus, disabled facilities grants and homelessness grants being protected”. We will continue with our programme of savings, as already announced, which were planned with the CSR in mind. And we will continue to listen to local people so that we can deliver those services which are most in demand.

We will also continue to pursue partnership working with our neighbours and the County Council where there is clear benefit to North Dorset, its residents and businesses.

## **COUNCILS COMBINE TO LAUNCH IMPROVED REVENUES & BENEFITS SERVICE**

Three Dorset councils launched a new Revenues and Benefits service this autumn to provide a better quality service to customers, greater value for money for local taxpayers and savings for all three councils.

The Stour Valley Revenues & Benefits Partnership was created by bringing together the Revenues & Benefits Teams from Christchurch Borough, East Dorset District and North Dorset District Councils.

Liz Goodall, Chief Executive of North Dorset District Council, said: “This was a complex project to bring to fruition but we did so on time and on budget. Problems had to be overcome in numerous areas from employment issues to highly sophisticated computer systems.”

The new service is based at East Dorset District Council but customer contact points have been retained at all three council offices and dedicated phone lines are in place to take telephone enquires.

The important thing is that customers should notice no difference in the way enquiries are handled but the cost of dealing with enquiries is reduced and the service has more resilience.

The partnership is an example of how councils can save money by providing existing services in a different way. Fewer people are required to run the partnership, particularly at management level.

Further savings will be made by sharing vacated office space with other public sector organisations and by moving employees out of rented accommodation into main office buildings.

## **CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES**

North Dorset District Council offices will be shut for the Christmas holiday on Friday 24 December and again on Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 December.

The offices will be open on Wednesday 29, Thursday 30 and Friday 31 December.

Finally, the offices will be shut for the New Year Bank Holiday on Monday 3 January 2011.

## 2011 CENSUS COMING TO A LETTERBOX NEAR YOU

The next national census takes place on 27 March 2011. The census provides information about the population which enables central and local government, health authorities and other organisations to plan housing, education, health and transport services for the future.

The findings feed into the allocation of funding for local authorities and play a major part in their ability to provide local services, so it is crucial the population estimate is as accurate as possible. When the questionnaire envelope comes through the door you'll easily recognise it by the purple 2011 Census logo. If you want to complete the questionnaire online your individual internet code will be on the front.

More information about the census can be found at: [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk).

## www.dorsetforyou.com

At the end of the summer North Dorset District Council closed down its old website and moved all its information across to [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com).

This is a further example of Dorset councils working together to save money and provide traditional services in a different way.



You should now be able to find a whole host of council information on the one website, regardless of which council provides the service.

## CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor	Ward	Phone	Email
Angus Campbell	Hill Forts	01747 811219	<a href="mailto:i.a.campbell@dorsetcc.gov.uk">i.a.campbell@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a>
Barrie Cooper	Langton St Leonards	01258 450420	<a href="mailto:b.g.cooper@dorsetcc.gov.uk">b.g.cooper@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a>
Deborah Croney	Hill Forts	01747 812469	<a href="mailto:hillfortsward@hotmail.co.uk">hillfortsward@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Joe Hickish	Blandford Old Town	01258 453647	<a href="mailto:joehickish@hotmail.com">joehickish@hotmail.com</a>
Nessa Hickish	Blandford Damory Down	01258 453647	<a href="mailto:nessahickish@hotmail.com">nessahickish@hotmail.com</a>
Steve Hitchings	Blandford Hilltop	01258 455840	<a href="mailto:shitchings@north-dorset.gov.uk">shitchings@north-dorset.gov.uk</a>
Richard Moyle	Riversdale	01929 459459	<a href="mailto:remoyle@aol.com">remoyle@aol.com</a>
Michael Oliver	Cranborne Chase	01258 454203	<a href="mailto:mdo@nmsigrp.com">mdo@nmsigrp.com</a>
John Tanner	Blandford Station	01258 455173	<a href="mailto:jjtanners@hotmail.com">jjtanners@hotmail.com</a>
Chris Tomlinson	Portman	01258 480199	<a href="mailto:chris.tomlinson@bopenworld.com">chris.tomlinson@bopenworld.com</a>

### North Dorset District Council's Contact Details: Address:

Customer Services Team  
 North Dorset District Council  
 Nordon  
 Salisbury Road  
 Blandford Forum  
 Dorset  
 DT11 7LL

Telephone: 01258 454111

Email: [customerservices@north-dorset.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@north-dorset.gov.uk)