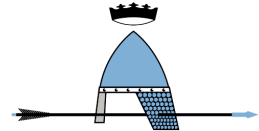


Townlife

Spring 2015



BATTLE TOWN COUNCIL

Message from the Chairman

Since the last Newsletter three months ago, Battle Town Council has been moving ahead with ongoing projects and is about to start work on a strategic plan for the new Council to discuss when it is elected in May. Groundwork for the cemetery extension should begin in the summer. In the meantime, the Council is collaborating with the Battle Museum of Local History to develop plans for refurbishing the Almonry to form a Town Heritage Centre. At its February meeting the Council approved architect's drawings as the basis for an application for planning consent.

The aim of the project is to focus on the history of the Almonry and the town itself rather than on the single date of 1066. As well as continuing to house the Town Council, the proposed Heritage Centre would provide both permanent and temporary exhibition space, an education area and tourist information. It would also be the base for an audio-tour of the town, taking visitors to some parts of Battle rarely seen in addition to more familiar places.

Success depends on obtaining funding and the Council is now preparing an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Making 2016 a year to remember



Plans are underway to make the 950th anniversary of The Battle of Hastings an action packed year for Battle and the surrounding 1066 Country.

A host of different events are already on the drawing board, with an incredibly diverse mix of individuals, local groups and societies actively engaged in planning many different events and activities.

Battle Town Council have appointed Trevor Houghton-Berry as a Project Manager, liaising between the different groups involved to ensure everyone can pull together to make the anniversary year an unqualified success for all concerned.

Trevor has lived in the Battle area for the last 25 years and looks forward to fulfilling his role as a facilitator and co-ordinator.

'The 950th Anniversary is a major event for Battle, and it is wonderful to see so many people coming together to work in groups both big and small, to mark the occasion with such style. The Town Council want to ensure they can provide practical help and assistance, and I hope that by providing a central point of contact and being in a position to provide an overview of everything that is going on, I can prevent unnecessary clashes and coordinate proceedings.'

Any individual or group that is planning a 950th Anniversary event in the Town (or immediate area) is welcome to contact Trevor Houghton-Berry, Battle Town Council Project Manager, to discuss their plan and make it formally part of what is already shaping up to be a wonderfully hectic schedule.

Trevor can be contacted via the Town Council Office in the Almonry: 01424 772210, or by email, via the Town Clerk: andybeams@battletowncouncil.org.uk

New Town Clerk welcomed

Battle Town Council's new Town Clerk is Andy Beams. Andy joined the Council in January from Willingdon and Jevington Parish Council, where he worked as the Parish Clerk for four and a half years. Prior to that, Andy spent almost 20 years working for the Lloyds Banking Group in various roles across the South East.

Andy said 'I am excited at the opportunity to work in such an historic place, and am looking forward to contributing to the development of the Town over the coming years.'

Andy lives in Eastbourne with his two children, and outside of work is most likely

to be found spending time with them or on the golf course.



Battle Arts Festival

After huge success in 2014, Battle Festival is back for autumn 2015 and planning has started in earnest. The team is in full battle mode, working to create an explosion of artistic energy and fun.

This year the festival and fringe festival will be bigger and even more vibrant, including Music, Theatre & Spoken Word, Visual Arts, Dance, Comedy and Cabaret. Headliners will perform alongside new and emerging artists. In addition, after last

year's hugely successful Masterclass mentoring sessions and workshops we will be expanding the educational and vocational programme.

But we want this to be your festival. We

Cont'd overleaf...

want the programme to be full of things that you want to see in your town. Battle Festival is for everyone: people who have never been to a live performance as much as for those who have been to many and for music makers as much as music lovers. So please follow us on Facebook or Twitter or email and tell us what you want to see and if you would like to get involved.

facebook.com/BattleFestival twitter.com/BattleFestival
info@BattleFestival.co.uk www.BattleFestival.co.uk

Community Grants

Early in 2015, Battle Town Council updated its Grant Awarding Policy and produced a Grant Application form on which all future grant applications should be made.

Battle Town Council has a budget for the award of grants. The Council can only award grants using certain legal powers; specific powers allow the Council to provide funding for specific activities or projects which Members feel will be of benefit to the Battle Town Council area, including Netherfield.

Grant applications will be considered twice a year, and all

Councillor changes

Welcome to Councillor Justin Lay who was co-opted at the December meeting of the Council as a representative for Marley Ward. Cllr. Lay's interests are media, communications and sport.

Thanks to Councillor Jacqueline Ormonde-Butler, who has resigned as a Town Councillor due to pressure of work. Jacqueline remains a member of the Cemetery Working Group.

Residents are reminded of the Town Council elections which are on Thursday 7th May – if you are interested in becoming a Town Councillor, please contact the Town Clerk for more information.



applications must be accompanied by appropriate accounts or supporting financial information. Forms and the supporting information can be obtained from the Town Clerk, who can be contacted on 01424 772210 or by email:

andybeams@battletowncouncil.org.uk

Commemorative tree for Paula

Battle Town Council were delighted to arrange the planting of a commemorative tree in recognition of the service given to the Town by Paula Fisher as Town Clerk, Councillor and Mayor. Paula is pictured with the tree, a flowering cherry, which is planted in the cemetery.



'Then and Now' exhibition

Battle Photographic Society, in collaboration with the Battle and District Historical Society and the Battle Museum of Local History, is holding a photographic print Exhibition entitled "Then and Now" at Battle Library from 21 March to 18 April, 2015.

Battle and District Historical Society and the Battle Museum of Local History are providing photographs of Battle in bygone years. These will be paired with prints specifically photographed by many Battle Photographic Society members to show the same locations as they are today. Some shops in the High Street have retained the same façade whilst

adapting the building for modern use; other sites have changed completely. The paired photographs will be displayed side by side in the Library.

Everyone is welcome to visit the Exhibition and entry will be free.

Battle Photographic Society will also be holding their 50th Anniversary and Annual Photographic Print Exhibition at Battle Memorial Hall on 27 and 28 June 2015.

For more information about local history, visit the website run by Battle Museum at www.battlemuseum.btck.com Battle Photographic Society's website is: www.battlephotographicsociety.co.uk

Message to business owners

Do you have a business in Battle? Whether you are a small home based enterprise or a large national with an office/ shop in the town, Battle Chamber of Commerce is here to represent you, and help you spread the word! Contact membership@battlechamber.org.uk for more details.

HAVE YOUR SAY - Let the Council know your views and ideas about Battle, Netherfield and Telham. Phone: 01424 772210. Write to: The Town Clerk, The Almonry, High Street, Battle, TN33 0EA, or Email: andybeams@battletowncouncil.org.uk or contact your Councillors directly.

Councillor Details

Netherfield Ward:

John Boryer 838651, jbndrafeld@tiscali.co.uk

Sylvie Pry 839229, sylviepry@yahoo.com

Marley Ward:

Richard Bye 075481 10052

richardpbl@sky.com

John Sydes 07951766639

jazmacuk@yahoo.co.uk

Terry Hall 774162

Terence.hall123@btinternet.com

Andrew Radcliffe 07837725702

a.ratcliffe@btinternet.com

Watch Oak Ward:

Jeremy Eldridge 870761

jemeldridge@hotmail.com

David Furness 772657, dfurness@mail.com

Jill Gyngell 01580 880692, jillgyngell@aol.com

Margaret Kiloh 773360, m.g.kiloh@open.ac.uk

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wilson855@btinternet.com

Glenna Favell 774954, g.e.favell@gmail.com

Justin Lay 07896 732028

justin_william_lay@yahoo.com

TELHAM WARD:

Margaret Howell 830473

margaret.howell1@btinternet.com

Maurice Palmer 775737

maurice.palmer@btinternet.com

Forthcoming Meeting Dates

Parish Assembly

15th April 2015 (at the Memorial Hall)

Full Council

21st April 2015, 19th May 2015 (AGM)

Planning & Transport Committee

22nd April 2015, 6th May 2015, 27th May 2015

Finance & General Purposes Committee

12th May 2015

Environment Committee

26th May 2015

External Relations Committee

2nd June 2015

These meetings are open to the public