

# THE MARKET HOUSE

Newent Town Council's Newsletter - January 2020

## Message from The Mayor - Cllr June Davies

I hope you all had a peaceful Christmas and I send you my best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. The Council's Christmas festivities went very well – an excellent Lights Switch-On and I extend special thanks to Cllr Draper and her team.



The Civic Carol Service, part of St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival, was also a lovely occasion, the trees creating a magical atmosphere. Grateful thanks to all those who took part.

2020 looks like being a very busy one for the Council and hopefully we can continue to keep you updated through these pages.

## Hedgehog Shelters



The Council has agreed to purchase five hedgehog houses. We are pleased to know that these creatures inhabit parts of the Lake area.

These shelters should provide places in which hedgehogs can hibernate safely through the winter months.

## Tree Charter Day

More than seventy trees were planted around the Lake on November 30<sup>th</sup> which was celebrated as Tree Charter Day. These included eleven silver birches which were planted at approximately 100 metre intervals around the Lake to provide markers for walkers and joggers as well as adding to the number and variety of trees within the area. Fifty trees were also planted in the Jubilee Walk wildlife area.

This initiative was led by Newent Town Council and was supported by many members of the public young and old.

We were thankful to the Co-op for providing refreshments of oranges and bananas for the well earned break and chat at the end

## Councillor Vacancy

Due to pressure of work, Cllr Aaron Jones has resigned from his position as a member of the Town Council. We would like to thank him for all he has done while in office and look forward to welcoming his replacement on the thirteen strong council for the Civil Parish of Newent.

A petition to hold an election, signed by ten local electors, has been received by the Forest of Dean District Council who have set the date of the election for Thursday January 23rd.

Three candidates have put their names forward and local electors will by now have received their polling cards with details of the date, times and polling stations.



## 'Issues and Options' - FODDC Planning

The Town Council was invited to respond to the District Council's initial consultation for the new Local Plan, covering 2021 -2041. Newent is expected to expand and there is a suggestion of an entirely new settlement in the north east of the district. An extraordinary meeting of the council was held to discuss its responses which can all be viewed at the portal: <https://www.fdean.gov.uk/residents/planning-building/planning-policy/local-plan-2041/>.

Members of the public also had a chance to view and comment on the document and speak to the planners at the consultation held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday October 3rd.

## Contacting your Councillors

If you wish to speak to one of the town councillors, please contact us through the clerk or through the details elsewhere on this website.

