

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER No. 2
WINTER 2009

Mayor's column

Is Frome bucking the trend?

While other towns of a similar size to Frome seem to be struggling at the moment, I recently visited the Business Parks and Trading Estates in the town and was delighted to see most of the units full, many with new or expanding businesses.

In the town centre, Iceland will soon be opening, our local Marks and Spencer seems to be going from strength to strength and new smaller businesses have opened on Catherine Street and Badcox.

Buying locally – spend it here, keep it here

One of the reasons for these businesses doing well is that many of us buy local and, in doing so, we support each other. Shops and local traders will only survive if we keep using them and, crucially for small businesses at this time, if we pay them as soon as possible.

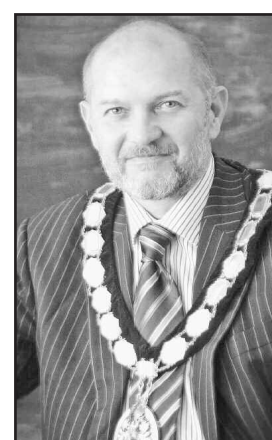
By Cllr Alvin Horsfall

This minimises their need for credit and helps to keep them in business. This in turn will keep more jobs in Frome.

Save money and the planet

On a more personal level, there is lots of advice about how to minimise the impact of the credit crunch. Here are a few things that could help us to save money while reducing the impact on climate change too.

- Turn down the room thermostat by one degree and you will reduce your heating bills.
- Close the curtains at dusk and keep the heat in, turn off the (low energy) light when you leave the room and don't leave any appliances on stand by.
- Fill up the washing machine and dishwasher before you turn it on or use the half load or economy function. Use tumble driers sparingly.
- Only boil as much water



as you need but make sure the element in electric kettles is covered.

For more information on home energy conservation or to arrange for a trained volunteer to come to your home and carry out an energy check please call John Tolson on 0845 0177016 or email john.tolsen@mendipenvironment.org.uk. The website has more tips too – www.mendipenvironment.org.uk.

NEW POLICE UNIT – A FROME FIRST

Frome Town Council has agreed to help fund the establishment of a community police post in Market Yard.

The new building will provide a permanent facility in the town centre for the police, including the PCSOs,

and provide a deterrent to anti-social behaviour and crime especially in and around Market Yard.

By being more visible the police will be even more effective in both tackling crime and also deterring it in the first place.

This unit will be highly visible and easily accessible

to all the community. By working together the Town Council and the police are showing their commitment to providing effective community policing.

This is the first time the Avon and Somerset Police has provided a unit like this – Frome is once again at the forefront of new ideas!

TOWN TWINNING - WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The signing of a new town twinning agreement between Frome Town Council and Frome Twinning Association was celebrated on 30th January marking a new phase in twinning activities which started in Frome 34 years ago.

Frome first twinned with Château-Gontier, France, in 1975.

Murrhardt, Germany joined the partnership in 1983 and in July this year, the Polish town of Rabka-Zdroj will become the fourth member.

Frome Twinning Association will fulfil a primarily social role organising visits for those travelling to twin towns for twinning related events and arranging accommodation for all visitors from twin towns attending

meetings in Frome. The Town Council will take the lead in communication with twin towns, coupled with a proactive approach to working with twin towns on cultural, economic, regenerative and community based projects and opportunities.

To find out more about Frome Twinning Association contact Elizabeth Wakefield on 01373 304266.

Facelift for Victoria Park

Back in the Autumn, Frome Town Council agreed its plan of work for the next three years. To fund the projects planned for the year ahead, Councillors have unanimously agreed a moderate increase of just two and a half pence a week for average council tax households.

Cllr Alvin Horsfall, Mayor of Frome said: "Over the next 14 months the people of Frome will benefit from a new skate park, re-surfaced tennis courts, the opening of a small tea room and an improvement to the general appearance of Victoria Park, including the re-thatch of the bandstand. These improvements to what is already a beautiful and well used resource in Frome will mean more people will have more



to do and can spend more time in Victoria Park.

"People will be able to pause half way through a tennis match for a cup of tea and a scone before getting back to the game. The new court surface and the tea room will be operating by the summer.

"I'm delighted with the plans for the new skate park in Mary Bailly Playing Field. This will be up and running by the beginning of April."



How can we reduce litter and increase recycling

Councillor Peter John, chairman of Frome Town Council Litter and Recycling Group would like to hear from you if you have a particular problem with litter or recycling in your area.

Councillor John said: "Living in Frome as I do and walking about

the town, it is clear there are problem hot spots. One of the biggest problems is discarded fast food wrapping and remains. I would call upon all fast food outlets to encourage their customers to dispose of their litter responsibly.

"General litter is also an eyesore and sometimes a health risk. I'm keen to find out who has held litter

picks recently and how the Town Council can help to support them. In addition, what can be done to reduce litter in the first place?"

"At the very least Frome Town Council can report to the relevant authority a litter problem. Please contact the town office. However, I want to hear what more we can do to make Frome a better place."

TACKLING THE ISSUES OF THE DAY

Frome Town Council has identified three areas where things need to improve in the town and has established working groups to investigate and then advise the Council on how to make Frome a better place.

First, Councillors, under the chairmanship of Cllr Peter John (top right), are investigating how litter and waste can be reduced and better managed.

Second, under the chairmanship of Cllr Elizabeth John (right, middle), the transport working group will be exploring how to bring together all the ideas on traffic management and better provision for cyclists and pedestrians.

Third, Cllr Helen White (right bottom), as a mother of young children herself, is keen to explore what others believe will improve the provision of services for young people in Frome.



If you would like to discuss these issues with the relevant Councillor please contact them.

FROME TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS FEBRUARY 2009 – APRIL 2009

Feb 09		
Tues 17	Recreation & Properties Committee	FTC Offices
19	Planning Committee	Frome Library
Mar 09		
04	Full Council	Frome Library
12	Planning Committee	Frome Library
18	Policy & Finance Committee	FTC Offices
25	Personnel Sub Committee	FTC Offices
Apr 09		
02	Planning Committee	Frome Library
15	Recreation & Properties Committee	FTC Offices
23	Planning Committee	Frome Library

Meetings times, dates and venues are on www.frome-tc.gov.uk.

• Please note that members of the press and public are welcome and encouraged to attend all Town Council meetings. Members of the press and public can ask questions under public forum section of the agenda which can be answered by the relevant committee but not debated.

WHO IS YOUR TOWN COUNCILLOR?

BERKLEY DOWN WARD

Blanche Farley tel: 01373 465264 Ind email: farleyb@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Peter John tel: 01373 461025 Con email: johnp@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Brian Potter tel: 01373 469972 Lib Dem email: potterb@frome-tc.gov.uk

COLLEGE WARD

Carole Bullen tel: 01373 465969 Con email: bullenc@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Christine Cockroft tel: 01373 467274 Lib Dem email: cockcroftc@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Andrew Earle tel: 01373 472408 Lib Dem email: earlea@frome-tc.gov.uk

KEYFORD WARD

Felix Fitzpatrick tel: 01373 467381 Con email: fitzpatrickf@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Alvin Horsfall tel: 01373 469502 Lib Dem email: horsfalla@frome-tc.gov.uk
 David Oakensen tel: 01373 473264 Lab email: oakensend@frome-tc.gov.uk

MARKET WARD

Karen Harvey tel: 01373 466477 Lib Dem email: harveyk@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Elizabeth John tel: 01373 461025 Con email: johne@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Philip Whitmarsh tel: 01373 463902 Lib Dem email: whitmarshp@frome-tc.gov.uk

OAKFIELD WARD

Maggy Daniell tel: 01373 463480 Lib Dem email: daniellm@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Helen White tel: 01373 454289 Lib Dem email: whiteh@frome-tc.gov.uk

PARK WARD

Damon Hooton tel: 01373 455743 Lib Dem email: hootond@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Pam Lee tel: 01373 463584 Con email: leep@frome-tc.gov.uk
 Claire Hudson tel: 01373 455743 Lib Dem email: hudsonc@frome-tc.gov.uk

LOCAL RECYCLING POINTS IN FROME

Frome Household Waste Recycling Centre
 Manor Furlong off Manor Road, BA11 4RN,
 (01373 453622)

ASDA Car Park	Cardboard, Glass, Paper, Textiles
Badcox Car Park	Cardboard, Paper, Textiles
College	Cardboard, Paper
Market Yard Car Park	Books, Cans, Cardboard, Glass, Paper, Plastic bottles, Textiles
Merchants Barton Car Park	Paper, Glass, Cans, Textiles,
Sainsbury's Car Park	Books, Cans, Cardboard, Glass, Paper, Plastic bottles, Textiles