



What's on.....

The Dursley Dozen 2020

Sunday 9th February 2020

One of the toughest in the area, this multi-terrain 12-mile race starts at the Old Spot and finishes along Parsonage Street at the Market Place. Parsonage Street will be closed to traffic from 08:00 to 15:00 on the day:

www.dursleyrunningclub.org.uk/races/dursley-dozen

Dursley Pancake Race 2020

12 noon on Tuesday 25th February 2020, on Parsonage Street.

Festive Dursley Community Meeting

7pm on Wednesday 18th March 2020 at Dursley Community Centre, Rednock Drive. Everyone welcome to come along, find out more & get involved!

Dursley Annual Assembly 2020

7pm on Tuesday 28th April 2020 at Dursley Community Centre, Rednock Drive

Save the Date in Your 2020 Diary!

Dursley Summer Festival -11th July

Dursley Walking Festival -7th to 11th October

Dursley Christmas Lights Switch on -27th November

'Festive Dursley' Creates Christmas Lights Spectacular!

Hundreds of people turned out to watch the 2019 Christmas lights go on in Dursley.

The Festive Dursley working group put on a fantastic event with several new features this year, including a sit in 'Sleigh' and 'Winter Garden' at St James' Church.



With the support of Archway Dental Practice and Snow Business, there was a magical 'Winter Wonderland' garden to wow the crowds in the centre of town.

St Modwen sponsored the fireworks which provided a spectacular backdrop when the lights went on. The Christmas tree was sponsored by Spring Villa and installed at no cost by Tree Management and Build it Cam.

The new globe lights in the grounds of St James' and in the Broadwell tree were purchased by the Church themselves and Global TV.

The Mayor, Councillor Neil Grecian, was joined by special guests including the new Festive Dursley mascot 'Ryan the Reindeer' and the Great Western Air Ambulance's Charlie Bear.

Our MC Terry Pascoe introduced the evening which included market stalls and music by 'The Disclaimers' and Wotton Silver Band. Children's entertainment included Tom Foolery, a fairground, 'Reinsheep' and walkabout trail, as well as Father Christmas and his grotto at the TSB.

The Hummingbird won the window display competition this year, judged by the Mayor and members of the Cam and Dursley Youth Forum, who also helped with the Festive Dursley stalls on the night.

The event would not have been possible without the hard work and support of dedicated local volunteers who work tirelessly over the year and on the night to bring the event together for everyone to enjoy.

Please join us at the Festive Dursley Community Meeting on 18th March, 7pm at the Community Centre. It will be a chance to celebrate achievements, find out about 2020 events, volunteer to get involved and plan for the future!



Photos from the Festive fun 2019



Elections 2020

On Thursday 7th May 2020, Stroud will have all out local elections, which will be for district and town councillors as well as for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Being a local councillor can be an incredibly rewarding way to get involved in your community and make a real difference to the place where you live or work.

Councillors make a real difference in our community in Dursley, by engaging with residents, local groups and businesses to find out their needs; making decisions on which services and projects the council should take forward; and getting involved locally to ensure that services are meeting community needs.

Dursley Town Council's next election will take place on 7th May 2020, when all 17 seats will be up for election. The Council has 3 wards: Central, Highfields and Kingshill.

If you are interested in becoming a councillor you can find out more by:

Attending one of our meetings to see councillors at work.

Reading through our news stories or newsletters.

Having a chat to our Town Clerk – please contact us to book a suitable time.

To be eligible for election to Dursley Town Council you must be:

- A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth, or the European Union,
- 18 years of age or older,
- Living or working in the area.
- Other restrictions apply – for more detailed information about eligibility please refer to the Electoral Commission website.

The National Association of Local Councils have produced a short video about being a councillor and a more detailed booklet.

If you decide to stand for election you must make sure you get your paperwork in at the right time. Nomination packs will be available from our office from 11th February. The nomination papers must be signed by two electors from the ward you wish to stand in and submitted by hand to Stroud District Council at Ebley Mill (not our office). Nominations will open at 10am on Tuesday 24th March 2020 and close at 4pm on Wednesday 8th April 2020.

For any technical questions about election processes or paperwork please contact Stroud District Council 01453 754887 or elections@stroud.gov.uk

New Grit Bins

We have purchased 2 new grit bins for the following locations in town:

Long Street

Top of Whiteway Close



This was agreed following requests by local residents and discussions with Gloucestershire County Council.

❄️ Winter Updates ❄️

Go to www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/winter for local travel updates, weather warnings and emergency school closures. Follow updates on Twitter via [@GlosRoads](https://twitter.com/GlosRoads) [#glosprepared](https://twitter.com/glosprepared) & [@Glos_schools](https://twitter.com/Glos_schools)

Your New Town Councillor

We are pleased to welcome a new Town Councillor.

Local resident and former Town Councillor Mr John Rubin was co-opted to Council at our December meeting.



Councillor Rubin returns to the Town Council after a break of nearly 10 years, replacing former Councillor Suzi Abraham in the Highfields Ward.

Councillor Rubin has an interest in the development and welfare of the town; notably its identity, maintenance and economy.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Rubin to the Council and said *"it is pleasing to see the vacancy being quickly filled and once again we have a full number of Council members"*.

Leslie D Gale Awards 2020

The nominations for the Leslie D Gale awards 2020 are now OPEN. The awards will be announced at the town's Annual Assembly on the 28th April.

The Leslie D Gale Award was instituted in 1994, as a tribute to the late Mr Gale, who was the last Chairman of Dursley Parish Council and the first Mayor of Dursley. The award not only recognises longevity of service to the community but also impact. We are very aware that young people also contribute to the community, and that their work should be recognised. Nominations do not have to be for individuals; in past years groups have also been nominated.

Nominations should be sent to the Town Clerk by 27th March with details of why you believe the person, group, team etc deserve recognition.

New Benches at the Bus Station



We have replaced the old, flat, wooden benches at the bus station with new ones designed and made for us by the Breakheart Community Project. The benches use the existing concrete bases and incorporate back rests, which was something many people requested when we spoke to users of the station on site.

Budget Set for 2020-2021

We have set the budget for the coming financial year, continuing to invest in a range of projects to benefit Dursley.

The Mayor, Councillor Neil Grecian said, “we have agreed to a very modest rise in our share of the Council Tax for the following year to allow for inflation and staffing costs”.

The Councillors have agreed to a rise of £4.05 per year which equates to 8p per week on a Band D household. The increased revenue will allow the Town Council to continue managing and maintaining the Kingshill Cemetery, Allotments, various Green Spaces, Long Street Car Park and the town centre.

We will continue to support local groups and organisations including Dursley in Bloom, Dursley Welcomes Walkers and the volunteers of the Festive Dursley group who will be arranging the ‘Summer Festival’ in addition to the annual Christmas light switch-on event (see front page for dates).

In 2019/20 we awarded grants of over £28,000 to local groups and organisations.

To promote tourism in the area we are working in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council to develop a new Visitor Information Centre located at Dursley Library which will open in the spring of 2020 for an initial 6-month trial period.

We will continue to fund 4 youth sessions per week at The Vibe Youth Centre and oversee the management of private hires for the venue.

We have plans to install new play equipment at both Highfields Play Area and Kingshill Play Area very soon, replacing older wooden play equipment which has reached the end of its lifetime.

We will continue to work in partnership with other local authorities, including Gloucestershire County Council to improve the footway in Silver Street as a result of comments received from our 2019 resident consultation.

EXPENDITURE

Green Spaces Maintenance	£ 166,361
Town Improvements & Amenities	£ 67,478
Youth Services	£ 40,000
Community Grants	£ 35,000
Council Administration	£ 171,136
Other Services	£ 38,975
TOTAL	£ 518,950

INCOME

Use of Reserves	£ -
Other Income	£ 24,300
Council Tax	£ 494,650
TOTAL	£ 518,950

Improvements to Our Play Areas

We have plans to install new equipment at both Highfields Play Area and Kingshill Play Park in the coming months. The Green Spaces Committee will be considering suitable options.

The improvements will concentrate on the older wooden pieces which are starting to show signs they are reaching the end of their life. The replacement of wooden equipment started in 2019 when we removed the wooden swing at Kingshill Play Park and installed a new stainless steel one.



The improvement work will help to reduce ongoing maintenance costs and ensure the play equipment stays safe for people to use.

The Ongoing Fight Against Vandalism

Inspections of our play areas are undertaken on a regular basis and unfortunately pieces of equipment are often damaged by acts of vandalism.

Back in summer 2019, the bins in the War Memorial Recreation Ground playground were set alight on purpose and destroyed. With the help of our town CCTV system, which was installed in 2018, the Police team were able to use clear images of the incident to help identify the culprit and take action.

The fight against vandalism is ongoing, most recently, on the weekend of 4th and 5th of January, seating in the Youth Shelter at Kingshill Play Park was set on fire, this follows a general increase in litter and broken glass in the area.

The damage has been reported to the Police and anti-social behaviour notices have been put up to say that the Police will be monitoring the area with regular patrols for anti-social behaviour.

We continue to work with our local Police team and our Neighbourhood Warden, Andy Beamish (see details on back page), to try to tackle anti-social behaviour and vandalism in our play grounds.

If you witness an incident or have an issue relating to any of our play areas, please contact the Council Office on Tel: 01453 547758 or email:

clerk@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Useful Contacts:

The Chantry Centre		01453 542016
The Community Centre		01453 543355
Dursley Library		01453 543059
The Pulse Dursley – Swimming Pool, Gym & Studio		01453 546441
Kingshill House		01453 549133
Dursley Lions Club – Furniture Recycling		01453 544471
Vale Community Hospital		0300 4218494
Stroud District Council:	Contact Centre	- 01453 766321
	Bulky Items Collection	- 01453 754424
	Council Tax	- 01453 754865
	Planning	- 01453 754442
Gloucestershire County Council:	Switchboard	- 01452 425000
	Footpaths	- 08000 514514
	Highways/Streetlights	- 08000 514514
GL11 Community Hub		01453 548530
Cam Parish Council		01453 548884

Your Local Neighbourhood Warden



Andy Beamish
Tel: 07834419332

Providing help & support with anti-social behaviour, abandoned vehicles, bogus callers, home security & crime prevention, hate crime & bullying, litter, dog fouling, fly tipping & lots more.

Contacting Dursley Town Council

Your Town Councillors.....

If you live in Highfields Ward, you are represented by: Tel

Mr N Grecian	9 Ferney, GL11 5AB	546608
Miss A Sheffield	23 Second Ave, GL11 4PE	07813168690
Mrs J Smee	37 Forge Road, GL11 4GB	07960150778
Mr D Thirlwell	2 Five Acres, GL11 4JP	07983836936
Mr J Rubin	Ormond House, 13 Bull Pitch, GL11 4NG	07747120800
Mrs W Thomas	The Old School House, 4 Broadwell, GL11 4JE	07570931816

E-mail

neil.grecian@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
andrea.sheffield@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
joanne.smee@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
denver.thirlwell@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
john.rubin@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
wendy.thomas@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

If you live in Central Ward, you are represented by: Tel

Mr S Ackroyd	36 Woodmancote, GL11 4AQ	07477404056
Mrs J Burdge	95 Budding Way, GL11 5BE	519702
Mrs S Creswick	3 The Slade, GL11 4JX	548123
Mr P Hayes	1 Cedar Drive, GL11 4EB	546009
Miss K Reynolds	14 Chapel St, Cam, GL11 5NU	07880361531
Mr A Whitwell	1 Orchard View, Tilsdown, Cam, GL11 5QN	07894434932

E-mail

symon.ackroyd@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
jan.burdge@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
sue.creswick@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
peter.hayes@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
kate.reynolds@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
adrian.whitwell@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

If you live in Kingshill Ward, you are represented by: Tel

Mrs J.A. Ball	109 Woodview Rd, Cam, GL11 5SD	545563
Mrs L.V. Patrick	30 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX	546995
Dr A Stennett	28 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX	549813
Mrs M Stennett	28 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX	549813
Mrs M Woodward	41 Severn Rd, Woodfield, Cam, GL11 6NG	07807236353

E-mail

jane.ball@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
loraine.patrick@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
alex.stennett@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
melanie.stennett@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
mandy.woodward@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Your District Councillors.....

Mrs D Cornell	74 Everlands, Cam, GL11 5NL	548657
Mr C Fryer	7 Turner Rd, Woodfield, GL11 6LT	545130
Mr T Hall	2 Oak Drive, Dursley, GL11 4DX	548360

E-mail

cllr.doina.cornell@stroud.gov.uk
cllr.colin.fryer@stroud.gov.uk
cllr.trevor.hall@stroud.gov.uk

Your County Councillor.....

Mrs L Patrick	30 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX	07881581189
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E-mail

loraine.patrick@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Your MP.....

Siobhan Baillie MP	House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA	02072193000
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E-mail

siobhan.baillie.mp@parliament.uk

Contact Your Town Council Office for planning application viewing, internet access for home seekers website, advice & information on local services, Kingshill Cemetery & St Mark's Burial Ground, Kingshill Allotments, Kingshill Play Park, the War Memorial Recreation Ground & Highfields Play Area

Dursley Town Council Office is open Monday to Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm

Address: Jacob's House, Castle Street, Dursley, GL11 4BS Tel/Fax: 01453 547758

Email: clerk@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk **Website:** www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/DursleyTownCouncil **Twitter:** @DursleyTC