

ABOUT TOWN

New look gallery launched

Community venue Lansdown Hall has officially launched its revamped gallery.

The ground floor gallery has been completely revamped in a £75,000 project.

It is the second phase of major work since Stroud Town Council bought the hall and saved it from closure.

The payment for this phase of the improvements was provided by a £45,000 contribution from the town council and a £30,000 grant from the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust with donations from the Cory Landfill



Gallery: Stroud mayor Amanda Moriarty and Jeremy Collingwood

Trust. The improvements included reopening the hall's original entrance from Lansdown which had been blocked off for almost 100 years, with the addition of a ramp to provide accessibility for all directly from the street. The gallery space has been

enlarged and modernised with additional ramps to a new accessible toilet. Lansdown Hall and Gallery are appealing for more volunteers and trustees. To find out more about how you could get involved, contact Jeremy Collingwood on 01453 767576.

Picture: Thousand Word Media

News in brief Community groups backed

Stroud Town Council has awarded £7,056 in grants to community groups.

Three organisations received Community Support Fund grants.

They included: Age Concern, the Acorn Day Centre (£3,000), Stroud Christian Fellowship for debt counselling (£1,250) and Gloucestershire Print-making Co-operative (£1,000).

Small grants were awarded to: Friends of Daisy Bank (£384), Stroud Valley School PTFA (£500), Centre for the Spoken Word (£455), Stroud Preservation Trust (£467).

The next deadline for grant applications is February 18, 2013. For details please see the town council website.

Council opposes burner plan

Stroud Town Council is calling for the Government to have the final say on the proposed massive incinerator at Javelin Park.

The application, the town council says, should not be decided by Gloucestershire County Council.

Town councillors have written to Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, to call in the application.

The county has already agreed to award a contract to Ubaser Balfour Beatty to build the incinerator in Haresfield. If the scheme does not go ahead the county will have to pay a £15 million penalty to the company.

In its letter to the Government the council said it was "concerned about the democratic process being subverted by the £15

million penalty clause".

The letter states there are grave concerns about the possible effect on people's health as a result of the emissions.

Councillors object to the incinerator being built in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, calling it "hugely intrusive".

The town council states that there is insufficient waste to justify an incinerator and will be less in future with the increased use of recycling in the locality.

The town council is urging members of the public to write to the Government, asking for the proposal to be called in. Further details available on www.glosvain.info

The county is likely to consider the planning application in February.

Clearing paths

Work is being carried out to improve Stroud footpaths.

Many paths blocked with overgrowth and debris have been cleared, waymarks and signposts have been replaced and stiles repaired.

The work is being carried out by the town council, the county council and the Stroud Community Land Trust.

News in brief

Simon represents Valley ward

Simon Arundel, who has fought to save the Slad Valley from development, has joined Stroud Town Council.

As co-chairman of Save Slad and Uplands



from Development, Simon was active in the campaign against proposed housing at Wades Farm in the Slad Valley.

Now Simon has been co-opted to represent Uplands ward on the town council.

"I hope to help the town council play its part in upholding the wishes of the community in protecting our precious countryside from inappropriate development," said Simon who works for Ecclesiastical.



Stroud in Bloom champions: Martin Weeks and Jim Mathison

Martin keeps us blooming

Volunteer Martin Weeks goes that extra mile to make sure Stroud town looks its best.

He weeds and maintains flower displays, helps with planting and picks up litter, ensuring the town looks its best for the Britain in Bloom judging day. He has been a volunteer for three years.

Now his efforts have been recognised by Stroud in Bloom which was awarded a gold in this year's competition.

Malcom Tarling, chairman of

Stroud in Bloom, said: "Martin has been seen helping to clear weeds, and remove litter on his days off."

"Nothing is too much effort for Martin. He gets stuck into whatever needs doing. He is a great champion of Stroud in Bloom," said Jim Mathison, the town council's Green Spaces manager.

Jim received the Stroud in Bloom cup for outstanding contribution to town centre green spaces.

News in brief

Team work takes root at Bridge

A team effort will bring a bit of colour to the gateway of Stroud near Brewery Bridge.

The temporary barrier at Wallbridge has been replaced with new planters.

The work has been a combined effort of Stroud Town Council, Cotswold Canal Trust, the Canal Project and Stroud College.

The town council donated plants, soil and mulch and the Green-spaces team helped assemble the planters provided by the county council.

Then a team of Stroud College 'Access to Employment' students and canal trust volunteers planted them with plants provided by the town council.

Closure dates

Please note Stroud Town Council offices will be closed from Monday December 24-January 2 inclusive. We would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Meet your town councillors



Farmhill & Paganhill Ward

Haydn Sutton
01453 763255

Vacancy

Vacancy

Uplands Ward

Julian Carlyon
01453 767120

Simon Arundel
01453 766825

Lucas Schoemaker
01453 840039

Central Ward

Kevin Cranston
01453 755483

Rachel Lyons
01453 750268

Ben Spencer
01453 753355

Trinity Ward

Steve Hurrell
01453 767127

John Marjoram
01453 750962

Amanda Moriarty
01453 759102

Valley Ward

Steven Naumann
01453 767977

Paul Shevlin
01453 299248

Margaret Poulton
07989 361457

Slade Ward

Gillian Winstone
01453 753639

Malene Mose
077887 703309

Rob Green
01453 764438