

Hythe Christmas Lights

2019 brought new Christmas lights to the town of Hythe, a five-year project led by Hythe Town Council (HTC) and supported by the Hythe Business and Tourism Association (HBTA) and Hythe Life Magazine at a cost of £12,800 per year. The first year received an amazing response, as local businesses, individuals, HBTA and Hythe Life Magazine contributed almost fifty percent of the cost for hire, installation, take down, storage and maintenance of lights along the whole High Street and in five trees. There was also a fantastic response on social media and from members of the public who took the time to write and compliment the lights.

As a town council considering its environmental impact and pledging to go carbon neutral by 2025, we aim to encourage people who live locally to shop and socialise in Hythe instead of driving to out of town shopping centres. The town is easily accessible by public transport and offers a wonderful selection of independent shops, cafes and restaurants which we hope will benefit from the atmosphere created by the lights at Christmas. The Lights are LED, 95% recyclable and should last well as they are being properly stored, maintained and installed by professionals. Gala Lights is a Kent based company whose suppliers, Leblanc Illuminations are involved with a reforestation programme to offset their carbon emissions. You can read more about this here: www.city-illuminations.cz/download/LEBLANC-STREET_DECO_01-87.pdf. Whilst Christmas is not the most sustainable time of year, HTC believes it would be unrealistic to not have Christmas lights and has aimed to balance the environmental impact with the above considerations.