

News

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council

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Welcome to the winter edition of the Village Newsletter.

It is hard to believe that 2017 is nearly over. It has been a

challenging year for the Parish Council with changes in staff making life difficult at times, but we have persevered and in October were delighted to welcome Jo Ball as our new Clerk. We are in the process of recruiting a new Assistant Clerk to work with Jo, so watch this space for further news.

I was sorry to accept the resignation of Matthew Gaffar as a councillor in the summer due to him moving from the area. It is true to say that Matthew brought a new perspective to many issues and we will miss him. The good news is that we have already had



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applications from candidates to fill the two vacancies we currently have on the Council.

Despite these changes, councillors have continued to work hard on your behalf dealing with a variety of issues such as planning applications, litter collection, looking after our open spaces and play areas and improving the street scene with hanging baskets and bulbs. The Parish Council has also been involved with work at the new environmental area at Top Common and assisted the Village Centre Management Trustees with the improvement and redevelopment of the Village Centre in Wickhurst Lane.

Many residents living in the new houses south of the village have expressed frustration that a lot of the infrastructure is still to be put in place. This is something we are pursuing and in particular are pushing for the play areas to be completed as soon as possible

As we all know Broadbridge Heath has taken more than its fair share of development in recent years. We have the large development south of the village, the new dwellings and care home north of old Guildford Road and the flats and houses on the sites of former garages at Swann Way and Sleets Road.

It is important that the village works together and retains its identity throughout this time of great change. At the Remembrance Service at St John's Church we were reminded that the roads

on the development south of the village are named after residents of Broadbridge Heath who were killed or went missing in World War I and World War II and whose names appear on the village War Memorial. This was suggested by the Parish Council in order to commemorate these brave men and in the hope that it would help bring together the new and old parts of the village.

It is a slow process but with the completion of the Neighbourhood Centre and the downgrading of the current bypass (hopefully next year), the Parish Council is hopeful that the community of Broadbridge Heath will become more unified. The recent highly successful Santa Run through the village is one example of how this can be achieved. The parade was last held nearly 20 years ago and was resurrected this year due mainly to a small group of people who were keen to establish, for their own children, some of the old village traditions they remember from their childhood. There is even a rumour about a village fete next year!

It just remains for me to wish you all, on behalf of the Parish Council, a Happy Christmas and very best wishes for the New Year.

**Viv Edwards, Chairman
Broadbridge Heath Parish Council**

Hello from your Parish Clerk



It is a great pleasure and privilege to join the Parish Council as Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer. I joined on the 2nd of October and have already seen that significant work

is undertaken by all the Councillors serving the community in their spare time. We are very lucky to have John, our Environment Officer, keeping the village looking spick and span and ensuring the parks and open spaces are all in good order for everyone to enjoy; with dedicated volunteer David doing a sterling job with the Top Common area.

Over the last few weeks I have received several expressions of interest in the provision of allotments. I understand people have been waiting for many years and it will be really wonderful to have allotments in the village. We are working on this and I will be writing to everyone on the list when I have more information.

Unfortunately we recently experienced some vandalism to a bench in one of our play parks – a real shame as this caused additional work and cost for the Parish. A plea from me - if you encounter anti-social behaviour in our play areas, please help by reporting it immediately to the police by telephoning 101 or report online at <https://www.sussex>.

[police.uk/contact-us/report-online](https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact-us/report-online)

Over the next few months I am very much looking forward to the developments of the Village Centre, Parish Offices and in due course, the Parish Council adopting some of the Wickhurst Green open spaces.

If you would like to contact me about anything related to Broadbridge Heath please do drop me a line at clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk, or call 07716 130 103.

I hope you have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Jo Ball, Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer
Broadbridge Heath Parish Council**

Broadbridge Heath Cricket Club

Just on the edge of the village, to the north on the Warnham road, lies a small oasis of green sporting area. There you will find the Broadbridge Heath cricket, tennis and stoolball clubs providing excellent facilities in a lovely rural setting.

The cricket club has been running since 1898, a little longer than the football club but both have previously provided long-standing community unity. I believe we both started our lives on grounds behind the Shelley Arms – which was often our base for post-match conviviality – and in the past most members came from families in the village and played for both clubs.

The building of the Croudace estate in the heart of the village in the 1970s brought many new members to both the cricket and football clubs (some of whom are still associated with those Clubs) and, with the introduction of league matches, the cricket club became more successful. We currently run two adult league teams on a Saturday, a social Sunday team, a developing Colts Section, a winter 6-a-side team and have excellent practise facilities. In recent years we have received a Sport England grant and S106 monies, all of which has enabled us to completely refurbish our clubhouse and facilities. We have also been joined at the Top Common by the village Tennis and Stoolball Clubs.

Despite being surrounded by much bigger clubs, we have often punched above our weight as, just like the

football club, we reaped the benefit of a previously strong Colts Section with those players coming through into the adult teams. That enabled our 1st XI to recently finish third twice in Division 2 and our IIs to get back-to-back promotions into Div 5 of the West Sussex League.

After so much success I suppose we were due a setback and, unfortunately, for a number of 21st century reasons, that occurred last season when our groundsman retired and we lost a large number of players. Ultimately, despite a great effort by a few committed members, the Club's two adult league teams were relegated.

As the football club comes out of its ground struggles of recent decades to an even brighter future, the cricket club is going in the opposite direction and we now have to seriously consider the shape of our own future in the all-new Sussex Cricket League. Our AGM is on Friday 24th November so by the time you read this we will have decided how to take the club forward for the coming years. If you are interested in getting involved in cricket in any way e.g. playing, helping with the ground, children joining, then see our website at <http://broadbridgeheath.play-cricket.com> where our Chairman Tim Wells contact details are also provided.

Would you pay more to support policing in Sussex?

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne writes: "This year, we have seen police officers and staff nationally, along with other emergency services, respond with skill and bravery as they play their part in the substantial security effort around the recent terror attacks which have hit the UK. In response, the Government is increasing the money it spends on tackling terrorism, including an amount for policing.

Further investment is also working to tackle the national threat of cyber crime, which is affecting businesses and individuals across the country. With the new frontline for policing increasingly becoming our front rooms and children's bedrooms – where crimes are being committed down the phone line and behind screens – we have to recognise that the policing we see is not necessarily all the policing we get to keep us safe.

I know that residents support Sussex Police in preparing for threats like terrorism and cyber crime but I'm also aware that issues closer to home, such as anti-social behaviour, are affecting local people.

In previous years, the Chief Constable has asked for my help to raise more funds to invest in specific areas of policing, including public protection, community investigation and armed response. Thanks to the money you've already contributed through your council tax, Sussex Police has been able to build its capacity and capabilities in these areas, and others, to deliver a more effective and efficient service to the public.

Now we need your help to sustain this service.

All public services have to find significant financial savings and Sussex Police is no exception. The force has already saved £70m since 2010 and the Chief Constable's Local Policing Plan is



Katy Bourne
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

working towards delivering further savings over the next four years.

I know the changes Sussex Police has made to its policing model are taking some getting used to but it's vital that the force reshapes its neighbourhood policing teams to meet the challenges of 21st century policing.

The Chief Constable and I are continuing to work together to drive further reform and substantial progress has already been made through collaboration with local and regional partners and through investment in mobile technology.

I want to help Sussex Police explore and identify all opportunities for investment. That is why I have carried out a review of the amount of money Sussex Police holds in its reserves and released £15m to reduce the impact of reductions in police officer numbers. I've done this because I recognise the scale of the impact that these changes are having on the police and the public, and I remain committed to investing in local policing.

I am also seeking further sources of external funding, including contributions from new building developments that lead to increased demand on local services. I – and other Police & Crime Commissioners – continue to negotiate with the Government for more funding for policing, as well as asking for the removal of the current 'cap' on the police precept.

Please take a minute to complete my online survey to tell me whether you would be prepared to pay more, through your council tax, for policing in Sussex. You can find all the information at www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/public-consultations."



Supporting Blind and Partially Sight People

Fast approaching its 100th birthday, 4Sight Vision Support was formed in 1921 with the aim to make a positive, meaningful and lasting difference to the lives of people with sight loss across West Sussex. 4Sight Vision Support is the only sight loss charity in the County that delivers outreach work in the community including members home and residential care settings. By providing services for sight impaired people, their family, carers and supporters, 4Sight Vision Support ensures that they are fully supported in their everyday lives and that each person is helped to remain independent, confident, improve their social contact and to promote their positive wellbeing.

As a County, West Sussex has the largest incidence of age related sight loss in the UK. With almost 31,000 severely sight impaired or partially sighted people in West Sussex, 4Sight Vision Support currently only supports 3,000 of these. Predicted prevalence in West Sussex, is that a further 18,507 people will have a form of severe or partial sight loss by 2020*. Our vision is for every visually impaired person in West Sussex to be aware of, access and experience 4SIGHT's support so we can change lives. *WSCC Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – (Eye Health – 2013)

Membership is free, with some small charges towards some services. We rely on fundraising, events, donations, legacies and other activities to meet the annual costs involved in running 4Sight Vision Support.

If you need help with sight loss issues, want become a member of 4Sight Vision Support, or volunteer or support fundraising events across the county then ring 01243 828555 or visit the charities website at www.4sightsussex.co.uk



Our recent Annual ramble



Your bin collection service is changing!

How is the service changing?

From February 2018 Horsham District Council will be rolling out changes to the way we collect your household waste and recycling. You will continue to receive a collection from your home on a weekly basis but now your recycling will be collected one week and your household waste will be collected the same day the following week.

Your current collections days may change but you will only need to remember one day of the week for collection.

Garden waste will continue to be collected fortnightly on the same day as your recycling collection for those subscribed to the service. If you would like to receive our garden waste collection service please apply online at www.horsham.gov.uk/bins/garden-waste or telephone 01403 733144.

Why are Horsham District Council making this change?

We currently recycle 44% of our waste – the highest in West Sussex. However, we need to reach the national recycling target of 50% by 2020. We also know that 57% of the waste we currently throw away can be reduced, reused or recycled. By introducing these changes to our bin collection service we know that with your help we will be able to meet this target and reduce the amount of waste in our bins.

How will I know which bin to put out on which week?

In January you will receive a personalised information pack telling you exactly when the change to collections start in your area and which bin you will need to put out each week.

We will also send you an electro-static ‘cling’ that will stick to any surface without leaving residue, ready for you to put in a handy place to remind you of your new bin collection day.

From January you will also be able to check your new collection dates online with your personalised collections calendar, www.horsham.gov.uk/bincalendar.

If you have any questions or queries please visit our website in the first instance which will answer most of your queries and includes a Frequently Asked Questions section.

Please note that the council’s contact centre is likely to experience a greater volume of calls whilst the changes to our bin collections are being rolled out so we strongly recommend that you check our website first for answers to your questions. If you cannot find what you are looking for please contact us so we can assist you further.

Find out more

www.horsham.gov.uk/newbincollections

Tel: 01403 733144

www.horsham.gov.uk/bins/thinkbeforeyouthrow



News from the Top Common

A stunning Silver-washed Fritillary was one of thirteen species of butterfly recorded this summer at the new nature conservation area on the northern edge of the village. (The Top Common can be found opposite the cricket ground in Byfleets Lane).

Butterflies, bees, dragonflies and a host of other insects have already been attracted to the Top Common by the mass of wildflowers which emerged after last winter’s intensive conservation work.

Birds have also benefited, with four of the six bird boxes which were put up in March, being used for nesting this year.

Now winter has returned, further habitat management is being planned, but we need more volunteers to help us! If you would like to join our band of local volunteers looking after this site or just want to find out more about the project, please contact the Clerk of the Parish Council
e-mail: clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk
Telephone: 07716 130 103.

Having tried to encourage new members to join the Gala Association over the past few years it was fantastic to welcome several new members to our committee who generated much enthusiasm and plenty of “food for thought” for future village events. Sadly we had to say farewell to Viv Edwards, our Chair who has been part of the committee for over 30 years and without her strong sense of community spirit the association I am sure would not have survived this long.

Whilst I write, plans are in full swing for a Santa Run which will go through the village on the 2nd December promoting the Gala Association and hopefully raising some funds too!

Our next meeting will be on 9th January in the Village Centre at 7.30pm where we hope to welcome more volunteers and come up with plans for 2018. Please do come along and watch this space for further information.



Traffic calming

The village has been waiting a long time for this and in October, WSCC erected some 20 mph speed limit signs in parts of the village only to cover them up at the beginning of November. Unfortunately, two vehicle activated signs are on order and still to be erected and until they are in place the legal order for the 20mph speed limit cannot be implemented and the 20mph limit cannot be legally enforced. At the request of Sussex Police, WSCC had to take the action of covering the sign plates. We are told that this is a temporary measure and all signs will be uncovered as soon as the final signs have been installed.

We have also been informed that the planned traffic calming measures for a new roundabout at the entrance to Shelly Drive and work in the centre of the village, near the shop, will be started in the New Year. Please see our website for further details.



Donate your winter fuel payment

Local charity Horsham Matters is working with Horsham District Council again this year to help local residents in need who are finding it difficult to afford to heat their homes.

Across the Horsham district there are some 4,000 households struggling to keep warm. Living in a cold home can have serious impacts on health and Horsham Matters and the council want to support as many householders as they can this winter to lower their heating costs, whilst still helping them to keep warm.

The council will work with Horsham Matters to provide Energy Advisors to give advice during home visits to people who are suffering from living in cold homes.

In order to help fund these home visits Horsham Matters are inviting local residents who feel that they don't need their Winter Fuel Payment to consider donating it to the charity. The Winter Fuel Payment, which ranges between £100 and £300, is distributed by the Department of Work and Pensions to every person of pensionable age, regardless of income every year. The charity are hoping that some qualifying residents may feel they would like to donate it to support others in need.

Any donated Winter Fuel Payments will directly fund home visits, between January and March 2018. Last year generous donations helped support seven households, the residents of which were all over 70, and who were able to reduce their annual energy bills by an average of £225.

During the visit the Energy Advisors will give advice on reducing energy costs whilst still keeping warm. This can include learning how to use heating controls and installing some small energy saving devices like draught proofing.

The advisor will also review their energy tariffs, and ensure residents apply for any grants and heating discounts they may be eligible for.

For residents needing further support the energy expert will also provide advice on other agencies such as Horsham District Age UK, West Sussex Fire Service, Horsham Wellbeing and Citizens Advice.

Commenting on the scheme Cabinet Member for Community and Wellbeing Cllr Tricia Youtan said: "Winter is an expensive time of year and the added expense of keeping homes warm is a real concern for many in our district.

I would urge as many of you as feel able to donate your Winter Fuel Payment in order to support these crucial home visits and help residents to lower their fuel bills and still keep warm."

If you feel you are in a position to donate your Winter Fuel Payment you are invited to either post your cheque made payable to Horsham Matters at Micah House, Blatchford Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 5QR or call them on 0300 124 0204 to get their bank account details.

Horsham Matters will be glad to receive any donations by Friday 15 December 2017.

The Winter Fuel Payment started arriving in the banks accounts of eligible residents during November 2017. Residents who think they should have received the Winter Fuel Payment and haven't, should contact the Winter Fuel Payment Centre on 03459 15 15 15.

Residents on a low income who are concerned about heating bills could also contact their energy company to see if they could claim the Warm Home Discount, which is a credit of £140 on electricity accounts.

Staying well this winter

With the weather turning colder and winter approaching fast, the county council is highlighting some of the ways we can all help to stay well this winter.

If you are eligible for a free flu vaccination it is important that you take up this offer.

You are offered the vaccine for free if you are one of the groups of people who are most 'at risk' of catching the illness.

This is one of the most important things you can do to stay well and it may also help relieve pressure on the NHS this winter.

To find out if you're in an 'at risk' group speak to your local participating pharmacy or GP.

West Sussex County Council would like to remind you about the fantastic meals on wheels service available in West Sussex.

Eating at least one hot nutritious meal a day is very important for our health and wellbeing, particularly in colder weather.

Some people, due to illness, frailty or a disability, may find it difficult or impossible to shop, cook or heat a frozen meal. The home-delivered hot meals service may be the answer.

The national award winning meals on wheels service in West Sussex is run on behalf of the County Council by apetito. Meals are delivered at lunchtimes between 11-2, up to seven days a week – including Christmas Day.

To find out more about meals on wheels or to sign up for the service call 01903 718893 or email westsussex.office@apetito.co.uk



Your Parish Council

For further information visit the
Parish Council website
www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: Jo Ball **Tel:** 07716 130103
Email:
clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Assistant Clerk:
The position is currently vacant

Environment Officer:
Mr John Pilkington is out and about in the village most week days. If you are concerned about an area in the village that needs John's attention, please call him on his mobile on 07749 363454 or contact the Clerk.

Chairman: Mrs Viv Edwards
Tel: 01403 240414
Email:
edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Parish Councillors

Ian Blunnie
tbc

Geoff Clark
Fairfield Cottage, Guildford Road,
Broadbridge Heath
clark.g@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Forthcoming meetings 2018

Full Parish Council

Tuesday 2nd of January
Monday 5th of February
Monday 5th of March
Tuesday 3rd of April
Tuesday 8th of May *Annual Meeting of the Council*
Monday 21st of May *Annual Parish Meeting*

Monday 4th of June Finance and Establishment Committee

Monday 29th of January
Monday 26th of March
Monday 11th of June

Recreation Committee

Monday 26th of February
Monday 23rd of April

Planning Committee

Monday 22nd of January
Monday 19th of March

Jeanne Coker
39 Singleton Road, Broadbridge Heath
coker.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Viv Edwards
Damsons, 10 Old Guildford Road,
Broadbridge Heath
edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Penny Hayles
63 Billingshurst Road,
Broadbridge Heath
hayles.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Philip Hobgen
22 Sargent Way, Broadbridge Heath
hobgen.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Christine Knight
2 Stanford Way, Broadbridge Heath
knight.c@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

David Milbank
4 The Green, Old Guildford Road,
Broadbridge Heath
milbank.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Roy Neilson
85 Corsletts Avenue,
Broadbridge Heath
neilson.r@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

John Newton
1 Farley Close, Broadbridge Heath
newton.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Terry Oliver
115 Charrington Way,
Broadbridge Heath
oliver.t@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

David Trangmar
11 Pinewood Close, Broadbridge Heath
trangmar.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

District Councillor
Matthew French
01403 730040 matthew.french@horsham.gov.uk

County Councillor
Christian Mitchell
07710 402115 christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk

Useful Numbers

Sussex Police
Call 101 or email
HorshamNPT@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Don't Tolerate it, Report it

Please be aware that problems around the village can be reported directly to either Horsham District Council (for matters such as dog fouling, problems with the Acorn Plus Scheme, fly tipping or fly posting, full litter or dog litter bins) or West Sussex County Council (for matters such as pot holes, dangerous footpaths, hedges encroaching on WSCC's Highways, blocked drains) etc.

Horsham District Council:
01403 215100 or visit
www.horsham.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council:
01243 777100 or visit
www.love.westsussex.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council Highways:
01243 642105



Bag it, Tie it, Bin it
Let's clean up dog fouling

Not cleaning up after your dog means you could receive a £50 Fixed Penalty Notice

To report dog fouling call 01403 733144

DOG FOULING - pick it up
horsham.gov.uk
Horsham District Council

Parish Council Meetings

Opposite are the upcoming Parish Council Meetings for 2018. The first 15 minutes of each meeting are reserved for members of the public to express a view or ask a question on matters relating to that agenda. The agendas are posted on the Parish Council website and on the noticeboards by Wednesday of the week prior to the meeting. Please do try and come along to a meeting when you can, it's your chance to be heard and to see the good work the Parish Council does. All meetings take place at St John's Community Hall from 7:45pm (unless otherwise stated on the agenda).