

NEWS

from Broadbridge Heath Parish Council



Keeping you informed of the work of the Parish Council and the community of Broadbridge Heath

A message from Sussex Police PS Rachel Carr

On 3rd May PCSO Roy Millard joined the Horsham district. Roy is the dedicated PCSO for Broadbridge Heath and Warnham. He joined us from Gatwick but has also previously worked in Crawley. He began his service with Sussex Police in 2004 and has always worked in a customer focused role. Roy can be

contacted via email at roy.millard@sussex.pnn.police.uk. He is keen to get involved with the community and tackle issues positively. The Parish Council welcomes Roy as our new PCSO and encourages residents to make contact with him on 'police' matters at the email address given above.

Extract from Chairman's report on page 2 or full report at www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Youth Club closes its doors

The Broadbridge Heath Youth Club has been in existence at the Leisure Centre since 2008, initially winning best new Youth Club in West Sussex and thanks to everyone who made it a success, including the Leisure Centre staff, St. John's Church, the local police, the volunteers and helpers as well as the three funding councils (West Sussex, Horsham District and Broadbridge Heath). However as the Young Persons involved grew older, so its popularity

dwindled "competing" with other Youth Clubs on a Friday evening.

An emergency meeting was held last month to discuss funding and staffing between the three councils providing support. Whilst both funding and staffing have been retained, the decision was taken to close the doors on the Leisure Centre on Friday nights, replacing it initially with the snack wagon visiting either the Village Centre car park or The Common on Monday evenings from 7.00pm to 9:00pm, with an aim of finding out exactly what the local Youth want.

Please provide any views/comments to: Dave Allen on 01403 263832, or email david.allen@westsussex.gov.uk



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The Parish Council has approved the following events:

Showtime Amusements (Shaylers) Funfair
 (The Common) – arriving 19th September, departing 26th September (rides open 23rd to 25th)

Gala Bonfire and Fireworks
 (The Village Centre)
 Saturday 5th November 2011



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Extract from the Chairman's Letter

The four year term of the last Parish Council (PC) came to an end on 4th May and as I looked back over these years it came as no surprise that the work of the Council has been dominated by the proposed strategic development south of the village. We have continued to argue that this is the wrong location for such a large development because of the many inherent problems that will need to be overcome. You only have to look at the proposed traffic network, which has the potential for chaos for both local and through traffic, to see that we are right! Despite our objections, it seems that the development is likely to go ahead and, subject to confirmation of a legal agreement, outline planning permission has been granted and it is likely that we will see work start on the site later this year.

Our aim now is to secure the best deal that we can for the village, both old and new. This will include traffic calming along the Billingshurst Road and the Old Guildford Road. In October the PC held an open evening so that residents could see three possible options that had been suggested. It was encouraging to see so many people and to hear the different points of view that were put forward. It must be

remembered, however, that this is the first step in what is likely to be a lengthy process and it will be some time before we see any significant traffic calming. We will keep you updated and hope that, if and when, the development goes ahead, the organisations involved will come and explain what is going to happen in the next few years and the impact that this will have on daily life in the village.

Last year I stressed the importance of the contribution made to the community by various organisations that operate in the village, many of which are run by volunteers. Talk of the 'Big Society' which, in the opinion of many people, has already been operating for many years, will place even more emphasis on work undertaken by the voluntary sector. I would like to take this opportunity to remind organisations that the Parish Council does have a small amount of money to award grants to worthy causes in the village. Recent donations have included £1,000 to the Village Centre to help with re-decorating the Hall, £1,000 to the Football Club towards running costs and £951 to the Tennis Club as a contribution to the cost of renovating the tennis courts. £2,700 was also awarded last year to the Youth Club to fund a youth worker. A further £601 has been donated to other local organisations such as St Catherine's Hospice and Victim Support. If you think we could help your group or organisation, please contact the Clerk for details.

There are many other aspects of village life that the PC gets involved in and I would like to mention just a few of them. For example, the bad weather at the end of last year caused problems for many of us and, mindful that we do not want to get caught out in the future, the PC made provision to have some new grit bins installed in the village. These are sited by the Charrington Way Bus Stop, in St John's Crescent and at the corner of Sleets Road and Old Guildford Road.

The PC has commented on several consultation documents over the last year and members have represented the Council at meetings covering such diverse subjects as Public Rights of Way, Travellers and Gypsies, Flooding, Winter Maintenance, the local Police Panel, BBH Youth Club and the Senior Persons Council. One particular issue that we made representation on was the importance of keeping our mobile library and I am pleased to say that we have heard recently that this service will be continued for the foreseeable future.

As I mentioned earlier, the PC served its four year term and stood down at midnight on 4th May. Over the last four years, a few councillors have left and others have joined and I would

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like to thank them all for their commitment. I must single out two people in particular for their longstanding service to the village. Barbara Hutton retired from the Council after 13 years, 7 years as a Clerk and the last 6 years as a councillor. Barbara has worked steadfastly for the community of Broadbridge Heath and her guidance and sound advice will be much missed. The other person who I must thank is Sally Horner who resigned from the PC last September having been a councillor for nearly 25 years. I would like to thank Sally for all the time and hard work she has invested over the years on behalf of the village and wish her well for her new life in Greece.

Many of the existing councillors have stood for re-election, which as only 11 nominations were received for 13 vacancies, was uncontested. Your new Parish Council will convene on 16th May. There are going to be important changes for Parish Councils in the next few years and if you would like to be a part of this (currently we have two vacancies) please contact the Clerk or myself for more details.

In closing her report the chairman thanked many people, all of whom contribute to the smooth running of the Parish Council and community of Broadbridge Heath (the full report can be read on the Parish Council website: www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk).

Viv Edwards, Chairman

Proposed Charrington Way Plan for new outdoor fitness equipment

In early summer, the Parish Council is planning to put in some pieces of fitness equipment in the Charrington Way recreational area, close to the existing play area.

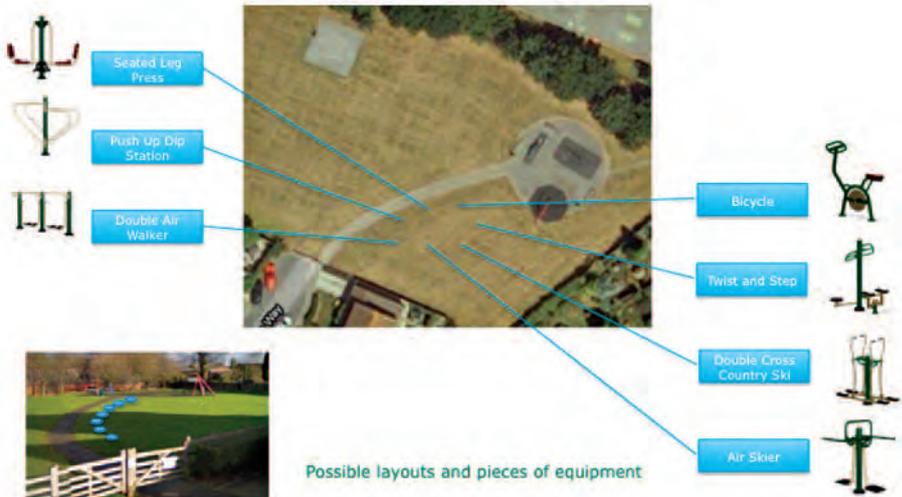


There will be a mix of equipment to work different muscle groups in a fun, healthy way to improve fitness. Designed for all ages, all levels of fitness, beginners to advanced users, there is something for everyone. No special clothes or kit is required, come as you are. Whether it's whilst walking the dog, going for a jog, meeting friends or spending time with the kids you will be able to add a whole new dimension to visiting the Charrington Way recreation area.



Currently the Parish Council is confirming with HDC that there are no legal or planning issues that require consideration and members of the public are welcome to attend the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 16th May 2011 at which time a decision will be made.

If you have any comments please contact the Clerk, Mary Burroughs (details are on the last page).



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Senior Persons Council

The Senior Persons' Council aims to give older people an opportunity to put forward their ideas and to undertake their own initiatives to benefit the local community. It provides a mechanism for consultation but also empowers its members to identify issues of concern and take action to address them.

The group has taken action on a number of these issues, such as Shopmobility, Hospital Transport Services, Horsham District Council's Housing Strategy and more. The Council also met with the Youth Council to discuss their idea of 'community' and how older and younger people could work together in the future. At the January meeting, the Senior Persons' Council had an audience with The Rt. Hon Nick Herbert MP.



Future meeting dates are as follows. All meetings start at 10.15am and are scheduled to finish by 1pm.

- Wednesday 15 June at St Michael's Church Room, Partridge Green
- Thursday 15 September at Rudgwick Village Hall
- Friday 9 Dec at Beeding & Bramber Village Hall

Any resident of the Horsham District aged over 50 is welcome to attend a meeting. There is also an opportunity for people who are unable to attend meetings to raise issues with the Senior Persons' Council by writing to the address below.

If you would like to attend one of the meetings or for more information about the Senior Persons' Council, please contact Horsham District Council's Youth and Older Person's Officer:

- Tel: 01403 215207 or
- Email: community.development@horsham.gov.uk
- Address: Horsham District Council, Park North, North Street, Horsham, RH12 1RL

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Fed up with it?

Then help your village by reporting it!

Residents often phone or email the Clerk with regard to problems around the village which she duly passes on to the relevant authorities but please be aware that these can be reported directly to either HDC or WSCC. Matters such as dog fouling, problems with the Acorn Plus scheme, pot holes, dangerous footpaths, fly tipping and hedges encroaching on WSCC's Highways etc can all be reported on the relevant website or by making a quick call. Details follow:

Horsham District Council

01403 215100 or visit www.horsham.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council

01243 777100 or visit www.westsussex.gov.uk

Spare a thought please for footpath users

With all the wonderful spring weather we have been having of late our grassy areas and hedgerows have started to go crazy with growth. Many of our residents keep the areas up to their boundaries immaculate but in some instances, over the years, hedges have grown out over the footpaths, some by up to 18 inches thus making it difficult for wheelchair and pushchair users to use. Please, when next cutting hedges take them right back to the boundary of your property to avoid them encroaching on the footpath. Thank you in anticipation.

Broadbridge Heath Village Centre Social Club

Forthcoming Entertainment

Saturday 4th June: Epsom Derby Trip
See Posters in the club for further details.



Saturday 11th June: Family Race Night
8.30pm start. All races available for sponsors & horses for sale. See posters in the Club for details.

Tuesday 14th June: Quiz Night
8.30pm start.

Saturday 25th June: HIT SQUAD
Return of this popular group.

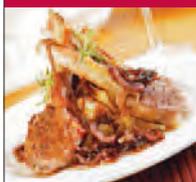
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Contact the Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Mary Burroughs: Tel: 01403 785864
Mobile 07733 359479

Address: PO Box 315, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9XX

Email: clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Clerk for Strategy & Development:

Mrs Helen Dayneswood Tel: 01403 790374

Chairman: Mrs Viv Edwards: Tel: 01403 240414

Email: viv@rh12.co.uk

Parish Council Meetings: meetings are open to the public and the press (who have a right to attend) and are preceded by a session for public comments. Council meetings take place in the St. John's Community Centre. Planning Meetings are subject to cancellation if there are no plans to discuss. Visit our website at www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk for agendas and minutes of previous meetings or view the notice boards at the One Stop shop, Billingshurst Road or The Village Centre, Wickhurst Lane. Parish Council Meetings (May to July 2011) are May 16th (Annual Council), June 6th and July 4th starting at 8.00pm.



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New community information website launched



The new website of The Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network (NHWN) launched in April (www.ourwatch.org.uk). The idea behind the site is to help you find and connect to local resources and report different challenges facing the local area.

There is a wealth of information that is relevant at both a national and local level, including smart links to Police crime mapping statistics, FixMyStreet and Crimestoppers.

By simply entering your postcode, you can;

- View the latest crime statistics for Broadbridge Heath and find the contact details of our local Police team on Police.uk
- Access the CrimeStoppers website where you can anonymously report crime.
- Report, view, or discuss local problems using FixMyStreet.com
- Get advice on making yourself and your home safer.

One of the most practical aspects of the site is the link to FixMyStreet.com. Here, you can report problems like dog fouling, potholes, broken street lights, broken paving slabs, fly tipping and graffiti with a single click on a street map of the village area. The information will automatically be sent to the relevant authority (HDC, WSCC, etc). You can also find out what problems other local people have reported, and take part in a discussion about what's happening to fix them.

Take a look at www.ourwatch.org.uk and www.FixMyStreet.com and find out what is happening in Broadbridge Heath.