

News

from Broadbridge Heath Parish Council

Q1
Q2
Q3
Q4

From the Chairman

By the time this Newsletter reaches you I hope that spring will have arrived and the snow and cold weather will have long since disappeared. Although waking up to beautiful wintry scenes around the village was in many ways inspiring, the snow caused problems for many. This was exacerbated by long power cuts experienced by some residents in January, together with disruption to gas supplies for others in the village.

I know that many of you kept an eye on elderly neighbours and gave a helping hand where required during these difficult times. Horsham District Council did actually contact us to see if we had a list of elderly and vulnerable people in the village who might appreciate some additional help. Unfortunately, this is not something we were able to provide, but we are keen to compile such a list, so if you know of anyone who could benefit from some assistance should the snow/bad weather return please contact our Clerk, Mary Burroughs; details can be obtained on the back cover of the magazine.

On a positive note, I am pleased to say that in these difficult economic times, the Parish Council has only increased the precept by 1.3% for 2010/11, which for a property in Band D equates to a small increase of just 47 pence (i.e. from £40.92 to £41.39).

This edition of the magazine features articles from some of the organisations supporting our young and older people in the village which we hope will be of interest. Also please note that the Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 19th April, we hope to see as many people as possible on the night.

Finally, in the last Newsletter in November 2009, I said how delighted I was that for the first time in many years, the Parish Council was up to full strength. Well, I spoke too soon, as not long after that Councillor Tony Blann resigned due to other commitments. I would like to thank Tony for his work whilst a Councillor and send him our best wishes for the future. This leaves us with a vacancy for one Councillor, so if you are interested in joining us as a co-opted member please see the article on 'Become a Local Councillor'. Whilst we have certain procedures and protocols to follow, we are a friendly group who are united in our commitment to the village of Broadbridge Heath.

Viv Edwards, Chairman – Broadbridge Heath Parish Council



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

Become a Local Councillor – Make a Difference

The Parish Council has a vacancy for Councillor. Being a councillor can be a very rewarding way of contributing to your community. It need not involve a huge commitment although it will require a certain amount of time.

What is a Local Council?

English Counties are divided into areas known as parishes. “Parish” suggests a formal link with the church but this is not the case. In most areas, parishes are served by Parish and Town Councils. These are collectively known as Local Councils, and are elected units of local government whose activities are controlled by Acts of Parliament. Local Councils are the first and closest tier of local government to the people. Broadbridge Heath Parish Council is responsible for local matters and community needs including:

- Recreation Grounds and Public Open Spaces
- Seating, Shelters and Rights of Way
- Leisure, Sport and Community Safety
- Litter and Dog Bins
- Reviewing planning applications and providing comments to HDC.

In addition to the Parish Council meeting as a collective body, there are sub-committees who meet separately for the Local Development Framework, Planning, Recreation and Finance & Establishment.

So what do councillors do?

Councillors contribute to the work of the Council by:

- having a say about the things in the community that they care about and putting forward ideas for better services
- responding to the needs and views of residents and seeking the best outcome to local issues
- acting within the law and getting involved in decision making by voting.

Not quite what you thought! **Could you be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor?** If so, please contact the Clerk (see Contact the Parish Council on the back page) or come along to the meeting on 1st March and pick up an information pack and an application form. We are hoping to fill the vacancy at our Annual Council Meeting in May.

Local Development Framework

Having had a lull for a while in activity regarding the West of Horsham development, we have now entered a very busy period for Broadbridge Heath Parish Council (BBHPC). In November 2009, Countryside Properties submitted a new outline planning application for the area to the south of Broadbridge Heath for 963 residential units, community facilities, highway works and various other associated works. The Local Development Committee (LDC) of BBHPC is currently reviewing the application in detail and continues to take part in the West of Horsham Reference Group (together with Horsham District Council (HDC) and Denne Neighbourhood Council) to try to secure a fair and reasonable result for the residents to the west of the A24.

In addition, members of BBHPC attended a recent HDC Development North Committee meeting. HDC members were given a detailed briefing of the outline application, and BBHPC presented its concerns about the application to HDC members and Countryside Properties. The outline planning application is due to be decided upon by HDC sometime in the spring. If the application is approved, Countryside will then move to submit detailed planning applications for the various areas of the development.

We would like to re-iterate yet again, that BBHPC never wanted this development. Since it will now happen, we are focussing our efforts on securing as good a deal as possible for Broadbridge Heath. We would also like to stress that we are keeping up the pressure on HDC and Countryside Properties for a public consultation on the traffic calming measures that will be essential to limit the amount of rat-running through the ‘old part’ of Broadbridge Heath village.

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Growing Your Own in 2010

Growing your own is set for a further increase this season by the nations gardening public. This sector of the industry has seen huge demand by everyone who loves gardening. The desire to grow your own vegetables first became apparent when vegetable seed purchases overtook flower seed sales a few years ago. With the new demand from gardening novices for vegetable plants and with the help of the media, it is becoming cool to 'grow your own'.

Once only grown by enthusiasts and allotment societies, the demand for seed potatoes, onion sets and shallots continues to grow. Now anything goes. Tomatoes have always been popular, but now so are peppers, cucumbers and aubergines – literally anything we can eat and that is relatively easy to grow. Compost manufacturers are now helping the gardener with vegetable compost and potato sacks which contain the correct fertilizers. Grow Bags have been with us for many years but the new larger thicker grow bags are becoming popular, making watering easier. Organic Gardening is with us to stay too, this way you control exactly what you put on your crop. Who needs genetically grown crops anyway?

Remember, whether you are growing from seed or plants, help is at hand. Newbridge Nurseries has volunteered to answer your questions as to how you can grow your own and perhaps achieve your own mini-allotment in the comfort of your own back garden. You will definitely taste the difference and forget about the supermarkets this summer.

A Message from your PCSO Jeff Grant, Broadbridge Heath and Warnham

Last year a number of residents in the village became victims of crime which could have been prevented had they taken simple steps to protect their home and property. But, do you know how? Do you know when crime is happening in your community that could potentially affect you? Do you know what to look out for to help reduce crime in your community? If the answer is 'No' to these questions then you are not in Neighbourhood Watch. Many people feel that just because there is a sign out in the street it automatically means that you are in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. This is not the case unless you receive regular messages about crime in your area from a street co-ordinator.

I would like to encourage all residents, particularly those with access to email, to get involved with NHW either as member of a scheme or as a co-ordinator. It is not difficult and it takes up very little of your time so if you are interested then please email me at jeff.grant@sussex.pnn.police.uk for more information.

As of Monday 12th January 2010, Sussex Police removed the voice mail service for Police Community Support Officers. The new number to contact me on is 07796 901460. This is a non emergency/non crime reporting contact number.

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Activities for young people

1st Broadbridge Heath Brownies meet at the Scout Hall on a Thursday (term time only) from 5.15 pm to 6.45 pm for girls 7 to 10 years. During the first few weeks girls will develop an understanding of what Brownies is all about. There is a wide range of activities at regular meetings and on special events and trips. Try out arts and crafts, cooking recipes, playing games and taking part in projects. **For more information, please contact Penny Hayles on 01403 254360.**

2nd Broadbridge Heath Brownies is a very lively and enthusiastic pack who meet at Broadbridge Heath Village Centre Hall on Mondays from 5.30pm to 7pm and is fortunate to have a good mix of girls not just from Broadbridge Heath but from surrounding villages. The group is very busy doing different activities not just craft and cooking but also badge work. Every year they have a 'pack holiday' where they go away usually for a weekend and have fun in a 'sleepover' type experience! **Please contact Sharon Carver on 01403 733702 for more details.**

2nd Broadbridge Heath Guides meet on a Thursday evening in the Scout Hall between 7.00 and 8.45 pm. To join you must be between the age of 10 and 14 and you do not need to have been a Brownie. The unit camps under canvas in the summer and this year we are busy celebrating the centenary of the Guide Movement. Why not come along one Thursday evening and see if Guides is for you? **Contact number 01403 267450.**

Broadbridge Heath Youth Club

The club continues to attract increasing numbers of young people, the last count being over 200+ members! The membership represents a balance in term of gender and age range and incorporates a small number of young people with special needs. The young people continue to benefit from the relaxed, informal, less structured approach, where they are able to be with their peers within a safe, supportive environment and are encouraged to buy into the activities on offer. The Youth Club is also keen to arrange structured football matches for the 'Broadbridge Heath Bears' and it is hoped that they may again have access to other areas of the Leisure Centre in the future, including a return to the tube and outside running tracks.



Broadbridge Heath Scout Group

The Scout Group is thriving with waiting lists full. If you have a child between the ages of 6 and 15, then do contact us on **01403 256179** as early as possible to get their name on our waiting list. We could take more children but need more leaders and helpers – now there's a subtle hint!

Skylarks (Pre-School)

Skylarks has been successfully running at the Village Centre for many years. Being a committee run pre-school, parents are very much involved in all aspects of their children's early education. We have close ties with both Shelley CP and Tanbridge House Schools. During the summer term we have work experience students from Tanbridge who wish to experience working with young children as a possible career. The Pre-School strongly believes in the value of learning through play, and as such aims to help children develop academically, creatively, emotionally, physically and socially within a happy and secure environment. Look out for our 25th Anniversary celebration later this year. **To contact Skylarks call 07825 603601 or visit www.skylarks.me.uk**

Busy Bees Pre-School

Busy Bees has been running since 1967, now with two Horsham locations; Blackbridge Lane and Bartholomew Way. The Pre-School provides a warm, happy and safe environment for children aged 2 to 5 years old and provides flexible day care from 8am to 6pm. Busy Bees prides itself on its sense of community and endeavours to maintain quality childcare, giving children the best possible start in what are undoubtedly crucial years in every child's development. **Telephone 01403 269393 or email: busybeespreschool@hotmail.co.uk for more information.**

Broadbridge Heath Village Centre Social Club

Forthcoming Entertainment

Saturday 27th February
Makss

Saturday 13th March
Fabulous Nobodies

Saturday 27th March
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Saturday 10th April
Time

Saturday 24th April
Chinchilla Zilla

Quiz Night: Last Tuesday of every month
£50 1st prize – 8.30p.m start.

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Broadbridge Heath Football Club (BBHFC)

It has been a difficult season so far for the club. After three games the team were top of the Sussex County Football League Division 3 but since then have only recorded one victory and now sit just three places off the foot of the table. Attracting new players has been difficult in recent years, but it has been very encouraging to see so many local players who have progressed to playing at a higher level.

How many can think back to the days before Tesco and the



Leisure Centre were built, when BBHFC played on the Old Army Camp and had a bar, social club changing facilities and the sole use of three football pitches? The club was united at all age groups including a Ladies Team who played in the National League and who had several international players in their ranks. Today there is no social club or changing rooms and the teams are scattered, playing on pitches behind the Village Centre, in Horsham and at the Leisure Centre.

The new development in Broadbridge Heath has identified the need for new

facilities for BBHFC, away from the Leisure Centre, in facilities of our own. This gives us a real opportunity to bring all the teams back to the village, all playing at a single venue from six years old to sixty, male and female teams. The future of the club does look bright and we look forward to better days on and off the field of play.

Finally a big thank you to all our local sponsors, without their support it would be very difficult to play at any level of football within Broadbridge Heath. **For more information visit www.broadbridgeheathfc.co.uk**

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Parish Council Meetings – Spring 2010

Parish Council Meetings: all 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. **The next three Council Meetings are on March 1st, April 7th and May 5th starting at 8.00pm.**

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 790175

Chairman: Mrs Viv Edwards: Tel: 01403 240414

St John's Church Activities/Meetings for Retired People – Community Hall

- St. John's Women's Fellowship meets monthly on the second Monday of each month.
Contact Joyce Pearce on 01403 250057.
- Tea and Fellowship meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm – a varied programme for retired men and women.
Contact Christine Billington on 01403 265536.
- Village Lunch Club: Third Wednesdays at 12.30pm – two course lunch for £5 for ALL ages including retired people.
Contact Charlotte Rowley on 01403 267673.

Further details of all St. John's Church activities can be found on the website: www.stjohnsbh.org.uk



Horsham Partnerships for Older People (POP) provides a single location that older people can call to access the many services and activities that are available from statutory organisations and local voluntary and community groups.

Our Community Partnership Team can:

- Check your general state of health and wellbeing
- Help you identify what may benefit you
- Enable you to make changes and let you know what resources may be useful to you

We aim to help older people living locally stay healthy and remain independent and can link people to services that provide both practical (such as shopping, cleaning or handyman services) and emotional support (such as carers groups or counselling services). If you or anyone you know could do with a bit of extra help in any one of these areas please call the Community Partnership Team on **01403 213140**. To help you find local activities and services you can either use our website at www.horshampop.org.uk, or we have also produced a printed directory, which is available from the Parish Council, or by calling **01403 249447**.

