



# Broadbridge Heath

## Parish Council News

### Chairman's Welcome

The Village Magazine is back by popular demand - albeit in a rather different format! Having been without a magazine since 2007, Broadbridge Heath Parish Council has decided to trial sending out a quarterly publication using a format whereby editorial material is provided to independent publishers who then organise the production and distribution of the magazine. All their costs are covered by advertising so we are hoping that it will be a "win - win" situation for everyone. It has been highly successful in other villages in the District and we have high hopes that it will work in Broadbridge Heath.

Our aim is the same as it was when the magazine was first published nearly twenty years ago - to provide an opportunity, not just for the Parish Council, but for all residents and organisations to share "news, views and general information about the village".

The Village Magazine was started in 1988 on the initiative of the, then, newly formed Parish Council. Edited and distributed (for free) four times a year by volunteers from throughout the parish, it covered its production costs through advertising revenue. To minimize expense, the early editions were hand stapled together before Sun Alliance kindly printed the magazine without charge for many years. Many illustrations were drawn by resident Lynne Long, and the volunteer editors included Stan Kemp; Don Cullimore (with Brian Arrow and Geoffrey Bennett); Penelope Lloyd; Al and Margaret Bruno (with Stuart Jackson, Sue Mackie, Jan and Terry Panniers); and Paul and Anna Muggeridge. Our grateful thanks go to all of these people who, over the years, have made such an important contribution to village life.

I hope you enjoy the new Village Magazine; please let us have your comments on the new format as well as suggestions for future articles. We are also particularly keen to have current contact details for village organisations as well as news about forthcoming events.

*Viv Edwards, Chairman - Broadbridge Heath Parish Council*

### Big Lottery Grant

You may already be aware that Broadbridge Heath Parish Council has been awarded a £30,000 grant from the Big Lottery Fund. Previous consultations identified that young people in the village needed a youth shelter and better play facilities and The Village Centre has been identified as the most appropriate space for these facilities.

The Project is now well underway and is being managed by the Parish Clerk in conjunction with Parish Council members and experts from Horsham District Council. Plans are in place to consult with the young people in the village and meetings will take place from September to December, essentially to identify what it is that our young people want and to select the most appropriate equipment based on the feedback received. Construction will hopefully take place Spring/Summer 2009. If you would like to be involved in this exciting project or would like to make comment, please call The Clerk on 01403-785864.

## Broadbridge Heath Gala Association

On the evening of Saturday 14th June, the Gala Association hosted a Summer Party for Senior Citizens of the village, at the Horsham Indoor Bowls Club. It was a wonderful evening that the committee thoroughly enjoyed organising and hosting. We had 43 guests for a three-course meal with music, dancing and a raffle on one of the rare sunny evenings of this British summer.

Guests arrived from 7pm onwards to a choice of alcoholic or non-alcoholic fruit punches followed by a sit down meal. The music played, the wine flowed and the atmosphere buzzed. It was lovely to see people meeting up for the first time, re-newing old acquaintances and making new friends. The evening concluded with dancing and a raffle plus a birthday cake and song for one of our guests. A party full of laughter, song and fun. The committee would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the people and village organisations who donated time and raffle prizes for the evening. We hope the guests, who came to share the evening with us, enjoyed it as much as we all did.

## Travellers on The Common - July 2008

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was held at The Shelley School on Monday 11th August 2008 to discuss preventative measures that need to be put in place to try and ensure that such unofficial or unauthorised access to The Common does not occur again and, if it does, that it can be dealt with promptly. The Parish Council will review all possible solutions at their Parish Council meetings.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Gala Association  
Bonfire & Fireworks  
Saturday 8th November**



**History Club Meeting in Church Hall  
Thursday 27th November at 7:30pm**

(Jonathan England will give an update on historical facts about the village, including stories behind the names on the War Memorial).

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## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council aims to represent the interests of the residents of the parish as a whole and to preserve the environment for the enjoyment of the villagers, visitors and future generations. The Council is responsible for a range of services and also works in partnership with other organisations in the locality.

The Council is always keen to ensure that its priorities and initiatives reflect the wishes of the electorate: all meetings are open to the public and are preceded by a session for public comments. Alternatively, The Clerk or individual Councillors may be contacted if you have any ideas for, or concerns about, the parish, or any issues with which we may be able to help.

Council meetings, from September 2008, will revert back to St. John's Church. See our website at [www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](http://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.

### October

Monday 6th                      Planning Committee, 7.30pm - Full Council, 8.00pm  
Monday 20th                    Planning Committee, 7.30pm

### November

Monday 3rd                     Planning Committee, 7.30pm - Full Council, 8.00pm  
Monday 17th                  Planning Committee, 7.30pm  
Tuesday 25th                 Recreation Committee, 8.00pm

### December

Monday 1st                     Planning Committee, 7.30pm - Full Council, 8.00pm  
Monday 15th                  Planning Committee, 7.30pm

*NB - Planning Meetings may be cancelled if there are no planning applications to consider.*

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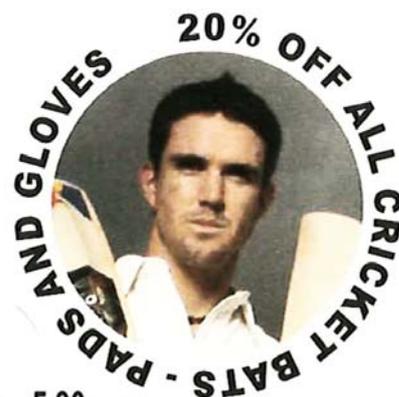
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## UPDATE ON THE HIGHWAYS SOLUTION FOR THE WEST OF HORSHAM DEVELOPMENT

Horsham District councillors are keen to find a highways solution based on the Option 1 scenario. This is the option that is favoured by Broadbridge Heath Parish Council. It incorporates a dual carriageway to the south of the new development and should more effectively separate local traffic from through traffic, as well as minimising pollution from vehicles in the centre of the expanded community.

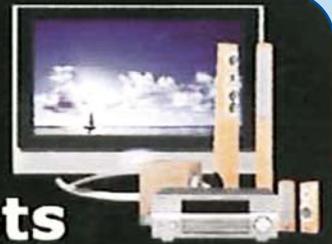
Further technical work on the remaining problems associated with Option 1 has been commissioned by HDC and the decision on the transport solution is imminent. The West of Horsham Masterplan document is being finalised based on an Option 1 transport solution. Consideration and adoption of the Masterplan document by HDC councillors is scheduled to take place in early October 2008.

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## Become a Parish Councillor - Make a Difference

The Parish Council currently has a vacancy to co-opt a Parish Councillor. Councillors have three main components to their work:

1. Decision Making - to decide which activities to support, where money should be spent and what services should be delivered.
2. Monitoring - to ensure that decisions lead to efficient and effective services and keeping an eye on how well things are working.
3. Getting involved locally - as local representatives, councillors for example take up issues on behalf of local representatives.

Would you like to become a Parish Councillor and Make a Difference? If so please contact the Parish Clerk, Mary Burroughs, on 01403 785864 or email [clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk) or write to PO Box 315, Billingshurst, RH14 9XX for terms of office, an application form and an information pack and DVD produced by the Sussex and Surrey Associations of Local Council.

## Overhanging Vegetation

### *Do your hedges or trees overhang a footpath or road?*

Please think about footpath and road users and ensure that your hedges and trees are regularly trimmed back. Overhanging vegetation can dangerously narrow footpaths and roads. Please spare a thought for the elderly, blind, wheelchair, mobility scooter and pushchair users on footpaths and ensure that your hedgerow is regularly trimmed, so that they are not forced to walk or ride on the road. **Thank-you**

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## BROADBRIDGE HEATH PARISH COUNCIL - Summary of the Chairman's Report for 2007/08

Last May (2007), saw elections for the Parish Council (PC). Yet again there were not enough applications to hold an election and those who were nominated were elected unopposed. Two councillors retired - Vicky Hunt and Barry Mursell and I would like to thank them for their contribution and years of service for the village. We still have vacancies for two councillors so if you would like to join us and serve your community please contact the Chairman or Clerk.

Councillors have represented the village at various meetings during the year including the Reference Group. This group has been meeting over the last two years to discuss the Masterplan for the West of Horsham. I am sure I don't need to remind you that, despite our numerous objections and concerns, at least 2,000 new homes will be built in this area by 2018. The Reference Group has spent a lot of time discussing the various road layouts that would provide an acceptable and efficient scheme for everyone. Key for our village is the prevention of the Billingshurst Road becoming a short cut (rat run) for traffic getting to and from Horsham from the west of the District. In brief, two highway options were presented in the Masterplan, with Option 1 being strongly favoured by the Parish Council. (See article on the Update on the Highways Solution).

Other issues such as community facilities have been discussed at the Reference Group and the Parish Council has been in touch with various groups in the village, to see what aspirations they have for the future in order to try and incorporate these in the Masterplan.

### ***Other areas in which we have been involved:***

Speeding through the village continues to be of concern to many people and since the last Parish Meeting new road signs and red textureflex surfacing gateways have been introduced at all the entrances to the village.

SID (a device which flashes up the speed of oncoming cars and is used as a deterrent) has been in operation on a few occasions. However, we are desperately in need of more volunteers to train and use the device; please contact our Clerk if you are interested in helping us with this.

On a positive note, BBH Parish Council submitted an application to HDC to be included in their Big Lottery bid for new outside equipment for children and young people. I am pleased to say that this was accepted and HDC's bid was successful. Please see separate article for further details.

The Local Action Team (now known as the Community Action Team) led by our PCSO Jeff Grant, has been working to try and overcome problems of anti social behaviour in the village. The lay-by next to the Common is still a favourite meeting place and many of you will have noticed the 'CCTV in operation sign' which has recently been erected there.

The play area at Singleton Road is another area where there have been problems. Following a street meeting with some of the local residents we have now put a fence across the entrance with a gate which we are investigating locking after dark.

Future improvements for the village include two new cantilever bus shelters for the bus stops near the Shelley Arms and there is now a replacement swing at The Common.

### **IN THE NEXT ISSUE -**

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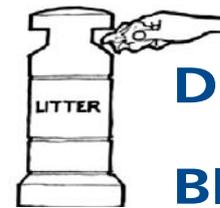
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Following up on some of the items mentioned at our last Annual Parish Meeting, some new fencing has been put up at the Charrington Way play area and the stile has been replaced by a gate together with a handrail leading down to the road. Tesco have cut back shrubs along the area from the underpass to the store and seem to be doing a reasonable job in keeping this area free from litter. Some residents at the last meeting mentioned problems with parking, particularly on the verges, and these concerns were passed onto the police and relevant organisations who have taken action where appropriate.

Allotments are an ongoing issue and we are currently investigating possible sites for this long awaited village amenity.

I am pleased to report that the Parish Council continues to run its finances in a sound and sensible manner, meeting the requirements of the official auditor. The precept for the financial year 2008/09 has been set at £46,495, which for a property in Band D equates to approximately £39.46 a year.

Our village is kept remarkably clean and tidy thanks to the efforts of our Litter Warden - Jim Cate and on behalf of the village I would like to thank him for his dedication and hard work. Unfortunately, dog fouling is still a problem and I would ask that dog owners act responsibly and use the bins provided or take litter home to dispose of.

Tracey Hooker, our Parish Clerk, resigned in November and her successor Mary Burroughs joined us in January and has already proved to be a reliable and worthy successor. I would like to thank Mary and Helen Dayneswood, the Clerk for Strategy and Development, for their hard work over the year.

In closing, I must also thank my fellow Councillors for their commitment to duties carried out on behalf of the village of Broadbridge Heath. Particular thanks to Malcolm Curnock - Vice Chairman, Geoff Clark - Chairman of the Planning Committee and Judith Jones - Chairman of the Recreation Committee.



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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

If you would like to talk to The Clerk in person, she will be at Village Centre from 9.30am to mid-day on Tuesday 28th October and 25th November 2008.

Clerk for Strategy & Development: Mrs Helen Dayneswood Tel: 01403-790175

Chairman: Mrs Viv Edwards: - Tel: 01403-240414

## Your Councillors:

Tony Blann, Geoff Clark (Planning Chairman), Malcolm Curnock (Vice Chairman), Nigel Dixon, Jonathan England, Barbara Hutton, Ian Johnston, Judith Jones (Recreation Chairman), Sally Horner (District) and Michael Hodgson (County).

## Police:

Please contact the Police on the non-emergency line 0845-60-70-999 for information and advice or to report a crime. Emergencies - Always dial 999 - If life is threatened, If people are injured, If offenders are nearby, If immediate action is required. Our PCSO is Jeff Grant and he can be contacted on 0845-60-70-999 (Ext 19135).



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