



# News

## Broadbridge Heath Parish Council

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### News from your Parish Council

Welcome to the 2017 summer issue of the Parish Council newsletter. This time it has been compiled by a small group of councillors, as we are currently without a permanent clerk, who usually undertakes this task. The newsletter is delivered to all households in Broadbridge Heath, both in the newer and older parts of the village. Its aim is to keep all residents in touch with matters that may be of

interest, including the Parish Council's activities and forthcoming meetings. We hope you find its contents interesting and would like to thank all those who have contributed an article. If you would like to submit an article on a village activity or village matters in general for our next edition due out in December, please contact the Parish Clerk (contact details on the back page).



**A lot of attention has been focused on the future provision of primary school education in the village. In April, the Secretary of State for Education approved an application for a new mainstream primary 'free school' in Broadbridge Heath.**



### Extracts from Chairman's Report 2016-17

We welcomed new councillors, Philip Hobgen and Jeanne Coker as co-opted members last September, which brought our numbers up to 13, our full complement. However, in March we regrettably said goodbye to Rebecca Clay. I would like to thank Rebecca for the contribution she made to the work of the Parish Council (PC), particularly in aspects related to planning. Being a member short yet again, we were very pleased to co-opt Matthew Gaffar onto the Council at our meeting in March 2017.

Sadly, at the start of July, our Vice-Chairman, Jonathan England resigned mainly due to work pressures. Jonathan was a valued member of the PC for many years and had been heavily involved in the more strategic aspects of our work. He was an excellent Vice-Chairman, supporting me in carrying out my role and on behalf of the PC and local community I would like to thank him for his invaluable contributions over the years.

We successfully recruited Stephanie Mills as our new Clerk, who joined us in January and quickly settled into the procedures and workings of the PC. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen family reasons, she had to leave us at the end of June. Having made a big impression in the short time she was with us she will be missed.

We are very fortunate that Nicky Donvaband stepped into the breach and will be our temporary clerk until the middle of September. In the meantime, we will be recruiting for a permanent Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

I feel I must address the rumour started on social media that the name of our village is changing. This is not the case! There is a new electoral division which comprises of Broadbridge Heath, Rudgwick, Slinfold and Warnham and is called Broadbridge. The name is only relevant to the county electoral division; the village itself remains Broadbridge Heath.

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I have also been asked if the new development to the south of the village is part of Broadbridge Heath; it most definitely is! Wickhurst Green was only ever a marketing name and is not a postal address. Since the development was given the go ahead, the main aim of the PC has always been to integrate the old and new parts of the village. It is hoped that the downgrading of the existing bypass, the building of the new Neighbourhood Centre and the redevelopment of the existing Village Centre and surrounding area will help to bring the village together. We would be very interested to hear of any ideas from residents that could help us achieve this aim. Bringing back the Village Fête, which used to be held in June every year, would have been an ideal opportunity to bring people together, but sadly not enough people came forward to help the Gala Association organise it and the idea has been put on hold.

A lot of attention has been focused on the future provision of primary

school education in the village. In April, the Secretary of State for Education approved an application for a new mainstream primary 'free school' in Broadbridge Heath. There are still several stages of the process to go through and the PC is keen to work with all interested parties including representatives from Shelley School, HDC and WSCC to ensure that children in the village have the best possible primary education.

The PC work hard to make BBH a better place for its residents with much of the work being carried out by individual committees. Hopefully, the reports contained in this newsletter will give you an idea of the different projects we are currently involved in and how they are progressing.



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

*The full Annual Report report is available on our website and includes reports from the Parish Council's committees and thanks to all those involved and previously involved with serving the parish.*



**Your  
District  
Councillor  
Matthew  
French**



**Since the last edition of the Newsletter there has been progress made on both the Neighbourhood Centre and The Bridge Leisure Centre.**

The Neighbourhood Centre has now been approved by the Planning Committee and regrettably despite my best efforts, I was not able to stop the inclusion of 24 flats as part of the development. This is disappointing but

will give the village some much needed infrastructure and employment with the retail outlets and offices.

The Bridge has also got the go ahead and has had a slight amendment to the original planning giving the sports hall an extra metre allowing more room for users and spectators.

The Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's) are also in the final stages of the process; this has been delayed longer than expected due to a ransom strip of land, however, this is now resolved and work will commence shortly.

Finally, I am always happy to hear from any of you who wish to contact me with any concerns or issues that I may be able to help you with.

**Your  
County  
Councillor:  
Christian  
Mitchell**



**It was an honour to be elected as the county councillor in May of this year for the newly named ward of Broadbridge.**

My first priority is to represent all the residents of Broadbridge Heath as well as the other villages in the ward which are Rudgwick, Warnham and Slinfold.

It is often getting the small things fixed in a timely way that counts and I am committed to continue to make Broadbridge Heath and our villages a place we can be proud of and enjoy living in.

Below are some of the issues I have working on since being elected:

- Supporting the introduction for the new traffic to limit traffic speed to 20mph in Broadbridge Heath which went to the County Local Committee in June 2017 where it was unanimously supported by other county councillors
- Opposing the siting of an industrial/commercial incinerator in our area
- Gatwick Airport campaigns – I opposed the 2nd Runway and new flight path trials
- To continue working with the police and highways officers to monitor speeding and stop rat-running though the village
- Fighting for fairer and additional funding for our local schools

I want the most vulnerable people to be supported and enabled to stay healthy and independent and I take careful interest in children and adult services.

I always remember my responsibility of being accountable to you all and representing your interests and if there is a matter I can assist with please email on christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk



## Village Centre Development

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council, the Village Centre Management Committee and Action in rural Sussex have been working for the last eighteen months to plan a refurbishment of the Village Centre building. In that time we made sure that the requirements for the new building were understood, how the refurbishment and future management of the building would be achieved and have appointed an architect, RJCA Architects (Richard Atkinson) to deliver the upgrades. Horsham District Council has confirmed that £557,000 of the

Section 106 payments from the major development of the south of the Village will be used to fund part of the Village Centre building refurbishments.

In the next few months, draft designs for the upgraded Village Centre will be produced. We will hold public meetings and consult with the building's users to produce a final design that will be sustainable and fit within our budget (which might be increased using contributions of section 106 payments from other developments in the Village and additional monies from elsewhere). Following planning approval and the appointment of the building contractor, refurbishment work is hoped to begin in the summer of 2018.



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## Broadbridge Heath Football Club

The Football Club completed their 97th season in April with the first team finishing 8th in the Southern Combination League Premier Division, our highest ever finish and the Reserve team winning the League's Reserve Division for the first time ever.

The first team used 46 players during the course of the season, 23 of whom had previously played for our youth teams, 9 of whom played at every level from Under 7s upwards, an achievement that few, if any clubs in the county can match.

The junior section continues to grow but the result of which meant that last season several of our teams were forced to play away from the village, with 3 teams playing home games at Warnham and two playing home games in Horsham Park, a far from ideal situation, so club officials were delighted when we finally got planning permission in February for our long awaited new facilities, 3 grass pitches, a pavilion, stands and floodlights, on the land south of the existing Leisure Centre.

It's been common knowledge that the club has been seeking facilities away from the Leisure Centre for the best part of 20 years, to facilities of our own where the majority of our teams can come together on one site and that opportunity came in 2004/2005 with the announcement that approx. 1,000



homes were to be built on land south of the village; as a result of our efforts our requirements for a new ground and pitches were included in the site Master Plan and subsequently in the Section 106 Agreement.

With the club's centenary year in 2019 we can finally look forward to having facilities that will ensure the destiny of Broadbridge Heath Football Club well into the future.

If you would like to know more about Broadbridge Heath Football Club then check out our website at <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/broadbridgeheathfc/news/horsham-district-council-approve-new-ground-plans-1751798.html>



# Horsham Green Gym

**Horsham Green Gym is a volunteer nature conservation group helping to improve the local environment. Members learn new skills and make new friends. It is a very friendly group of people who have fun while doing something worthwhile.**

Members range in age from early twenties to early eighties. Many are retired and there is have an interesting mix of professions and careers.

Green Gym has been running since 2005 in Horsham and now meets twice a week for three hours at various sites around the town.

The team regularly works in Southwater CP, Warnham LNR, Chesworth Farm and Leechpool/Owlbeech Woods at Roffey as well as other areas.

At Broadbridge Heath, over the years, they have been involved with

- the Ducky,
- planting daffs and crocus on road verges,
- clearing footpaths and streams of extra vegetation,
- and recently, helping to convert an area opposite the cricket ground, formerly used as a BMX obstacle track, into a more natural area with room for wild flowers and the possibility of attracting more insects and birds.

Although the group is independent, it is supported by HDC and the Countryside Wardens provide much of the work.

The larger Tuesday group can do the bigger jobs or those that need a lot of pairs of hand while the smaller Thursday group is often called upon to carry out more detailed jobs.

Many of our members have learned how, to coppice, plant, prune, fell trees, resurface paths and install benches and picnic tables such as you may have seen near the beach at Southwater CP.

The amount of work achieved by keen members in the three hours they meet is often surprising.

Three main reasons why conservation is important:

1. to repair some of the damage made by man and maintain the environment for future generations

2. to maintain species diversity for our benefit and that of wildlife

3. to provide opportunities for education and the enjoyment of the environment

When HGG plant a hedge, trees, crocus or daffodil bulbs there will be, with a bit of luck, something there for others to enjoy in the following years.

New members are always welcome. Before joining, it's a good idea to have a look at the website [www.horshamgreengym.org.uk](http://www.horshamgreengym.org.uk) as it gives information about what to wear and where to meet. Also, there is a form to complete online to record contact and other details.



# Wildlife is moving in at the Top Common

Several species of butterfly and a delightful Garden Warbler have been spotted at the newly created conservation area at the Top Common. As reported in the last BBH Parish News, this area has been established on Common Land at Byfleets Lane on the northern edge of the village, next to the cricket ground.

Wildlife has been quick to respond to the initial habitat improvement work that has been undertaken by the Parish Council and local volunteers. Great Tits and Blue Tits were seen investigating six new nest boxes within days of these being put up and a pair of Great Spotted Woodpeckers have



Photo of Goldcrest by Bill Thornton

been noisily defending their territory! Goldcrests are present most days.

Butterfly sightings in the spring have included Orange Tip, Comma, Speckled Wood, Holly Blue and Peacock.

Local (human) residents have also been quick to visit, taking advantage of the pleasant circular path that has been created using waste wood chip donated by several local tree surgeons.

## Bluebells and Wild Garlic

Hundreds of bluebells and several good clumps of Wild Garlic flowered in the spring taking advantage of the increased daylight reaching them thanks to the clearance of unwanted scrub, sycamore seedlings and overhanging tree branches!



Photo of Great Spotted Woodpecker by Bill Thornton

Over three kilos of wildflower seed (suitable for a heavy clay soil) has been sown. Germination was slow at first as the weather has been mostly extremely dry but there are now signs that hundreds of plants are becoming

established. These should provide a good future source of nectar for bees and butterflies.

The five hundred trees and hedging plants that were planted are doing well although there have been a few casualties due to the lack of rain since they went in and, regrettably, some petty vandalism.

## Looking ahead

This is a long term project and future plans include more habitat management and scrub control, and ongoing monitoring to assess how the wildlife is responding to the changes we are making at the Top Common. Volunteers are most welcome to join our small team looking after this area.

**If you would like to get involved, please contact the Clerk of the Parish Council: e-mail: [clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk) or Telephone: 07932 820377**



## Community Youth Workers

Your Community Youth Workers Dan, Dani, Donna, and a bunch of amazing volunteers run two youth clubs in Broadbridge Heath for young people.

'Toasties' is for Year Groups 6-8 and meets on Friday evenings from 6:30pm-8pm in the Scout Hall.

'Broadbridge Heath Seniors Youth Club' is for Year Groups 9-11 and meets on Thursday evenings from 7pm-8:30pm in St Johns Church Hall.



Some of the fun activities young people have been getting up to recently have been sumo wrestling (see left), games evening, food nights (always a winner!), art challenges and trips out such as

air hop trampoline park, an art trip to the ceramic shack, we also bring in things like a mobile skate parts to name just a few. Our aim is to have a safe caring environment for all young people to come hang out with friends or make new ones, grow and develop.

Horsham Matters who employ your youth workers have been chosen as a Coop Local Cause. So if you live and

shop within a 15 mile radius of Horsham please sign up to Coop Membership – <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership> – buy lots of Coop branded items for the next 6 months and choose... HORSHAM MATTERS COMMUNITY YOUTH WORK as your LOCAL CAUSE. This will help us to raise funds for new equipment and resources young people to enjoy in the youth groups that we run locally.



**If you would like to know more or are interested in volunteering, you can contact me:  
Dan Fairchild  
[Danfairchild@horsham-matters.org.uk](mailto:Danfairchild@horsham-matters.org.uk)  
Mobile: 07702 815925**

# Your Parish Council

For further information visit the Parish Council website  
[www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](http://www.broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Temporary Clerk and Financial Officer:**

Nicky Donbavand **Tel:** 07716 130103

**Email:**

[clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

## Parish Councillors

**Geoff Clark**

Fairfield Cottage, Guildford Road,  
Broadbridge Heath  
[clark.g@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clark.g@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Jeanne Coker**

39 Singleton Road, Broadbridge Heath  
[coker.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:coker.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Viv Edwards**

Damsons, 10 Old Guildford Road,  
Broadbridge Heath  
[edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Councillor Vacancy** – If you are interested in finding out about joining the Parish Council, please contact the clerk for details.

## Forthcoming meetings 2017

Monday 4th September 2017  
Parish Council

Monday 2nd October 2017  
Parish Council

Monday 6th November 2017  
Parish Council

Monday 4th December 2017  
Parish Council

Meeting dates for Planning, Recreation and Finance committees can be found on the website.

**Matthew Gaffar**

Broadbridge Place Cottage, Church Lane, Broadbridge Heath  
[gaffar.m@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:gaffar.m@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Penny Hayles**

63 Billingshurst Road, Broadbridge Heath  
[hayles.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:hayles.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Philip Hobgen**

22 Sargent Way, Broadbridge Heath  
[hobgen.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:hobgen.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Christine Knight**

2 Stanford Way, Broadbridge Heath  
[knight.c@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:knight.c@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**David Milbank**

4 The Green, Old Guildford Road, Broadbridge Heath  
[milbank.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:milbank.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Roy Neilson**

85 Corsletts Avenue, Broadbridge Heath  
[neilson.r@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:neilson.r@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**John Newton**

1 Farley Close, Broadbridge Heath  
[newton.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:newton.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**Terry Oliver**

115 Charrington Way, Broadbridge Heath  
[oliver.t@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:oliver.t@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**David Trangmar**

11 Pinewood Close, Broadbridge Heath  
[trangmar.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto:trangmar.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

**District Councillor**

**Matthew French**

01403 730040 [matthew.french@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.french@horsham.gov.uk)

**County Councillor**

**Christian Mitchell**

07710 402115 [christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk)

## Useful Numbers

**Sussex Police:** Call 101 or email [HorshamNPT@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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](http://www.horsham.gov.uk)

**West Sussex County Council:**

01243 777100 or visit [www.love.westsussex.gov.uk](http://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](http://horsham.gov.uk)



## Parish Council Meetings

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](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. Start times can vary but usually are from 7:30pm