



News

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council

Broadbridge Heath Scout Group learning practical skills

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Clerk's update

In the first six months of the year the Parish Council has been working to bring about improvements to the village. The hanging baskets are up and the bulbs planted last September looked lovely this Spring. We have recently secured £50k s106 money (contributed by developers for improvements to the local area) to make improvements to the Ducky playground – the new equipment will be installed over the next couple of months – look out for the new ducks! We have also embarked on a project to significantly improve the Village Centre playground – work will commence later on this year.

The Parish Council, working with Age UK Horsham, has recruited a village agent to support our older residents – see Hayley's contact details within this newsletter. If you know of anyone in the village who may benefit from a little extra support, please do contact Hayley. Toasties youth club continues to be very popular and we are very pleased to be working with 4 The Youth to provide the

club – I would like to thank Donna for continued support and commitment to the club.

We wanted to do something to help with the issue of litter and also to encourage owners to 'pick up' after their dogs. A West Highland terrier (pictured right), with its Parish



Councillor owner, popped into an assembly at Shelley Primary School to ask the children to design posters encouraging residents to 'pick up' after their dogs and not drop litter. Over 100 children submitted their designs; it was a difficult task for councillors to choose the winners, such was the quality of artwork and ingenuity of the slogans! Five were finally selected and made up into A3 boards, which you will soon be able to spot along popular dog-walking routes around the village.

We were very pleased to be able to involve children from Shelley Primary School in naming the two new playgrounds. The children's imaginations had produced some

clever ideas but The Giggles and Leapfrog Park came out on top – Well done Layton and Erica for the winning names.

The Top Common conservation area (next to the cricket field) is looking fabulous, please do visit and look out for the butterflies, dragonflies, birds and insects that have happily made the area their home, with thanks to David Bridges and the Top Common volunteers for all of their work.

In May there was a Parish Council election and we have 11 elected Councillors fully committed and giving up significant amounts of their free time for the benefit of the village. The Councillors bring a great breadth of skills and experience and are in post for the next 4 years which gives a real opportunity to make a difference.

If you have any ideas you would like to share with the Parish Council please drop me a line at clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Jo

Jo Ball

*Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer
Broadbridge Heath Parish Council
07716 130 103
clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk*

Meet your Parish Council

Chair report



Terry Oliver

I was honoured to be elected as Chairman at the Full Council meeting in May 2018 for 2019/20 and look forward to meeting many local residents at the events that we organise throughout

the year. I also invite you all to attend our meetings. At each Full Council meeting there is a Public Session as the first item on our agenda and we welcome comments, ideas and questions from anyone who lives or works in our Parish.

Your council is fortunate to have councillors who are prepared to give significant amounts of their free time, and to cooperate and collaborate together in a collegiate atmosphere, on the many council committees and working groups. Their enthusiasm, humour, determination and a deep passion for the place where we live, this has been a year of achievements for your council and this is well documented in the message from the past chairman Councillor Viv Edwards for the year 2018/19.

*Terry Oliver
Chairman
Broadbridge Heath Parish Council*

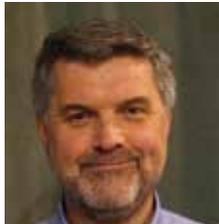
Extract from Annual Report 2018/19

As the existing Parish Council (PC) ends its four year term in office, we can look back at the dramatic changes that have taken place in Broadbridge Heath over this time. These include the large development south of the village, the new dwellings and care home north of Old Guildford Road and the flats on the site of former garages at Swann Way and Sleets Road. These have all brought their own challenges which councillors have tried to address working in conjunction with developers, statutory authorities and local residents.

continued on page 3



Ian Blunnie



Geoff Clark



Jeanne Coker



Viv Edwards



Penny Hayles



Christine Knight



Emily McGowan



David Milbank



Roy Neilson



Terry Oliver



David Trangmar

Full contact details for the Parish Council can be found on the back cover of this newsletter

Responsibilities of the Parish Council

Municipal services within Broadbridge Heath are provided by three tiers of Local Government – West Sussex

County Council, Horsham District Council and Broadbridge Heath Parish Council. All Councils work together, but each authority has its own areas of responsibility and service delivery. Below is an overview of which authority provides each service.

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council	Play areas: Singleton Road; Charrington Way; The Ducky; The Village Centre, Bus shelters, Notice Boards, Litter picking, Seats, Litter bins, Dog bins, The Common recreation ground, Open spaces including grass cutting
Horsham District Council	Refuse collections, Waste and Recycling collection, Dog fouling, Social Housing, Environmental Health, Business Rates, Council Tax, Open spaces (some), Tourist Information, Planning Services, Economic Redevelopment, Car Parks <i>For more details on HDC visit www.horsham.gov.uk</i>
West Sussex County Council	Libraries, Highways, Footpaths, Roads maintenance, Street lighting, Education, Children's Services, Social Services, Trading Standards, Health <i>For more details on WSCC visit www.west.sussex.gov.uk</i>

Councillor Vacancies

Do you have the interests of your village at heart? Then please consider becoming a Parish Councillor; there are currently two vacancies. This newsletter highlights some of the great work that the Parish Council does on behalf of the community. Would you like to get involved and make a difference? If the answer is yes, and would like to find out more about becoming a Parish Councillor, the Clerk or any one of our Councillors would be very happy to answer questions that you may have. Please consider joining the Parish Council, you can make a difference!

There are still more changes to come. The final stages of traffic calming in the village (necessary because of the impact of the new developments on our local roads) should be completed later this year and it is hoped that when all the changes are in place it will deter the village being used as a rat run in the future.

I would like to reiterate what I said last year about how, throughout this period of change, it is important that the village works together and retains its identity. There are signs that this is beginning to happen, and it is hoped that the opening of the new Neighbourhood Centre and the downgrading of the current bypass, scheduled for later this year, will continue to help the village unite.

The report contains details of the achievements of the PC over the past year and various projects that we have been associated with, but I would like to mention a few exciting things that we have been working on for the future:

The redevelopment of the Village Centre – this is moving forward with representatives from the PC and the Management Trustees working hard to ensure that the project is completed by middle of next year;

Expanding and improving the play areas at the Ducky and the Village Centre, both due to start later this year, funded mainly by money from local developments;

Taking over ownership over the play areas, allotments and open spaces on the development south of the village. No dates have yet been fixed for this, but we would like to assume responsibility as soon as possible;

In conjunction with Age UK, a Village Agent has recently been appointed for Broadbridge Heath. Their role will be to support over 50s, or their carer(s), with advice and practical help. Further details about this project can be found in the report.

We would like to extend our very best wishes to Broadbridge Heath Football Club who we hope will finally move into their new grounds and pavilion this May. This has been many years in the planning and numerous obstacles have had to be overcome to ensure that this happens. It is down to the tenacity and commitment of various of their committee members, in particular the late Malcolm Cumnock (also a parish councillor for many years), that the team finally has a new home of their own.

The new PC will take its place for the next four years on 7th May and it will be extremely lucky to have an excellent

Are we heading for Insectageddon, and should we be worried?

In recent months there have been several disturbing reports in the national media of the accelerating biodiversity crisis affecting our planet. More than one million species are now said to be at risk of extinction globally.

Here in Broadbridge Heath, house building, new roads, increased light pollution and the loss of countryside and open space are putting our local wildlife under more pressure than ever before. Rare and common species alike are disappearing before our eyes. The loss of insects which pollinate our crops and provide food for other species including birds, bats and hedgehogs is especially worrying.

It is all too easy to become despondent at this relentless tide of loss, but there are things we can all do to encourage wildlife to thrive in our village.

The Parish Council has been supporting efforts to extend the Nature Area at the Top Common (next to the BBH cricket pitch in Byfleets Lane on the northern edge of the village). Work has already begun to clear rank vegetation along one side of the cricket ground and to plant and sow nectar-rich wildflowers. The aim is to provide more habitat for a wide range of pollinating insects, especially butterflies, bees and hoverflies!

If you would like to help with the next phase of this work, which will get underway at the end of the summer, please contact the Parish Clerk (e-mail: clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk)

Mobile 07716 130 103).

Other Parish Council initiatives to help local wildlife are planned and some of these will be reported in future issues of this newsletter.

However, I would like to encourage anyone with a garden to consider making some small changes that can give wildlife a big boost! Here are just three ideas to get the ball rolling!

Don't be too tidy! Leave a small corner of your garden as a wild patch where insects, frogs, toads and a host of other creatures can live undisturbed.

Plant a Buckthorn or Alder Buckthorn shrub as these are the main food plant of the lovely Brimstone butterfly, and its flowers provide pollen and nectar for other insects.

Turn a small patch of your lawn into a mini wildflower meadow. Start with a one metre square as even this will make a difference. You don't even need to dig up your lawn or plant any special flowers as most lawns already have interesting plants lurking in the grass waiting for you to leave your mower in the shed.

And, don't forget, always use peat-free compost in your garden as the commercial extraction of peat is destroying vital and irreplaceable habitat in other parts of the UK!

Together we can make a difference!

David Bridges

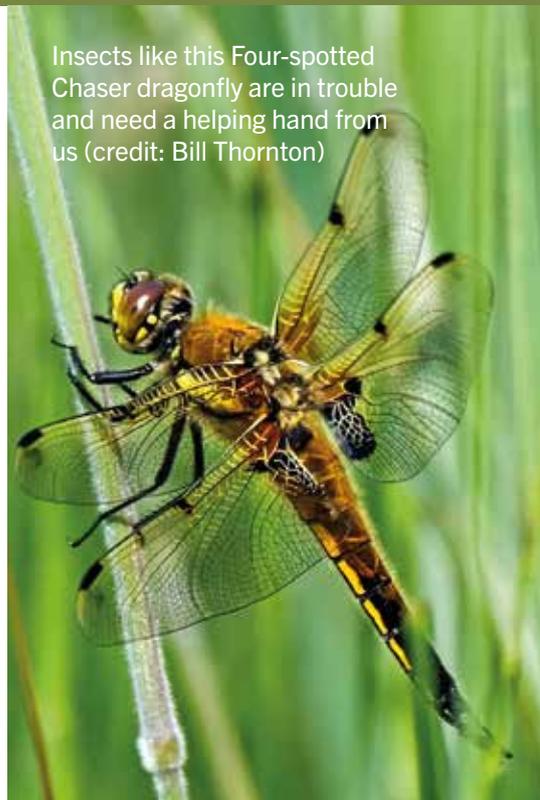
BBH Top Common Project volunteer

team working for them on behalf of our community. Jo Ball is our Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and Lucinda Edwards is our Assistant Clerk. I would like to thank them both for their enthusiasm, hard work and commitment over the last year. Thanks also to John Pilkington, our Environmental Officer, who does a great job looking after the more practical issues in the village.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors, in particular Geoff Clark - Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Planning Committee, David Trangmar - Chairman of the Finance and Establishment Committee and Terry Oliver, Chairman of the Recreation Committee.

*Viv Edwards, Chairman
Broadbridge Heath Parish Council
30th April 2019*

Insects like this Four-spotted Chaser dragonfly are in trouble and need a helping hand from us (credit: Bill Thornton)





Broadbridge Heath Football Club

The Football Club has a lot to look forward to this season with our new facilities immediately south of the Leisure Centre due for handover in what is the club's Centenary Year and what a way to celebrate by moving into our very own facilities for the first time in the club's history.

When we are finally handed those keys none will be more pleased than our long serving chairman Keith Soane, who was honoured at the League's Annual Presentation evening on the 1st June with a long service award for completing 50 years with the club, a fantastic achievement.

More good news on the facilities is that Countryside Properties have agreed to sponsor the naming rights of the new ground; so our new address will be The Countryside Stadium, High Wood Hill Sports Ground, Wickhurst Lane, Broadbridge Heath, RH12 3YS

As well as sponsoring the naming rights Countryside have also agreed to sponsor the First Team and all the Junior Teams. To celebrate our centenary all the junior teams will be wearing brand new kits with the sponsor's name displayed proudly on the front of the shirt and for the centenary the club's Bear Logo will be printed in gold instead of the normal blue.

Countryside have also been very helpful in giving the club access to the pavilion in order to complete some internal works before the FA Ground Grading Inspection which took place mid-May, leaving the inspectors very impressed with what they saw, so much so that they have already asked if we would be willing to host a league cup semi-final later in the season.

Events to celebrate the centenary will be planned throughout the year but let's first just sign that lease, get the keys and get into the building; the celebrations will start from then.

On the football side, next season the Junior Section will be running 14 teams from Under 6 right through to Under 16; one of the biggest clubs in the district with approx 200 players and 50+ adults involved in the administration, managing or coaching young players on a weekly basis.

The senior section will be running five teams next season: three playing in the Southern Combination League, the Under 18's, Under 23's and First team, a team in the West Sussex League and a friendly Veterans team.

Despite the numbers we have involved in running the club, there's always room for more players, coaches, committee members or occasional helpers, so if you can spare some time, then please do get in touch with us. If you can't spare the time then maybe you'd like to sponsor a team, a match ball or some programme or ground advertising; many different options are available just feel free to contact us – details can be found on our website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/broadbridgeheathfc

Andy Crisp



Broadbridge Heath Cricket Club

broadbridgeheath.play-cricket.com

We are now well into the season and it has been a solid start for both our teams following their joint promotions last year. The 1st XI are now in Div 6 of the biggest cricket league in the country and despite losing three key players from last season's title winning team, including Jeff Dawe who returned to NZ after many, many successful and happy years with us, our small club continues to punch above its weight against often bigger opposition. I'm sure the winter indoor league at Crawley and later indoor coaching at the Hove county ground set everyone up well.

Meanwhile the 2nd's are finding Div 10 a little tougher than last season but they have had the satisfaction already of beating the next village rivals Warnham comprehensively.

Outside the boundary progress continues to be made. We have welcomed the return of groundsman Nathan Booker with his new hip and purchased the outfield mower that the winter's crowdfunding scheme supported so successfully. We are now almost self-determining but we have only a small ground staff team and they are increasingly finding it difficult to contribute as much as they used to with illness, old age and increased work commitments affecting their ability to do what is required.

Our partnership with the village Junior Football Club over the winter worked well and it was good to see so many people there each Saturday when the ground is normally dormant. Unfortunately, post-season, the dry weather prevented the grass seed growing from redoing the goalmouths and the area where they play stoolball has been particularly affected – so that will be part of our thoughts when we start thinking about the coming winter's arrangements.

Finally, like all local vegetable growers and farmers we do need some rain, so I hope we have had some by the time you read this. At least the dry weather prevents the rabbits digging any more holes in our dry, hard outfield!

Colin Case

1st Broadbridge Heath Scout Group



Above and right: Broadbridge Heath Scout Group activities



On the 28th of April residents and Parish Councillors spent the morning litter picking round the village. If you would be willing to join us on the next litter picking date please email clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk – It was a fun morning, the sun was shining and the village was tidier as a result, what's not to like.

For 108 years Broadbridge Heath Scout Group has provided valuable and enjoyable experiences for young people to help them fulfil their potential for life. Now, in 2019, we are still trying to continue this work.

This year our Beaver section have been out and about meeting and learning from people who help our community. They have visited the police station, fire station and St Margaret's Church in Warnham – all people who help our community in different ways. They organised their own fundraising event for Comic Relief and with the lighter evenings they have plans for pond dipping and more visits to our campsite. The Scout Section has also been looking at Care in the Community and how to help the elderly and disabled. They have had discussions on gender equality and more practically they have gained their Mechanics Badges. Fun was also included with Nerf gun battles, Scalextric and campfires at Colgate.

The Cub section joined in with some of the activities at the campsite. They have also been learning about our community with Deaf Awareness and looking at their challenges.

During the summer holidays the hall is to receive a much needed facelift and we hope to welcome all the children and leaders back to a newly painted hall.

If the Group is to continue for the next 100 years we need your help. Even if you feel that working with children is not your forte we need people who can just give a few hours, even on a casual basis. We need help with our committee, whether it be secretarial, organising a website or helping with fund-raising, all of which are needed to keep our historic hall in shape and to purchase new equipment for camping and other activities. Or perhaps you would enjoy helping the children learn practical skills by becoming part of our leadership team.



Age UK



Hello residents of Broadbridge Heath. I would like to introduce myself; my name is Hayley and I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to be your

Village Agent in Broadbridge Heath. I am employed by Age UK Horsham District (AUKHD) for eight hours a week as a result of funding provided by Broadbridge Heath Parish Council.

I was inspired to join AUKHD after seeing the good work that they carry out in the local community. I view my role as Village Agent for Broadbridge Heath is two-fold, where I can:

- Support existing services and activities, and
- Signpost older people in the village to a wide range of information and advice to enable them to live well in later life and stay as independent as possible

I am looking forward to meeting many of you over the coming months, however if you would like to contact me please do so by calling our offices on 01403 260560 and leaving a message for me or by emailing me HayleyD@ageukhorshamdistrict.org.uk

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Best wishes

Hayley

Toasties Youth Club

In March, we worked closely with Broadbridge Heath Parish Council and 4th Youth to save our Youth Club. 4th Youth is a charity that run Youth Clubs across the Horsham District to ensure that the Young People across Horsham always have a Youth Club to attend. We no longer need to cap our numbers, thanks to 4th Youth. Broadbridge Heath Parish Council has kindly agreed to fund our Youth Club whilst 4th Youth now run our club.

Over the Easter Holidays, we received a grant from Sussex Police of £372.74 which was used to purchase 4 folding benches, 2 Zorbing Bubble Balls, a new snooker table and an adjustable foldable badminton/tennis and volleyball net. Once again, Broadbridge Heath Parish Council received and organised the purchase of these new equipment on our behalf.

Finally, I'm delighted to report that we now have a team of 13 Volunteers, only 2 short of our target of 15 plus a team of 6 Young Leaders.

Your Parish Council

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

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:

Jo Ball

Tel: 07716 130103

clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

PO Box 1009, Cowfold,

Horsham RH12 9RX

Assistant Clerk:

Lucinda Edwards

asst@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

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.

Forthcoming meetings 2019

Full Parish Council Meetings
Monthly on the first Monday of the month where possible, all starting at 7.45pm

Monday 1st July

August *Summer Break*

Monday 2nd September

Monday 7th October

Monday 4th November

Monday 2nd December

Finance and Establishment Committee

Meetings quarterly plus an additional meeting for precept setting, all starting at 7.45pm

Monday 14th January

Monday 29th April

Monday 15th July

Monday 14th October

Monday 18th November

(precept setting)

Recreation Committee

Four meetings, one per quarter, all starting at 7.45pm

Monday 16th of September

Monday 16th of December

Planning Committee

meetings to be planned as required

Chair: Terry Oliver

oliver.t@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Parish Councillors

Ian Blunnie

blunnie.i@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Geoff Clark

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Jeanne Coker

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Viv Edwards

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Penny Hayles

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Terry Oliver

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District Councillors

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Louise Potter

louise.potter@horsham.gov.uk

County Councillor

Christian Mitchell

07710 402115 christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk

[westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)

Useful Numbers

Sussex Police Call 101 or email

horsham@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 WSSC'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

Parish Council Meetings

Opposite are the upcoming Parish Council Meetings for 2019. 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).

Bunting for hire

The Parish Council have purchased some bunting to use for special events. If you / your community group would like to borrow it for an event in Broadbridge Heath, please contact Jo Ball at clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk