

# News

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council



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## Public Art

Residents of the village were invited to a 'Drop-in' Consultation Day on the 7th November at St. John's Church to introduce and inform local people about the Wickhurst Green Public Art Project, meet one of the two artists appointed to the scheme and start generating ideas for the artwork.

There was also the opportunity to see the sketches and models the pupils of Shelley Primary and Tanbridge House School have already created to show their ideas for the artwork. Approximately 30 people attended with some good ideas emerging.



## News from your Parish Council

Welcome to the Winter 2015 issue of Parish Council News. This newsletter is delivered to every household in the parish with copies now being delivered to residents on the new estates. The newsletter aims to keep all residents in touch with matters that may be of interest, including the Parish Council's activities and forthcoming meetings. The

Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who provided an article for the previous editions. Don't forget, if you have something that you would like to see in the next edition which will come out mid-June, please contact the Parish Clerk (details are on the back page).

## Redevelopment of the village centre and surrounding open space

A quick glance at a map shows that with the influx of new residents, the geographical centre of the larger Broadbridge Heath is now located on the junior football pitches behind the Village Centre building. We can expect to see many changes in this area as the traffic along the existing bypass is moved to the East-West Link Road.

Planning permission for a new Neighbourhood Centre building (comprising a convenience store, four small shops, nursery and parish offices) will be sought very soon and design work has started to improve the openness of the green space between it and the Village Centre building in Wickhurst Lane. The Village Centre building itself must be upgraded to meet the requirements of the larger population and the Village Centre Management Committee and Parish Council have formed a working group to achieve this under the guidance of Action in Rural Sussex.

The first part of this process will be to obtain as much feedback as possible from residents to ensure that the upgraded Village Centre can meet the future needs of the community and be financially viable. **So please do respond to surveys and attend the various workshops and exhibitions that will be held in the next few months so we have the best possible guide as to what is required.** Once we have this information the joint group will produce a project plan, secure the necessary total funding (£450,000 contributed by the developers is already available) and employ architects and builders to complete the work.







**Clerk's corner**

**Hello again, where did that six months go since the last newsletter? Scary!**

Now that winter is here and Christmas is fast approaching, I would like to draw your attention to some of the more seasonal articles in this newsletter.

Make a note of where your nearest salt bin is should there be snow or black ice and take a look at West Sussex County Council's website to help keep yourself safe this winter, check that the drains outside your home run freely to minimise the risk of flooding in your area and consider cutting back your overhanging hedges and trees that border the footpath or highway as without leaf they can cause injury to passers-by.

To residents in the new development, welcome to this wonderful village. I have been asked about bins and can confirm that I have recently agreed the location for new litter and dog bins with Horsham District Council; these are on order and should be in place shortly. Please note that litter bins can also be used for dog waste as HDC advise that it all ends up in the same place. I have also agreed a location with Countryside Properties for a notice board which the Parish Council has approved and that will be in place early in the New Year.

In November, I met with HDC to progress the provision of play equipment and allotments. We are hoping that plans will soon be sent to the Parish Council for agreement so that HDC can approve their installation early next year.



**Caroline, Assistant Clerk and John, Environmental Officer**

I cannot believe that Caroline our Assistant Clerk and John our Environment Officer (pictured above) have now been with us for over a year. Caroline has been very busy organising the erection of hanging baskets in Billingshurst Road – thank you Caroline. We both met with play companies in August with a view to giving the Singleton Road play space a facelift and I am pleased to advise that the Parish Council has recently approved the scheme (pictured below). We are now working on funding and hopefully the new play area will be installed in the spring. John has done a great job in keeping the streets and play areas clean, safe and tidy. Work on painting some of

the older pieces of play equipment has started and will finish in the spring. The annual safety inspections reported only minor matters requiring attention – thanks to John for keeping our young people safe.

One matter of concern for our recreation areas is the increase in anti-social drinking and drug taking. The Police have been alerted and are paying attention to this and John has been tasked with reporting every incident to the Police. If you see evidence of alcoholic drinking and drug taking in our play areas, please report it to the Sussex Police:-[www.sussex.police.uk/help-centre/report-something-online/anti-social-behaviour](http://www.sussex.police.uk/help-centre/report-something-online/anti-social-behaviour), email 101@sussexpolice.pnn.police.uk or telephone 101.

All three of us are employed by the Parish Council to work with and for the community. If you need help or have something to say then contact me (details are shown the corner on the back page).

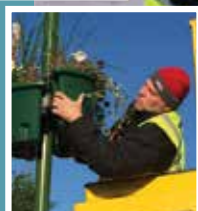
Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with kind regards from your Clerk.

*Mary*



This year the Parish Council has worked on improving the ambience of the village by putting up some hanging baskets and next year in the spring the entrances to the village should look spectacular when recently planted spring bulbs are in show.

Our thanks go to Countryside Properties for their contribution to the hanging baskets and to the Green Gym for planting the bulbs.



## Improving the Streetscene



# Chairman's message

In May, elections were held for both the Parish and District. Eleven parish councillors were elected unopposed and this included two new faces – John Newton and Roy Neilson. We extend a warm welcome to both of them and to Christine Knight who was co-opted this month.

We still have a vacancy, so if you would like to become a co-opted member of the Council please contact the Clerk or come along to one of our meetings – dates and details are on the website and on the notice boards by the One Stop shop and in the Village Centre.

Our thanks go to Malcolm Curnock who did a sterling job representing the village on Horsham District Council (HDC) for the last four years. In his place we welcome Matthew French our new District Councillor and wish him well as he works to promote the interests of the village. You will have an opportunity to meet Matthew and our MP Jeremy Quin at their surgery in the village on 9th January 2016 – details on page 4.

I hope that by the time you read this article the new east-west link road will be open. It is the question I am most frequently asked and the Parish Council has been pushing for an answer. The latest information we have been given is that it will be open by Christmas.

We have been told by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) that the existing A264 bypass will remain open to through traffic for a period after the new road has opened. The Parish Council has stated quite clearly that we would like it to remain open until traffic calming

measures are in place in the village. It is our understanding that funding for these measures has now been approved and that they will be implemented in the 2016/17 financial year, although we have requested that this be brought forward if at all possible. Our thanks to Tom Crowley, officers at HDC and WSCC and our County Councillor David Sheldon for their help in ensuring that the village gets the traffic calming scheme that it was promised.

Development to the south of the village continues to grow rapidly, with approximately 500 dwellings occupied at the time of writing. We continue to have discussions with HDC and relevant organisations regarding the plans and future management of the new neighbourhood centre, recreation areas, open spaces and allotments that are being provided.

We have also been consulted about the future of the Leisure Centre and after four years it seems that a solution has finally been reached and a new £12.7m Leisure Centre is to be built on land adjacent to the existing building.

Plans to smarten up the village started with the refurbishment of the War Memorial area last year and have continued with the provision of hanging baskets along part of the Billingshurst Road. These will be replanted in the spring and will bring colour and cheer to the centre of the village. To complement this, over 1,500 crocus bulbs have been planted at the two main entrances to the village and it is planned to extend this to other areas next year. We are also hoping to carry out improvements to the triangle

at the junction of the Billingshurst and Old Guildford Roads and to the raised bed by the underpass. If you have any other ideas for improving the village street scene we would love to hear them.

It just remains for me to wish you all, on behalf of the Parish Council, a Happy



Christmas and very best wishes for the New Year.

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



## Christmas and New Year at the Village Centre

**Thursday 17 December**  
Christmas Quiz Night 8.30pm

**Saturday 19 December**  
Xmas Draw and Disco

**Sunday 20 December**  
Childrens Christmas Party (2-4pm)  
and Meat draw

**Xmas Eve:** Family disco

**New Years Eve**  
Live music with Red Tape

*Committee and Staff wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

As we say goodbye to the unseasonably warm autumn weather, we also say what may be a permanent farewell to our village dirt jumps (Byfleets Lane) as we close them to riders due to the muddy and therefore unsafe conditions. At the present time we are not sure whether the jumps will open again next year despite the great commitment and passion demonstrated by those who worked on the jumps to ensure that they were kept in prime condition.

Do you have a young person who loves their BMX bike and would want to use the dirt jumps facility? To keep the jumps open we need a small group of enthusiasts to work with the Parish Council to keep the jumps well managed and safe to ride. If you are interested in helping please contact Caroline (details on the back page).



**DIRT JUMPS**  
**BYFLEETS LANE**

# Broadbridge Heath Gala Association

For the first time in at least 30 years the Gala Association did not hold a bonfire and firework display in the village in November. This was basically due to lack of manpower and money. However, we were determined to put on an event to try and bring everyone in the village together and so it was decided to hold a Scarecrow Competition in September. This was a resounding success as can be seen from the article below.

Due to a dwindling number of committee members, even this event is in danger of not going ahead in 2016. If you are

interested in helping with the Scarecrow Competition next year and maybe reviving the bonfire and firework display please do come along to a meeting on Thursday 11th February 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Centre when we will be discussing the future of the Gala Association. The commitment we are asking for is not great, but it will make a real difference to your village.

For further details contact:

Anne Ryan – [anne@theyansweb.co.uk](mailto:anne@theyansweb.co.uk) or  
Viv Edwards – [viv@rh12.co.uk](mailto:viv@rh12.co.uk)



## Scarecrow Weekend 26th and 27th September 2015

The Gala Association, who organised the first ever Broadbridge Heath Scarecrow Weekend, has been delighted with the resounding success of the event. Over 30 entrants took part including individual households and families as well as groups and organisations within the village. The theme was TV/Film and participants were asked to leave their scarecrow outside from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Trail maps were distributed and the weekend saw a steady stream of people, map in hand, walking, cycling, driving or using their mobility scooter to get around the village to see

the variety of scarecrows. It seems that the entrants had great fun making their scarecrows and certainly those following the trail around the village had smiles on their faces. Undoubtedly the sunshine helped!

The effort put into making the scarecrows was fantastic and the judges had a really tough job to choose the winners. Winners in the individual category were Emilia and



Layton Hazelgrove who not only built an impressive Venkman but also provided the Ghostbusters van, green slime and music to accompany it. A really great effort.

In the group category, the winners were 1st Broadbridge Heath Beavers with Bob the Minion and lots of little Minions. The judges were particularly impressed that everyone was able to get involved by producing their own Minion.

The Gala Association would like to congratulate not only the winners but everyone who entered and was involved over the weekend. It has been very encouraging to see such a spirit of fun and community in the village. Well done Broadbridge Heath!

*Viv Edwards*  
*Broadbridge Heath Gala Association*



## Your District Councillor Matthew French



Since being elected in May, I have been involved in many issues across the district of which some do affect Broadbridge Heath. I also regularly attend the Parish Council meeting and am building up a good relationship with them as this is a vital part of working together for Broadbridge Heath. Two major issues have been the adoption

of the Horsham District Planning Framework (HDPF), which although controversial, now it is passed will give us control of planning and ensure that we don't have more unsustainable development; I am sure as a village who has suffered from this, will come as a relief to you all.

The other major project that is in the pipeline is the redevelopment of the Leisure Centre. I hope that many of you have had the opportunity to attend the presentations of the plans which have been in both the current centre and The Pavilions in Horsham. This is going to council in December for approval and is scheduled to start building in 2017.

This will be a great asset to the whole community and great to have it in the village.

Finally, I would like to let you know that I am holding a drop in surgery at St John's Hall on 9th January 2016 between 10:30am and 12:30pm, I am also being joined by our MP Jeremy Quin, so this is an incredible opportunity for you as residents to be able to speak with both of us about any issues that we may be able to help with.

However, should you wish to contact me in the meantime please feel free to call me on 01403 730040 or email [matthew.french@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.french@horsham.gov.uk). I will be happy to meet you and help in any way I can.





# Youth worker update

Toasties is a Youth Club for young people in school years 6-8. We meet on Fridays at 6pm-8:30pm. Sasha is the lead Youth Worker on this project and she has built great relationships with the young people. It has been running for 2 years now with great success and we are now looking to expand by starting a new club for those in school years 9+.

Youth clubs are great places for young people to hang out, play games, do activities and speak to a supportive adult, but in order to set up this new club we need your help. **If you can give just one evening a month to chat and play games I would love to hear from you.**

For the last year, we at Community Youth Work, have been fundraising for new mobile skate ramps. In the past I have brought the old skate ramps in to the village for the resident teenagers to enjoy. This has always been an incredibly popular activity with the young people. However, the ramps we used were old, worn out and difficult to transport and assemble. Now after a year of fundraising we have brought new and improved ramps. These ones are easier to use, with new light weight surface, more variety of ramps and with a half pipe that can be placed on any surface not just concrete.



With these new ramps will come regular skating opportunities to Skate, BMX or Scoot. We will be bringing them in during the school holidays. Keep your eyes out for our poster and banners around the village. It's great to be able to give the young people an opportunity to enjoy outdoor sports and work on their skills and tricks in a safe environment.

In October, we ran a trip to Thorpe Parks 'Fright Night' which gave the young people a chance to get to know others from across the district as well as having a fun experience. We will also be taking a number of young people away to Gravity Force at the end of December to celebrate all the hard work they have done this year.

I love arranging trips and residential stays as it is a brilliant opportunity to get to know the young people in a different setting. With this in mind we have lots of plans in the pipeline. Over the summer we took a number of young people to the PGL Centre in East Sussex. We are planning on doing this trip again, we will also be running a sports week celebrating the 2016 Olympics. The final thing we are looking at doing is a boys residential focusing on survival skills, so keep an eye out for details coming soon.

Finally with Christmas upon us we will be celebrating the end of the year at Toasties with a Talent Show, Friday 18th at 6pm. Have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year, Dan

**For more information on any of the above please contact:**  
**Dan Fairchild; email: dan.fairchild@horsham-matters.org.uk**  
**Mobile: 07702 492841**



## Getting ready for winter but let us hope we don't get snow!

**Broadbridge Heath Parish Council has an advisory team who work alongside Horsham District and West Sussex County Councils on an Emergency Plan for the Village. Part of this plan includes provision for 'severe weather' and our winter plan was agreed in the autumn.**

There are four salt/grit bins in the parish: by the bus shelter opposite Kingsmead, on the corner of Sleets Road and Old Guildford Road, in the open garden space in St John's Crescent and at the end of Wickhurst Lane opposite the Village Centre. These are full but if they require a refill then please contact the Clerk.

The bins contain a mixture of salt and grit that is intended primarily for use on public footpaths that have not been treated. It is not intended for use on private areas of land. We would encourage residents to help themselves to a bucket or small bag of salt/grit and clear the area outside their properties when pavements are slippery with snow or ice. No one should fear legal action if someone falls and is injured, so long as the clearance does not make the condition of the pathway more dangerous. Guidance on clearing snow can be found on [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk).

West Sussex County Council has a very good website which provides some very useful winter advice for residents ([www.westsussex.gov.uk/getreadyforwinter](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/getreadyforwinter)). You can sign up for severe weather email alerts and find out more about protecting your home, health and wellbeing, travelling in winter conditions and helping your community.

**The Parish Council is keen to hear from any vulnerable people in the village who may need support during severe weather. If you, or a neighbour, would welcome a call should the snow descend this winter, just to check that all is well, please provide details to the Clerk (01403 785864).**

In the event of flooding, please contact the emergency services as appropriate and West Sussex County Council if drains are blocked and need urgent attention.



**Refuse and recycling over the Christmas and New Year period**  
Additional blue topped bin recycling collections will be scheduled to deal with the festive packaging. For full information, householders are encouraged to use the personalised collection calendar on the Horsham District Council website at [https://www.horsham.gov.uk/bins/bin\\_calendars](https://www.horsham.gov.uk/bins/bin_calendars)

# Annual accounts 2015/16 and precept requirements 2016/7



The PC's annual accounts have been signed off by PKF Littlejohn, our external auditors and can be viewed on the PC's website.

The precept, the amount of Council Tax requested by the Parish Council (PC), was agreed at the PC meeting on 7th December 2016 and is due to be submitted to Horsham District Council at the end of January. The precept for each household will remain the same, approximately £49 a year (less than £1 per week) for a band D property.

As always, the PC is keen to ensure that its priorities and initiatives reflect the wishes of the electorate. If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we spend the annual precept, we would be most pleased to hear from you. Also, don't forget that the Parish Council has a small fund for helping local organisations. Details of our grant policy and an application form can be found on our website.

## Contact the Parish Council

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

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

**Clerk and Financial Officer: Mrs Mary Burroughs**

Tel: 01403 785864

Mobile: 07733 359479

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

**Assistant Clerk: Mrs Caroline Gould**

Tel: 07478 770056

Email: [asst@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk](mailto: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 a particular area 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: [viv@rh12.co.uk](mailto:viv@rh12.co.uk)

## Useful Numbers

**Sussex Police:** Damian Cecil is our Police Community Support Officer and he can be contacted by telephoning 101 (Sussex Police) and asking for his extension or by mobile 07824 820332. You can also drop him a line by email on [HorshamNPT@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:HorshamNPT@sussex.pnn.police.uk)

**Horsham District Council:**

01403 215100

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

**West Sussex County Council:**

01243 777100

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

## Forthcoming meetings 2016

Monday 4th January	Parish Council
Monday 1st February	Parish Council
Monday 7th March	Parish Council
Monday 4th April	Parish Council
Monday 18th April	Annual Parish (to be confirmed)
Tuesday 3rd May	Annual Council (to be confirmed)
Monday 6th June	Parish Council
Monday 4th July	Parish Council

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

## Parish Councillors

**Geoff Clark**

Fairfield Cottage, Guildford Road, Broadbridge Heath  
01403 241435

**Rebecca Clay**

73 Charrington Way, Broadbridge Heath 01403 258558

**Malcolm Curnock** (also District Councillor)

5 Paget Close, Horsham 01403 255205

**Viv Edwards**

10 Old Guildford Road, Broadbridge Heath 01403 240414

**Jonathan England**

Broadbridge Place, Church Road, Broadbridge Heath  
01403 253311

**Penny Hayles**

63 Billingshurst Road 07533 257566

**David Milbank**

4 The Green, Old Guildford Road, Broadbridge Heath  
01403 249548

**Roy Neilson**

85 Corsletts Avenue, Broadbridge Heath 01403 242265

**John Newton**

1 Farley Close, Broadbridge Heath 01403 267500

**Terry Oliver**

115 Charrington Way, Broadbridge Heath 01403 251621

**David Trangmar**

11 Pinewood Close, Broadbridge Heath 01403 254742

**District Councillor**

**Matthew French**

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

**County Councillor**

**David Sheldon**

01403 217312 [david.sheldon@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:david.sheldon@westsussex.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 [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.