



News

Broadbridge Heath Parish Council

Daffodil planting - see page 2 for full details

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Looking after your Parish

Your Parish Council is currently working on a project to improve the cleanliness of your village in as many ways as possible and two of the areas we are focusing are 1. littering and 2. dog waste being left behind by owners.

Littering

We are trying to reach all residents of Broadbridge Heath through our schools, youth clubs, sports clubs, scouts and guides, cubs and brownies, the WI and other groups, and directly to homes of



...Let's try to set an example by having an almost litter-free village right here where we live.



our residents. Like many other towns and villages dotted around the UK, we have litter being unnecessarily left behind in our parks, streets, pathways, roads and grass verges.

There is a countrywide action at present against plastic; the continuing use of plastic bags and containers, trying to reduce drastically on this and the disposal of plastic waste which is a major problem in this country and in very many parts of the world today. Here in our village, we are concerned about plastic waste but generally concerned about all rubbish and plastic, paper, carton, glass, and whatever containers or bags are being used for food and drink and are being thrown out of cars, dropped in the street, thrown out at any time, avoiding the use of waste disposal bins.

Your Council is responsible for providing sufficient waste bins to avoid items being thrown away in public areas but we are all responsible, as residents of Broadbridge Heath, to work hard at keeping our village clean and tidy. So our message is clear – Keep Broadbridge Heath Clean! Let's try to set an example by having an almost litter-free village right here where we live. Who knows, if we start it happening

it could quickly spread to other towns and villages in West Sussex and elsewhere. Happy days!

Dog waste

Really a part of the same subject which is about messing our village with litter and dirt.

Many of us have dogs and most of us pick up our dog poo, bag it and dump it in the special bins provided in the village for this purpose. Some of us, unfortunately, do not and this is not only a health hazard to our children and to all of us but it is completely unacceptable and should be stopped immediately.

It is getting better which is a good thing but we still have a long way to go to not see any dog poo in our pathways, our fields, parks and green areas, even hanging in dog poo bags in trees and on fences! If we need to place more dog waste disposal bins, we shall do this but please be clean, pick up after your dog and use the bins provided or take it home and place it in your own rubbish bins. This is better than leaving it behind where we walk and tread.

**Set an example
Keep Broadbridge Heath Clean!**

Update from your Parish Council Clerk



I have been with the Parish Council for over a year now, and am thoroughly enjoying working with the Councillors and the great team to bring about improvements and to

maintain our lovely village. In 2018, the Parish Council supported several initiatives including the fabulous new path to the tennis courts (no more muddy shoes on the courts!), and improvements to the Top Common nature area. If you get a chance to visit the Top Common area it is looking really lovely and attracting many species of birds, butterflies and dragonflies in the spring and summer months.

It was a privilege for Jon (Environment Officer), Lucinda (Assistant Clerk) and I to assist the Parish Council in its contribution to the centenary of the end of WW1 with the display of the 100 poppies on the lamp posts throughout the village, the erection of the flagpole in the memorial area and the silent soldier. It has also just been agreed to plant five commemorative trees at the Charrington Way recreation ground.

In the summer I mentioned that the benches were on their way... This year we have installed two benches at the

Top Common nature area and also the picnic bench at the Ducky – there is another picnic bench on its way for Charrington Way recreation ground.

The 2017/18 accounts were signed off by the external auditor and in November we had our interim financial and governance audit and received good feedback from the auditor about the processes and controls we have in place.

In April, the building works for the Village Centre transformation commence – the plans are looking fabulous (they're up on the wall in the Village Centre if you would like to take a look) and it will be a real asset for the village to have the building modernised. I'm very much looking forward to spring and seeing the 3,000 daffodil bulbs planted earlier this year with the help of the Green Gym in full bloom.

If you have any ideas or suggestions of things we could do to make Broadbridge Heath an even better place to live, please do email me at clerk@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk, I look forward to hearing from you.

Wishing you a happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

Jo

Annual accounts 2017/18



The Parish Council (PC) annual accounts have been signed off by our external auditors and can be viewed on the PC website.

The precept, the amount of Council Tax requested by the PC, for each household is currently £50.56 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 PC has a small fund for helping local organisations. Details of our grant policy and an application form can be found on our website.

Cycle Lanes

The cycle lanes, introduced as part of the traffic calming, are designed so that motorists can use the lanes when cyclists are not present, in the same way that the highway code allows for motorists to cross broken centre lines where they deem it safe to do so.



Daffodil planting

Members of Broadbridge Heath Parish Council were joined by a number of volunteers from Horsham Green Gym in October to plant 3000 mixed daffodil bulbs on the corners of The Common. We would like to express our gratitude to each and every volunteer for their efforts and dedication

Horsham Green Gym

Green Gym is an independent, volunteer nature conservation group, set up in 2005 and has continuing support from Horsham District Council. It meets for three hours every Tuesday and Thursday morning at various local sites.

Recent tasks have included resurfacing paths, crocus and daffodil bulb planting, hedge and tree planting, clearing streams and digging ponds to encourage water fowl or other wildlife. The group also has helped with controlling invasive plants such as Himalayan Balsam and cutting back vegetation encroaching on public footpaths.

Members enjoy the exercise, fresh air and making new friends. Everyone is able to work at their own pace and attend as many sessions as they wish. There is no charge to belong. Our usual tools are spades, hedging shears, saws and loppers. We don't use powered tools, except a drill when necessary. Clothing is chosen to suit the weather and the task.

Over several months, huge number of young silver birch trees were removed to return part of Owlbeech Wood to heathland. This has been remarkably successful as each year sees more heather and gorse growing where there used to be only trees. The work has provided habitats for insects and birds not often spotted in the area. Shallow ponds have also been dug nearby to provide drinking pools for animals and breeding sites for insects.

If you want to be active and help improve the local environment, we will be pleased to see you. Look for more information on the website: www.horshamgreengym.org.uk

SPORT IN THE PARISH



Stoolball

Summer Junior Stoolball Academy

BBH Junior Stoolball Academy had a great turnout on both days. We had to increase the duration of our last session to 1½ hours as the children had so much fun on the first session that we would have run out of time. The age group was from 3½ to 11. All of them joined in and had a great time. As with most of these events, without the help of volunteers they just do not happen. Big thanks go out to Ruth Arthur, Emma Turner, Isla Head and Ellie Polson as well as Broadbridge Heath Cricket Club for the use of their facilities.

We intend to do the same next year but for an extra week & create an open Facebook page to keep the local communities up to date for all the events during the 2019 stoolball season.

We are always looking for new players/umpires/scorers so if you think this is something you would like to have a go at please contact sallybooker1@btinternet.com for more information.



Broadbridge Heath Cricket Club

<http://broadbridgeheath.play-cricket.com/home/home.asp>

The summer of 2018 was a good one for the cricket club. An influx of new players led to our 1st and 2nd teams both winning their respective divisions and we go into 2019 with the 1st XI in Division 6 of the new First Choice Sussex Cricket League, the biggest cricket league in the UK.

Cricket has been played in the village for over 100 years but much work still needs to be done to keep it alive. For example, we are developing a partnership with the village Junior Football Club whose youngest members now use the Top Common for games on a Saturday morning. That arrangement is not only to share village sports facilities to ensure use throughout the year but also in the hope that this might lead to some of those youngsters playing junior cricket in the summer.

We also need to further develop our management of the ground beyond just the cricket square. At the moment, having a contractor to cut the outfield to the standard required costs us £1800 per year so we are considering purchasing a secondhand outfield mower so that we can prepare the outfield ourselves, saving money each year and ensuring the ground is cut when the time is right. We think we'll need in the order of £3000 and, initially, we are seeking pledges. If any readers can support us with this, even if it is just £5, then please go to the following link and enter your pledge - which can be done anonymously if you prefer.

www.spacehive.com/outfield-mower

West Sussex County Council has pledged £1000 to help us with this project through their Community Initiative Fund, so we have made a good start!

Colin Case

Broadbridge Heath Football Club

By now we should have moved into our new facilities on the land to the south of the Leisure Centre where we will have security of tenure for the next 30 years at least. It's been a long time coming. Next year we will be celebrating 100 years of Broadbridge Heath Football Club and for the best part of that time our officials have been seeking a permanent home for the club.

Getting to where we are today hasn't been easy. The club almost folded completely in 1998 when the District Council decided not to renew our licence to run the bar and social club at the Leisure Centre, but despite the difficulties of no headquarters, no source of income and having to pay some of the most expensive pitch hire fees in the county we have survived and our future looks bright.

The new facilities include a 455 sq metre pavilion with 4 team changing rooms, 3 referee rooms, a comfortable social area, bar, kitchen, meeting room, storage rooms, toilets and office. Outside there are three football pitches, one junior pitch to the south, the middle pitch shared between the juniors and

seniors and the main pitch for the first, reserve, Under 18 and Under 23 teams.

To satisfy the FA Ground Grading requirements for the level our first team currently play the main pitch has to be completely enclosed by a fence with a turnstile for entry on match days, there will be two small stands, one behind the goal for 100 people standing and one on the halfway line for 100 people sitting, floodlights, pitch perimeter barrier, footpath and dugouts for the management and substitutes.

With the new facilities we will be able to grow the club further, this season we are running 5 senior teams (first, reserve, Under 23, Under 18 and Veterans) and 11 junior teams from Under 7 to Under 15. In the future with our new facilities we would like to increase the number of teams we currently run while also reintroducing girls and women's teams which we did so successfully in the 1980's and early 1990's.

If you would like to know more about Broadbridge Heath Football Club or would like to join as a player, official or a supporter then we would love to hear from you. Please contact me on email at Andrew.crisp@BBH-FC.com or visit our website at www.bbh-fc.com/



Horsham District Indoor Bowls Club



The Indoor Bowls Club was opened in 1995. It is owned by Horsham District Council and is operated by the members on a full lease basis. The dominant features are an 8-rink green, a 90 seater restaurant and a fully licensed bar. We are comfortably the largest bowls club in Sussex and offer a very welcoming social environment.

We play matches against other clubs throughout the Southeast, home or away, and play internal leagues, competitions, and organised or casual roll-ups. All playing abilities are catered for and members can play this skilful, yet fun game, socially or competitively.

One of our initiatives has been to introduce Short Mat Bowls and 2 mats are in play. Members of the public are welcome to have a try and two free taster sessions on Friday mornings are available between 10am and 12noon. Advance booking is not necessary.

Two free taster sessions are also available throughout the winter for people who want to try bowls on Wednesdays from 7pm. Advance booking is not necessary. Free coaching is available to prospective members and everyone is welcome to come and look at our facilities at any time.

The club is located at the bottom of Tesco car park adjacent to 'The Bridge' the new Leisure Centre

More information on our website at:
<http://horshamdistrictindoorbowlsclub.co.uk>



We are very lucky in Broadbridge Heath to have three thriving units; 1st BBH Rainbows, 2nd BBH Brownies and 2nd BBH Guides. This summer Girlguiding has introduced a new programme based on unit meeting activities, interest badges and skills builders that lead into 6 theme awards and a gold award. So far the girls have really enjoyed all the activities.

The Rainbows have been out and about completing a community survey that they designed, learning about first aid and the importance of clean hands and having fun learning to tie up shoe laces.

The Guides went to a festival type camp called Wellies and Wristbands this summer at Foxlease in Hampshire which included adventurous activities, a pamper zone, hot tubs and live music.

WS2017 had wet Wednesday we had soaking Sunday!

I'm very proud to say the Guides won the group category of the BBH Gala scarecrow competition this year with their Winnie the Pooh characters. The girls carried out all the work themselves; sewing, dying, paper mâché, painting and stuffing.

This term the Guides have travelled up to Wembley Arena for The Gig Gig, a Girlguiding only event for Guides and Ranger where they have the opportunity to watch 6-8 different acts. This year The Vamps headlined. Next term the Guides are looking forward to the Monopoly Run Live in March where they go around finding and buying virtual properties around London.

All units are looking forward to our County Camp "There's No Place Like Guiding" this summer.

Inspire girls and have loads of fun doing it – become a Girlguiding volunteer. Any offers of help in or out of meetings will be gratefully received.

Sharon Newman
Clemsfold District Commissioner
ggclemsfold@gmail.com

Broadbridge Bombshells WI



It's been 6 months since our first meeting, and what a 6 months it's been! It has flown by.

We've now had our first official Annual Meeting and set the path for 2019. There's so much going on and something for everyone. And we have a fantastic new logo!

We have some talented pumpkin carvers on board and Jo trumped the lot with her bombshells tribute. The aching fingers from all that carving were worth the effort for a bubbly bottle of Prosecco.

What will we be getting up to next year?

29th January

How about having a go at some Burlesque? Feathers are optional!

26th February

Cake decorating – Tips and tricks from the professionals!

26th March

Easter Crafts – and we don't mean painting eggs.

30th April

Witches! Finding our more with a visit from the High Priestess of a Brighton Coven.

25th June

Stool Ball games and picnics.

27th August

Testing the grey matter while having a chatter at our Quiz Nights.

29th October

Getting spooked with ghost stories by candle light.

All the above with a glass of wine, slice of cake, a natter and a giggle! Every month, 8pm at St John's Church Hall
Facebook: Broadbridge Bombshells WI
www.broadbridgebombshellswi.co.uk
Email: bbhwi1951@gmail.com

Chairman's Letter

December 2018

It is hard to believe that we are coming towards the end of another year and Christmas is fast approaching.

At the end of 2017 I commented that it had been a challenging year for the Parish Council with changes in staff making life difficult at times. I am pleased to say that this year has been very different due to the enthusiasm and commitment of Jo Ball, who was appointed as Clerk just over a year ago, and Lucinda Edwards who joined us as Assistant Clerk in February. This stability has allowed the Parish Council to become more involved in projects to enhance the village whilst continuing with its statutory and every day work.

One of these projects was the erection of the flag pole at the War Memorial. This was put up to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I and is in memory of all those from



New War Memorial flag pole

Broadbridge Heath who gave their lives in the service of their country. This is particularly poignant for the village given that the roads on the development south of the village are named after residents of Broadbridge Heath who were killed or went missing in World War I and World II. At the Remembrance Service held on 11th November at St John's Church I was honoured to meet relatives of some of those whose names appear on the memorial. A Silent Solider and poppies on some lamp posts in the village were also put up to commemorate the anniversary.

Other projects have included the continuing development of Top Common (grateful thanks to David Bridges for his help with this), the provision of new benches in some areas and new notice boards at the village shop. A new village map is being prepared and should be installed before too long.

Hanging baskets brightened up the village in the summer and yet more bulbs have been planted this year to provide some colour in the spring. As we are able to, we will extend the hanging baskets and bulb planting into different areas of the village.

One of the roles of the Parish Council is to look after play areas and recreation and open spaces. The play areas and open spaces to the south of Broadbridge Heath are still under the ownership and management of Countryside Properties. They will in time be passed onto Horsham District Council and then, hopefully in late 2019/early 2020, ownership will be transferred to the Parish Council. We are pushing to take over the allotments earlier than this, so if you are interested in growing your own vegetables please contact the Clerk! Some of you may have noticed that, at long last, the new play areas are nearing completion. We understand that they will be open for use as soon as they are finished and have

passed the necessary safety checks.

We have been informed by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) that work on the final stage of traffic calming is due to start next year. This will involve the 'loop' being incorporated into the Newbridge (formerly Five Oaks) roundabout and the downgrading of the current bypass. WSCC are preparing a leaflet to circulate to residents to notify them about the works and will also put information on their website. The Parish Council will do their best to keep everyone in the village informed about what is happening and how they might be affected.

Councillors continue to work with the Village Centre Management Trustees on the project to improve and redevelop the Village Centre in Wickhurst Lane. The Parish Council recently agreed to take out a loan of £150,000 so that the works can be extended to ensure that the village has a community building that it can be proud of and is appropriate for its growing population. Building work is planned to start in April 2019.

I was sorry to accept the resignation of Philip Hogben as a councillor recently and would like to thank him for all that he has done for the Parish Council and extend best wishes to him and his family for the future.

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.



Community Speedwatch

Speeding in the village continues to be a concern for many residents. As a result, the Broadbridge Heath Speedwatch Group has been set up, and we are looking for volunteers to join the group.

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices.

Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is

blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated, enforcement and prosecution follow.

The aims of the scheme are to: Reduce death and injury on the roads; Improve the quality of life for local communities; Reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit; Increase public awareness of inappropriate speed

Volunteers receive appropriate training, and are supported by neighbourhood policing team (NPT) staff.

Speedwatch activity is not about interfering with neighbours' behaviour; it is a proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in the community.



For more information, or to join the group, please visit the website: www.communityspeedwatch.org

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 7th of January
Monday 4th of February
Monday 4th of March
Monday 1st of April
Monday 13th of May
Annual Meeting of the Council
(later due to election dates)

Monday 20th of May
Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 3rd of June
Monday 1st of July

Finance and Establishment Committee

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

Monday 14th of January
Monday 29th of April

Recreation Committee

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

Monday 11th of February
Monday 17th of June

Planning Committee

meetings to be planned as required

Election dates

Thursday 2nd of May –
Election date
Tuesday 7th May –
Members take office

Chairman: Mrs Viv Edwards
Tel: 01403 240414
edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Parish Councillors

Ian Blunnie
blunnie.i@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Geoff Clark
clark.g@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Jeanne Coker
coker.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Viv Edwards
edwards.v@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Penny Hayles
hayles.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Christine Knight
knight.c@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

David Milbank
milbank.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Roy Neilson
neilson.r@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

John Newton
newton.j@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Terry Oliver
oliver.t@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

David Trangmar
trangmar.d@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

Philip Turner
turner.p@broadbridgeheath-pc.gov.uk

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).

District Councillor
Matthew French
01403 730040 matthew.french@horsham.gov.uk

County Councillor
Christian Mitchell
07710 402115 christian.mitchell@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 WSCC'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



Mobility Scooter safety awareness sessions

HTCP are providing free Mobility Scooter safety awareness sessions for both new and experienced users. Sessions are held on a Wednesday afternoon's from 2.00 to 4.00pm. Each trainee gets a designated Tutor for the session. At the end of each session trainees are given a certificate to acknowledge they have attended the course, a Hi-vis Vest and a folder with all the information they will need to drive a scooter safely.

Get in touch to register your interest 01403 269 384 or horshamscootersafety@gmail.com. Alternatively you can view our website at www.horshamscootersafety.org.uk