



Bray Parish Council

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2009

To contact your Ward Councillor

BRAY VILLAGE

Christine Aspey - 01628 638244
Ken Elvin - 01628 624823
Chris Graham - 01628 778054
Margaret Pierce - 01628 622289
Mark Hornby - 07813 600615

HOLYPORT

David Coppinger - 01628 639523
Neil Basterfield - 07825 110814
Peter Janikoun - 01628 636891
Andrew Monks - 01628 628597
Leo Walters - 01628 627967
Chris Langridge - 01628 622244

OAKLEY GREEN & FIFIELD

Grenville Annetts - 01628 784441
John Foulger - 01628 631208

ALEXANDER

Helen Howard - 01628 782003

DEDWORTH

David Moores - 01753 868992

The number of Councillors per ward is representative of head of population on the electoral role for each area.

Police Surgery Dates

Below is the next schedule of dates for the surgeries held in the shared area outside the Parish Office at Holyport Memorial Hall between the times of 6.00pm to 8.00pm as follows:

- ◆ Thursday 26th March
- ◆ Thursday 30th April
- ◆ Tuesday 26th May
- ◆ Tuesday 30th June
- ◆ Tuesday 16th July

If you have a problem or local issue to discuss with the police, please pop along. Alternatively you can contact the non-emergency number 08458 505 505.

At last green shoots are appearing although unfortunately not for the economy. The period around the end of the financial year is very important to the Council as this is the time when we prepare our budget for next year and decide the precept that residents will be charged for the work that we carry out. We have decided that we will not only maintain our level of expenditure but will increase it with a number of projects designed to improve our environment. At the same time we have decided not to increase the total precept or rates as you would know them. How can we achieve this? Simply we are going to fund the extra from reserves. We maintain a sensible level of reserves in order to meet opportunities or issues that may arise. One example is our desire to purchase land within Fifield to give that village more green public space. These reserves are higher than is necessary because we have been very fortunate in receiving grants for items already budgeted for in the last two years so it is this money we will spend.

David Coppinger
Chairman

Parish Funding for Local Organisations

Bray Parish Council has funds available to assist local groups within the Parish. Two recent successful applications include Berkshire MS Therapy Centre (Reg Charity 800419, Tel 0118 901 6000) awarded funds to assist with therapy costs and Holyport Darby and Joan Club (contact no 01628 628982 Andy Innes) awarded funds to provide transport for members.

As well as the availability of funds, factors considered by the Council include benefits for the local community. Awards cannot be made to individuals. If you would like to be considered for funding please contact The Parish Office 01628 777997 or email clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk and request an application form.

Not willing to talk to the Police?

CRIMESTOPPERS are completely independent. Call anonymously with information about crime and you could receive a reward.

CRIMESTOPPERS
0800 555 111

Calling all Vegetable Gardeners!



The time to plan your allotment or vegetable garden is now and a brand new book entitled "Jack Says!" is available to help you. Packed with advice and practical tips from Jack Hopkins and other allotment holders in Bray, this A to Z of Allotment Management can help you to successfully "grow your own". Alain Roux of the Waterside Inn has written the foreword. You can order your copy online at www.jacksays.org.uk, by email from chris.graham@brayclose.com or by calling 01628 778054. The book is priced at £10 + p&p. All profits from the sale of the book go to the Bray Enhancement Committee, Britain in Bloom fund.

To The Residents of Bray Parish

As some of you may already know, myself and PC Pete John are raising funds for the completion of the new Holyport Youth Club. All contributions are welcome to this worthwhile community project and a raffle at £1 a ticket will be running until 21st March.

Please contact either myself or Pete John for tickets of if you would like to make a contribution ring: 08458 505 505. **Amy Shah**



Police Neighbourhood Action Groups (known as NAGs) If you wish to learn more about neighbourhood Policing Activities, please go to: www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Visit our Website at: www.brayparishvillages.com



Oakley Green and Fifield Community Plan



The Community Plan Volunteers continue to make great progress. The detailed Residents Survey was hand delivered to just over 400 occupied Households and a very positive response rate of 73% was achieved. Analysis of the Surveys is now well under way.

In answer to the Question – What is most important to you about living in the Oakley Green and Fifield Area? – the most popular responses were Rural Setting and Location. The majority of Residents said they felt safe and have had no need to contact the Emergency Services in the past 12 months.

Emerging issues include improvement in Footpaths and Bridleways, maintenance of Ditches and Water Courses to alleviate localised Flooding, more rigorous enforcement against illegal Fly Tipping, a new Children’s Playground in Fifield, better Traffic Speed and HGV Regulation and the reduction of Speed Limits in some areas. There is also a desire to have a new local Newsletter and Website, specifically for Oakley Green and Fifield, and become more involved in local Social, Recreational and Community Events.

Over 40 new Volunteers came forward and expressed a desire to help across a wide range of Community Activities and they are being contacted now.

In the coming weeks, the 8 Work Groups will continue to meet and work the Survey Data which will underpin the development of the Community Plan for our area. The Plan will be based what Residents have said they would like to keep and what needs to be changed or improved. The Work Groups are also looking for “Quick Wins” which can be implemented in a short time frame.

The Volunteers will continue to update the Community with progress being made through regular Newsletters, the local Press and now via a new Community Plan Website at www.OGAFCAP.co.uk .

Before the Plan is finalised, there will be further opportunities for Consultation and Feedback, so everyone is kept informed and there are no surprises.



It is not too late to become involved. If you wish to make a contribution and/or put issues and ideas forward, please contact Cllr. Grenville Annetts on 01628 784441 or grenville.annetts@btinternet.com or contact us via the new Website.



Holyport Darby and Joan Club

Holyport Darby and Joan Club is a social club for Senior Citizens who live within the Parish of Bray.

Meetings are held in Holyport Memorial Hall every other Tuesday from 2 – 4 pm. Members play bingo and enjoy tea and a small raffle, all of which currently costs £1.

At a subsidised cost, two or three outings are organised each year, for example to the seaside, a garden centre or farm shop and places of particular interest. There is also a Christmas Party Lunch.

The Club lays on a small coach to bring members to meetings and take them home afterwards. There is a small charge for this and the coach route is from Maidenhead Magnet Leisure Centre to Bray, along part of the Windsor Road and around Holyport, before arriving at the Hall.

Club membership fee for 2009 is £7 and anyone interested in joining the Club or wanting further information can contact Andy Innes on 01628 628982.



Support for Smokers



Not a phrase that you will often find these days, however where smokers form a significant percentage of the customers of local businesses, then Bray Parish Council will make an exception!

Recently both the Fifield Inn and the White Hart in Moneyrow Green applied for planning permission to construct Smoking Shelters to accommodate those customers who wish to use the pub and who wish to have somewhere to smoke. The Parish Council gave their support for one of the two shelters proposed at the White Hart and this was approved. However RBWM initially turned down the application from the Fifield Inn. A concerted campaign by local people, the Parish Council and Borough Councillors saw the shelter approved the second time around. All Pubs are under economic pressure these days, but both of these businesses are important social centres for the communities in which they are located. Bray Parish Council would like to see both of these prosper and believe that the shelters can help them survive the downturn. We hope that Greene King can be persuaded to find the money to build the shelter at the Fifield Inn.

A Parish Community Event

In 1996 a group of people in Holyport wanted to organise an event for the Parish of Bray to try to foster a greater community spirit and bring together the different wards of the Parish.



It was decided to hold an annual horticultural show to include flower arranging, crafts, preserves, cookery, photography and a children's section. The Parish Council was keen to support this initiative and gave grants to enable the organisers to stage the first shows. It is known as the Holyport Village Show and is open to all residents of the Parish of Bray. If this newsletter has been delivered to your house, you and your family are eligible to enter by residency. Entry is also open to families not living within the Parish of Bray, provided that one of the family is a member of a Society, Club, School or Group located in the Parish of Bray. A 'family' in this context comprises parents and/or partners and children living at the same address.

In the fourteen years since its inception it has become a successful annual event and the Show Committee is keen to have a greater participation throughout the Parish. The Show takes place in Holyport War Memorial Hall on the second Saturday in September which this year will be 12th September. Free Schedules listing over 80 classes together with the entry form will be available towards the end of April. Pop in and pick up a Schedule from one of the various outlets listed below.

Fifield:- The Fifield Inn (Please ask at the Bar)

Bray:- Bray Hair Studio, St. Michael's Church, John's Barber Shop (Windsor Road)

Holyport:- J & S Rook Butchers, Holyport Post Office, Elizabeth James Hairdressers

The Show will be open to the Public from 2.00pm on the 12th September so put the date in your diary and come along even if you have not entered and see what The Show has to offer over a friendly cup of tea.

For further information ring The Show Chairman on 01628 631259.

Aysgarth Park



You may have noticed that there has been some activity on the land between the M4 motorway and Aysgarth Park. The Parish Council has arranged for trees to be planted on

and adjacent to the bund with a view to improving the area and further restricting the noise from the motorway. A mixture of trees has been used, ever-green conifers on top of the bund and native deciduous species on the banking.

In addition to this tree planting, improvements are being made to the concrete foot-path at the rear of Aysgarth Park. In places where the path has been severely affected



by the roots of nearby trees, the trees themselves have been removed, the path dug up and reinstated. Where possible, replacement trees will be planted at more appropriate locations.

In order to fund this work Bray Parish Council applied to the Royal Borough for so called "S106 funding". Developers operating in an area are obliged to contribute S106 funds which are then earmarked for use in improving local infrastructure.

Stopping Fly-Tipping Successes!



Fly-Tipping is a continuing problem in Bray Parish and all across the south east. The high cost of disposing of building waste and rubble at licensed sites is leading to rogue operators and greedy landowners co-operating to dump waste illegally on Green Belt Land in our Parish. Bray Parish Council is working with the Enforcement Team at RBWM and the Environment Agency to address these problems. Recently there has been success at Silver Springs where the dumping has finally been stopped and at the land between Paley Street and Sheepcote Lane where the landowner was prosecuted successfully and an Enforcement Notice to prevent unauthorised dumping was upheld on Appeal. Local Residents and Farmers have played a significant role at both these sites by recording activity on the site and by keeping everyone up to date. If you see any very large tipper lorries regularly accessing sites in the Parish and believe that dumping may be taking place, we encourage you to advise the Clerk on 01628 777997 or by email to clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk or by contacting your local Ward Councillors.

Want to keep in Touch?

For those who wish to keep in touch with what is going on in your area, there is a new Scheme called "My Alerts" on the Royal Borough's Website. It gives relevant Council Information in a simple and convenient way. It is available to users of "My Account" and Registration is via www.rbwm.gov.uk/myaccount.htm or by calling 01628 683870. The Alerts are sent to your Email Address and tag such activities as Planning Applications, School Admissions, Road Closures etc.

Focus and Fix



As a Parish Council our responsibilities are wide ranging and so it is necessary for us to prioritise our objectives and effort. You may recall that we have undertaken a survey of residents and they expressed concerns regarding; **the local environment, law and order, roads and traffic, planning issues and publicity of local events.**



So, this gives rise to the proposed, 'Focus and Fix' initiative. In simple terms this means that we identify important issues as they arise and apply Focus from within the Parish Council with the aim of finding a solution and achieving a Fix.

Where do we **Focus**? When it.....

- * Impacts a large number of Residents
- * Has significant Health / Safety / Environmental / Legal Risks if not fixed
- * Is something which is High Profile and lots of Residents have complained about
- * Is not impossible to take on and Fix

What are Examples of areas on which we may **Focus**?

Examples are:-

- * Graffiti
- * Traffic and Safety on the A330
- * Enforcement Action
- * Drainage schemes

How do we **Fix**?

We assemble a "Swat Team" with the appropriate level of experience / skills / interests / time who will take on the problem and implement an Action Plan. If you have an issue that you think Bray Parish Council can **Focus and Fix**, please let us know.

Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers!



We need helping hands to assist with the delivery of our Parish Newsletter. The areas listed below are where we currently require your help.

Holyport Road (58)
Willow Drive, Bray Ward (12)
Lindores Road (36)
Paley Street (19)
Windsor Road (60)
Maidenhead Road & The Willows (11 & 13)
Forest Green Road up to Gadbridge Manor (9)

The number in brackets indicate how many houses are in each road or part of the road.

If you feel you could give us a little of your spare time, then please contact the Parish Office on 01628 777997 or alternatively you can email to clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

Green Waste Scheme



Don't get snowed under by Garden Waste ever again! For a regular, efficient Garden Waste removal scheme, why not sign up for the RBWM Council's new low-cost Green Waste service which started on 3rd November 2008? The fortnightly collection costs just £29 a year, with a reduction to £26.50 per year if you sign up for two years.

It means you will be issued with a new 240-litre green wheelie bin for your grass cuttings, hedge trimmings, twigs, dead flowers, weeds and fallen leaves. This increases the amount of Green Waste that is recycled in our area and can for some mean less trips to the Braywick Amenity Site.



To subscribe to the Green Waste collection scheme or for further information, please contact the RBWM Customer Service Centre on 01628 683801 or go to: www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/wm_green_waste_service.htm

You are Invited to our Annual Electors Meeting

Come and hear what your Parish Council has done for you this year, to include a speaker and the presentation of awards for Planning Excellence in the Parish.

The meeting is to take place at Braywood Memorial Hall, Fifield on Monday 27th April 2008 at 7.30pm where wine and refreshments will be served afterwards.

This Newsletter is published by Bray Parish Council and distributed voluntarily by our local residents.

***All queries and suggestions should be passed to:
The Clerk, Cherry Woodley at The Parish Office,
Moneyrow Green (to rear of Holyport Memorial Hall)
Holyport, Berkshire SL6 2NA.***

***Telephone: 01628 777997.
email: clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk***