



# Bray Parish Council

## NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2010

### To contact your Ward Councillor

#### BRAY VILLAGE

Christine Aspey - 01628 638244  
Ken Elvin - 01628 624823  
Chris Graham - 01628 778054  
Margaret Pierce - 01628 622289

#### HOLYPORT

David Coppinger - 01628 639523  
Neil Basterfield - 07825 110814  
Peter Janikoun - 01628 636891  
Andrew Monks - 01628 628597  
Leo Walters - 01628 627967  
Louvaine Kneen - 01628 675996

#### OAKLEY GREEN & FIFIELD

Grenville Annetts - 01628 784441  
John Foulger - 01628 631208

#### ALEXANDER

Helen Howard - 01628 782003

#### DEDWORTH

Georgina Smith - 01753 860940

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

### New Councillor for Holyport

Chris Langridge, Councillor for Holyport resigned in June and Louvaine Kneen was co-opted onto the Council in August. Louvaine is a local resident living in Holyport Street. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris for his service over the past 3 years.

There are three subjects that I want to address this autumn. Firstly the impact that the national economy will have on all of us. Earlier this year the Government withdrew money that was destined for a new play area in Aysgarth Park. Grants like this are unusual for Parishes so we should be able to maintain normal services at their current level, although the October spending review may have surprises for us all. Secondly we have the Big Society which, with RBWM being one of the four vanguard areas, will have an effect on all of us. There are a number of objectives, amongst them, to move powers to the lower levels of Government specifically Parish Councils; to give local people greater involvement in local issues, whether as community groups or charities; to enable charities and existing Council workers to take over services formerly run by the Council. The RBWM has already started extensive consultations on how we will make it work and it is very likely that we at Parish level will be asked to take on more responsibilities. How this will work in practice and more importantly where the money will come from we have yet to find out.

Lastly, I and other Councillors are often challenged as to what we do and how we spend your money. If you want to know more, then please do come to one of our meetings or even better, be prepared to stand for election next May, when both the Borough and Parish elections are to be held.

**David Coppinger**  
Chairman

### Bray Parish Church Restoration



It has been four years since we were first alerted to the need for some extensive repair and restoration work on our Parish Church of St. Michael's in Bray. On inspection, back then, things were not good! Weathered stonework from the upper facings on the tower could be seen scattered around the base, some of those glorious Victorian stained glass windows were showing signs of imminent collapse, walls were bowing and areas of plaster inside the church were cracking due to damp penetration. Not to be left out, our aged organ decided to give up on us and simply stopped on two consecutive Christmases.

Now, after a considerable amount of effort, prayer, (scaffolding!) and generosity on the part of the people of the Parish, we are almost in a position to take a breather, although we still need to raise funds for the organ. Funding for an on-going maintenance plan also has to be established if we are to avoid any further 'Emergency Appeals'.

*Ian Murray*

 **Christmas Opening Hours**  
The Bray Parish Office will be closing on Friday 23 December 2010 at 12:30 and will re-open on Tuesday 4 January 2011 at 9:30 am.

### Census 2011

Every ten years there is a census. It is important, amongst other reasons, because the government uses it to work out how much to pay each local authority in support grant. If the number of people living in this area is not correctly reported then we won't receive our fair share of the kitty.

This is advanced warning: the next census day will be the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

For more information, visit:

<http://2011.census.gov.uk/>

The law requires each of us to fill in the census form. These will be delivered at the right time and will be followed up by personal visits. All the personal data will be kept secret for 100 years, only the numbers will be released.



## Holyport Pond

As you may have noticed, we didn't dredge the pond last year. Although it was in perfect condition for a good clean up, we couldn't obtain the required licences from the Environment Agency in time. There is quite a short period when it is suitable for clearing: after the moorhen chicks have grown up and before the land is too wet to take the compost. At the time of writing we plan to start work on the 18th October.

Last year the pond was nearly dry, but this year we have a couple of feet of water to deal with. We were going to run a pipe down Holyport Street and pump the water into the surface drain outside Rose Cottage. But that would have required us to close the road, so we scrapped that idea. Then we thought of putting the water into the sewer running along Holyport Road but Thames Water, who own the sewer, wanted a ridiculous amount to allow us to do that. So now we are planning on 'wet dredging'.

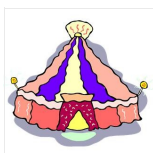
First, Land & Water Services Ltd. will put down matting to protect the bank. The dredger stands on the bank and has an arm 18 metres long with a bucket on the end. That arm will almost reach from one bank to the other. It will scoop up a mixture of leaf-litter and water, give a little shimmy to lose some of the water and then put the lot in the grain trailer, which will be waiting on the bank. The trailer will then be run up to Stroud Farm, via Stroud Farm Road or Gays Lane, where it will be unloaded. There will be 40 or 50 trailer loads spread over 3 or 4 days. The splashed water will run back into the pond.

At the farm, Paul and Simon Rinder will pile up the compost and then spread it on their fields. There will be a few hundred tons of decomposing leaf litter. It will improve the texture of the land although, surprisingly, it contains little nitrogen and is almost inert, chemically speaking. Even so, this is proper recycling!

At the same time we will cut back the bulrushes, which are growing too fast and taking over too much of the pond. We will reduce them by about a half, so that there is still plenty of shelter for the young moorhens next year.

We hope that the pond will then be good for another 50 years, when the leaf compost at the bottom will probably become too thick again. All our plans still depend on the Environment Agency not springing any more surprises on us, as they did last year.

### Fifield Fun Day



The annual event, held on Saturday August 14 this year was a great success. This was despite the heavy and intermittent rain throughout the afternoon.

Loyal Visitors were treated to many varied displays, including dressage and birds of prey, a miniature farm, a Punch and Judy show and ferret racing. The steam engine rides and dog show were also very popular.

This year just over £5000 was raised and will be donated to Rosie's Rainbow Fund, Thames Hospicecare and the Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association, each and every one a very worthy cause.



*Cllr. Grenville Annetts*

### Got a problem - Who do I call??



For those Parishioners who do not have access to the Internet, here is a useful list of telephone numbers of other local Service Providers from whom you may require assistance:-

- 01628 796803 Abandoned Vehicles - RBWM Streetcare
- 01628 683810 Building without permission - RBWM Planning Enforcement
- 01628 683830 Environmental Protection - RBWM Environment Team
- 01628 796803 Floods and fallen Trees - RBWM Streetcare
- 0500 885 055 Fly Tipping - RBWM
- 01628 683800 Footpaths - RBWM Public Rights of Way Team
- 0800 111 999 Gas Leaks - National Gas Emergency Service
- 01628 683800 General RBWM Enquiries - Customer Service Centre
- 01628 796803 Graffiti - RBWM Streetcare
- 01628 683804 Manhole Cover loose or missing - RBWM Streetcare
- 01753 835504 Neighbourhood Watch - Jeffrey Pick
- 01628 683530 Noiseline - 24 hour
- 0845 8 505 505 Non Emergency Police Number - Thames Valley Police
- 01628 796803 Paving Slabs loose - RBWM Streetcare
- 08444 828 354 Pest Control
- 01628 796803 Potholes in Road - RBWM Streetcare
- 08457 70 80 90 Power Cuts - Scottish and Southern Energy
- 01753 853517 RBWM - 24 Hour Emergency Line
- 01628 683800 Refuse and Re-cycling
- 01628 683800 Street Lighting - RBWM
- 01628 796134 Trees - RBWM Tree Team
- 0845 8 505 505 Vehicle Obstruction - Thames Valley Police
- 0800 028 3399 Water Leaks - South East Water

## Bray Parish Council Planning Award 2010

This year's planning award was presented at the Annual Electors Meeting on the 22nd April and it was another difficult decision. We look for developments that reflect and improve the aesthetic quality of the area and provide for the needs of the community as a whole. This year we had a shortlist of three excellent developments all of which showed great merit.

- Merley Croft on Old Mill Lane in Bray demonstrates what can be achieved in terms of visual improvement with relatively minor additions or development. The creation of a raised roofed veranda at the front and a pitched roof over the rear door tied into the rear extension adds interest and completes the structure.
- Long Chase Lodge on the Ascot Road in Holyport is a new build replacing a 1950s designed house. The design fits into its rural location and utilises oak beams around the doorway and porch.
- In the development of four private houses at Hayes Close off the Windsor Road, the house design is in keeping with the area by using brick and by breaking up the large window area with smaller top panes. Again the detail of the construction appears to be high with proper lead flashing used in the chimney and roof. Whilst the site is not large, the layout looks to be practical with sufficient space for parking and the areas between have been well planted.

Of these three, the development at Hayes Close was chosen as the winner of the Award for 2010. The Award was presented by the Chairman of the Planning Committee Councillor Chris Graham to former chairman of the Parish Council Geoff Hayes, who kindly represented the Developer.



## Bray Fete

This year's fete was held on Sunday 5th September, getting under way after midday, with an official opening by the Rt Hon Theresa May MP at 1 pm.

This is the third year that we have had a fete in aid of St Michael's Emergency Appeal, for although much has been achieved, we still have the organ to worry about, as well as future requirements to consider. We are, however, acknowledging the role played by the wider community by donating 50% of the profits to the Alexander Devine Children's Cancer Trust.

All the favourite attractions featured again, a Punch and Judy show, games and stalls, hog roast, teas, beer tent etc. Members of St Michael's Church do most of the organising for this immensely popular event.

A very pleasing number of people came to support us, had an enjoyable time, and helped us raise more than £4,000.

*Jim Tucker*

## Bray Parish Cemetery

*Have you given any thought to your last resting place?  
Would you like to be somewhere where friends and family can visit?  
Have you thought of Bray Parish Cemetery?*

You maybe unaware that Bray has a Parish Cemetery. It is located on the Windsor Road opposite Bray Lake. A visit to the cemetery would reveal a quiet haven of tranquillity in beautiful surroundings; it is also home to some magnificent sequoia trees. The Parish Council takes great pride in its cemetery and tries to maintain it to a high standard in honour of the people buried there.

Presently, further maintenance of the cemetery is being undertaken to improve the site. This involves removal of some yew trees, pruning of other trees and in due course, planting of further trees. Some maintenance work will be required to the chapel (not used for services) and the boundary wall and railings. We will then be undertaking some landscaping around the chapel.

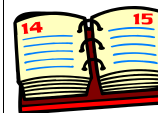


Please take the time to visit the cemetery and consider whether you would like to make it your final resting place. It is possible to reserve a plot by contacting the Parish Clerk; otherwise make your wishes known to friends and family.

## 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



## Parish Council Meetings 2010/2011

Full Council	Planning
15th Nov 2010	4th Oct 2010
13th Dec 2010	1st Nov 2010
24th Jan 2011	6th Dec 2010
21st Mar 2011	10th Jan 2011
18th Apr 2011	7th Feb 2011
**16th May 2011	7th Mar 2011
* 25th May 2011	4th Apr 2011
20th Jun 2011	9th May 2011
18th Jul 2011	6th Jun 2011
* Annual Electors	4th Jul 2011
** AGM	

All meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated and are held in the main hall of Braywood Memorial Hall, Fifield Road, Fifield.

Fifteen minutes are allocated to members of the public who wish to speak at a General Meeting.

Parties interested in planning matters are also able to speak briefly on specific plans, subject to notifying the Clerk prior to the meeting.

## What does Bray Parish Council do?

The Parish covers Bray, Fifield, Holyport, Moneyrow Green, Oakley Green and Water Oakley and extends into parts of Dedworth, Drift Road, Harvest Hill, Hawthorn Hill, Paley Street, St Leonards Hill and Touchen End.

The Council's Planning Committee meets once per month to review local Planning Applications and then provide comments to the RBWM Planning Department for their consideration prior to a decision being made. We consider approximately 220 Applications per year. In addition to this, the Full Council meets about every six weeks. During these Meetings, all matters other than Planning are considered - including Applications for Grants, relationships with other local Service Providers and matters to do with the Areas we maintain in our Parish. It also has an AGM and Annual Electors Meeting.

Members of the Public are welcome to attend any Parish Meeting which usually take place at Braywood Memorial Hall in Fifield, starting at 7:30pm.

Did you know we maintain the following Areas in the Parish?

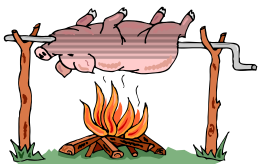
- ⇒ Allotments at Bray (44) and Holyport (22)
- ⇒ Aysgarth Park Open Space, Play Area Equipment and Youth Shelter
- ⇒ Bray Churchyard, War Memorial, River Slipway and Village Car Park
- ⇒ Bray Parish Cemetery and Chapel on Windsor Road
- ⇒ Bus Shelters across the Parish
- ⇒ Fifield Open Space and Verges
- ⇒ Gays Lane Playing Field and Youth Shelter in Holyport
- ⇒ Grass Cutting and Hedge Maintenance in numerous Public areas
- ⇒ Holyport Green, Pond and War Memorial and approaches to Village
- ⇒ Jubilee Play Area and Tennis Court in Bray
- ⇒ Parish Office in Moneyrow Green
- ⇒ Springfield Park Open Space and Play Area in Holyport
- ⇒ Some Street Lights, Litter and Dog Bins across the Parish
- ⇒ The Green and Causeway Car Park in Bray

If you see any problems at any of the above locations, please inform The Parish Clerk on 01628 777997 or via email at [clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk). The Bray Parish Council Website [www.brayparishvillages.co.uk](http://www.brayparishvillages.co.uk) contains a lot of information about the workings of the Council as well as contact details for local Clubs and Activities.



### Great News!

Bray Village has once again recorded a resounding success in the 2010 Britain in Bloom Competition. At the prize giving ceremony held in Amersham on 30th September the village gained a top R.H.S. Gold Award after impressing the judges with the impact of the floral displays and residential gardens. There was praise too for the participation of children and young people in the campaign, for the very well kept churchyard, the lack of litter and for ongoing projects in the village. Well done to everyone and thank you. Here's to next year - Let's win again!



### Holyport Fair

The fair is the largest 'cultural' event in the Parish. For the past 64 years, on the first Saturday in June, people have collected on Holyport

Green to have a good time. This year's fair was a record breaker, the weather was kind, well over the usual 2,500 people turned up and there was a record amount taken. The profits all go to the Holyport War Memorial Hall for improvements work. (You may have noticed the works that have taken place recently).

People enjoyed the Tug-o'-War, the Hog Roast, the BBQ, the Teas, Children's Corner, Coconut Shy, Dog Show, the fairground rides and loads more besides. There are attractions for every age range and next year will be just the same, although new games are added every year.

The fair is run by a sub-committee of the Hall Trustees, which is an independent charity, not connected to the Parish Council. There were about 120 helpers manning stalls on the afternoon of the fair, if we have more helpers then we can open more stalls; there is also room on the sub-committee; why don't you step up?

*Cllr. Peter Janikoun*

### Grants and Awards

The following Grants and Awards were made by Bray Parish Council since the Spring Newsletter:-

- Bray Enhancement Committee - £1,500
- Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust - £500
- Holyport Darby & Joan Club - £300

If you would to make an Application for a Grant or Award, please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.



***This Newsletter is published by Bray Parish Council and distributed voluntarily by our local residents. If you can help with deliveries, please contact Janice Eden-Bagley.***

***All queries and suggestions should be passed to:  
The Clerk, Janice Eden-Bagley at The Parish Office, Moneyrow Green (to rear of Holyport Memorial Hall) Holyport, Berkshire SL6 2NA.  
Telephone: 01628 777997.  
email: [clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk)***