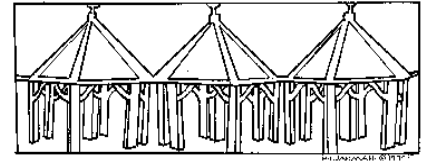


# THE BROMLEY BULLETIN.....



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## Abbots Bromley Parish Council Newsletter Spring 2001 Number 14

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### Parish Council Budget set for 2001/2002

The annual budget meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 10 January. After discussion as to the various regular administration costs, together with a number of special projects, the precept was set. This will result in a charge of £17.20 per band D property, a reduction of £2.47 on last year. Special projects for 2001/2002 are the renovation and restoration of the War Memorial, a village and Horn Dance information leaflet, and fencing and commissioning the new play area on Schoolhouse Lane. This play area will not be in use until later in the year, as access is across the old playground, where building work is due to take place during the spring and early summer.

The Parish Council explored the possibility of re-opening the toilets at the Goat's Head, closed after the withdrawal by East Staffordshire Borough Council from joint funding of the facility. It was concluded with reluctance that without a similar partnership the Parish Council could not afford to run the toilets.

### BEWARE!

There have been instances recently of an individual telephoning householders, identifying himself as an AT&T service technician, claiming that he is conducting tests on telephone lines. To complete the tests, he requests that the householder presses a certain combination of keys, and then hangs up.

People are warned not to comply with the request as it may give the caller access to their telephone line, allowing long-distance, international and chat-line calls, which are charged to the householder's account.

Any reputable telephone company should be happy to prove their identity, and are unlikely to approach their customers in this way.

### Village Community Transport Scheme

As a result of changes in circumstances and commitments of seven members of the group, the ability to provide adequate transport facilities for those in need within the community is becoming increasingly difficult and more volunteer drivers are urgently needed.

If you are able to spare an occasional daytime hour for this worthwhile cause (evenings and weekends are normally excluded from the scheme) and would like to offer your much needed support, please contact Len Ferguson (01283 840538) who will be delighted to discuss all aspects of the Community Transport service with you.

### Richard Clarke First School

Two ceramic Community Art Projects to celebrate the Millennium were completed last year. Members of the local community, staff and children, encouraged by the artist, Philip Hardaker, designed and completed ceramic pieces which were then combined to create large displays. *The Community Welcome Medallion* is on the wall outside the school near the front entrance. *The Tree of Life and Learning* is displayed in the school hall and was officially unveiled by Phil Drabble on 19 December in a special ceremony which was given coverage by Central News.

The support and positive encouragement given by residents of the village throughout this community venture has been much appreciated. The Head teacher, staff and governors would welcome feedback and opinions about the project and they encourage anyone who has not seen the finished items to call at the school to view them.

### Late bus for schoolchildren

*In response to a request, the Parish Council has investigated the possibility of running a later bus for children staying in Uttoxeter for after-school clubs, music and sports practices. Such a bus would have to be paid for, supervised and managed by the Parish Council and regrettably, the costs we have been quoted are prohibitive.*

### **Village Police Station**

Officers currently working from Abbots Bromley are PC Richard Boulter, PC Paul Ryan and PC Neil Taylor, under the control of Sgt. Ian Cantrill, who is based in Uttoxeter.

In addition, arrangements are being made to open the police station from time to time, manned by community volunteers. Initially, it will be open on Monday mornings between 10.00 and 12.00 and on Wednesday afternoons between 2.00 and 4.00. Any further opening hours will be displayed on the Parish Council notice board in due course.

**Abbots Bromley Station**  
**01283 840222**

**Uttoxeter Police Station**  
**01889 562222**

**Neighbourhood Watch**  
**co-ordinator:**

Jan Cook (01283 840928)  
**Crimestoppers:** 0800 555 111

### **St Nicholas Churchyard**

The churchwardens have highlighted their concerns about the churchyard. This is open to everyone, and is also used as a thoroughfare. As a burial area it is holy ground and requires respect.

- Please do not cycle on the pathways.
- Please put discarded cans and bottles into the litter bins, rather than dropping them around graves and under trees.
- Please keep dogs on leads, to prevent fouling of paths and graves, which causes anger and distress to those who tend the graves, and mow the grass.
- Please do not force the kissing-gate with cycles or rubbish filled wheelbarrows—the rubbish tip is for church use only.

*Thank you for your co-operation*

### **Know where you live!**

Recent newspaper articles and a special campaign by the emergency services have highlighted the importance of having your property and the road or lane on which you live clearly signed. Many properties do not display their house names and/or number, which can lead to delay in locating them. We encourage everyone in the parish to check that their property is clearly identified.

As well as having your home well signed, knowing your home's grid reference, especially in outlying rural areas, can be very helpful. The Parish Council has ascertained that individual properties, especially those outside the main village, may obtain details of their grid reference from the Ordnance Survey Customer Helpline on 08456 050505 or e-mail enquiries@ordsvy.gov.uk

### **Best Kept Village Competition**

The Mayor of East Staffordshire Borough Council, and Best Kept Village Competition judge, Councillor Peter Haynes, who attended the November meeting of the Parish Council, complimented the village on its efforts in the Best Kept Village Competition last year. He suggested that High Street might try and put up a few more hanging baskets as it had fewer on display than other parts of the village.

The Best Kept Village Competition judges visit the village from May to July each year and posters will be displayed to remind everyone to keep the village tidy. Please make an effort to pick up rubbish as you walk through the village, to tidy and enhance your house fronts and gardens so that we may stand a real chance of winning this year!

### **Tidy Village Evening**

The Parish Council would like to adopt the idea suggested by Mr Wilf Jeffery at the Parish Assembly last April that one evening be designated "Tidy the Village Evening". It has therefore chosen **Monday 23 April between 5.00 and 8.00** and encourages everyone in the village to take that opportunity to come out of their front doors and pick up litter from flowerbeds and pavements, to dig grass from around walls and steps and generally to tidy up!

### **Poster Competition**

The village also gains extra credit for the number of children's posters displayed around the village. The Parish Council is therefore running its **Poster Competition** again this year after its success last year. Prizes are offered for the best poster on the themes "Keeping the Village Tidy" and "Recycling"; these should be A4 size and as bright and eye-catching as possible. Please deliver posters to Meadow's Newsagent, Market Place or Middleton House, Bagot Street, by **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**.