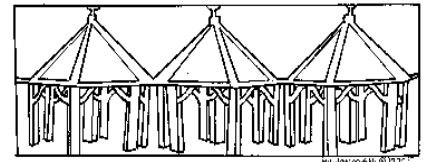


THE BROMLEY BULLETIN.....



Abbots Bromley Parish Council Newsletter Spring 2002 Number 17

Best Kept Village Competition

Abbots Bromley is entering the Best Kept Village Competition again this year encouraged by winning the Best Large Village category (East Staffordshire area) in the Competition 2001. The judges visit the village from May to July 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 again this year!

The Parish Council would like to continue the venture suggested by Mr Wilf Jeffery of a “**Tidy the Village Evening**”. It has therefore chosen Monday 22 April between 5.00 and 8.00pm 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!

The village also gains extra credit for the number of children’s posters displayed around the village. The Parish Council is therefore running its popular **Poster Competition** again. 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 22 April.

Roadworks

The re-kerbing works which have been such a feature of the village for most of 2001 are now happily complete apart from an unfinished pavement in Goose Lane. The Highways Department have advised the Parish Council that they will be resurfacing the main street “from the pedestrian crossing to Ashbrook Lane and Yeatsall Lane junction with the reservoir road...in February once kerbing works are completed.”

Betty Robertson

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Betty, aged 84 years. She moved to Abbots Bromley from Cumbria in 1955, and served on the Parish Council for some 33 years, many of them as Chairperson. She was also a trustee for the Parish Charities, a trustee for the almshouses, and a local member of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Butter Cross

By now, everyone will have noticed that the Butter Cross has sustained serious damage. Responsibility for maintenance rests with the County Council as a listed structure. English Heritage require a report on the extent of the damage and nature of the repairs required. Until English Heritage gives the go-ahead, the repair work cannot start. Regrettably, this is likely to take some considerable time.

Uttoxeter Plus

Uttoxeter Plus is the partnership which has the responsibility for drawing up a plan for Uttoxeter and the surrounding area - which includes Abbots Bromley – as part of the Government’s Market Town initiative. The Steering Group, which is made up of some sixty representatives of business and commerce, local government and volunteer organisations in the locality, has already carried out wide-ranging consultations. Three areas have emerged as top priorities with local people. They are to improve the town centre of Uttoxeter for the benefit of residents and visitors, to increase employment opportunities and encourage the diversification of the economy and, to improve local leisure facilities. It is important to understand that Uttoxeter Plus has relatively little money of its own to meet its goals and it will be necessary to work in partnership with other organisations e.g. East Staffordshire Borough Council or local businesses. Abbots Bromley is represented on the Steering Group by the Parish Council. For further details please contact the clerk, Peter Youngs, tel. 01283 840934, 7 Salter Grange, Abbots

Queen's Golden Jubilee

Events planned are as follows at the Village Hall: Saturday 25 May British Legion Jubilee Dance 8pm-late (fundraising for the kiddies party). Saturday 1 June Teen disco 7-10pm. Firework display at 10.30pm. Monday 3 June Show Committee Balloon Race, 2-4pm Kiddies teaparty with Mr Magico. 4.30-6pm Senior Citizens Tea Dance, 8pm-1am Jubilee Dance £5 per ticket. Sunday 2 June 2-4pm Fire Station Open Day with RTA display, breathing apparatus, bouncy castle. Monday 3 June Celebrity Cricket match dawn start. If anyone wishes to help with these events, please contact Jill Crooks on 840500, or Michelle Moore on 840280 .

Dog Fouling and Litter Problems

Despite previous requests for owners to exercise more care when walking their dogs within the village, the fouling of pavements, footpaths and verges by our four-legged friends still causes concern, particularly in the Market Place and Goose Lane. On the litter front, plastic bags are still littering the bottle bank area on the Crown Inn car park. Please take them home with you.

Ordnance Survey Map of Abbots Bromley

The Parish Council possesses an O.S. Map of Abbots Bromley and district which, in all probability, dates from the nineteen-fifties. It is fixed to a board which measures 4ft. x 4ft. The Council is prepared to "let it go to a good home", free of charge. Contact: P. Youngs, Clerk to the Parish Council, 7 Salter Grange, Abbots Bromley.

Support Local Businesses

Have you stopped to consider the wide range of goods offered by our local shops and businesses? The variety offered is a match for any out of town superstore and they are right on our doorstep.

However, unless we all make an effort to actually buy from these good people, or use their services, commercial reality may force them to close. Their problems have been exacerbated by the continuous roadworks this year, as through traffic choose alternative routes. So before you jump in your car to shop out of the village, consider the alternative and save time and money. Keep your pound in Abbots Bromley!

Concerns have also been expressed that the Staffordshire County Council **Mobile Library** service is not greatly used. If this continues – and all book loans are carefully monitored – it is likely to lead to a reduction, if not complete withdrawal, of the service. The Library Mobile Van visits the area every fortnight on a Tuesday, next visits 5 and 19 March, approximate times 12.10 -12.20 Greenfields, Bromley Wood , 1.30-1.55 Swan Lane, 2.00-3.00 Crown Inn, 3.15-3.25 Lichfield Road (housebound), 3.30-4.30 Bagot Arms.

Son of Man

As part of the celebrations for "S.Nicholas 1000 in 2002" the Abbots Bromley Players are performing Dennis Potter's play "Son of Man" in the Church for 4 nights April 17-21. Tickets are available at £5 or £4 for concessions from Mrs. L. Fox tel 01283 840315.

Vacancy

for Parish Council Clerk

The present clerk, Peter Youngs, is retiring from the end of April, after four years sterling service. The Parish Council therefore invite anyone interested in applying for the part-time post to contact Mr Youngs (01283 840934) for an application form and job description.

Millennium Green

A vacancy now exists for a caretaker. Duties involve checking of play equipment and the collection of rubbish, estimated to take one hour per week, for which the sum of £5 is payable. Anyone interested should contact the Parish Council clerk.

Allotment

The tenancy of the Parish Council's allotment off the junction of Lichfield Road and Back Lane becomes vacant from April 1. It consists of approximately one eighth of an acre. The annual fee has yet to be decided but is likely to be in the region of £25 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Parish Council clerk.

New Venue for Parish Council Meetings

From April 2002, all meetings will take place in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall. The following persons currently serve on the Parish Council:-

C. Talbot (Chairman)
L. Ferguson (Vice-Chairman)
P. Charles
Mrs. L. Fox
R. Jarman
Mrs. K. McLoughlin
Mrs. M. Moore
Mrs. M. Tonking
S. Wilson