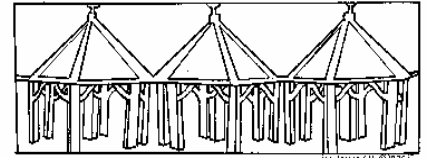


# THE BROMLEY

## BULLETIN.....



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### *Abbots Bromley Parish Council Newsletter Summer 2003 Number 21*

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#### **New Parish Councillors**

As only eight candidates were nominated for election on May 1st they were elected without a poll. A ninth councillor has now been co-opted so the nine councillors for the next four years are:

**Phil Charles (Chairman 840251), Bob Esling (Vice Chairman 840778), Clive Cook, David Eatough, Alan Elkington, Linda Fox, Roger Jarman, Kate McLoughlin and Jean Needham. Clerk to the Council is Eric Roy (840153). Monthly meetings are held at the Village Hall and the public are welcome to attend. Details of the agenda are displayed on the notice board under the Butter Cross, outside the Goats Head and also on the village web site, [www.abbotsbromley.com](http://www.abbotsbromley.com). The next meeting will be on Wednesday June 25th at 7.30pm.**

#### **Community First Responder Scheme**

Following a very informative visit by Abbots Bromley councillors to view the Headquarters of the Staffordshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust in Stafford, the Council would like to support a "Community First Responder" scheme in our region. The ambulance service do a marvellous job and Staffordshire has one of the best records in the country for response times. To further reduce the response time in rural areas, Staffordshire Ambulance Service are encouraging Parish Councils to support local volunteers as "Community First Responders" (CFR).

After a comprehensive training programme, which takes them to technician level, the CFR attend all emergency calls in their local area, allowing treatment to begin in the vital early minutes before the ambulance crew arrives. The volunteers are equipped with an on-call vehicle, defibrillator and other essential medical equipment. At the April Parish Council meeting Borough Councillor Wimbush gave an outline of how the scheme had been set up in his Weaver ward. A group of 36 volunteers have been trained to give 24 hour cover with the help of initial £30k funding (some from Staffordshire County Council). Bob Lee from Staffordshire Ambulance Service gave further details at our May meeting.

The establishment and operation of a CFR scheme is a major undertaking and will involve a great deal of work. It will only be successful if it is supported by the community that it serves and has enough volunteers to guarantee a continuous service. If you are interested in pursuing this scheme either as a volunteer for training or to help with the organisation, please contact Bob Esling for further information on 01283 840778.

#### **Playground for under 5's**

The under 5 children of Abbots Bromley desperately need somewhere safe to play. An open discussion to hopefully achieve a playground will be held at Church House on Monday 30th June 2003 at 8 p.m. Anyone and everyone interested please come along. For further details please contact Deryn O'Neill, Jelly Tots Play Group Leader.

#### **Best Kept Village 2003**

Congratulations to Aislyn Hall, Jack Walsh, Abigail Davis and Emmie Collier winners of the 2003 Best Kept Village poster competition. Prizes were awarded by the Parish Council and Studiocraft. The standard was so high that it was decided to award all 74 entrants a certificate. The posters will be displayed throughout the village reminding us all of our commitment to the Best Kept Village competition which runs from May to July. Many thanks to all who took part.

#### **Jubilee Cup**

At the Parish Assembly Jill Crooks was presented with the Jubilee cup for her outstanding work in the village: for 5 years helping with the Guides; Chair of the Richard Clarke First School PTA; organiser of many Christmas parties and discos for the youngsters of the village and running the nursery at Tom Thumb. Last year she was largely responsible for the organisation of the Jubilee committee which successfully ran the various celebrations for the Jubilee weekend.

### **Vital Villages Questionnaire**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the residents in the Parish who took time to complete the Vital Villages questionnaire. Initial analysis of returned questionnaires have shown many positive comments and ideas, which can be taken forward and developed into projects to benefit all who work and live in the Parish.

The response rate has been good so far, but because the collection was delayed in some areas, some questionnaires may have been missed. Completed questionnaires may be collected by contacting Paul Sweetman on 01283 840265, or alternatively handed in to Abbots Bromley Post Office.

The results will be analysed and then Public meetings held later in the year to present the findings. The questionnaire is not the end of the process in collecting the views of the Community. To ensure the Parish Plan reflects everyone's view, any further contribution is most welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact Paul with your thoughts and ideas.

Once again thank you to all the people who have contributed their views to make the Parish a better place to live.

### **Anti Social Behaviour**

This term is now commonly used to cover a multitude of events that interfere with the day to day lives of communities. How can the police service make a difference and reduce anti social behaviour?

Your community beat officer, PC Richard Boulter, is getting to know your community quite well now and when incidents arise he is often familiar with the circumstances or even the individuals involved. Sometimes a word of advice is sufficient to remedy the situation but where the problem is more deep-rooted such tactics are insufficient and Police Officers are now addressing these issues by applying a problem solving approach, i.e.

*What is it about the offenders that make them cause the problems?*

*What is it about the location that means there is a problem there?*

*What is it about the victims that make them a target?*

One lesson from this approach is that anti social activities generally affect more than one individual and if a group of victims are prepared to speak out and offer evidence to the police the outcome is always more successful. Now that the Borough Council have appointed a person to assist in co-ordinating action around anti-social behaviour the evidence gathering efforts of the police and community should be more effective.

If you have concerns about anti social behaviour and want to discuss it further then please contact PC Boulter on 01785 233972 or by email at [richard.boulter@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:richard.boulter@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk).

### **Re-cycling**

Raise money for the village by re-cycling newspapers, glass and plastic bottles. In the last year we have raised over £500 of which £240 has been donated to the Scouts.

### **Damage at Village Hall**

The Trustees of the Village Hall would like to appeal to parents to be more vigilant about their teenagers' activities. A number of youths have been causing damage; balls are being kicked against the glass windows, the balcony has been damaged and lights have been tampered with.

From now on the Trustees will be taking action by asking parents to pay for any damage caused. Failure to respond will give the Trustees no alternative but to reluctantly report the incidents to the police.

### **Problems with street lights?**

A new freephone facility is in operation to allow you to report problems with Highways and street lighting entitled "Tell Clarence". Call 0800 232323 and they will pass the details on to the relevant department for action. If your problem relates to lighting please quote the reference number on the lamppost.

### **137 Payments**

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to spend up to £5.00 per elector for the benefit of people in the area on activities not specifically authorised by any other powers. Grants have been given to the Vital Villages Plan, the Scouts and Guides, Air Ambulance, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's "Wolseley Appeal" and the Cricket Club.

The Parish Council have also agreed a loan with the Cricket Club to help with the purchase of grass-cutting equipment for the Anglesey Field.