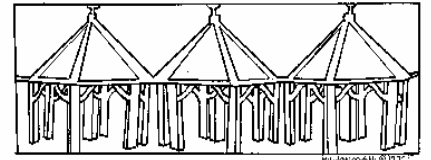


THE BROMLEY

BULLETIN.....



Abbots Bromley Parish Council Newsletter November 2005 No 28

Tarmac Trophy comes to Abbots Bromley

In this the 50th year of the Staffordshire Best Kept Village Competition, Abbots Bromley not only won the large village category for our region but also the Tarmac Trophy for the best overall village, large and small. The Trophy now resides on the village green for the next twelve months and hopefully we will be able to save the organising team the bother of removing it by winning again in 2006.

The village success this year is due to the majority of residents, young and old, who show pride in their environment. The caring image was noticed by visitors (and the BKV judges). The general fabric of the village and the reduced problem of litter and dog fouling illustrate the level of community spirit and involvement. Special thanks must go to the residents of Uttoxeter Road, Bagot Street, Market Place, High Street and Lichfield Road for producing the beautiful hanging baskets and colourful, well kept gardens. The well cared for state of the Churchyard was also noted. The young people and staff at Richard Clarke First School and members of the Abbots Bromley Brownies Pack played a big part in our success with their superb posters. Thanks also to the shop owners for displaying the posters in their windows. The Parish Council played their part by supporting the entry and on going activities necessary to achieve success.

Well done Abbots Bromley and let us look forward to greater success in 2006.

Quality Council Certificate Presented

In July, Abbots Bromley Parish Council celebrated the end of a two year journey when they were presented with the certificate of Quality Council status. This award demonstrates that the Council are representative, in touch with their community, competent and capable of taking on an enhanced role. Since 2003 the Council has worked steadily towards this goal with a process of self-assessment, making changes as necessary, ending with a successful submission. Clerk, Eric Roy, obtained a distinction in the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA) - the specific qualification for Clerks – in order to satisfy one of the many tests for Quality status. Speaking on behalf of the Parish Council, Chairman Councillor Philip Charles said: “We are delighted to receive this independent recognition of the quality of our work and we believe that it reflects the dedication and hard work put in by both Clerk and Councillors. The process of preparing our application helped challenge our thinking about how the Council should operate and required us to make some positive changes to the way we work, including the introduction of regular surgeries. However, we have no reason to be complacent, and recognise that there will always be further opportunities to improve the way that we communicate and consult with the electorate. We therefore hope to build on this success rather than rest on our laurels.”

Parish Council Surgery in Church House

The next Parish Council Surgery will be on Saturday 26th November, between 10 and 11am in Church House. A Parish Councillor will be present to discuss informally any issues or concerns relating to your Parish. The next Parish Council meeting will be 7.30pm at the Village Hall on Wednesday November 30th. Contacting the Parish Council can be made by writing to the Clerk, Eric Roy, 31 Goose Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DE or tel (840513) Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm. Further information can be obtained from the web site, www.abbotsbromley.com

Recycling

Well done to all who have saved bottles, papers etc in the "Banks" in the Crown Car Park. The latest cheque received was for £376 and has been donated to the Parish Church towards the new boiler fund. Please keep saving, but remember that anything put into the blue bags or plastic boxes and collected from doorsteps is not considered for cash repayments to the village.

Village Design Statement Launch

Following helpful feedback from local volunteer reviewers, the initial draft of the Village Design Statement has now been revised ready for more formal consultation. It is planned to have copies available in Church House between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday 26th November. Anyone willing to read and comment is invited to come along then and collect a copy, or visit www.abbotsbromley.com/vds

Village Hall Drive

With the help of grants from East Staffordshire Borough Council, Staffordshire County Council, the Parish Council, the Bowls and Tennis clubs and the Show committee, the access drive and parking area to the Village Hall has been refurbished providing safer access to our village amenities.

Footpath Map

A new notice board displaying a map of the village illustrating the footpaths and local walks in the area has been erected near the Buttercross. Giving information and advice to tourists and locals alike. This was provided with support from Staffordshire County Council and Abbots Bromley Footpath Society.

Abbots Bromley Show Committee

The appeals for new Show Committee members following the 2004 Show did not result in any new volunteers. Consequently there were insufficient people to organise a Show for this year and there are no current plans for next year. It has therefore been decided to make further donations out of the funds held. These donations are as follows: Village Hall as contribution to renovation of driveway -£500 First Responders £100, Under 5's play area £100, Children's Christmas Party £300 (TBC). The party is to be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 17th December. Watch for further details. This will leave some £300 remaining which it is proposed to retain as a basis of funding for when hopefully at some time in the future another Show will be organised. Bob Heaver, Mike King, Tina Scanlan.

Community Transport Organiser

After seven years as co-ordinator, Len Ferguson is retiring. Someone who could take over this voluntary work is urgently required. The job involves organising lifts when no other transport is available. A team of volunteer drivers share the responsibility and are paid expenses. Anyone interested in providing this essential service to the local community, please contact Len Ferguson.(840538)

Traffic Calming and Speed Reduction

The Parish Council has set aside some funding for improving traffic flow through the village. If anyone has any reasonable suggestions or new ideas to improve the situation or wishes to volunteer their services by helping with the Community Speed Watch please get in touch with Bob Esling (840778) or Clive Cook (840928).

Climate Change

Staffordshire County Council have undertaken a County-wide public consultation on climate change and invites participation from all residents of the county. Everyone can have their say about what actions they wish the Council to take to tackle climate change. Visit www.staffordshire.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/ to read more and fill in a brief on-line questionnaire.

Vital Villages Agent

Village Agent, Penny Ward, who has been helping those working on Action Plan projects and supporting the Steering Group for the Vital Villages has now given up her role. It is planned to recruit another person to continue this work, but in the meantime any questions relating to village projects can be referred to the Parish Clerk, Eric Roy.

Council Link -Access for All

The Council Link team can help with everything from council tax to street lighting and noisy neighbours to wheelie bins as well as having details of a host of voluntary and community groups to whom they can signpost their customers. They are based in Burton Library during the week including Saturday and in Uttoxeter Library on Mondays and Fridays between 9.00am – 3.00pm. Tel: 01283 508453 or email council.link@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

"Family Planning"

The Abbots Bromley Players will be staging their next production, a comedy, "Family Planning" at the Village Hall, Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th November. Tickets from the Post Office or tel (840247).

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