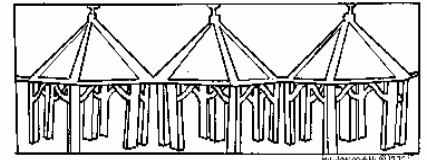


# ***THE BROMLEY***

## ***BULLETIN.....***



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### ***Abbots Bromley Parish Council Newsletter February 2006 No 29***

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#### **Parish Council Budget for 2006-7**

The Parish Council met on 11 January to set the budget for the financial year April 2006 to March 2007. This will result in the parish element of Council Tax rising by 1.8% compared to the current year. For a "typical" Band D property, the annual cost is expected to be £25.76 - a relatively small proportion of the total Council Tax bill. This covers administrative costs, grass cutting around the village, some of the costs of maintaining the churchyard and other green spaces, operating costs of the playground, continued repayment of the public works loan for the Village Hall, as well as providing grants to village organisations. The major beneficiaries this financial year have been the Project Playground with a grant of £8,000 for the Under 5's playground, the Village Hall for resurfacing the drive and the Community First Responders.

#### **Bulk Waste**

The Parish Council has been advised by East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) that the bulk waste collection service provided in previous years will not be available in 2006. Previously it was possible on four occasions each year to take larger items to a vehicle parked on the Crown car park in Schoolhouse Lane. The service is being withdrawn in response to more stringent EC requirements on the handling and recycling of waste which ESBC feels cannot be satisfied by these arrangements. ESBC report that demand for the service has fallen with the introduction of the brown bins for garden waste.

However the "collection" service for your bulk waste is being improved from the start of 2006 with lower flat-rate prices and this can be requested by calling 0800 269098. (NOTE: This change does not affect the paper, glass, tin and plastics re-cycling bins available all year round on the Crown car park.)

#### **Best Kept Village Competition 2006**

Work in preparation for this year's competition will start at the beginning of February. Anyone who wishes to help should contact Alan Elkington (841011) or Jean Needham (840481). If anyone identifies anything in the village requiring attention please contact a member of the Parish Council. This year, in addition to our usual children's poster competition, the Parish Council has decided to hold another competition for the best display of hanging baskets or flower containers on the main street through the village. More details in the next Bromley Bulletin. Unfortunately, dog fouling has become a serious problem in some areas of the village and anyone found to be ignoring the legal requirement to tidy up after their dog will be prosecuted.

#### **Parish Council Surgery in Church House**

Parish Councillors will be available in Church House between 10 and 11am to informally discuss any issues that you would like to raise on the following Saturday mornings throughout 2006 - 25 March, 20 May, 22 July and 23 September. Members of the public are of course welcome to come to any meeting of the Parish Council and make representations or ask questions in the public session before the formal Council business. Dates of all Council meetings are published both on the notice boards around the village and on the village web pages at [www.abbotsbromley.com](http://www.abbotsbromley.com). These also provide a wealth of information about events and organisations around the village including Parish Council minutes, reports and other documents. Clubs and other organisations wishing to publicise their activities can add events and details into the on-line diary.

### **Abbots Bromley Community First Responders**

Abbots Bromley Community First Responders are fast approaching their first anniversary of being operational. We have just passed the milestone of our 300<sup>th</sup> emergency response. Of those emergencies 74 have been in and around the Abbots Bromley area. We have also responded to Hoar Cross, Yoxall, "The Ridwares", Newborough, Blithbury, Draycott, Marchington and Kings Bromley, and we are grateful for the support of our neighbouring Parish Councils.

We currently have 12 dedicated volunteer responders with a further 2 undergoing training. Those 12 volunteers are currently able to ensure that we are available to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The most common life threatening emergencies are chest pains, road traffic collisions, breathing problems and unconsciousness.

It is an important part of our responsibilities to inform the local communities of our role within Staffordshire Ambulance Service and how we operate. We are only mobilised to emergency 999 calls, and are always backed up by an ambulance crew and/or paramedic officer. To this end may we take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of summoning emergency help if you or someone you know of is suffering chest pain, breathlessness or experiences any loss of consciousness. Please don't be afraid to dial 999, the symptoms can quite often be diagnosed in the home and won't automatically require hospitalisation.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us. As a volunteer organisation, we are reliant on the generous fund raising efforts of the local community. It is thanks to you all that we are equipped with the latest life saving equipment, which enables us to work along side and in harmony with Staffordshire Ambulance Service.

If anyone is interested in finding out about first responder training, or would just like to know how they can help, please contact Colin Palmer ( 840667) or Helen Wilson (841083).

### **Parents of teens**

There is an opportunity for parents with teenagers to help secure a new facility in the village. Planning approval for a multi-sports facility behind the village hall was given in March 2003 and the project now needs a team of volunteers to work together to raise funds to make this a reality. The planning permission only lasts until March 2008 so the opportunity will not last forever. Support and advice will be available from the Parish Council. The achievements of project Playground with the Under 5's Play Area (about to be constructed off Schoolhouse Lane) demonstrate what is possible. Anyone wishing to find out more is recommended to talk to one of the Parish Councillors.

### **Village Design Statement**

At the end of November, villagers were invited to call in to Church House and collect a draft copy of the Village Design Statement to read and comment on. If you missed out, you can download your own copy from the village web pages. The VDS team are about to start reviewing feedback on the draft and will use this to create the version to be submitted to ESBC for adoption as supplementary planning guidance.

### **Lambing time**

Local farmers are requesting all dog owners to be considerate and vigilant when walking their dogs in the fields around Abbots Bromley. Pregnant ewes and lambs are especially vulnerable at this time.

### **Clarence**

Any problems with highways, lighting or signs can be notified to "Clarence" on 0800 23 23 23 or email [clarence@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:clarence@staffordshire.gov.uk). They will take details and arrange any repairs required.

### **Recycling Bins**

If any of the recycling bins on the Crown car park are full please do not leave your recycling material along side the bins, but telephone 0800 269098 and report which bin requires emptying.

### **Bromley Bulletin**

The next Bulletin will be distributed early in April, the copy date is 15th March. If you have any items, please contact Kate McLoughlin.

### **Parish Councillors**

Philip Charles - Chairman (840251),  
Clive Cook (840928),  
David Eatough (840061),  
Bob Esling (840778),  
Alan Elkington (841011),  
Linda Fox (840315),  
Roger Jarman (840678),  
Kate McLoughlin (840409) and  
Jean Needham (840481).

**Clerk to the Council is Eric Roy (840153).**

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