



BRISLEY PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

March 2018

From the Chairman

Village life and the quality therein consist of many parts, the people, the environment and the facilities. I believe therefore that living in Brisley we should consider ourselves truly fortunate. We now have a wonderful amenity area, a thriving village hall, an excellent restaurant/pub a cricket club and of course, a highly regarded school. Nothing just improves without effort, it does need individuals who give their time, raise funds and are committed to village life. They know who they are and I'm sure we all appreciate their valued and continuous efforts.

Of course not everyone takes advantage of all the facilities available. But they are there if required and provide a balanced village lifestyle. You can now enjoy morning coffee and cake or watch a film at the village hall, have lunch or dinner at the Bell with a glass of wine, then burn off those excess calories using the adult exercise equipment whilst watching the children in the play area, or perhaps by joining a class of Zumba.

Please however, don't do anything to excess. I really do not want anyone to take advantage of the two defibrillators we now have up and working and available at the school and the village hall.

There are of course the odd problems, but nothing that can't be improved by positive communication, empathy and consideration for each other. The Parish Council are there to offer support and I'm now lucky in having Bobby, Henry and Sheryl as part of the team.

The Parish Council has changed its groundwork contractor of 2018. You will know from the Minutes in 2017 that there were major shortcomings with regard to grass cutting maintenance affecting particularly the church and Amenity area. The Council look forward to a better service this year. A further batch of tree stakes will be available soon and I am pleased that offers of help have already been received - but more would be welcome!

We have made reference to maintaining the dykes and water courses. This isn't an attempt by the Parish Council to be heavy handed. It is a friendly point of focus! If Anglia Water Authority gets involved and they find contamination getting into the watercourse, any individual householder can be fined thousands of pounds. The first thing they look for is badly maintained treatment plants or ineffective septic tanks.

It has been a long winter, but summer is just around the corner. I hope it is excellent for you all and wish you the best that life has to offer in "our" Brisley

Kind Regards

Ted Coe

Adult fitness equipment

The adult fitness equipment is now installed on the amenity area. Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of the chance to exercise, whether it is to "Work up a sweat" to improve your cardiovascular fitness or to work out more gently to keep your muscles active. If you have hip or knee problems the exercise will greatly help.

When you use the apparatus please make sure that you mark on the sheet provided on the new notice board to indicate that you have used it as we need to monitor how much it is being used.

Also please note the following Health and Safety points:

It is NOT children's play equipment. Minimum height for its use is 4ft 7ins. The equipment is intended for youths and adults.

If you are in doubt about your health or level of fitness consult a doctor before using the equipment. Do not use if under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Read the instructions on each piece of equipment before using and do not use it if it appears damaged.

It is recommended that you begin your exercise routine with a warm-up session, start slowly and build up intensity gradually. Stop if you feel faint or dizzy. After your session allow 5-10 minutes to stretch of and cool down,

Enjoy it! Exercising outdoors should be fun and invigorating!!

Annual Village Meeting

The Annual Village Meeting will be on Wednesday, 4th April at 7pm. in the Village Hall when all local organisations will be giving their annual reports and residents will be able to express their hopes for the future. It will be followed by the Parish Council Meeting, to which everyone is also welcomed.

Defibrillator

The defibrillator has now been fitted at the Village hall and activated as has the one at the school.

They are safe and easy to use with full instructions given on the defibrillator itself.

However it would be far better if everyone was familiar with the device and had some minimal training in both using it and applying CPR before an emergency arises.

Heart attacks can happen to anyone of any age without any warning. We have therefore arranged an Induction session on Saturday, 31st March at 10.30 a.m. in the Village Hall*.

Everyone is welcome to attend - just come along and bring the family - children should know about it as well - however it would help our organisation if you could contact the Clerk at brisleyparishcouncil@gmail.com or phone 667756 to let her know that you plan to attend. Equally if the day and time is not convenient please tell the Clerk and we will endeavour to repeat the session at some other time.

THE DEFIBRILLATOR IS ACCESSED USING A CODE. THIS CODE WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU WHEN YOU PHONE FOR AN AMBULANCE.

*

Light refreshments will be provided

Village Sign

The Parish Council have been getting estimates for repairing/replacing the village sign but the cost is more than we can afford from the Precept. It seems that the only way we are going to be able to afford a new one is if we can supplement the money with donations from residents. If you would like to see the sign reinstated would you please consider giving a donation towards it. All donations should be sent to the Clerk, or any Councillor .

New Councillor

At the February meeting Mr Henry Collinge was co-opted on to the Parish Council. Professionally Henry has worked extensively in Public Relations and in his spare time has been actively involved with an International sport as well as with local community relations. We are sure that he will make a positive contribution to the running of the Village.

Dog fouling

At recent Council meetings residents have repeatedly complained about the increase in the amount of dog faeces to be found on School Road, the amenity area and the Common. In response the Parish Council intends to get **the Dog Warden to undertake periodic surveillance checks. Residents are warned** that in the event that they are seen not to clear up after their dog **they will be liable to considerable fines.**

It has also been noted that on the Common someone is putting the faeces in plastic bags but then leaving the bags on the ground ! There is a bin both on the Common and at the corner of Woods Lane please use them - or take your bag home and put them in your own waste bin.

Advice to residents living next to a watercourse in School Road.

Following the recent heavy flooding and on behalf of local residents, the Parish Council has been requested to encourage all residents in School Road who have ditches on their property to keep them well maintained. We have set out below some of the responsibilities of residents and ask please that this advice is followed.

Thank you to those residents who do currently maintain their ditches.

If you have an ordinary watercourse(or ditch) running through your land or along the boundary of your property you are likely to be the riparian owner, or joint riparian owner, unless the watercourse is known to be owned by someone else.

Your responsibilities as a riparian owner.

- As a riparian owner you have responsibilities in relation to the watercourse flowing through or adjacent to your property. Your legal duties are: Pass on flow without obstruction, pollution or diversion affecting the right of others.
- Maintain the bed and banks of the watercourse (including trees and shrubs growing on the banks), and clearing any debris, natural or otherwise, including litter, even if it did not originate from your land.
- Keep the bed and banks clear of any matter that could cause an obstruction, either on your land or by being washed away by high flow to obstruct a structure downstream.
- Keep clear any structures that you own
- such as culverts and trash screens.

These are some but not all of your responsibilities, and failure to carry these out could result in possible Civil action from others upstream of the watercourse.

Your responsibilities as a riparian owner are based on the following legislation:

- Flood and water management Act 2010
- The Land Drainage Acts of 1991 and 1994
- Water Resources Act 1991
- National Rivers Authority(now Environment Agency) Land Drainage Bye-Laws
- The Public Health Act 1936

Amenity Area - access to nearby footpaths.

The owner of the fields adjacent to the Amenity Area has asked that we remind people that there is no access across his land to other official footpaths. Please respect this request.

Would you like to help your Village?

Volunteers required

We are still looking for people who are interested in contributing to their village. Perhaps you could assist in staking fallen trees, tidying, gardening, general maintenance, litter picking, hedge cutting, speedwatch or helping out at events. You may only have the occasional hour or two to give but all will be welcomed. We are lucky in Brisley to have the Common, the amenity area and churchyard but they all require upkeep – volunteers could greatly assist with this, thereby saving Parish Funds for spending when more specialised help is required. If you are interested in helping please contact the Clerk, Sheryl Irving, by email: brisleyparishcouncil@gmail.com or by tel: 667756 - You never know you might enjoy it, meet some new people AND make a valuable contribution to the village.

Allotments

There are still one or two plots available. If you know of anyone likely to be interested, whether from within the village or from outside, please get them to contact the Clerk for more details.

Village Hall & Cinema

To hire the Hall contact Dave Pearson on 01362 667853

As a committee we are always striving to improve the hall, not just in terms of facilities but also by organising events that the community feel they can support. All community buildings need money to keep them going and our village hall is exactly the same. Without continued support it becomes very difficult to carry out improvements. As a consequence, we will shortly be distributing a short questionnaire asking what type of event you would like to see organised.

We have a number of regular hirers and have recently acquired two more long term bookings, namely “Stay and Play” and “Tai Chi”. We are extremely grateful to all of the individuals / groups who hire the hall.

Our Race Night scheduled for the 3rd of March was cancelled due to the snow and icy conditions. We are now holding the event on the 7th of April. This event is not only good in terms of revenue for the hall but is a fun night and enjoyed by all. It is likely to become a regular event. Please book your tickets by calling Dave on 07816 139926 or 01362 667853.

We recently resurfaced the village hall car park. We had asked for some assistance to help to spread the ten tons of gravel, the this was spread in record time meaning that we could order another 20 tons and complete the whole job by lunchtime, it was fantastic to see how many people turned out, armed with wheelbarrows, shovels, and other equipment it made the task so much easier. The real bonus was that Colin Bidewell brought his trusty tractor along which simplified the task. There were rumours that the machine was showing signs of age, the bodywork past its best and that it had some issues with its hydraulics. Perhaps an onlooker may have said the same about some of the human spreaders! A huge thank you to everyone who gave their time.

The picture below shows some of the people involved in the work.



Thanks also to the people who donated hardcore to fill in the dreaded potholes.

We intend to allocate some areas of the car park for people with mobility issues and plant some low maintenance shrubs to soften the building.

Future planned events include a Treasure Hunt in July, the return of the Christmas market in November and in the early stages of planning an event for early 2019 when you could see your Village Hall committee as you have never seen them before!!

Thanks for your continued support

“Brisley Village Hall is for the community and is maintained by the community”

Village Cinema exciting news!

Our next screening at Brisley Village cinema is Murder on the Orient Express on Friday 20th April at 2.30 & 7.30. The village cinema is now established and we have been pleased by the attendances at screenings, however, due to high demands from film distributors plus administration fees payable to our provider it has become difficult to justify the time spent by the organisers against the return for the Village Hall. We have also been limited to showing mainstream films from a list of 30 or so each quarter.

A solution has been sought and found. It is known as the Umbrella licence and is film industry provided.

For a one-off fee per year, we can show any film (released on dvd or Blu Ray) at any time as often as we want, subject to the equipment being available.

There are some restrictions, the main ones are: Firstly, we cannot advertise specific film titles commercially, Village noticeboards, Facebook closed groups, email notifications are ok, Websites, parish magazines are not. We hope, with your help, to build up an email contact list to let everyone who is interested know what films are coming up at your local cinema. Titles planned for the coming months include **Paddington 2**, **The Greatest Showman**, **Finding your Feet** and **Darkest Hour**, hopefully something for everyone! We will email out to as many people as we can with details of what's on, to help with this please send a brief email to dpearson1954@yahoo.co.uk so that we can compile a mailing list.

Secondly, we cannot charge for admission but we can offer refreshments, tea, coffee, popcorn plus a raffle ticket on entry (all for £4.50) which would also allow the individual to watch the film.

The changes will come into effect at our May screening.

This gives us the opportunity to show different types of films, we could have themed evenings for example, movies for the men, movies for the ladies, movies for the children, in fact something for everyone.

We can now tell you all that we have been successful in obtaining one of these licences, any groups wishing to show films in the future please contact Dave or Ian.

The Monthly Coffee Mornings are in full swing in the Village hall. We meet up on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 10.30 to about 12 noon, to sample delicious cakes with our tea and coffee and to enjoy some good company.

Did you know there is a village Facebook page ? “Brisley Village Hall & Social”. Why not join and keep up to date with what is happening locally ?

Computer Course

The Bell are sponsoring **The Club – a Community Crash Course for Computers!** If you're befuddled by Macs, confused by Instagram or bewildered by eBay, go to their free drop in sessions. Keep an eye on their website and social media to find out when the next series of courses is due to run.

Renovation of the ponds around the Common

At the next Council meeting we will be discussing the possible renovation of the ponds around the Common.

Parish Councillors

Edward Coe Chair

Tel: 01362 6677 edwardcoe271@btinternet.com

Katherine Brown V.Chair

Tel: 01362 668680 kwalkerbrown@gmail.com

Tony Irons

Tel: 01362 668172 tony.irons@btinternet.com

Peter Dennis

Tel: 01362 668003 Pdfs10@hotmail.com

Nicola Curl

Nicolacurl@hotmail.com

Robert Green

Tel: 01362 668346 sgeorgina69@btinternet.com

Henry Collinge

Tel: 01362 668204 66collinge.henry@gmail.com

Clerk to the Council

Sheryl Irving Tel: 01362 667756

07531413267

e-mail: brisleyparishcouncil@gmail.com

Mobile Library Times and Dates

14.25 – 14.40 The Common

14.45 - 15.00 Brisley Hill

Dates: 11th April

9th May

6th June

4th July

1st August

29th August

26th September

