

Broad Town Parish Council Newsletter – Summer 2017

Who we are & contact details: -

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|------------------------|--|--|
| Chairperson | - Councillor Mrs J E Jordan | jjordanbtpc@gmail.com |
| Vice Chairperson | - Councillor Mrs S G Hartley | hartleybroadtown@hotmail.com |
| Councillor S J Billis | | simon.billis@btinternet.com |
| Councillor M A Holland | | mahollbtpc@gmail.com |
| Councillor B Joyce | | bjoycebtpc@gmail.com |
| Councillor A R Pearce | | rpearcebtpc@gmail.com |
| Councillor C J Rendell | | judithmrendell@outlook.com |
| OFFICERS: | Mrs L A Roberts – Interim Parish Clerk | strebor1504@outlook.com |
| | Parish Clerk (TBA) | BroadTownParishClerk@gmail.com |

Broad Town Parish Council Website: -

<http://www.broad-town.co.uk/ParishCouncil/ParishCouncilDocuments/tabid/323/Default.aspx>

Our values and behaviours

To serve the Parish of Broad Town in an open, honest and transparent way that is beyond reproach.

To treat individuals and their views with decency and respect.

To actively represent the interests of Broad Town with other local authorities, bodies and organisations.

Communications

Meeting schedule

Please set these dates aside for your calendar

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topics other than normal Business</u> |
|--|--|
| Monday 11 th September 2017 | Approval of Completed Audit Report Consider Grant Applications for Community Fund |
| Monday 9 th October 2017 | |
| Monday 13 th November 2017 | |
| Monday 11 th December 2017 | Consider draft Budget proposals |
| Monday 8 th January 2018 | Budget Setting and Precept to be agreed |
| Monday 12 th February 2018 | |
| Monday 12 th March 2018 | Consider and award applications for Community Fund |
| Monday 26 th March 2018 | Annual Parish Meeting. Meeting of the Electors of the Parish |
| Monday 9 th April 2018 | |
| Monday 14 th May 2018 | Annual Meeting |

Before each Parish Council Meeting starts there will be a period for all members of the public to ask questions of the Parish Council. We hope to be able to serve light refreshments at the beginning of each meeting. This is an opportunity to informally discuss any issue with Parish Councillors before the start of the meeting.

Contacting the Parish Council.

The best way to contact the Parish Council is to either email or write, this will ensure that if needed the matter can be raised at the next Parish Council meeting. The clerk should be contacted in the first instance

- Contact the Parish Council on –
 - o BroadTownParishClerk@gmail.com
 - o Hardcopy address required when available
 - o (Phone number for normal office hours required when available)
- All formats of emails can be used – e.g. freeform text, Microsoft Word
- If the topic needs to be raised at the next Parish Council meeting it should be received 7 working days before the next meeting
- You should expect an acknowledgment or response within 5 working days
- Only the Parish Clerk or Chairperson are authorised to issue Parish Council documents or communications.
- The Parish Council will not respond to abusive, and/or anonymous communications.
- All communications to the Parish Clerk and individual Parish Councillors will be kept in line with regulatory requirements and may be released if required for Freedom of Information requests.

The website and Parish Council notice boards in the Village (situated at Redhills and the Village Hall) will be the main conveyors of Parish Council information.

A monthly update will continue to be published in the Broad Town News.

Email circulation list.

The Parish Council wishes to maintain an email circulation list to be used for circulating Parish Council communications. If you would like to be added or removed from the Parish Council email list at any time please email the Parish Clerk with your details.

The circulation list will not be used for any business other than Parish Council business, or passed to any individual or organisation

Distribution of short notice / important / emergency information.

This information will be distributed via the Parish Council web site, notice boards, and the email circulation list. In exceptional circumstances a leaflet drop may be made.

Freedom of Information (Fol) and data protection.

The Parish Council is subject to both Fol and data protection laws.

Finance

The Parish Council sets a yearly budget. See what this budget is and how it is spent, follow this URL for further details (data will be updated as the financial year progresses):-

<http://www.broad-town.co.uk/ParishCouncil/ParishCouncilDocuments/tabid/323/ID/1371/Parish-Council-Budget-2017-2018.aspx>

What we want to achieve

Speeding traffic

The Parish Council recognises that speeding traffic in the village is a significant issue and sees this as a priority. Why do we need to control speeding? – here is a summary of a speeding analysis presented at the Annual Parish Meeting: -

Metrocount (twin wires running across the road) results:

- The metrocount recorded **360 hours** of traffic information. Unbelievably only **13 hours** recorded 85% of the traffic travelling at or below the sign posted speed limit
- 15% of the traffic is travelling at
 - o > 38mph in the 30mph part of the village

- o > 41mph in the 40mph part of the village
- On average 85 vehicles pass per hour but this rises to 180 in the week at peak times (8 o'clock in the morning and 5 o'clock evening)
- The metrocount readings clearly demonstrate the 8 o'clock and 5 o'clock week day peak times. Saturday peak time differs (12:00-1400) and interestingly Sunday has a peak between 07:00-09:00
- Although less traffic at night the results show excessive night time speed of > 50 mph
- On average **1,550** vehicles pass through BT daily
- 85% of the traffic at **0500hrs and 2300hrs** will be exceeding **50mph**
- Metrocount readings in 2012 compared to 2013 jump from **11,133** to **15,439** respectively – our road sees an increase of 25% more traffic

The Parish Council intends to develop a policy for the placement of Speed Indication Devices. More detail to follow

Footpaths

The Parish Council intends to set up a footpath improvement and restoration group within the community under the auspices of the Parish Council. Some footpaths are completely over grown and impassable: some have almost been lost. The footpaths form an important part of the recreation facilities in the village and the Parish Council is determined that they should not deteriorate further.

Playground at Redhills

Many ideas were raised at the Annual Parish Meeting for further improvement to the children's playground, e.g.:

- Improvements to the football pitch and goals
- Place for small children to ride bikes safely
- A bench for parents.

These will be considered by the Council and funding options reviewed.

Neighbourhood Plan

Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard and Tockenham have all now withdrawn from the North East Wiltshire Villages (NEW-V) Neighbourhood Area. Each Parish has now had formal notification of their own Designated Neighbourhood Area

Annual Parish Council Meeting (APM)

A very well attended and successful APM held in June. There are some great updates from the Village Communities. A 'sneak' preview of the draft minutes can be found here: -

<http://www.broad-town.co.uk/ParishCouncil/ParishCouncilDocuments/tabid/323/ID/1372/Minutes-of-the-Annual-Meeting-of-the-Parish-2017.aspx>

(These draft minutes will not be approved until the next APM scheduled to be held in March 2018)

Community Fund.

Funds for the Good Energy Community fund come from the production of electricity at Rook Wood Solar Farm at Goldsborough, the funds are for use by the community of Broad Town. A sum of approximately £5,000 is annually given to a fund held in trust by the Parish Council. The fund is then administered by the Parish Council in accordance with the guidance set out by Good Energy.

Who can apply?

- To qualify for funding preference will be given to applicants based within Broad Town although applications from organisations based elsewhere will also be considered providing they demonstrate significant benefit to the community of Broad Town.
- Not for profit organisations who can be considered are:

- Registered Charities
- Voluntary Groups
- Community Groups
- Clubs
- School/pre-school parent associations

Individuals may apply but only with relation to a specific project with a community focus. Full details of the criteria and application forms are available from the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Council make decisions on all funding applications twice yearly in March and September.

Parish Matters

Parish Steward Scheme

Wilts CC run a Parish Steward scheme where a 'man with a van' visits the Parish 10 times a year, excluding August & December, to undertake minor repairs. Each visit is for 2 days.

The Steward is limited to using only hand tools (including small power tools). Tasks he will undertake are:-

- Hand clearing and cutting of growth from drainage grips and drain gully covers
- Hand clearing of blocked drainage gullies, grips, culverts, pipes and pits (unable to jet system)
- Clearing storm debris from the roads and footways
- Pedestrian barriers preparation and painting
- Cleaning and straightening of small road signs, street nameplates and bollards
- Securing of existing small road signs, verge marker posts and supplied street name plates
- Removal of limited graffiti from road signs, bollards and street nameplates
- Hand cutting of grass and vegetation in visibility areas
- Hand treatment of weeds
- Hand clearance of encroaching growth and soils from footways
- Repair of small potholes in roads and on footways

To clarify he will not cut hedges back; they are the responsibility of the land owner.

If you spot any work that is required drop the Parish Clerk an email with the heading 'Parish Steward Work Required' with the work required and location. The Parish Clerk will the consolidate work and pass onto Wilts CC.

Depending on the volume of work tasks may need to be prioritised, any work not undertaken will be rolled into the next visit.

My Wilts online reporting

Use the My Wilts online reporting for more serious issues such as:-

- Highways and Street Scene issues
- Environmental Enforcement
- Trading Standards
- Car parks
- Weather emergencies
- Waste
- Fraud
- Link: -
 - <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-online-reporting>

There is also an app that can be downloaded (see link on website)