

Upper Beeding Parish Council News

The Magazine for the Parish of Upper Beeding, Small Dole and Edburton



Contact us:

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By the time you read this Christmas will be gone – and I hope that you had a good one – and we will be into the New Year. I wish that all our readers have a happy and successful 2008. You will see elsewhere in this issue that a joint fete is being proposed for Upper Beeding and Bramber involving a number of organisations; this is a great proposal which I hope will do much for the two villages which are such close neighbours and yet which sometimes seem to be so far apart.

The Parish Council continues to press on with various initiatives; regrettably we cannot go as fast as we would like and have to accept the various restraints that are imposed on local government – the wheels turn slowly but they do turn! Steady progress is being made on the changing rooms project and it is to be hoped that planning permission will be sought shortly; the refurbishment of the playgrounds also continues and hopefully will pick up the pace as more people are involved in helping with the plans.

The mooted bus shelter in the high street is progressing (things do move slowly sometimes) and again I hope that planning applications will be submitted soon. We have been trying to get signs erected to point visitors to the Hyde Square and High Street shops and regrettably have been turned down by WSCC Highways; we have not given up however and are exploring two alternatives.

You will see from this publication that we have three new councillors whom I welcome to the Council; there are still three vacancies, one for Upper Beeding and two for Small Dole. There is to be an election of 7th February if there are more candidates than seats available.

Finally, a subject that interests everybody; at it's meeting in December the Council set the precept for 2008/9 at £115000, being an increase of about 2.7%.

David Coldwell

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

David Coldwell - Chairman; Simon Birnstingl - Vice Chairman / Chairman Amenities; Andrew Purches - Chairman Planning; Peter Gilham - Chairman Finance & General Purposes; Robert Harber - Chairman Sports & Leisure; Chris Bailey, Pauline Kentell; Frank Jones; Vic Gretton Jnr; Robin French; Julie Fielder; Avril Gathern

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Planning: Andrew Purches, Robert Harber, Frank Jones, Chris Bailey, David Coldwell, Pauline Kentell, Simon Birnstingl, Julie Fielder, Avril Gathern

Amenities: Simon Birnstingl, Chris Bailey, Peter Gilham, Pauline Kentell, Robert Harber, David Coldwell, Vic Gretton Jnr, Andrew Purches, Julie Fielder, Avril Gathern

Finance & General Purposes: Peter Gilham, Robert Harber, Frank Jones, Simon Birnstingl, Andrew Purches, Vic Gretton Jnr, David Coldwell, Robin French

Sports & Leisure: Robert Harber, Robin French, David Coldwell, Frank Jones, Chris Bailey, Peter Gilham, Simon Birnstingl, Vic Gretton Jnr

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS AND e-mail ADDRESSES

Neighbourhood Wardens: Paul Sweeney 07734 387 888; Kylie Calder 07734 387 889; office 01903 813 236.

If you witness a **crime in progress** - dial 999. **Crimestoppers** (confidential service) 0800 555 111.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Carol Boniface 08456 070 999 extension 22095 (voicemail).

Non emergency calls to Sussex Police

08456 070 999 or e-mail

contact.centre@sussex.pnn.police.uk

If you want to find out who your **Neighbourhood Police Officers** are go to www.sussex.police.uk - type in your post code and you will find the names and photographs of all your local Neighbourhood Officers. Click on their pictures and you will see their personal profiles and contact details.

Faulty Street Lighting: report by phone on 08457 581 622 or e-mail

scc.solve@edfenergy.co. or on line at www.westsussex.gov.uk and click on 'fault reporting'.

Fly tipping - any incidents of fly tipping can be reported to Horsham District Council on 01403 733 144 or e-mail hopoast.depot@horsham.gov.uk

The next **Council meetings** will be on 8th January 2008 in the Beeding & Bramber Village at 7.30pm and on 4th March 2008 at 7.30pm in the Small Dole Village Hall.

Committee meetings (Planning, Amenities, Sports & Leisure, Finance & General Purposes) are on 15 January, 19 February and 18 March 2008, starting at 7pm in the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

UPPER BEEDING & SMALL DOLE YOUTH COUNCIL

A Youth Council has now been set up to represent young people between 11 and 18 years old who live in Upper Beeding, Small Dole and Edburton.

The Youth Council is accountable to the Parish Council and will be allocated funds by the Parish Council to implement

approved policies. The Council has written its own constitution which its members must adhere to.

The Council aims to implement facilities for young people in the Parish. Currently, there is a distinct lack of local facilities for the 11-18 year olds. Surveys conducted within the last few months strongly indicate that many of our young residents would like to have a bike ramp built in Upper Beeding. Therefore, the Council is currently researching the possibility of having a bike ramp installed on a piece of available land for the many keen cyclists within our parish.

The Youth Council is also investigating the provision of regular transport to the Youth Club in Steyning, which takes place on a Wednesday evening. This will ensure that more young people can attend the Youth Club safely.

We would welcome more members onto the Council or please just come along to watch one of our meetings in progress. We usually meet at least once a month in the Upper Beeding Village Hall on a Wednesday evening from 6-7pm. Notices of the meetings are put up in the public notice boards in the Parish and in Upper Beeding Primary school and Steyning Grammar school.

Finally, we would like to appeal to anyone who might be able to assist us in the provision of a bike ramp or in helping out occasionally with transport to the Steyning Youth Club.

If you are able to help, please contact Vic Gretton Jnr (Parish Councillor) on 07803 719551 or Donna Bailey (Parent Helper) on 07952 239957

BEEDING AND BRAMBER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At the start of another year it is time to renew membership of the Horticultural Society, or to join for the first time. Membership is only £2 per annum and entitles you to order seeds once a year at discounted prices. You will also receive a free show book which explains all the different categories that can be entered in our two annual shows. The Spring Show will be held in March, so look out for details nearer the time. The Summer Show will be at the end of August.

To join the Society, give your name, address and telephone number to John Tompsett, 10, Pound Lane, Upper Beeding, BN44 3JD with a cheque or cash for £2 for each person joining.

BEEDING AND BRAMBER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Local History Society usually meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall for illustrated talks on a variety of subjects related to our local area. These meetings are open to all, with a charge of £1 for non-members. In the summer months outings are arranged to places of historic interest for members and their guests. The Society can offer help to those studying their family or house histories.

We are also affiliated to Worthing Archaeological Society, which means that our members can participate in their meetings and events, including excavations.

Meetings in 2008:

Wed. Feb. 6th - Helen Poole on "The Flight of King Charles II" (The King is said to have escaped across Bramber bridge and spent the night at Beeding).

Wed. March 5th - Annual General Meeting, followed by Judith Kinnison Bourke M.A. talking on "The Workhouse 1905-1926",

dressed in the uniform of the Tenterden Workhouse.

Wed. April 2nd - Roger Birch on "Sussex Stones and Dinosaurs" (This talk was originally booked for last November, but had to be re-arranged).

Membership is £5 per annum, or £9 for two people at the same address. To join the Society, send a cheque for the relevant amount, made payable to Beeding and Bramber Local History Society, to the secretary at "Bowfell", Hyde Street, Upper Beeding, BN44 3TG.

MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE

Meals on Wheels is a service provided by West Sussex County Council and the WRVS.

When can you use the Meals on Wheels Service? Here are some examples -

*when you come out of hospital; * when you don't feel very well; *whenever you feel you cannot cook a meal for yourself or your partner; *if you cannot get out to the shops; * if you want to stock up on frozen meals; *if you think it would be good to have someone keep an eye out for you; *if you are a carer or relative who is going away or needs a rest and want to make sure your friend or relative is having meals.

How often can I have meals delivered?

We deliver hot or chilled meals every weekday, in some areas we also deliver at the weekend. Frozen meals are delivered weekly for seven days in advance.

What is available? *we have a selection of 2-course meals which you can choose from our current menu; *we can provide salads from July to September; *we have a selection of frozen meals which are ready to cook.

How soon can I start? If you call us before 10a.m. we will be able to provide you with a meal by lunchtime.

How much does it cost? Our meals are very reasonably priced with a 2-course hot meal costing £3.20. Please call us to find

out prices for other meals such as salads. You can pay by cash, cheque or you can open an account with us.

Anything else? We carry out a 'safe and well' check on our customers every time we deliver. We will contact someone if you aren't very well or if we are worried about you. All our WRVS drivers have had criminal (CRB) checks and carry identification.

How do I order? Ordering is simple, just call your nearest kitchen e.g. Steyning 01903 814 085 or Henfield 01444 451 462 or Horsham 01403 265 280.

Our general enquiries number is 01903 231 341 or you can contact the West Sussex County Council Adults Service Catering Adviser on 01243 752 022.

HENFIELD THEATRE COMPANY

"Snake in the Grass"

Henfield Theatre Company will be proudly presenting "Snake in the Grass" by Alan Ayckbourn at The Henfield Hall at 7.45pm on 13th, 14th and 15th March 2008. This haunting suspense drama, directed by Sheila Hye, is about murder and blackmail with both depth and subtlety, written by the most successful British playwright of the present day. Tickets priced £7 and £5 will be available from the box office at Henfield Furnishings, High Street, Henfield (tel: 01273 49 22 04) from 10am on Tuesday, 19th February 2008.

HIGHWAY CODE FOR MOBILITY SCOOTER USERS - get your copy today

The Highway Code for Mobility Scooter Users promotes the safety of people who use electric mobility scooters as well as the safety of pedestrians and other road users. The new publication was produced by Horsham District Council in response to recommendations from the Senior Persons'

Council, who wanted to promote safe, conscientious use of mobility scooters. Users of mobility scooters are responsible for their own and other people's safety whether riding on the pavement or on the road and whilst travelling on and around the shops.

The Code has been produced by Horsham District Council in partnership with the Senior Persons Council and Horsham Shopmobility.

If you would like to receive a free copy of the Highway Code please contact Horsham District Shopmobility on 01403 249 015 or e-mail denis.spowage@horsham.gov.uk

A VILLAGE FETE....

June 28th 2008 Upper Beeding & Bramber are joining together to host a Village Fete Day!

Together Upper Beeding Primary School, Upper Beeding & Bramber Village Hall, Upper Beeding Baptist Church, with local groups and organisations are planning an outdoor event for fellow villagers and visitors to enjoy an action packed day! Hosting your Classic Summer Fete Stalls, Food & Drink Facilities, maybe even a dog show and other entertainment fun. We hope you will come along and support this new adventure. If you are a local group or organisation that would like to get involved then this is your opportunity to be a part of this community event. There are so many little clubs and organisations that people don't know about, this is your chance to make yourself known. This event aims to promote all community events and increase the profile of the villages! Contact Phil on theappleyards@google.com

PLANNING FOR AN EMERGENCY

In an emergency, the Parish Council will take charge until the National Emergency Services arrive.

The remit of the Emergency Committee is to deal with a disaster, occurring locally, in the period between the accident and the arrival of units of the national emergency services; then to assist them with local knowledge. Accidents are not always isolated incidents, and if the village is cut off from the outside (flood, snow, ice, fallen trees) it may be necessary to provide support to distressed residents by evacuation from the homes to other local safe areas.

The events the Emergency Committee is most likely to encounter and deal with are a major aircraft crash – we live below a flight path and an aircraft holding area (remember Lockerbie..); but there is also the possible danger of a tanker delivering petrol to the garage and catching fire; the risk of flooding is always with us, with a nuclear attack the most remote.

Residents involved in any of the foregoing disasters may need to be evacuated from their homes to the Village Hall, Sports Hall or The Towers school. If undamaged, the Village Hall is the first choice. An Emergency Committee member will need to man the door of the chosen centre recording the name of each person entering the centre. This list will be available to relatives, friends and services searching for survivors. It will also be necessary to post volunteers in affected areas to prevent looting (licensed shotgun holders if possible). The Emergency Committee has a full list of the electoral role and census returns.

Flooding: sandbags and sand are available to villagers, under Emergency Committee supervision, at Riverside: 200

sandbags and one ton of sand. A petrol driven water pump is available plus can of petrol, to pump out flooded properties - priority will be assessed by the Emergency Committee.

A nuclear attack is unlikely in an armed conflict, but remember several nuclear power stations are clustered on the north coast of France. Any one of those, in an accident scenario, may release 'fallout'. We are only 70 to 80 miles downwind from these (prevailing winds are from the south west). If a warning is given to us, residents are advised to draw a store of fresh water and stay indoors blocking off all chimneys and any other places fallout may enter. Wait for Government instructions via TV and radio.

There are several means of alerting the Emergency Committee. These are either by 1.) telephoning the Parish Council on 01903 810 316 or the Chairman on 01273 495 808; 2.) mobile phone 0779 070 6703 Keith Nethercoate-Bryant; or by 3.) C.B. radio on channel 35 or 37 (our call sign is H.M.8 = Hotel Mike Eight); 4.) through Horsham District Council (Phil Montgomery) or the Environment Agency; or by visual reports from residents. Emergency Committee members plus any available, able bodied Emergency Volunteers and Councillors are requested to assemble, in the first instance, at the Beeding & Bramber Village Hall or alternatively at the Sports Hall or the 'Towers School'.

Emergency Volunteers are:
Mark Munns, Saltings Way; David Kennett, Monks Walk; Darren Jordan, Manor Road

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IN UPPER BEEDING

I hope you all had a good Christmas, by now you will probably have forgotten about

it! Neighbourhood Watch has two new co-ordinators in Undermill Road, to help keep up the good work. We have over 500 homes in Upper Beeding involved in some way in the Neighbourhood Watch. This scheme has been running for over 25 years nationally, and has often been described as the "eyes and ears" of the police. It is for the benefit of everybody - to promote a safer and neighbourly environment. Anyone is welcome to join. Street co-ordinators are police checked, and Neighbourhood Watch welcomes all.

You will remember the usual reminders we put out at this time of year when the dark nights are upon us, about keeping lights on when we are out, (timers are useful) a radio or TV playing will make it look as if your property is occupied. Don't put out empty boxes that have contained expensive items, like TV's, videos, computers etc. as this advertises the fact that you have them! An interesting point was raised at a meeting I attended some time ago, when it was reported that burglars often returned to properties they had previously targeted, and re-targeted the same property as the previously stolen goods had been replaced through insurance claims! Not very comforting I know, but food for thought! Crunchy driveways and footpaths are good deterrents for would-be intruders and also well lit porches and doorways (they don't like to be heard or seen!) Prickly bushes and hedges are also good deterrents. My dog is a brilliant guard. Very loud bark, very off putting.

We are advised not to trade with people on the doorstep, and not to let unknown people into our homes, for whatever reason. If you are at all suspicious, dial 999, and get things checked out. The police won't mind - they would rather know and will downgrade calls accordingly. This was commented on at our last Parish

Council meeting, on 4th December, and endorsed by Inspector Paul Williams. He actually said the police would rather be informed of incidents than not at all, by using the 999 number.

If anyone is interested in joining the Neighbourhood Watch, please give me a ring on 01903 812022 or Kathryn Hayhurst on 01444 445965

We are told the crime rate is down in this parish, which is all to the good, let's help keep it that way.

Happy New Year to you all.
Pauline Kentell - NHWatch Area Co-ordinator Upper Beeding

BEEDING IN BLOOM

In 2007 we were sorry to see both our Chairman Tony Sullivan and Vice chairman Gordon Holloway leave our committee and we thank them both for all they have done over the years. Dudley Rushmere has taken over as Chairman and has brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our meetings.

Our thanks to all who helped our work parties make Beeding look its best for the South East in Bloom Judges and achieve a Sliver Award. Included in our thanks are Ferring Nurseries who have taken over watering and planting up our hanging baskets and we are sure you agree with us that they have provided the village with its best display ever. We hope you will help us make the village look as good again in 2008 by sponsoring one or more of our baskets.

Our Garden Competitions are always popular and new entries are really welcome so look out for details in the April Newsletter. Our Open Garden Event held in July attracted 80 visitors and raised £467 to help our funds play £11 for Marie Curie

Cancer Care and £45 for Palestinian Children.

Beeding Bloom always needs extra helpers for our Work Parties, so please contact either Dawn on 813 944 or Pat on 812 847, if you can help.

Would you be prepared to sponsor one of our hanging baskets in 2008? The cost to plant up each of the baskets is £12. With your help and support we will be able to continue to make our Village a beautiful place to live. If you are able to sponsor a basket or make a donation of any amount towards one, please enclose it with the slip below and return it in an envelope addressed to 'Beeding in Bloom' c/o Beeding News in the High Street. Cheques should be made payable to Beeding in Bloom. Thank you so much.

Beeding in Bloom Committee

Name:

.....
.....

Address:

.....
.....
.....
.....

I / We would like to sponsor a basket and enclose £.....

Alternatively, I / We would like to help by

.....

SMALL DOLE FLOWER POWER

We would like to thank those who so kindly contributed to the hanging baskets in 2007. The positive comments received from so many people encourage us to enhance the look of our village! We are also on the look-out for volunteers to help with watering - even if it is only one hour a week.

Please contact Iris Banfield on 01273 494 361 or Carol Elliot on 01273 492 272.

Donations towards the cost of providing the beautiful displays throughout the year would be gratefully received. With your help we can continue to provide our colourful displays which have received many favourable comments.

Small Dole Flower Power

Name:

Address:.....

.....

I / We would like to make a donation and enclose £

(please make cheques payable to Small Dole Flower Power)

Alternatively, I / we would like to help with watering / with planting up.

.....

.....

VACANCY

The Parish Council is looking for a reliable relief Litter Warden in Upper Beeding to cover holiday and occasional absence.

This is a part-time job working for up to 15 hours per week. Good rate of pay.

Equipment and high visibility jackets will be supplied. Please contact the Clerk for further details on 01903 810 316

The Parish Council is working to plant many trees in Upper Beeding and Small Dole. Last winter 13 trees were planted on road verges and 2 in Saltings Field. This winter the plan is to plant 20 trees on road verges if funding permits. Initially this planting is in Dawn Crescent and Maines Farm Road, which formerly had no verge trees, and in Manor Road to continue a row of trees planted by West Sussex Highways Department over some years. We are planting a variety of ornamental trees of species which have been recommended by Highways, and we are currently applying for a licence to plant in five more roads.

January 2008

West Sussex Highways can usually plant a few trees for us each winter and anyone who would like a tree opposite their home and would undertake to water it in hot or dry weather should let me know, so that the requests can be passed on to Highways in the order in which they are received. Please don't ask Highways direct as this may mean 'jumping the queue' and someone else will have to wait longer.

If a tree is planted by your home, both the tree and the Parish Council would be most grateful for any water you can give it, and we do hope you will enjoy the tree.

Judith Steedman. Tree Warden. Tel:814923