

UPPER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

The Quarterly magazine for the parish of Upper Beeding, Small Dole, and Edburton

Website: www.westsussex.gov.uk/upperbeeding



March 2011

NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Since I last wrote on Parish Matters in November last year, we have endured some fierce cold and heavy snowfalls, which combined to cause a considerable degree of disruption across the land. The Christmas and New Year holidays have been and gone and the early signs of spring are everywhere to be seen. But where have the last three months gone? I guess that it is a common complaint that time appears to go faster as one gets older.

In my last communication I mentioned that the Parish Council had applied to reduce the number of councillors, and asked for your comments. There have been no objections that I know of and the only development has been that Horsham District council has turned down our request partly due to the fact that there was insufficient time available and partly because of the realisation that many parishes are in the same position and so we can expect that later this year the subject will come up for consideration. In the meantime, there is still plenty of time for you to explore the possibility of becoming a councillor by contacting that clerk or any parish councillor who will be happy to answer your questions. By the time you read this the council will have held a couple of open sessions to drum up support for the elections and I will report back.

In the meantime, a date for your diary: The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be at the Upper Beeding Village Hall on **April 27th at 7.30 p.m.** This is your opportunity to set the agenda so if you have a subject that you would like discussed at the meeting please let the clerk have your question. The council is currently working on some interesting speakers for the meeting.

I was personally very sorry to see in the last news letter that the Village Fete has come to an end due to a lack of people willing to be involved in the organisation, and could only think that this is a reflection of the community at large. We all want to see things happen but few are willing to take the responsibility. There was a recent incident on the Memorial Field at Upper Beeding in which one of our less responsible citizens caused some damage to the field, fortunately not too serious, by driving on the field. I am unaware of the identity of those responsible but have been told that no action can be taken because witnesses to this incident refused to make statements.

David Coldwell,
Chairman,
Upper Beeding Parish Council

UPPER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL: MEETING SCHEDULE 2011

Unless otherwise specified, all meetings are held at the Beeding & Bramber Village Hall

March	15 th	7.00pm 7.30pm 8.15pm	Planning Committee Sports & Leisure Committee Amenities Committee	
April	5 th	7.00pm 7.30pm	Planning Committee Council	
	19 th	7.00pm	Planning Committee	<i>Only if required</i>
	27 th	7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting	
May	10 th	7.30pm 9.00pm	Council Planning Committee	<i>NB: delayed one week due to local election; subject to deferral if election required</i>
	17 th	7.00pm 7.30pm 8.15pm	Planning Committee Amenities Committee Sports & Leisure Committee	<i>Subject to deferral if election required</i>
June	7 th	7.00pm 7.30pm	Planning Committee Council	

Meetings of the Emergency Committee are arranged on an ad hoc basis.

UPPER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL			
David Coldwell	Chairman	David.Coldwell@btinternet.com	01273 495 808
Andrew Purches	Vice-Chairman	andrew@lenticular-europe.com	01903 814 331
Chris Bailey		chriscas.bailey@virgin.net	01903 813 844
Simon Birnstingl		simon.birnstingl@virgin.net	01903 817 090
Robin French		robinfrench@btinternet.com	07796 607 542
Robert Harber		bikerider@phonecoop.coop	01903 879 598
Frank Jones		francisgjones@hotmail.com	01903 815 337
Pauline Kentell		bpkentell@btinternet.com	01903 812 022
Joyce Shaw		Unavailable - Long-term absence	
Chris Warren		chris_cwarren@btinternet.com	05601 600 904
Steve Coberman	Clerk	upper.beeding@btconnect.com r/o 3, Hyde Square, Upper Beeding, West Sussex, BN44 3HJ	01903 810 316
Julie Bakter	Caretaker		01903 816 790
Derek Deedman	County Councillor	Derek.Deedman@westsussex.gov.uk	01903 814 314
Alan Fisher	District Councillor	Alan.Fisher@horsham.gov.uk	01903 810 329
Frank Grantham	District Councillor	Frank.Grantham@horsham.gov.uk	07759 827 515

SALTINGS FIELD CONSERVATION GROUP

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT (SPRING 2011)

We have endeavoured to keep the Field in a presentable condition throughout the past twelve months and have again been assisted by the volunteer group, the Green Gym of Portslade, and Mark Streeter who has kept the Salterns cut. Recently we have been approached by a sub-contractor of the Environment Agency who require a site to populate with slow worms, lizards etc., which need to be removed from an area in Shoreham where their current home will be subjected to new flood defences. Our site was chosen along with two others from an initial 40 selected.

Our Committee **URGENTLY** requires new members for most of us currently serving have held our posts for at least 16 years. The Lease is now held by the Upper Beeding Parish Council from our landlords Horsham District Council and expires in the middle of this year so we need people to help see this renewed and make sure it stays as a preserved wildlife and open site for all the enjoy. If you have any thoughts of joining us, please contact the Hon. Sec., details below.

EARLY MORNING BIRD WALK

One of our committee members, Brianne Reeve, has again agreed to lead an Early Morning Bird Walk which seems to have retained its popularity over the many years. We meet at the main entrance just off Saltings Way at 6.00 a.m. on Saturday, April 16th and follow Brianne over the Field and brooks, learning from her wide knowledge of birds and bird song. We make for the Castle Hotel, Bramber for an optional full English breakfast (£6.50) at 8.00 a.m.

Ring David Geere on 813814 to book in and/or information about committee membership.

BEEDING VILLAGE HALL NEWS

With the demise of the Village Fete your Village Hall has returned to its own fundraising activities. These raise much needed money to improve the facilities of the Hall and its grounds. An eighty year old building requires constant upkeep and every year there are more and more requirements by Health and Safety that need to be followed; everything costs money.

The Hall is holding an Easter Fair on Saturday 2 April from 12 noon to 3.00 p.m. There will be a variety of stalls with many outside people having a table. Stalls include local art, paperweights, a bouncy castle and glitter tattoos for children as well as a bumper Easter egg tombola. Homemade vegetable soup makes a return at lunchtime. Sometime during the event we will be holding an Easter hat/bonnet competition for under 5's and 5 to 9 years of age. Look out for the leaflet that will be dropping through your door as it will entitle you to enter our free prize draw. We look forward to seeing you all at the event.

On 21 May there will be a May Fair with, hopefully Morris Men and other entertainment, food and refreshments as always, together with many of our usual stalls. We hope to have a model railway exhibition for all enthusiasts. Look out for posters nearer the day for more details.

Monthly quizzes on the third Wednesday of the month are held. We have a regular group of teams participating but there is room for more. Teams cost £1 per person with a maximum of 6 players per team. If you would like to take part but do not have a team then come along and you will be slotted into a team. We are friendly and welcoming to newcomers. Tea/coffee is available or you can bring your own refreshments. The next dates are 16 March, 20 April, and 18 May. Start time is 7.30 p.m. and quizzes finish by 9.45 p.m.

Finally, the Annual General Meeting of the Hall will be on Monday 9 May at 7.30 p.m. All residents of Upper Beeding and Bramber can attend the meeting when the Council of Management are elected as well as the officers.

Short Mat Bowls: The Club was formed over 20 years ago by the Hall committee as a means of introducing a new activity to the village. Its fortunes have varied over the years with a mix of social bowlers who enjoy their sessions with the tea and chat and also those who are more competitive and take part in matches against other clubs. The Club plays throughout the year including the summer months. Fancy trying? Come along to one of our sessions, either Tuesday afternoon at 2.15 p.m. or Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7.15 p.m. Equipment is provided, coaching/guidance is available. All we ask is you have a pair of flat, smooth soled shoes/slippers.

Village Fete: No-one was willing to take over as chairman, secretary or treasurer so the decision was made to dissolve the fete committee. The monies held were divided equally between the three founding organisations namely, The Village Hall, School, and the Baptist Church. Each received £1112.74. The fete might have been the biggest and best but the expenses were also much higher than in previous years. The Village Hall and School will be organising their own events this year. Please support their efforts.

VILLAGE FETE

It was with considerable regret that we are not going to have a Village Fete this year.

The Village Hall will, however, be having their own Fete and the Primary School will hold their Fete in their play area on June 25th - so all is not lost.

It is not impossible to resurrect the Village Fete for 2012 but it does require about six interested people to come forward during this summer/autumn in order to start work on it by November.

Any further information, contact David Geere on (01903) 813814.

SMALL DOLE VILLAGE HALL

The Hall is now in critical condition.

Recent appeals for help have produced no results and the Management Committee feels that it is losing the battle to keep the Hall open.

It just about breaks even financially, but if there is nobody willing to help out then it is possible, indeed likely, that it will close by the end of 2011.

Call David Coldwell (01273) 495808 if you can assist.

CLERK'S JOTTINGS

Annual Parish Meeting: This will be held in the Beeding and Bramber village hall from 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 27 April. An agenda is yet to be finalised, but will be posted throughout the villages in good time for the event.

Precept: The precept is the sum which we claim from Horsham District Council each year, from their council tax revenues, to finance the operations of the Parish Council. The amount is set each December, to apply for the year starting the following April. For the year starting April 2011 we have set a precept of £117,500. This is the same as the current year's precept, and the Council continue, as always, to attempt to provide best value for money for the £35 per year that every elector pays for its Parish Council.

Vulnerable persons: Our Emergency Planning procedures primarily deal with problems caused by weather and flood, and is carried out in association with Horsham District Council and West Sussex County Council. These councils register any details of people particularly vulnerable to severe weather events. If you consider yourself to be in this category, please let me have details of your name and address, and the reasons for the vulnerability, and I will pass them on.

Community publicity: If you have any community organisations or events which you would like to have publicised on our notice boards or website, please let me have the relevant information and publicity material. I will not accept purely commercial advertising.

Tennis court: The council is considering several significant projects, which include possibly changing the tennis court into a multi-use sports facility. This will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting, so please come along and let us know your views.

Public benches: The council is considering providing further benches on publicly-owned land. If you have any views on the possible location and type of benches - and sponsorships for them - please either let me know by email, or tell us at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Steve Coberman, Parish Clerk

r/o 3 Hyde Square, Upper Beeding, West Sussex, BN44 3HJ.
Tel: 01903 810316
email: upper.beeding@btconnect.com

THURSDAY CLUB

The Thursday Club continues to meet in Upper Beeding village hall fortnightly (on Thursday evenings 8.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m.) This group are nearing 40 years in existence and are really thriving. A very eclectic programme allows us to make visits to places of interest and enjoy a wide range of speakers and activities in the hall.

When this group began it was to allow young women to spend an evening just being themselves with others who also valued a little time away from commitments and family. Although the average age is somewhat higher than in those days, our meetings still offer all ladies the chance to meet in a friendly environment.

If you are interested and would like more details, please ring our Chairman, Marion Wilson on (01903) 813014.

HISTORY OF UPPER BEEDING, PART 18

THE PRIORY IS DISSOLVED

In 1480, the property, lands and revenue of the Priory of Sele, were acquired by Magdalen College, Oxford, but they had no use for the Priory buildings which stood empty for thirteen years. In 1493, Carmelite Friars from Shoreham, whose home was being inundated by the sea, rented the house, chapel and four acres of land at 10 shillings per annum. They must have found the cloisters in a ruinous state as they set about rebuilding them.

In 1966 the Mid-Sussex Archaeological Society undertook an excavation on the north side of the church and found evidence that the cloisters had been rebuilt almost to ground-level. They were eight feet wide and paved with plain yellow, green and purple glazed tiles, bordered by bricks glazed in pale blue while the roof had green-glazed ridge tiles. Also found was window lead and glass for the cloister windows. The cloisters surrounded a central "garth" which was a yard or garden. A doorway on the east side led into two rooms, one coated with vermilion and the other with scarlet plaster.

In Tudor times these rooms and the northern cloisters were demolished to make way for the first vicarage. The garth was paved with Horsham stone and became a courtyard. However, Henry VIII ordered the dissolution of the monasteries, wanting their wealth for himself. But in July 1538, the friars must have been forewarned for when the Bishop of Dover arrived with others, they found that the friars had left, leaving the doors wide open. Their only loot was "choir stalls worth 30 shillings, a sorry bell and some sorry vestments". No charges of luxury were levelled here.

The effect of the loss of the friars on the village of Beeding is not recorded, but the friars would have cared for the sick, educated some of the young and employed a number of villagers so they would undoubtedly have been missed.

References:

1. *The Carmelites Occupy our Priory* by Rev. H.E.B. Arnold (unpublished)
2. *Report on Excavations at Sele Priory in 1966* by David Kaye (unpublished)

Pat Nightingale, February 2011

HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL HEALTH WALKS

All welcome to guided, **free**, sociable, HDC walks led by trained volunteers; no need to book, just turn-up at the start point (if you are new to our scheme please arrive 15 minutes before the start time for registration). **Programme booklet containing over 200 walks is available by contacting the Walks Co-ordinator on (01403) 215269 or by downloading from the website (enter Horsham D.C. Walks on a search site, e.g. Google).** Beginners are recommended to contact the Walk Leader to discuss suitability.

YOUR COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!

There are vacancies on the Parish Council. Being a parish councillor is not a burdensome task, and is a fine way to contribute to your community. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please get in touch with me, for further information. Parish Clerk, U.B.P.C., r/o 3 Hyde Square, Upper Beeding, BN44 3HJ, Telephone 01903 810316, Email: upper.beeding@btconnect.com

ST. CATHERINE'S HOSPICE GARDEN AND LOCAL PRODUCE FAIR

Over 50 stalls will be present this year on Thursday 19 May, at Summers Place, Billingshurst, so come buy local produce and plants for your garden and help to raise money for St. Catherine's Hospice.

Admission to the Fair at 10.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. is £3.50 and with the Bubbly Breakfast taking place from 8.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m., £12.50 tickets for this are available in advance (01293) 447367. Wheel barrows at the ready to wheel home your purchases to your car.

For more information visit

www.stch.org.uk/howyoucanhelp/newhorizonsappeal/gardenandlocalproducefair2011.asp

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you have an article, or any information for inclusion in the next Quarterly Parish Council Newsletter (June) then please send this to me at the email address below, at the latest, by Tuesday, 24 May 2011.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Mary French,
editor-ubpcnewsletter@live.co.uk**

Extract from Winter 2010/2011 CRIME WATCH

www.nhwsteyning.org.uk e-mail: david@nhwsteyning.org.uk

The newsletter of the Horsham South Sector Neighbourhood Watch

Horsham South Crime Figures

Latest Crime comparison figures for our area for the Period 01/04/2010 to 27/01/2011. These figures are a comparison to the previous year's figures for the same period.

- Total Crime is down by 7.6%
- Burglaries are up by 12.4%
- Criminal Damage is down by 19.8%
- Injury violence is down by 36.1%

This is good news on the whole. However there was a spate of seven burglaries in the Horsham South area over Christmas that has affected these figures but this episode has now subsided.

Britain Crime falls 7% in last year, and 'perception of crime' is down too

According to the British Crime Survey, recorded crime in England and Wales fell 7% in the year to the end of September 2010. All main categories of crime saw reductions, except sexual offences. The same figures also indicate a growing perception among respondents that 'perceived' crime levels are falling too.

But the British Crime Survey, which asks people about their experiences, rather than what the police record, suggested burglaries rose by 9%. Officials said that was not statistically significant - but there was a 16% rise in all household theft.

If you would like to find out more about ways to secure your property, contact Alan Haffenden, Crime Prevention Officer on 0845 60 70 999. As always if you have any information you think might help catch criminals then please contact the police on 0845 60 70 999.



BEEDING IN BLOOM

This year we will again be hanging out our baskets and planting up the containers and flowerbeds to make the most of our village. We would really appreciate your support to enable us to do this. Please help in the following ways: by contributing to our Sponsor a Basket Appeal, by joining our Work Parties for planting, weeding, pruning, etc. – just an hour would make a difference, and by supporting our fundraising events.

- Monday 4 April - AGM with "Demonstration of Floral Art" given by Julie Ball, 7.30 p.m. Beeding Village Hall
- Saturday 25 June – we will have a stall at the Summer Village Fete.
- July: our annual Garden Competitions – you can enter front or back garden, or hanging baskets and containers in categories "Cool and Calm", "Hot and Fiery" or "Edible and Integrated".
- 10 July – we are holding our popular "Open Gardens" event.

Sponsor a Basket appeal

Each basket costs £12 to plant up. We need your help and support so that we can continue to make our village a beautiful place to live. If you can sponsor a basket or make a donation towards one, please enclose it with the form below. Thank you so much.

(For more information on any of the above, please contact Tricia on 01903 812366)

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SPONSOR A BASKET APPEAL Please return this form in an envelope marked "Beeding in Bloom", to Beeding News, High Street, Beeding. Cheques should be made payable to Beeding in Bloom, please.

Name and Address:

Donation:

I/We would like to help by:



NEXT STEPS FOR THE GREENING CAMPAIGN

Upper Beeding played an active part in Phase One of the Greening Campaign. A total of 81 cards were spotted in windows when Challenge Cards were counted in early December. This was a slightly higher percentage than Steyning, and a good sign that Beeding is getting behind the Campaign to make this a greener place to live.

Four priority areas have been chosen for the next phase of the Campaign. It will kick off in the next few months with a plan to raise awareness of the excellent government incentive scheme now in place to encourage householders to fit solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on their roof. A meeting will be organised where people can hear all about the scheme, meet some companies that fit solar panels, and talk to local residents who have already got panels on their homes. If you have a South-facing roof, and some money sitting in the bank earning very little, this could be a great investment.

Recycling will be the focus over the summer, and there are various ideas being discussed on how to encourage more recycling in the community, including things like unwanted furniture, clothes and other household items.

Next up will be an 'Insulation Month' timed for the early autumn. Information on grants and suppliers will be made available, and people will be given a nudge to get their insulation topped up in time for the winter.

The final part of the Campaign will be a 'shop local' push timed for the run up to Christmas.

The Greening Campaign will be carrying on with its regular 'Green Drinks' evenings, the last Wednesday of every month. Some of these will include a panel discussion or film on green issues. Everyone is welcome!

More information on activities throughout the year can be found on the Greening Campaign website at www.1010steyning.org

BEEDING & BRAMBER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Last year an editorial committee worked on a new edition of our book "Beeding - History of a Village" and just managed to get it printed and into the shops at the beginning of December. It sold well before Christmas and is now available, price £7.50 from Beeding Newsagents. Its companion "Bramber - Glimpses of a Village" is still available, price £3.

We meet in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month, except for June, July and August. Join us if you are interested in the history of Beeding, Bramber and nearby villages, or want to research your house or family history. Membership is only £5 a year for an individual or £9 for two people at the same address. Join at a meeting, or contact us on (01903) 812847 or at history.beeding@mypostoffice.co.uk You can also read more about us at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/upperbeeding

Forthcoming meetings:

Wed. 6 April. Chris Hare: "The Civil War in Sussex", 7.45 p.m. Beeding Village Hall.

Wed. 4 May. John Mills: "West Sussex Settlements Lost to the Sea", 7.45 p.m. Beeding Village Hall.



STEYNING (AND DISTRICT) CHAMBER OF TRADE

Forthcoming Attractions!

In aid of the 2011 Steyning Christmas Lights Appeal (yes, we are starting early!) Quiz Night at Steyning Centre on Saturday 23 April 2011 during the Easter Break - Tickets £12 to include cooked supper. Teams of six needed to compete - there is a prize for the winner!

AND

Concert Evening - Talent competition scheduled for August - see next edition for details.

Additionally, new Steyning (& District) Chamber of Trade brochure now at the point of publication. Please use our local shops, businesses, etc. We need your support to retain and expand our town's individual retail outlets, services, etc.

For Membership Details and other enquiries please telephone Robin French (your local contact) on 07796 607542 or (01903) 812077.

BEEDING & BRAMBER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AND ALLOTMENT HOLDERS ASSOCIATION

Our next major event is the Spring Show on Saturday 19 March where you can see a terrific display of spring flowers and floral decorations. Refreshments will be available plus cakes, raffle, and plant stalls. If you would like to make an entry, you need a copy of the Show book which is obtainable by contacting 816199 or rose-denise@sky.com Membership is only £3 a year. Read more about us at:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/upperbeeding

Dates for 2011:

Sat. 19 March. Spring Show in the Beeding Village Hall at 10.30 a.m. Display of spring flowers and floral decorations; refreshments, cakes, raffle and plant stalls.

Sat. 7 May. Coffee Morning at 10.00 a.m. at 9 Dawn Crescent with cakes, plants and raffle.

Sat. 27 August. Summer Show in the Beeding Village Hall at 2.00 p.m.

DIARY OF EVENTS

8 March	Small Dole Tuesday Club, A Rose by any other name. Talk by Rushfields covering Roses, climbers and shrubs, including planting partners and ideas, 7.30 p.m. Small Dole Village Hall.
11 March	Henfield Camera Club, Special evening with a chance for members to show some of their work and to get help with digital editing techniques. Henfield Hall, 8.00 p.m.
16 March	Beeding Village Hall Quiz Evening 7.30 p.m. Tea/Coffee available or bring your own refreshments.
19 March	Beeding & Bramber Horticultural Society Spring Show. Display of flowers, floral decorations, refreshments, cakes, raffle and plant stalls, Beeding Village Hall, 10.30 a.m.
25 March	Henfield Camera Club monthly competition judged by Mike Chambers, ARPS, MPAGB, EFIAP; set subject, "Reflections", Henfield Hall, 8.00 p.m.
26 March	Small Dole Tuesday Club, Beetle Drive, open to anyone who would like to come and join in the fun, 7.30 p.m. Small Dole Village Hall.
2 April	Easter Fair, 12 noon to 3.00 p.m. Beeding Village Hall. Including Stalls, Easter Egg Tombola, and Children's Easter Bonnet competition.
4 April	Beeding In Bloom A.G.M. with Demonstration of Floral Art given by Julie Ball, 7.30 p.m., Beeding Village Hall.
6 April	Beeding & Bramber Local History Society, Chris Hare: The Civil War in Sussex, 7.45 p.m. Beeding Village Hall.
12 April	Small Dole Tuesday Club Easter Party, with a talk: 'Round the world in a wheelchair', 7.30 p.m. Small Dole Village Hall.
13 April	3B's Women's Group at 7.45 p.m. in the Gladys Bevan Hall. Talk by Will Pilfold."Putting the 3B's in Their Place." A landscape history of the churches.
16 April	Saltings Field Conservation Group, Early Morning Bird Walk, meet at 6.00 a.m. Walk lead by Brianne Reeve.
20 April	Beeding Village Hall Quiz Evening 7.30 p.m. Tea/Coffee available or bring your own refreshments.
23 April	Steyning & District Chamber of Trade Quiz Night, Steyning Centre, Tickets £12 to include cooked supper.
27 April	ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, Beeding Village Hall, 7.00 p.m. Please come along.
4 May	Beeding & Bramber Local History Society, John Mills: West Sussex Settlements Lost to the Sea, 7.45 p.m. Beeding Village Hall.
7 May	Beeding & Bramber Horticultural Society and Allotment Holders Association Coffee Morning, with cakes, plants, and raffle - 10.00 a.m. 9 Dawn Crescent, Beeding.
9 May	A.G.M. of the Beeding Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
10 May	Small Dole Tuesday Club, Bingo evening, 7.30 p.m. Small Dole Village Hall
11 May	3B's Women's Group at 7.45 p.m. in the Gladys Bevan Hall. A talk by Rachel Bennet."The Role of a Chaplain in an Acute Hospital."
18 May	Beeding Village Hall Quiz Evening 7.30 p.m. Tea/Coffee available or bring your own refreshments.
21 May	May Fair – for details, see posters nearer the time.

For details of Council Meetings, see Meeting Schedule on page 1