

Brockenhurst Parish Council

Invitation to design a focal point Village Sign

Brockenhurst Parish Council <http://www.brockenhurst.gov.uk/> wants to provide a focal point village sign for the village. This would make a prominent visual statement about the village and its history.

The Council invites villagers of all ages to contribute to the design by Monday **9th April 2018**.

The sign needs to be designed to work mounted on a single substantial post about 4 metres above the ground. These signs are common in Sussex and other parts of the country. Examples can be seen at: <http://www.peasmarsh.org.uk/12341> (this village recently did just what this Parish is planning to do): <http://www.villagesignsociety.org.uk/>

The Council does not want to constrain the design but some pointers may be helpful.

Sign Location and visibility

The position of the sign has not yet been decided. The two front runners are on Waters Green at the junction of Waters Green, Grigg Lane and Butts Lawn (on the triangle there) and the other one on the green space by the watersplash in the village centre. As the sign is intended to make a statement about the village, its immediate visibility and legibility will be important. The sign will not be illuminated (this village supports the Dark Skies policy) nor must it rotate.

Materials

There are various internet sites which outline the kinds of materials that other villages have used. Designers are free to choose. However, longevity and ease of cleaning are very important.

Sign contents

The sign must contain the village name. Apart from that designers are free to choose any icons or symbols that seem to them to best summarise the village. Suggestions from councillors include:

a badger	a pony	charcoal burning.
a cow	an oak tree	Snake catcher
St Nicholas church	train	

But these are merely suggestions they should not constrain ideas and designers are entirely free to canvass residents on what best represents the village.

Budget

The cost of the sign should not exceed £4500.

Date for submission etc

We need completed designs by 10 am on Monday 9th April 2018 please. Designs should be submitted to the Parish Clerk at the Parish Office. A hard copy (preferably A3 paper size) should be included in all submissions but the design may also be submitted by electronic means (as discussed with the Parish Clerk in advance).

The Council will then select the ideas which most appeal to it although it reserves the right not to accept any design. It is currently intended that these, with their designers to talk the ideas through, should be shown to villagers at the Annual Parish Meeting in the village hall on 24 April (2018). After feedback from this meeting, the Council will then consider commissioning a design for installation.

Students from Brockenhurst College have also been invited to design the sign and their designs will also be included, as above, at the annual parish meeting.

Further information

Any further information can be obtained from the Parish Clerk whose details can be found on the Council web site (above)

20 February 2018.