



The Brock News

ISSUE 65

SUMMER 2017

Your Parish Council

Chairman:

Pete Wales 622514

Vice-Chairman:

John Wingham 622292

Councillors:

Mark Böckle 624603

Michael Croker 622035

Ian Holden 623408

Maureen Holding 622780

Henry Mellor 624587

John Korbey 01425 627746

Kevin Whittle

(Wootton) 01425 615381

Harry Oram 622500

Parish Clerk:

Mary Pattison 622829

Admin Assistant:

Mina Beckett

Groundsmen:

Kevin Baker

Ray Rideout

Parish Council meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month, except August and December, in the Village Hall at 7 pm. Planning committee meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of the month. Time is allowed for the public to raise any concerns and ask questions at the beginning of the meetings.

Chairman's Notes

It has been my personal pleasure to extend the Council's appreciation for the dedication, commitment and exceptional contribution to our community shown by Ken Thornber CBE for over 40 years as our Divisional Councillor. Amongst his many achievements was arranging the purchase of the Highwood site for the Village Hall and the completion of the crossing at the school. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to grant Ken the first and only Honorary Freedom of the Brockenhurst Parish at our Annual Parish Meeting. The gathering was well attended with presentations from nine voluntary organisations explaining what they are doing and the help which they require.

A casual vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council as Anita Whittle has had to resign due to pressure of her work. We are very grateful to Anita for the significant contribution she made to the work of the council during the two years she was with us. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor please contact the Clerk for further information.

In this very very wet weather, the village roads face the potential for flooding. The major factors, resulting issues and potential solutions have been discussed with the Environment Agency. They have suggested a meeting with the Risk Management Authorities and as a first step we have enlisted the support of our new Divisional County Councillor, Keith Mans. The Flood Action Group has disbanded but I would like to publicly express my sincere thanks to Peter Hebard for the extraordinary amount of work he voluntarily completed over the last 12 months.

Councillors have debated whether to continue with the door-to-door delivery of this and future Newsletters. Like

many village organisations, as our volunteers get older we are finding it hard to replace them. We are presently looking for people to deliver the newsletter three times a year so if you could offer to help please let the Clerk know.

We have recently expressed our serious concerns to both BT OpenReach and the County Council about the long delays in bringing SuperFast Broadband to some areas of the village. There is no official estimated date for installation because of the technical uncertainties but completion by the end of the year now looks difficult.

We continually report potholes, most of which are fixed in a timely fashion, but other road maintenance can take rather longer. There is a hole in the village ford at Butts Lawn and we urge you to take care if driving or particularly cycling through it. The repair has been done more than once but these have proved ineffective. We are waiting to meet the Highways team on site. Similarly, the news with regard to the adoption of the unused telephone boxes in the village is not progressing at any speed.

The Forestry Commission believe that they might all be on Crown Land. They are therefore discussing with BT and the Verderers whether or not the agreement which allowed the boxes to be sited on the Forest in the first place allows them to do anything other than remove them and return the land to the Crown. Until this position is regularised no agreement can be accepted to allow the Parish Council to adopt them. Even then the Verderers consent would be required if they are on the open forest as opposed to just Crown land.

Best wishes

Pete Wales

Planning Update

Planning consent is required for advertising signs on or adjacent to the highway. We have recently reported some advertisements to the NPA for their Enforcement Team to look at. Advertising signs can take on many forms. "A" boards may adorn pavements and may be a hazard to partially sighted people if badly placed. Traffic and information signs are often erected by HCC highways after discussion with the parish council. NEW ROAD LAYOUT AHEAD was erected by Hollands Wood campsite a year ago. This was when a traffic island was put in for traffic management purposes and a warning sign was needed to alert drivers to the change. We are still trying to get the Highway Authority to remove them now that they have been in

place for more than a year. The difficulty is to achieve signage that works for the businesses, but without upsetting the neighbours. This also has to fit in with NPA rules. i.e. to improve or enhance the environment, but not detract from it. I would like to take this opportunity to remind people that they can attend our Planning Committee meetings and address the members, whether in support of or objection to a planning application. Usually fourth Tuesday each month but please check with the Clerk if you would like to attend, in case of variation.

John Korbey

* **The Nalder Trust** *

The Nalder Trust has recently been registered as a Charity which will allow it to claim gift aid on donations, and make it easier for legacies to be bequeathed to it. It is impossible to over-state the benefit that this bequest from Miss Nalder has brought to those who have been able to continue to live in the village, or return to it, but were otherwise unable to do so. The joy expressed to the Parish Council by some of the tenants of the four flats has been heart-warming to see. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to be added to the waiting list or would like to make a donation/bequest.

Parish Council Annual Report 2016/2017

The good news is that there was no increase in the Precept for the current year despite losing the Council Tax Support Grant. Last year Churchyard income was slightly above expectation whilst all the actual expenditure was contained within the budgeted provisions. This has meant that we have retained significant reserves to invest in the proposed new Parish Council office as previously advised. Negotiations continue with Brockenhurst Village Trust to site the office next to the existing Hall. Meanwhile we have continued to support local organisations with grant funding namely: Brockenhurst and Sway Day Centre, Brockcare's Holidays at Home, The Pre-School, Twinning Association, Brockenhurst Football Club, Brockenhurst Village Trust - MUGA Project, Citizens Advice, the New Forest Disability Information Service and the Royal British Legion.

Councillors considered a full and detailed report on the potential installation of CCTV but came to the conclusion that the scheme should not be progressed. Councillors also remained busy considering 100 planning applications in the year up from 87 in the previous year. Four consultations were completed on waste recycling centres, the forest design plan and two local development plans. Despite the County Council's finances remaining under pressure we continue unsuccessfully to suggest improvements for Sway Road but have managed to have Brookley Road improved, with other minor roads resurfaced. Community events such as the Pancake Races, the Remembrance Day Parade and the Christmas Fun Evening have continued but volunteers are needed to help man the road closures. The task seems to fall on the same few gallant folk each year but others are needed to share the load.

**Pete Wales
Chairman**

NEW FOREST MARATHON ROUTE MAP AND DETAILS

Date: Sunday September 10th 2017

Race Start Times: Full 9.00am, Half 9:55am, 10k 10.25am, 5k 10:40am



NB: Numbers marked on the map indicate mileage markers of the Marathon route

- Rhinefield Road will be closed between the A35 and Beachern Wood Car Park from 9.00am until 1.30pm.
- North Weirs track - Restricted movement while the peak flow of runners pass between 10am-11.00am. Please exit via Burley Road until 1.30. Although runners will be using this until 4pm, numbers will be light so we aim to maintain access in and out of properties throughout this period. Please drive with extreme caution and add a little extra time for your journey.
- Burley Road will be closed between North Weirs and the The Rise between 9.50am and 11.00am while peak flow of runners cross onto the track leading to Brockenhurst Primary School. Following this period it will be a marshaled crossing point allowing traffic flow.
- Burley Road from Wilverley top to North Weirs will be accessible for residents and businesses only.
- Sway Road will remain open both ways with a 1m lane coned off for runners between the school and the T-junction after the railway bridge. (Please drive with caution)
- A diversion route will be implemented to give access to Brockenhurst village via Longslade Bottom.

More information can be found on the residents section of the New Forest Marathon Website. www.newforestmarathon.co.uk or by emailing us at info@newforestmarathon.co.uk

**BROCKENHURST
PARISH COUNCIL**

Contact:

MARY PATTISON

Parish Clerk

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Brockenhurst SO42 7RY.

Phone: (01590) 622829

Email:
clerk@brockenhurst.gov.uk

Website:
www.brockenhurst.gov.uk

Your Parish Council Office is open Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 10 am - 12 noon. Other times by appointment.



Our new season is underway! All concerts are given by exciting young professional musicians and are held at St Saviour's Church, Brockenhurst at 7.30pm. Tickets £12 at the door or £10 in advance from Pot Pourri or Streets in Brockenhurst, or Sway Deli in Sway. For more information please see our website **www.brockenhurstmusicsociety.co.uk** or ring 01590 624733.

Monday 11th September Alexandra Vaduva - piano. Works by Schumann, Enescu, Bartok, Brahms and Beethoven. *First prize at the Vienna International Piano Competition*

Saving Energy and Reducing Bills
New Forest Transition – Energy Group

Come to our September talk to hear architect Harry Paticas share his passion and expertise for low energy buildings. Hear how to reduce your home's energy consumption by retrofitting your existing house. Harry will talk about the range of measures and ideas to help reduce the cost of energy bills, keep warm and replace carbon fuels with renewable energy, whether your house is old, or recently built.

Join us on Saturday 16th September
Brockenhurst Village Hall from 2-4pm. Free Entry. Tea and coffee will be available.

Harry Paticas BA BSc AAdipl RIBA is an architect with a passion. He has lectured widely on this subject and is a director of the architectural practice Arboreal Architecture.

events@newforesttransition.org.uk

**Newsletter
via email**

Don't forget that you can have your newsletter delivered straight to your inbox. Please email the Parish Council with your name and address, stating E-newsletter in the subject line.

**New Parish Council Website
and email address**

Work is progressing on our redesigned website and we hope to launch it in the next two months. To make it available more widely it will be smart phone/ tablet friendly and use the same URL www.brockenhurst.gov.uk

Please note the new email address is **clerk@brockenhurst.gov.uk**

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Village Agents wanted
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There are more than 45 Village Agents in rural communities all over Hampshire. If you are interested in learning new skills or refreshing old ones, taking part in your local community, and helping older people to remain independent then Age Concern Hampshire would like you to become a Village Agent. They are local people who offer a few hours a week of their time to help older people to access information, advice, and local services, and provide a face-to-face contact point for people who are less likely to use the telephone or internet service to access information.

The programme has been highly successful in helping to reduce social isolation and loneliness in older people.

If you would like to get involved and have some time to offer, please get in touch today! Call Anne Harrison, Village Agent Co-ordinator, on 01962 892443 or Freephone 0800 328 7154 or email villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk. Alternatively you can download an application form, : www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer-for-us/



Christmas Fun Evening

The Christmas Fun Evening will take place a week later than usual this year, on Friday 8th December. As always we are in need of stewards to man the road closure barriers for the evening so if you would be able to help please contact the Parish Clerk.

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* **Black Knowl** *
* **Allotments** *
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We have a couple of allotments vacant at Black Knowl. If you are interested in having one please contact the Parish Clerk on the details above.