I had the honour, once more, of being elected Chairman at the May meeting of the Parish Council. I would firstly, like to thank the Councillors who did not stand for re-election to the new Council, namely John Wingham, Mark Böckle, Ian Holden, and Maureen Holding, for their many years of service and contributions to the Council. Henry Mellor stepped down shortly after the election for personal reasons, after valuable and, at times particularly passionate, service. Pauline Mueller stood for election and joined us in May, whilst you will note that John has subsequently returned, having been co-opted. I am pleased to welcome Richard Wolstenholme and Ros Bowles, who have also been co-opted. The main issue since my last Newsletter is the high level of concern throughout the village at the loss of the Post Office. Many people rely on their services but unfortunately it is not currently financially viable, like several Post Offices in our area which have either closed or are up for sale. I would like to take this opportunity of publicly thanking the staff for the very good job which they have done and continue to do in these circumstances. The Parish Council is looking at various options in close conjunction with the Brockenhurst Business Association in order to try to find a way forward but this will inevitably take time. We will keep you updated.

The other major issue has been the decision by our Parish Clerk, Mary Pattison, to retire this autumn after 23 years fantastic service. I am certain that during that time not only has the work of the Council and role of the Clerk changed enormously, but so has village life. I would like to thank Mary for her commitment, reliability, knowledge and invaluable experience. Mary is highly regarded and trusted by us all: residents and Councillors alike. Thank you Mary for your amazing contribution to village life. This will not be the last you see of Mary, however, as she has agreed to support the new Clerk whilst they gain experience.

Mary organised a successful Defibrillator and First Aid training evening in the Spring which was attended by almost 60 people. This was arranged after ex-Parish Councillor, Anita Whittle, volunteered to re-establish the Community First Responders service to the village. Volunteers who live and work in the community are professionally trained to attend certain emergency calls. Anybody interested in finding out more can contact Anita through Mary.

I would also like to thank Chris Hicks and the village Football Club for their sterling efforts in the Great Spring Clean litter pick initiative. Fifty volunteers collected twenty bags of rubbish, making our village a much cleaner place to live in. Equally, I would like to thank the Brockenhurst College students who also supported the initiative with the help of Anthony Stone.

Parking and access difficulties are also causing real concern in the village. I am calling for Hampshire Highways to meet Councillors, with traffic Enforcement Officers from New Forest District Council and the Police, to try to resolve some of these issues.

Finally, we are pleased to say that the long-awaited SuperFast BroadBand is now available for the New Forest Drive area. There is, however, a detailed article in this Newsletter if you feel that the BroadBand speed which you are receiving after your cabinet anywhere in the village has been enabled is inadequate.

With very best wishes

Pete Wales
Information For Brockenhurst Residents

Date: Sunday September 8th 2019

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

- 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 1.30pm. 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 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 approximately 1 meter 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, access to the 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
Planning Update

Developments in Brockenhurst continue in order to provide housing for current and future needs.

The Planning Committee continues to be busy into the summer as there are many applications in the village, some quite large or potentially controversial. To ensure that your opinion is heard, whether for or against an application, please attend the meetings to address the councillors with your views, or just come to observe the discussions. Everyone is welcome. It would be helpful to us if you would inform the clerk if you wish to attend. If you are sending an opinion to the NPA, please send a copy to the Parish Council Office as well.

At the monthly planning meetings we no longer use paper copies of plans but show the applications by projection on to the wall in the Craft Room at the Village Hall.

Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday each month but it can vary so please check with the Clerk in advance, or check our website.

Playground in Highwood Road

The Parish Council is seeking informal views on the future location of the very popular playground at the Village Hall. Plans are being prepared to refurbish the playground by replacing its badly worn surface and substituting an all-inclusive (eg. wheelchair-friendly) roundabout for the adult cross trainer. Funds are available to do this, thanks to developer contributions but they are time-limited.

The development by the Village Hall trust of its MUGA on another part of the site, has led to a suggestion that the playground should be relocated next to it to ease adult supervision. The Village Hall Trust, as land-owner, has not yet considered whether this is what it wants to do with the vacant land.

It is the Council’s view that the playground should be refurbished where it is, due to the risk of losing the available funding. The potential delay from planning permission timescales, reaching a decision in principle from the Village Hall Trust, and the construction bid process for a new site, could jeopardise both projects. This could mean that the village will neither get a relocated playground nor the existing one refurbished. Moving it would also mean that the pre-school children based in the hall would, to get to the playground, have to walk right through the car park rather than just across a small part of it.

If you have a view on whether the playground should be relocated, please let the Parish Clerk know by Friday 6th September. The Council will consider the response at its next meeting in mid September and decide on the way forward.

BUNTING 2020!

After a tremendous village effort a few years ago, we have on numerous occasions decorated Brookley Road and other venues, with the fabric bunting that so many of you kindly helped to create.

In view of the VE Day celebrations next year, we have decided it is time to replace the now rather sad looking bunting and once again ask for help with this task to decorate the village!

We will be arranging a few 'Bunting making days' later in the year, but if anyone feels able to make a few (or many!) bunting flags to get this effort off to a flying start, then templates and details are available from Pot Pourri (60 Brookley Road).

New Forest Neighbourhood Policing Team

Facebook and Twitter Pages

We have set up Facebook and Twitter channels for each of our seven stations with the following names. The channels both have the same name.

- Ringwood Police
- Fordingbridge Cops
- Lymington Cops
- New Milton Cops
- Totton Police
- Waterside Cops
- New Forest Heart Cops

We are keen for the communities to be aware of these ways of being able to find out about what’s going on in their areas by following the pages.

Inspector 22457 Scott Beney
New Forest Neighbourhood Policing Team
BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Contact: MARY PATTISON
Parish Clerk
The Parish Council Office
Highwood Road
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.

Corrections to Brockenhurst Directory
Telephone numbers

Some corrections are needed to telephone numbers in the Directory. Could you please amend your copy with the details below:

First Choice Taxis 07976 587968
Snakecatcher Pub 622348
Rosie Lea's Kitchen at Setley 622908

Sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Brockenhurst Music Society

Monday 9th September
St. Saviour’s Church 7.30 pm
Ugnius Pauliukonis (Piano)
An astonishing talent who has performed with major orchestras and musicians, playing works by Chopin, Beethoven, Debussy and Haydn.

Tickets £14 on the door, £12 in advance from Pot Pourri, Streets or Sway Deli.
Free for members.
brockenhurstmusicsociety.co.uk

Superfast BroadBand

Possibilities for faster speed
Most residents/businesses have had the opportunity to take up super fast broadband with the funded scheme rolled out by Hampshire County Council but some may need a faster speed. The Government Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC) scheme can with the funding of an extended fibre connection obtain a faster speed. Details are given in https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/GBVS-Beneficiary-Terms-and-Conditions-v5.0.pdf. There are a number of providers who operate within this scheme, including Openreach using their dedicated web site www.communityfibre.openreach.co.uk. If any resident is interested in finding out more, either as a participant or a group coordinator, we can provide a summary of the support available. We ask that you email the Parish Council Office so that we can link groups together if you give us your permission to forward your contact details to others in your area.

Box 2 HCC SFBB - New Forest Drive area
We are delighted to report that after many years of trying SFBB has finally arrived at Box 2 for the New Forest Drive area. Please contact your ISP to apply to receive SFBB if you would like to get this service upgrade.

Chairmen of Parish Council Committees - Personnel & Resources: Michael Harris
Amenities & Infrastructure: Harry Oram Planning: John Korbey Events: Harry Oram