



Brightwalton Brunch

Thursday 3rd August 9.30am to 12pm
Village Hall & Field

If you need a change of scenery over the summer holidays come along and join your friends and neighbours for some company.

Please bring with you:

- Breakfast and/or lunch
- Camping chairs or picnic blanket
- Suncream or umbrella!
- Hot drinks and fruit juice will be available to purchased on the day for a small donation
- See you there! Katherine



brightwaltoncommunity@gmail.com



Odd Jobs around the Village

The Parish Council are looking for someone locally, who is self-employed, that may be able to help pick up some of the maintenance tasks around the village. This could be a bit of hedge cutting, tidying up in the playground, spreading bark. These tasks often fall to the Councillors and the Clerk to complete in their own time.

For many years we have been fortunate that villagers have helped with the odd jobs of tidying up and cutting back around the village, sometimes as part of the working parties, but often just doing that little bit extra around where they live, and we have been hugely grateful for this. Sadly, with everyone so busy, and as key people come and go, we have less volunteers doing more jobs, making the tasks hard work rather than a team effort.

Rather than pay large contractors vast sums of money to manage everything we would like to keep a balance, by paying someone local to keep on top of tasks but also allowing us to do more at working parties with volunteers.

If you may be interested in some paid hours please get in touch with Sarah 07811 322994 or brightwaltonnpc@btinternet.com

Likewise, we would be grateful if you can keep your eye out for the working party date in October and spare a couple of hours to help the team maintain the village.





The kids all had an amazing time at the leavers 2023 service and festival themed after party. Dan Whidbourn drove the kids around the village on the tractor and trailer as they left the primary school for the last time .



The school said good by to 14 year 6 pupils, Luke Stiles, Olly and Shatoya were leavers from the village



At the party the kids got to enjoy mocktails, face painting, water guns, sweets, ice cream, a BBQ, limbo and huge bouncy assault course. The parents did an amazing job getting it all ready for when the kids finished school and great memories were made.



BRIGHTWALTON SCHOOL LEAVERS' PARTY—JULY 2023



JUDITH ORPEN gave a short recital in Brightwalton church on Thursday 20 July. A small but very distinguished audience enjoyed a range of pieces from Bach to Widor. It was good to hear what the new organ is capable of, and it gave a satisfyingly round sound in the churches lovely acoustic.



The event was organised by our new Community Organiser, Katherine, who also supplied some excellent wine to enjoy while listening.



AUTUMN GIFT FAIR

in aid of
Newbury Riding for the Disabled

TUESDAY 19th SEPTEMBER

5pm – 8.30pm

WEDNESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

9.30am – 4pm

HILLFIELDS FARM, RG8 9PE

**FABULOUS STALLS INCLUDING
FOOD, GIFTS, CLOTHING & HOMEWARES**

Refreshments available

newburyrda.co.uk

Charity No 1121113



Our village school is looking for volunteers to join their Governing Board.

If you have not thought about volunteering for this valuable and fulfilling role, then please do!!

We would particularly welcome those who have no direct connection with the school along with those who do.

If you would like more information, please look on the school's web site —

<https://www.brightwalton.w-berks.sch.uk> or get in touch with me Jenny Wilson jennyewilson@btinternet.com so I can send you a link to a helpful document or our chair of governors.



DO YOU RECOGNISE THESE ITEMS?

Did you get a 'handyman' to repair a shed roof recently?

Here are two examples of **FLY TIPPING** along Brightwalton Hill near Dunmore Pond which have been reported to the Council recently. These incidents of vandalism will be investigated, so if they are yours, even if someone else dumped them, expect a visit!



From the WestBerks Council website —

Fly-tipping—Information about illegally dumped rubbish and how to report it

We are responsible for investigating reports of fly-tipping (illegally dumped rubbish) on public land, and arranging for its removal. If the rubbish is dumped on private land, the landowner is responsible for removing it.

Anyone caught fly-tipping could be liable for prosecution. If found guilty, punishments could include fines of up to £50,000, or five years' imprisonment.

Reporting fly-tipping— You can [report fly-tipping online](#).

If you find something at the scene that might show who was responsible, please do not remove it, **report it**. One of our Waste Officers will investigate and collect the evidence.

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BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

Meeting Held on Monday 17th July 2023 7.30pm in Brightwalton Village Hall

See the Brightwalton website for a full copy of the minutes, plus other news and events – www.brightwalton.org.uk

Minutes: The minutes of the May meeting were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

Declaration of Interests: None

Addition to Standing Orders: Agreed to adopt the process of co-opting as per HALC Key Topic Note: Casual Vacancies. Clerk to copy into existing Standing Orders. An online training session was held with Councillors on the 12th July to ensure everyone fully understood the process.

Co-option of New Councillor: Chairman thanked the 4 that had applied and taken the time to provide background to their application. The Clerk had forwarded these applications together with the confirmation that they were eligible to the Councillors for review prior to the meeting. Of the 4 applicants, 2 were nominated and seconded and taken forward to the voting. Damien Goatley was appointed with the majority votes. Clerk to send out Council policy documents, together with the Declaration of Interest forms and acceptance of office. On receipt of these completed, DG will be appointed and included in the PC correspondence. TW thanked other candidates and asked them to consider taking part through working parties, volunteering, and events.

Committee Updates: Community Coordinator: TW and SY had held a review with Katherine prior to the meeting. Pleased to share that the Youth Club is proving popular with 30 children on the books and 22 regularly attending. KM has a good team of volunteers and is working hard with new ideas for each week. Running costs are being covered which shows this is sustainable. Another successful event was the school concert, this was held in conjunction with Great Shefford school and good numbers attended. Peasemore Ukulele Group is booked for an upcoming event. Soup lunch is on a summer break and will return in the autumn. Other events such as the summer wreath making / choir concert although attract early interest that hasn't come through in bookings.

Village Hall Committee: The VHC were sorry to have lost the long standing committee member Heather Cantlay last month, Heather had been part of the team for many years. The committee had sent their condolences to Heather's family. Evelyn Bracey will step in temporarily on the committee on behalf of the Young Farmers. ABG stated that the committee were still discussing constitution changes and would come back to the PC when they were ready to continue the conversation. ABG to pick up the conversation on insurance again with the VHC treasurer.

Matters Arising:

Code of Conduct: Councillors agreed to adopt the updated NALC Code of Conduct, in line with the internal auditors' recommendations. Clerk to upload to website.

Cherry Trees: Agreed that the hedge needs to be cut back manually around each of the Cherry Trees on the far side of the playing field. Clerk to obtain cost for contractor to do and put together article for Brickleton News, requesting volunteers.

Playground: Several jobs identified as necessary in the playground, including hedges and topping up the play bark. It was noted that Clerk and Councillors end up taking on these tasks and numbers of volunteers in working parties have dropped. Agreed that it would be worth putting a notice in the Brickleton News to see if there would be anyone interested in a self-employed handyperson job. ABG added that the VHC had been discussing similar, so could potentially have an interest. Councillors agreed to place notice and see if any interest - budget and tasks would then need to be agreed.

Dog Bin: As previously agreed and since the new waste contract with WBC has settled and appears to be working as it should, the dog waste bin has been removed. Councillors agreed this could be offered elsewhere in the village if any individual was prepared to empty it weekly. Clerk to make enquiries. Failing that it was agreed it could be sold to another parish rather than stored for an unknown period.

Complaint to Highways: Clerk reported that a resident on the B4494 at Lilley had made an anti-social complaint about motorcyclist speed and noise to the WBC Highways. Clerk had been copied, as no response had been received, Councillor Clive Hooker was asked to follow up. The Senior Road Safety Officer and Principal Engineer had replied, stating it was not something the council could enforce but would discuss with TVP. Clerk will follow up to ensure a response is received. Parishioner added that the road is dangerous, and Chair reiterated that the Parish Council has no powers to enforce or reduce speeds, PC had already battled to get the white gates installed in the Holt and the VAS.

Patient Participation Group Representative: Following the passing of Geoff Grayer, the representative for Brightwalton is vacant. TW to write notice in Brickleton News.

Diseased Chestnut Tree on the Common: Removal agreed, SS organising.

Parish Plan: Agreed to add to the September agenda with view to agreeing process and putting together a working party. Clerk to find previous questionnaire and add printing costs to the 2024/25 budget.

Brickleton News: Articles agreed as above.

Clerk Updates: Defib: In line with requirements the defibrillator pads have been replaced, new pads expire January 2026. Cost was £125.95, £35 more than original budget. Clerk updated and installed.

Memorial Bench Repair: Following the breaking of the bench uprights, to which the cause is unknown, replacement uprights had been purchased from the supplier at a cost of £45.83. Councillors thanked Scott Youldon for volunteering to install these and Jeremy for the repair he had done too.

Highways: Clerk chasing highways for a response on repair / replacement of the village signs as raised at the May meeting. Clerk will follow up once more and if no response refer to Councillor Hooker. Landowner on the B4494 had requested highways to cut back hedging around the VAS, needs to be done by hand but cannot be done safely here without sufficient warning sign or partial road closure. Noted that the verges needed cutting back, WBC had only completed one cut back in February. Clerk to request. Several boundary verges in need of cutting back too. Thank you to Christine for installing the new Slow signs on Ash Close.

Finance:

Current Account Balance: £3,490.42 - Payments made since the last meeting:

16th May ICO Data Protection fee £35.00; 8th June CJM Services Notice Board £180.00 plus VAT; 8th June Scofell May Mowing £216.71 plus VAT; 13th June Replacement Bench Slats - Sustainable Furniture UK £45.83 plus VAT; 13th June Chair Allowance £16.66 plus VAT; 13th June Refund to Clerk for Signage; £23.38 plus VAT; 13th June Oxford Diocese Village Hall Rent/ Playing Field Annual Rent £529.00 plus VAT; 13th June Zurich Insurance renewal year 3 of 3 £383.28; 28th June Clerk Wages April, May, June £514.90; 10th July HMRC Q1 PAYE £128.60;

7th July BALC Annual subscription (original payment failed) £86.17; 7th July Scofell June Mowing, and 3 Months Playground £336.74;

7th July Wel Medical Defib Pads £125.95 plus VAT. ; Received £119.88 Youth Club subs - transferred to the Coordinator Account

Savings Account Balance £7,624.40 - 5th June interest received £15.86

Coordinator Account Balance £12,464.98. Payments Made since last meeting: 24th May First Aid Training £65; 9th June Hall Hire for Youth Club £110; 9th June May hours (12); 9th June Expenses £2.91 plus VAT; 27th June hours (8.5); 27th June Expenses £83.33 plus VAT;

7th July PCC Payment for Church use Feb - June £40.00. Youth Club subs received £119.98

Bank Mandates: Mandate forms to add AA and remove SO have been completed for TSB and Barclays, awaiting confirmation. Clerk will follow up w/c 24th July.

2022/23 External Audit: Clerk reported that the external auditor had raised 6 queries, Clerk putting together the additional information on the spending and income comparisons with the previous year. Correction made to the AGAR Statement of Accounts p5, re-signed for Clerk to submit with the additional information. Response due to the external auditor by the 21st July.

Clerk Reports & Any Other Business:

WBC Clerk & Officers update in September: Being held in Shaw House on the 14th September, with guest speaker from a Planning Consultant firm. Clerk to send on details.

Telephone Box: ABG confirmed that they were still planning to sand and repaint the telephone box. Clerk had checked paint costs, still in line with the budget set aside.

Problematic Dog on Public Right of Way: Parishioner reported additional issues with a dog on BRIG/21/1. Owner and PROW officer had been informed. Meeting closed at 9.35pm

The 2023 Meetings will be held: 11th September, 13th November at 7.30pm