

Bretherton Parish Council

Th' Edge O' Leet

Spring
2016
Issue 46



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Welcome to the Spring edition of our Bretherton newsletter which I hope finds all our residents recovered from the recent flooding. I never thought that I would ever see Bretherton residents pumping out their homes from flood water, it is especially disturbing to witness these recent events and our thoughts and good wishes should be extended to those who have suffered flooding in our neighbouring village of Croston. I wish everyone a speedy recovery to normality.

At our February meeting it was decided to increase the Annual precept budget (the money that the Parish Council receives from CBC to enable it to run the services in the village) for 2016/2017 marginally by £881 per year (an average increase per council tax payer of £2.60), therefore ensuring the continuation of the current level of services for our village. We as your Parish council will do our utmost to continue in our duties to support and protect our village.

Many thanks to those residents who have returned the traffic survey questionnaire your opinions have been most welcome and the results of these will be published in the next newsletter.

With the evenings getting longer, Spring seems to be in the air now, daffodils and spring flowers are in evidence around the village, birds are singing happily and the mad March hares and rabbits are enjoying some welcome sunshine including ourselves. I would like to wish all our residents a happy Easter and to all our younger members I hope the Easter bunny hops by.

Karen Wait
Vice Chair



Future meetings of the Parish Council

April 4th

AGM May 9th start time 7:30

June 6th

July 4th

September 5th

All meetings are open and are held at Bretherton Endowed C of E Primary School at 8pm (except AGM)

Future Newsletters

If you are responsible for a village event or organisation please send me your details so that I can contact you for a short article in a future newsletter.

We would also like to recruit more people to help with delivering the newsletter.

If you are a local business person and would like to sponsor the village newsletter for a year or part of a year I would be very interested to speak with you!

Call Barbara Farbon on 01772 600750.

All information in this newsletter is correct at the time of printing. Bretherton Parish Council take no responsibility for the content of any of the articles included.

VISIT THE BRETHERTON WEBSITE

www.bretherton.org.uk

Bretherton War Memorial Repair and Refurbishment

During the Great War, now known as World War 1, and World War 2, the village of Bretherton lost 16 of its men folk; they made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and the free world. Without their sacrifice and that of approximately 36 million military personnel, there can be no doubt that the current people of Bretherton and of Great Britain, would not enjoy their current freedom and lifestyle, which we take for granted. The men folk of Bretherton who made the ultimate sacrifice are remembered and honoured through the Village War Memorial.

The words said on Remembrance Sunday throughout Great Britain are *"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."* are also relevant to the village War Memorial completed and consecrated in 1922. The men it remembers and honours will never grow old, but the memorial has grown old, now in its 94th year it is showing its age, it is in need of some total loving care, by which is meant repair and maintenance.

Your Parish Council recognises the need for such works in order that the War Memorial will continue its 'life', in a fitting state to remember and honour the men folk of Bretherton who gave their lives, this to be achieved no later than September 2018. It further recognizes that the extent of the works required need to be identified, from this their costs and finally the funding of them. With all of this in mind it has made applications to the War Memorial Trust, who, subject to approval provide grant funding of 75% for investigatory and 50% for approved identified works.

The difference between the amount of grant and the works costs being met by your Parish Council. Currently it has sought, and obtained financial commitments totaling £750 from Chorley Borough Council which will be added to by your Parish Council through its financial reserves and from the Council Tax Precept for the next three years.

Unfortunately it is most unlikely that this funding will meet the anticipated cost, particularly those of the identified works approved by the War Memorial Trust. Therefore, it falls to your Parish Council and you the Bretherton residents who fund it, to identify how the required additional funds might be raised. For this purpose it is the intention of your Parish Council to hold a public meeting during the week beginning 23rd May 2016. Please do attend and give voice to your views on this matter, which arguably is the most important to have been placed before you in recent times. An indication of the probable costs involved will be made known at the meeting.

Robert Bertram.
Bretherton Parish Council.

Bretherton Film Society

Thank you to everybody who attended our film night, SUFFRAGETTE, on Friday 22nd January. The record attendance of 122 enabled us to donate a massive £500 to the Croston Flood Relief Fund. Thank you for your fantastic support enabling us to help the people of Croston who were so badly affected in the Boxing Day floods.

The last film of the season will be:

Friday 22nd April: (Please note change of date)

THE LADY IN THE VAN - starring Maggie Smith, Alex Jennings & Dominic Cooper. Cert PG. (104 mins).

Based on the true story, Miss Shepherd was a woman of uncertain origins who "temporarily" parked her van in Bennett's London driveway and proceeded to live there for 15 years. What began as a begrudged favour became a relationship that would change both their lives. Filmed on the street and in the house where Bennett and Miss Shepherd lived for all those years, acclaimed director Nicholas Hytner reunites with Bennett (The Madness of King George, The History Boys) to bring this funny, poignant, and life-affirming story to the screen.

John Pigott brethertonfs@btinternet.com

All films will commence at 7.30 pm (doors open 7.00 pm) at Bretherton Endowed School. Refreshments available (including wine).

Bank Hall Events

Easter Bunny Hunt – Sunday 27th March 12pm onwards

Music Garden Party – Sunday 3rd July 12pm onwards

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Congregational Church secretary's retirement

Michael Harvey officiated at his final Annual meeting as the Bretherton Congregational Church Secretary on the 10th February. Michael has carried out the role for over 30 years and has earned a rest from the duties that he has performed so assiduously for all that time. He has been a lifelong member and staunch supporter of the "Chapel" and in fact was "born into the Congregational" more years ago than he cares to remember.

Secretarial duties for Michael have included so many chores over and above those anyone could expect (building bonfires being one of his favourites) and over the years Michael has been the most loyal and diligent of members whilst keeping the "Faith".

A small celebration was held just before Christmas with a special cake and the presentation of a Bible to commemorate the occasion and whilst it is always sad to see a changing of the guard we trust Michael will continue to be heavily involved in Church matters for many years to come.

Suzy Woods takes over the position and we wish her well.

Queen's 90th birthday

It is proposed that the village celebrate the monarch's 90th birthday on her official birthday in June. Further discussion about this will take place at the next Parish council meeting. If you would like to be part of a working group to assist with the event please contact us.

A thank-you note from Jacky and Tom Dagnall

Thank you for all the donations to the dubious carol singers of Bretherton.

The total raised was £250 and has been donated to the Derian house wish list for disability ski lessons.

Thanks,

Jacky and Tom Dagnall

Boules (Bretherton Buzzards)

Well here we are again at the start of a new Boules season.

Our first competition was on the charity event back in January with the next pre-season one on the 20th March at The Crown, Croston.

Then it's our very own Doubles Competition – Ian Blythe Shield – on the 3rd April.

This year is the Boules League 20th Anniversary having started back in 1996 with just 6 teams, long may it continue.

Here's to some warm evenings commencing on the 12th April with our first home league home match.

The season of weekly games will begin on the 15th April, here's to a good and winning season!

Clare Hughes.

Bowling Club

2015 ended for the club with mixed emotions. One of our founder members, Annie Bradley, sadly passed away as did another loyal member and worker for the club, Brian Monk. Both will be missed not only by the bowlers but by all villagers who knew them and recognised their personal value and service to our community. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

By the end of the season the club was able to celebrate outstanding success with two teams becoming league champions. In addition one of them managed to win a knockout competition as well. Most other teams performed very creditably by finishing high in their respective leagues, although one was relegated and another narrowly avoided it. Both teams are determined to improve and make a substantial improvement in the forthcoming season.

Work to the green never ceases and our very commendable groundsman, Barry Chambers, has made great strides to improving the green and its surrounds for 2016. Indeed his efforts have been noted by the judges in the 2015 Best Kept Village Competition.

We are very excited by the recently erected new, high quality veranda. It complements the Pavilion and is sure to become a useful asset to our members and visitors. As part of the club's development programme we hope to have the paths and steps surrounding the green lifted and relaid. You are all welcome to visit and enjoy our facilities and even to use them for recreation. Wednesday afternoons often sees a few people enjoying a friendly game and you are all cordially invited to join them. Who knows, you may discover a whole set of undeveloped skills. Bob Coupe.

Best kept village

We would love to be considered again for this prestigious award but need the support of everyone in the village. If each and every one of us helped by ensuring that our hedgerows are kept tidy and litter is removed we would see the results. Over the years we have lost the services of a 'Lengthsman' so we need to pull together as a village. Sadly most of the rubbish that collects in our hedgerows is as a result of passing vehicles discarding cigarette packets, food containers and the like.

Our first village clean up day will be on **Saturday 9th April**. We will start at **9.30 at the Bowling Club** on the Recreation ground. Black bags, gloves and high visibility jackets will be supplied and there will be refreshments served. If you are able to join the group please ring 01772 600750. This will hopefully become a monthly event throughout the spring and summer. Whether you are able to commit to one tidy up day or to do this regularly **YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!**

DOG FOULING

Please also take responsibility for your dogs when walking them through the village. It is an offence to allow your dog to foul the highways. Dog faeces can carry parasitic toxocarasis which can lead to blindness in humans. Remember to 'scoop the poop' and dispose of it safely!!

School News

It has certainly been an action packed term at Bretherton! Class 4 went to Stockport to enhance their World War II topic which included a trip down the air raid shelters in the town. We had a great day again with Prags from Cultural EducAsian. She led assembly on Saraswati, goddess of Learning before the food sessions started! The children made sweets, working in small groups while asking her lots of questions about her culture and faith. Gemma from the School Sports partnership worked with children from class 3 and 4 exploring cultural aspects of sport. The school participated in the first Lancashire Primary Schools Fairtrade Conference at County Hall Preston.

Year 1 and 2 pupils joined their peers from Croston and Mawdesley for a presentation by children's author and illustrator Emily Mackenzie who also read her brand new story and signed and dedicated books. Class 3 had a 3 week eco educational programme provided by Global Renewables which included a visit to the Eco centre in Leyland. Mrs Vincent, Mrs Rowley and Mrs Hudson ensured all our children had a home-made pancake on Pancake Day! It was especially a challenge as we had children out on trips that day – but they did it! They were delicious too! Our Class 3 children were trained to become PALS (Playleaders At LunchtimeS) Class 1 led a lovely worship on Mother's Day. We had a phenomenal 170 guests for our PTFA Mother's Day Afternoon Tea. The afternoon tea raised money for our PTFA, as well as once again being such a lovely occasion. We really enjoyed welcoming our Governors into school. They all had a fantastic time sharing worship with us with Rev. Janet and then seeing our school in action for themselves.

I received the analysis from the Local Authority on the questionnaires our parents completed for us last term. We had no negative responses at all, all the responses were more positive than the project average, and all were in the top 1% of schools involved in the project! We had an amazing 76% returns compared to the project average of just 28% which was fantastic and showed just how much our parents care.

Personally, I am busy training for the London Marathon 2016 in April! I have secured a place running for an amazing charity, 'The Children's Trust', who work with children who have a brain injury, either acquired or from birth. If any of you would like to support me on this then the link is: www.virginmoneygiving.com/Nick.Ward

Please visit our website if you would like to know more about our school. The website is www.brethertonschool.org.uk and it is constantly updated with news.

Nick Ward, Headteacher

W.I.

April 12th: *"Breakfast at Tiffany's" – theatre trip*

April 14th: *"Heads and Tales" - using our heads to vote for Resolutions to be adopted by the WI nationally and discussing the Village plan followed by a quiz, memorabilia and social activities focusing on the Queen's 90th birthday.*

May 12th: *Basic Emergency Aid & CPR – led by Lancashire ambulance service*

June 9th: *Embroidery Techniques Show and Tell workshop and demonstration*

June 18th: *Race Day – complete with frocks, bubbly and afternoon tea. members and guest can enjoy an extra fundraising activity*

July 14th: *"A Bit on the Side" - outdoor event at Rydings Farm with the side-saddle association demonstrating traditional horse riding techniques*

Refreshments are provided at each event, along with a chance to win the raffle and to socialise.

Meetings are held at the Congregational Hall, South Road, Bretherton, starting at 7.30 pm apart from the July meeting which will be at an outdoor venue.

Women of all ages are most welcome to come along and join us at one of the above meetings, to find out more. Several members have joined because they are new to the village or want to meet more people, so if you are in this position too don't be shy - you will not be alone and will be made very welcome.

Jane Elphick, President.

EMAIL : president@brethertonwi.co.uk

WEBSITE: www.brethertonwi.co.uk

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/Bretherton-WI-1633049530295859/

Cricket

The Cricket Club had to temporarily close its gates at the end of the season due to lack of support. The club is anxious to reform and now has enough support for at least one team this season. The cricketers would love to hear from anyone else who might be keen to join them to restore the team to its former glory.

If you would like to be involved ring:

John Blanchard 07748356246 or Mick Howarth 07962252433

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