



Spring 2018
Issue 55



BRETHERTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Future meetings of the Parish Council

The Parish Council usually meets on the first Monday of the month at Bretherton Endowed Primary School apart from the months of January and August.

Monday March 26th

(rearranged from 5th March)

Monday April 9th

(second Monday as first is Easter Monday)

Monday May 14th

(second Monday as first is May Day)

Welcome to the spring village newsletter.

Winter seems to have lasted for ever but finally we are seeing the signs of spring. The daffodils in the verges look magnificent thanks to Gwyneth and George for planting the bulbs that Chorley has again provided.

The clean up days have started again so if anyone would like to join our merry band of litter pickers please look out for the posters indicating the dates or ring Gwyneth or myself. We try to have one date per month between March and October although we know that many people do much more by taking out a bag every time they walk their dogs. On Saturday May 12th we will have our Annual Skip Day assisted by Chorley Borough Council Environment Department.

Dog fouling is not a huge problem in the village but the disposal of dog excrement bags has been a problem on some bridleways and public footpaths. The village school children, under the guidance of Karen Hudson, are giving dog walkers no excuse by providing 'poo bag dispensers' throughout the village and we have been able to secure an additional bin near the cricket club. I would like to appeal to dog owners to take the bags to the nearest bin or home to their own bin for disposal.

There have been several complaints received recently about cars parking in unsafe positions on the pavements in the village. When you or your visitors park would you please ask them to do so in such a way that they allow enough pavement space for a wheelchair or pushchair to get by and also so that vision at junctions is not impaired by vehicles. In the last few days there have been reports of vehicles using Eyes Lane and Back Lane as short cuts because of the road closure at the bridge in Croston. We are taking steps to see what can be done on these two roads that are unsuitable for two way traffic and heavy loads. Please take care if you are walking or cycling on either road and please report any dangerous incidents to the police. Meadow Lane will be closed again from June until September so the problem could become worse.

Last but not least, have a very happy Easter time and enjoy the Spring when it finally arrives.

Barbara Farbon Chair

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!! Please note, dogs are not permitted in the children's playground or on the field of the recreation ground.

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.

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VISIT THE BRETHERTON WEBSITE

www.bretherton.org.uk

Bretherton Endowed School

After returning to school after our Christmas break, we celebrated world faiths through a week of visitors from the world religions where our children and parents learned about the similarities within our beliefs rather. It was a great fun week that led into our church school inspection. We are delighted to tell you that we were awarded **'Outstanding'** in all areas and this is a testament to our fantastic children and staff, but also the commitment our governors and local churches have in building strong Christian foundations in Bretherton. You can have a look at our full report on our website: www.brethertonschool.org.uk.

Our children have had rich experiences and a couple of classes have been on trips to Stockport Air Raid museum to research lives in the war and Tatton park. We are excited about our PTFA 'Event' (our prestigious biannual ball) which will happen in June. Our PTFA work extremely hard in creating fun family events throughout the year which you are all welcome to come and share with us and all the proceeds go to enriching our resources so all for a good cause.

As the spring bulbs push their way through the snow, Bretherton Endowed Primary too is preparing for warmer weather. We have remodelled our 'forest' area at the rear of school and can't wait for all classes to learn in our super grounds. This links in with our focus on active learning, where maths in particular is taught through movement and games. We have purchased a couple of outdoor table tennis tables and we are also running our 'Daily Mile' with children to encourage health and fitness for all. It would be great to organise a fun, fitness community event so if you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Remember our popular toddler group continues on a Friday morning – feel free to pass the details on to anyone who would benefit. Thank you to our community for your support and volunteering. We do appreciate your time and expertise. If you think you can help, feel free to call in.

Alison Moxham Headteacher

Bowling Club

All members are eagerly awaiting the start of the new season with high hopes of improving team and individual performances under the watchful eye of our recently appointed President, Jim Sudell.

The bowling green looks better than it has done for several years due to the hard work of our dedicated groundsman, Barry Chambers. We are expecting it to be available for practice from March 25th. Members should note that on the previous morning, Saturday 24th, they are requested to help tidying the grounds, gutters, benches and cabins, all of which were highly commended in the "Best Kept Village Competition," last year.

New members are always welcome and our very first competition will be on Sunday April 15th and is primarily for beginners. I do hope you will consider entering. In the meantime, polish up your bowls, do your exercises and get ready to roll.

Bob Coupe.

Bank Hall

Our AGM will be in June, either the second or third week but we are awaiting confirmation of this. We are Open for our Annual "Bunny Hunt" & Daffodils on Easter Sunday – 1st April from 12 Noon to 4.00 pm. Admission will be £2.00 for Adults and Children will be free. There is a charge for the Bunny Hunt for Children who wish to take part in it and they will receive an Easter Egg on completing the Hunt. We are not using Eventbrite this year for online booking for the Bunny Hunt and spaces will be limited to 200. There will be Refreshments, Stalls and Birds of Prey also at this event. We are planning an event for Saturday 23rd June and this is likely to be a Heritage Open Day for progress updates and Exhibitors.

Lionel Taylor
Secretary & Archivist
The Friends of Bank Hall

Film Society

On Friday 20th April, the final film in the Film Society's 2018 Spring Season will be MAUDIE starring Sally Hawkins, Ethan Hawke, Kari Matchett (Cert PG, 115 minutes).

MAUDIE, based on a true story, is an unlikely romance in which the reclusive Everett Lewis (Ethan Hawke) hires a fragile yet determined woman named Maudie (Sally Hawkins) to be his housekeeper. Maudie, bright-eyed but hunched with crippled hands, yearns to be independent, to live away from her protective family and she also yearns, passionately, to create art. Unexpectedly, Everett finds himself falling in love. MAUDIE charts Everett's efforts to protect himself from being hurt, Maudie's deep and abiding love for this difficult man and her surprising rise to fame as a folk painter.

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

The Committee would like to thank everybody who has attended film nights and supported the Society during the Autumn and Spring Seasons. We will be back in September with a new season of films. For more information please contact John & Maggie Pigott on 01772 601455 or Gwyneth Lloyd on 01772 600705.

Cricket Club

NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR CRICKET CLUB AS NEW SEASON APPROACHES.....

Traditionally strong finishers, last season was no different for the cricket club and while the promotion and cup win of 2016 couldn't be replicated, a robust mid-table spot in the Southport and District Division two wasn't to be sniffed at. Fast forward seven months and the team is confident of topping last year's performance under the stewardship of captain Jamie Ashton and new deputy Shaun Parkinson.

This year progression on the pitch may well be trumped by developments off it. Work is in full swing to reshape the ground and extend the current pavilion to include new toilet and shower facilities. The club entrance has already been cleared and Brian Anderton's team have laid a new water pipe and electrical conduit from the main gate. A concrete pipe will also be laid in the culvert off the main road and with a couple of truckloads of shavings and some hard graft, the car park will be doubled in size.

Elsewhere, the club purchased a replacement container and with the help of Andrew Pope, positioned it at the back of the ground to make room for the future expansion of the pavilion. The poor weather hasn't helped progress, but we're hoping to have all the work completed by the summer.

While it may seem small on paper, the reality is this work marks a significant step forward for the village cricket club and opens new avenues that weren't available previously. We'd like to thank all of those who helped secure the grant, carry out the work – particularly Brian and Andrew - and have supported the club over the last 12 months, it's immensely appreciated.

As always, we're on the lookout for new players so if you fancy a game of cricket on a Saturday, you can contact chairman Mick Haworth (07962 252433) or treasurer Ollie Hill (07768 154067). Our net sessions begin at Bishop Rawstorne school at 8pm on Friday 23rd March for five weeks (except for Good Friday) and the first game is away at Dalton on Saturday 21st April.

All standards are welcome, so do get in touch if you're interested in getting involved with the club. Look forward to seeing you throughout the season.

David Bertram

Village Web site

Apologies to everyone, we have been experiencing a few problems with the village website over the last few months. We are doing our utmost to rectify the situation with the web site providers. In the mean time if anyone is on Facebook we do have a village 'Bretherton In Touch' page on which important dates and issues are placed.

Best Kept Village Competition

We are entering the competition again so please help by keeping the village tidy and keeping up the high standards that have been set in previous years. Can you put an extra planter or hanging basket outside your property? Can you volunteer for the Clean Up Days? Every little helps.

Open Gardens

The gardens will be open again this year on:

Sunday and Monday 27th and 28th May

Sunday 8th July

Sunday 26th August

We are always grateful to residents of the village for their tolerance, help and support on Open Garden Days. Across the country the Open gardens scheme has been in operation for 90 years and raises a great deal of much needed money for various charities. Last year the Bretherton Gardens raised a record £8250 all of which went to the NGS charities.

Kris and John Jolley Hazel Cottage

John and Gwenifer Jackson – Pear Tree Cottage

Richard and Barbara Farbon – Owl Barn

Sue and Terry Riding – Glynwood House

Additional Garden Openings

This year Jacky and Tom at Hazelwood along with Gary and Debbie at Brook Cottage will be opening their gardens again in aid of Queenscourt Hospice on Sunday 20th May. Jacky and Tom will also be opening once for the NGS scheme on Sunday 17th June.

Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council

The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on May 14th this year and we hope that it will be well attended. It is your opportunity to hear what has been going on during the year and also to ask questions of the Parish Councillors. Village Organisations that have benefited from the support of the Parish Council will be asked to make short reports to the meeting and we will provide tea, coffee and biscuits.

At every Parish Council Meeting there is a time set aside where members of the press and public can ask questions or raise issues. It is your democratic right to be able to do so and we would encourage you to use it.

Clean Up Days

The Clean Up Days for 2018 are now underway! On the very cold days of 16th, 17th and 18th March a dedicated band of helpers held the first litter pick and were astounded by the amount of litter that they collected.

The next Litter Pick will be on **SATURDAY 28th APRIL** meeting at 9.30am at the Bowling Cabin. We will then have the Chorley Skip Day on Saturday 12th May starting at 9:00am on the Recreation Ground Car Park.

Other suggested dates are 2nd June and 7th July. (TBC) If you can spare some time to help, please ring 600750 or 600705. All help will be much appreciated and we always have tea, coffee and biscuits available and sometimes 'bacon butties' or soup. We have high vis jackets, grabbers and gloves available to borrow.



W.I.

Bretherton WI has a lot of events in the pipeline. Following the success of our Murder Mystery night last year in aid of the village war memorial appeal, we are holding a Race Night to raise funds for our chosen charities this year, Blood Bikes and Derian House. This is an evening event for the whole village, to which all are welcome, not just WI members. It will be at Bretherton School on Saturday 12th May at 7.30 pm. Keep a look out for adverts and details of ticket sales.

We are also contributing to the village fun day in June, and making teas on Monday May 28th for the NGS open gardens day.

Bretherton WI meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Congregational Hall, starting at 7.30 pm. In addition to our regular meetings, we now have successful theatre, dining, walking and craft groups, offering a varied programme to suit everyone. If you are not sure about joining, come along to a meeting as a visitor and see what you think. You will be made very welcome, and are almost certain to see someone you know among our 55 members!

Jane Elphick
President

Drainage Ditches

In the winter months, the drainage ditches in some areas of the village were unable to cope with the flow of water because of blockages. Can we appeal to residents who have a ditch associated with their property to ensure that the flow is not prevented by vegetation or debris. Some people are unaware that they are responsible for a ditch even if it runs on the road side of their hedge or fence and does not appear to be part of their land. It is essential that the flow throughout the village is not impeded in any way.

Similarly, the Highways Act states that land owners should ensure that their boundary does not encroach onto the pavement. There are still some areas of the village where the pavement is narrower than it should be due to encroachment of vegetation on the pavement and also hedging that has not been clipped to its original line. Please take a look and if your land boundary is encroaching take appropriate action. The Tidy Village Group tackled some areas of the village early last year and Chorley did some work in the autumn but we all have a responsibility to do this.

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.

Call Barbara Farbon on 600750.

Family Fun Day

Save the date...

There are plans afoot to have a Family Fun Afternoon followed by an evening event on

SATURDAY 30th JUNE

Can you help in any way?

There has already been a meeting of a few people and the next one will be on

Wednesday 11th April at 7pm at Owl Barn, Flag Lane.

If you would like to join us at that meeting or have ideas that you think would add to the enjoyment of the day please let Joan Bullen, Alison Moxham, Janet Bleazard, Gwyneth Lloyd or Barbara Farbon know.

Key dates

Cricket net sessions start	Fri 23 rd March
Bowling Green open from	Sat 24 th March
Churches Together United Service in the Parish Church	Fri 30 th March 11am
Churches Together United Service in the Parish Church	Sun 1 st April 11am (and Easter Egg Hunt)
Bank Hall Bunny Hunt	Sun 1 st April 12.00noon
Ian Blythe Boules Shield	Sun 8 th April
Parish Council	Mon 9 th April 8m
WI	Thur 12 th April 7.30pm
Junior Bowls Coaching starts	Fri 13 th April 4pm
Bowling Taster Day	Sun 15 th April 2pm
Boules Season starts	Tue 17 th April
First Cricket game (away to Dalton)	Sat 21 st April
Bowling Spring Trophy doubles competition	Sat 5 th May 2pm
WI	Thur 10 th May 7.30pm
Annual Skip Day & Clean up	Sat 12 th May 9.00am – 12.30
W.I. Fund raiser	Sat 12 th May 7.30pm
Annual Parish Assembly and Parish Council	Mon 14 th May 8pm
Churches Together United Service Pentecost Sunday	Sun 20 th May 10.30am (at Congregational Church)
Hazelwood and Brook Cottage Open garden for Queenscourt Hospice	Sun 20 th May 1pm – 5pm
Open Gardens	Sun 27 th May & Mon 28 th May 12.00 – 5.00pm
Hazelwood Open Garden	Sun 17 th June 1pm – 5 pm
Bank Hall Heritage Day	Sat 23 rd June
Village Walking Day Event	Sun 24 th June (starts 11am at Parish Church)
Family Fun Day	Sat 30 th June
Open Gardens	Sun 8 th July 12.00 noon
Open Gardens	Sun 26 th August 12.00 noon



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