

## Community Speed Watch.

Permanent 'Community Speed Watch' signs have now been provided on the Lichfield Road, Ashbrook Lane and Uttoxeter Road approaches to the village. As a result of this, and in accordance with the policy of Staffordshire Police, the temporary warning signs will no longer be displayed in advance of the monitoring site.

The Community Speed Watch team is also looking for more volunteers to join them so that they are able to cover all of the village. At present there are no volunteers from the Ashbrook Lane area of the village and therefore the group would welcome anyone that is able to help them cover this area. Full training will be given.



## A Big Thank You From the Parish Council

The Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to Metal Wizards, Power Station Road, Rugeley. The company very kindly offered to repair our antique village sign which had become worse for wear and had fallen over. Thank you also to the Top Shop for keeping the sign safe until the repair could be done. As the sign is antique and not a standard sign provided by County Council Highways it would have just been removed by the Council and scrapped. To save the sign the Parish Council contacted Metal Wizards who kindly repaired and reinstalled the sign free of charge.



## Village Gateways

Following an application made by the Parish Council to Cllr Philip Atkins, the village has been awarded a grant of £1,500 to be put towards the purchase of Village Gateways. Gateways are used to indicate to drivers where the road changes character, for example at the start of a traffic calming scheme or at the entry to a village to create the first impressions of the village. Gateways are not a width restriction and must allow access to any vehicle entitled to use the road. Research conducted by the Department for Transport suggests that gateways can be effective particularly when combined with proven speed reducing measures. The Parish Council is working with suppliers of these gateways to assess the three main entrances to the village so that these can be installed. At this stage funding will not allow for gateways at all entrances so further fundraising will need to be undertaken.

### Councillor Tel no.

Adela Appleby	840169	(Vice Chair)
Philip Charles	840251	(Chair)
David Denny	840605	
John Houlihan	07944 099179	
Roger Jarman	840678	
Michelle Moore	840280	
Rosamund Robb	840599	
Phil Ryan	840019	
Bryn Walters	840976	



Parish Clerk Sarah Meads  
Telephone 01283 840891  
E-mail parish.council@abbotsbromley.com  
Website www.abbotsbromley.com/pc

### Other useful numbers

Highways Hotline To report any problems with Highways, Lighting, Signs: 0300 111 8000  
<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/home.aspx>

ESBC waste management: To report full re-cycling bins at Schoolhouse Lane: 0800 26 90 98

ESBC Enforcement Team (Dog fouling):

01283 508576  
ESBC Planning Enquiries: 01283 508570  
Police: All non emergency calls: 101  
Greg Hall (Borough Councillor): 01283 840836  
Phillip Atkins (County Councillor): 018895 90922

# Bromley Bulletin



## HS2 Power Supply Proposals

To recap, HS2 is intending to build a large electricity substation just south of the B5234, Abbots Bromley Road at Parkgate (1 mile west of Newborough) where there are existing high voltage overhead power cables. HS2 then intends to erect two parallel lines of pylons – 60 in total, between 28 and 39 metres tall. Power will then be cabled from this new substation in a south westerly direction, through Bromley Hurst and across the Blithe Valley to Newlands Lane near Colton, where it will be used as the sole power source for Phase 2a (Birmingham to Crewe) of HS2

Following on from our report in November's Bulletin, a Steering Group has been formed with the Parish Councillors from Newborough, Hoar Cross, Abbots Bromley and several affected parishioners, to try and mitigate the effects of this.

The original proposal was for 2 power circuits to be installed from the Rugeley power station site. Now that a 3rd circuit is deemed to be necessary for security of supply, this site, according to both HS2 and the National Grid, is apparently no longer suitable – hence Parkgate. Following a meeting with Michael Fabricant (who in turn has written to the Under Secretary of State responsible for HS2), we have been advised that reinstating Rugeley is not a viable option.

The one option we now have is to petition for the cabling to go underground. Because of the initial disruption of this to the various landowners, we have written to them requesting their support. If this is forthcoming we would intend to petition for this solution, by the imposed deadline of 15th March.

Further updates will be provided on the Parish Council website [www.abbotsbromley.com](http://www.abbotsbromley.com). There are also links on the website to the HS2 proposals or these can be viewed at the Uttoxeter Library, Red Gables, High Street Uttoxeter Staffordshire, ST14 7JQ

## Parish Council Elections

Parish Council elections will be held on **Thursday 2 May 2019**. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and are able to commit time to attend regular monthly meetings as well as take on projects within the parish then please get in touch with the Parish Clerk. She will be able to provide you with more information on the role of a Parish Councillor as well as details on the election process and timelines. Election packs will be available from the Clerk after 15th March 2019.

If you have recently moved to the village and wish to vote in the elections then please make sure you have registered to vote. The deadline for this is Friday, 12th April 2019. To do this visit [www.gov.uk/registertovote](http://www.gov.uk/registertovote) or call 01283 508376



## Parish Council Meetings

7.00 pm Wednesdays

In the Village Hall:

27th March 2019

29th April 2019

## PC Surgery

10-11am Saturdays in Church House

♦ 23rd March 19

## Parish Assembly

17th April 2019

At 7.00pm, Village Hall

Coffee served at 6.30pm

## Parish Council Precept

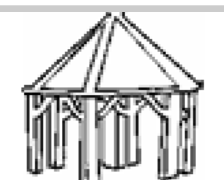
Each year the Parish Council puts in a request to ESBC for the precept for the following financial year. This funds all of the PC's work throughout the twelve month period.

For the first time in ten years the Council has had to request an increase in the precept which will lead to a small rise in the cost to individual households. The increased cost to a Band D home will be £2.50 per annum.

Parish Councils no longer receive a maintenance grant from the County Council. This increase in the precept is needed to cover the cost of this maintenance work as well as much needed works to the playgrounds.

# Abbots Bromley

Parish Council Newsletter March 2019 — Issue No 68





## An Outdoor Gym Update

An outdoor gym is like an interior gym found in a leisure centre but it's put in a public space providing users with an opportunity to exercise outdoors using fitness equipment - for free!

You may recall that the Parish Council had an opportunity to compete for funding for an outdoor gym\*. To help us decide whether to take advantage of the opportunity, at the end of last year we asked you if such a facility, designed for those older than 13 years, would be an asset to the village.

We are grateful to everyone who took part in the online survey or completed the paper form. You told us that an outdoor gym was a great idea and that it would be used through-out the week, 6am-9pm. With this endorsement we sourced three quotations for the work and applied for the funding. The great news is that we have just found out that we have been successful.

The Parish Council is now in the process of selected the preferred supplier to work with and hopefully the gym will be installed in the next few months. More updates will be provided on the website and at Parish Council meetings.

*\*We would like to reassure those who asked why we are not considering using the funding for something else that this is not possible as it can only be used for the outdoor gym.*



*An example of an outdoor gym*

## ABBOTS BROMLEY SPORTS ASSOCIATION - registered charity

**"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago; the second best time is now"**

### Great News

Abbots Bromley Sports Association, (ABSA) have been awarded a grant of £258,159 from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund towards delivering the second phase of our new facility on Lichfield Road. ABSA have worked closely with the Football Foundation and the County FA to secure this grant. Phase 2 will deliver a senior football pitch, a junior football pitch, secure access to the site off Lichfield Road, car parking for 58 cars, upgrades to the temporary changing rooms, showers and kitchen and secure storage for equipment.

We are absolutely delighted and excited about the grant given to Abbots Bromley by the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund. It will enable us to secure grass roots football for all ages and abilities in our village for future generations. This award will require matched funding but our match funding efforts are well under way so hopefully with your continued support work on Phase 2 can commence in late spring 2019. We have already created a new state of the art cricket pitch so our dream of creating a fully integrated sports and activity venue for our community is well and truly underway.

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "Since 2000, the Football Foundation has awarded 221 grants worth £16.1m across Staffordshire County towards grassroots sports projects worth £29.9m and it is great to hear that Abbots Bromley Sports Association will be the latest beneficiary."

"Funding from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund, delivered by the Foundation, will support this club in developing new natural grass pitches for the local community. Grants are funded by investment from the Premier League, The FA and the Government, via Sport England. This Fund is supporting the grassroots game by improving access to high-quality football facilities across the country."

The Trustees of ABSA continue to be indebted to the wider community, individuals, clubs and societies as well as East Staffs Borough Council and Abbots Bromley Parish Council for their on-going and continued support, both financial and non-financial.

We can now begin to focus more of our efforts on the building of the Club House\Community Hub and the provision of tennis, netball and an all-weather pitch for alternative activities. We hope you will continue to support us as we move into the final stages of this exciting project.

Chris Wood

John Stevenson

Chair Person ABSA

Project Director ABSA

If you want to get involved contact Chris Wood on [chris\\_wood53@live.co.uk](mailto:chris_wood53@live.co.uk) or 07770488975

## Best Kept Village 2019



Having won the Best Kept Village competition and the County Trophy for two successive years, our challenge is to win these crowns for a third year. This achievement is unprecedented and will only be done with YOUR help!

### Creative Community Initiatives

The judges look for creative community initiatives that encourage villagers to get involved and celebrate their community. Last year, you will remember that the Rainbows provided and looked after the herb planters on the village green so we could all pick and enjoy them in our meals. This year we are looking for volunteers to help to spruce up the Nuttery Playground and give it a fresh lick of paint. This work really needs to be done in the Spring so if you are able to help out then please do get in touch with the Parish Clerk.

If you can you think of anything else that you could do with your family and friends or a group you belong to? Tell us at it via [abbotsbromleybkv@outlook.com](mailto:abbotsbromleybkv@outlook.com)

### Adopt an Area

We are very grateful to the individuals and village clubs who adopt an area of Abbots Bromley to look after during the competition. By regularly sweeping the area, picking up litter and debris (especially just before the judging dates) they help to keep the whole village tidy! There are plenty of areas to choose from such as

- Millennium Play Area - Nuttery Play Area - Village Green - Village Hall - GP Surgery - Churchyard  
- Each of the Three Village Entrance - Bus Stops - Church House - Car parks - Village Notice Boards

Please sign up at [abbotsbromleybkv@outlook.com](mailto:abbotsbromleybkv@outlook.com)

### Best Kept Front Garden or Best Kept Front Step Competition

The Best Kept Village judges walk through the residential areas of our village and commend the front gardens and front steps. Our village competitions celebrate those amongst us who take pride in their small part of Abbots Bromley and the Parish Council is happy to award the winners with garden centre gift vouchers. Entry is now open with entry forms available from the village website and at Top Shop and Wilson's Butchers. Judging takes place in July/August with winners are announced in September.

### Best Kept Public House or Restaurant

We are fortunate to have six establishments in the village providing great food and drink. Each year, the Judges tell us the one they would like to award the 'Best Kept' title to.

### Sponsorship

We are very grateful to the national and local companies who sponsor our entry to the Best Kept Village Competition as this enables the Parish Council to award prizes and fund the resources needed. If you can help in this way, please contact us at [abbotsbromleybkv@outlook.com](mailto:abbotsbromleybkv@outlook.com)

### Spring Clean

We start each year with a call out for volunteers to come together one weekend morning to sweep up litter, leaves and debris; clean benches and cut back vegetation. From 5 year olds to 80 year olds it's great to see so many people take part. Keep your eyes peeled for this year's date - it will be announced in social media and village noticeboards.

### 'Tidy Ups'

Sadly there are some people who drop litter and cigarette butts and areas where leaves and debris collect and weeds grow. We need help to tidy this up. People found it difficult to volunteer for the weekly group tidy up events last year, but many picked up litter as they walked through the village - if more people can do this in 2019 it will be fab! Remember the Parish Council has litter pickers, bags and gloves you can borrow if, as a group, you want to spend an evening or afternoon tidying an area.

***Judging takes place the first week of May, June and July, so please help Abbots Bromley to sparkle from 1<sup>st</sup> May and sustain the efforts until 31<sup>st</sup> August.***

***Thank you in advance!***

## Mud on the Road

At this time of the year just a reminder of the law with regard to the mud on the road. "The Highways Act 1980 makes it an offence to deposit mud and other things on the highway (S148). In addition, the act provides that if a person without lawful authority or excuse deposits anything whatsoever on a highway in consequence of which a user of the highways is injured or endangered then he is guilty of an offence (S161). Some pieces of advice were published in The Farmer's Weekly January 2015:-

- Do everything possible to prevent mud being deposited on the road. This includes cleaning mud from vehicles, as far as practicable, before they are taken onto the road.
- If there is a danger of mud being accidentally deposited on roads, use 'Slippery Road' signs with a 'Mud on Road' sub plate to alert other road users. Check with your local highways authority their requirements for warning signs at the side of the road.
- Clean the road as necessary during the working day and always at the end of the working day.
- Ensure that labour and equipment is available and is suitable for the soil and weather conditions present.
- Where a contractor is used, ensure that prior agreement is reached on who is responsible for mud on road issues (signage, cleaning etc) and ensure that adequate public liability insurance is in place.