

## Village Walks & Footpaths in the Area

Over recent months the Parish Council has received several complaints about the disrepair of stiles, footpaths and bridges in the area. The PC is currently working with Staffordshire County Council to try and improve some of these, however, it is not always possible to identify the location without more detail. If you are out walking either in the village or surrounding fields and come across a stile or path that is not maintained to a safe and passable standard please could you report to Staffordshire County Council via the website <https://prow.staffordshire.gov.uk/>. If you are not able to do this then please report to the Parish Clerk so that the complaint can be followed up. If you do know the landowner and are able to speak to them then that may be all it takes as they may well not be aware that there is an issue.

Landowners do have a responsibility to maintain access to public rights of way through their land, however, it is equally the responsibility of those using these paths to ensure the safety and wellbeing of animals. The PC has also received several reports of dog fouling on agricultural land and also the leaving of plastic bags in fields or even hung on trees! Diseases found in dog poo can cause abortions in cattle and death in sheep. Even if these animals are not grazing at the time the grass may be cut and fed to them over the winter months.

Dogs should also be kept under control at all times. Even if the dog isn't chasing animals the mere presence of a dog running free can sometimes cause stress. Please also ensure that any gates that are used are closed firmly behind you to ensure that animals do not escape

For more details on the Countryside Code visit [The Countryside Code - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



### Councillor Tel no.



- Mr K Baker (01283 840690)
- Mr R Beaumont (07900 673902)
- Mrs C Brown (01283 840291)
- Mr P Freeman (01283 840095)
- Mrs K Haywood (07970 590076)
- Mr R Love (07958 509824)
- Mrs S Morgan (07790 912255)
- Mr E Rodway-Bowden (07583 367719)
- Dr C Whorwood (07460 455241) **CHAIR**

Parish Clerk Sarah Meads  
Telephone 01283 840891  
E-mail [parish.council@abbotsbromley.com](mailto:parish.council@abbotsbromley.com)  
Website [www.abbotsbromley.com/pc](http://www.abbotsbromley.com/pc)

### Other useful numbers

Highways Hotline To report any problems with Highways, Lighting, Signs: 0300 111 8000

<https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/reportfault/#divSelectionHeader>

ESBC waste management: 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):  
[greg.hall@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk](mailto:greg.hall@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk)

Phillip Atkins (County Councillor):  
01889 590922

# Bromley Bulletin

## BEST KEPT VILLAGE

After being cancelled last year, this year's the Best Kept Village competition is back but in a slightly different format. Earlier this year the Parish Council submitted the village entry which focussed on engagement and involvement of the community. With all the great projects happening in the village and many volunteers taking part in litter picking, planting of tubs and village maintenance we had lots to shout about and some great photos to support the entry. A big thank you to all the pupils at Richard Clarke School who were asked to design a poster as part of the Village Spring Clean. A huge array of fabulous posters were handed to the PC for judging at the June meeting. A difficult task was undertaken by the councillors in selecting one poster from each year group that best represented the message of keeping the village clean and tidy for all to enjoy. A £10 Amazon gift voucher has been awarded to each selected. All of the posters are now displayed around the village for all to enjoy.

The Parish Council has now been advised that the judges will be visiting the village in September so please keep up the great work and help us to win the trophy again.

### Parish Council Meetings

29th September

27th October

24th November

7.00pm at  
Abbots Bromley  
Village Hall

## ABSA - Update from the new sports ground

For those who have continued to wander down to the new ground on the Lichfield Road, you will have seen plenty of activity over the summer. Junior and Senior Cricket, as well as Extreme Fitness sessions on two evenings a week.

The football season is upon us, so look out very soon for all matches to be staged on the two new pitches, as well as Walking Football in September. The pitches are almost ready.

You will also have seen the new access and roadway with parking, as well as the commemorative trees surrounding the ground and the commemorative benches. I hope you agree the ground is looking a picture and a credit to the village and it's residents.

We are still, however, only a third way to completion.

Tennis and netball courts have to be constructed and a community clubhouse built before the project can be really considered finished. In addition we have to maintain what we already have.

We are immensely grateful for all the volunteers and the donations which keep on coming, but we ask that you continue to find ways of helping to finish this wonderful community project in any way you can. Thank you.

Chris Wood

Chair ABSA

[Abbots Bromley Sports Association \(ABSA\) | Abbots Bromley \(absasport.co.uk\)](http://abbotsbromley.sportsassociation.org.uk)

## Abbots Bromley

Parish Council Newsletter August 2021 — Issue No 75



## Local Businesses - For Life, not just Pandemics

With freedom comes the opportunity to roam far and wide in search of entertainment and provisions. However, can I encourage our community to look closer to home and remember those local businesses who provided much needed services and support when the supermarket shelves were empty and there were no delivery slots available as well as those who have weathered a catastrophic financial year when they could not trade at all.

Those who delivered to our loved ones when they could not go out, or found flour when we all searched for comfort in home baking and it was rarer than hens teeth.

Remember the cafes, pubs and restaurants who made it still possible to have our favourite treats and takeaways in those dark days of lockdown.

Many are teetering on the brink of survival and have had to reach deep in to their stores of ingenuity and resilience to get this far and now is the time for each of us to return the favour and give our support and patronage to help them to flourish once more. Many I have spoken to have noticed a marked drop in trade as people return to their (almost) old lives and habits.

We are incredibly fortunate to have a rich and varied selection of businesses providing goods and services on our doorstep which is part of what makes this such a desirable place to live. Many villages and small communities are not so lucky. It is only by appreciating what we have and supporting them that they will continue to be there providing a heart to our community.

For anyone out there who has visitors coming into the area or a display area at work the Parish Council has produced Visitors Guide focussing on the attractions and businesses in the locality.

If you can help to encourage others to enjoy what we have to offer locally then please email the Parish Clerk at [parish.council@abbotsbromley.com](mailto:parish.council@abbotsbromley.com) or Councillor Morgan at [smorganabpc@gmail.com](mailto:smorganabpc@gmail.com)

The Parish Council has recently created a visitor's guide which will be available throughout the village free of charge. This leaflet identifies walks and areas of interest in the village. Copies are available free of charge under the Butter Cross, in the village shops and also can be downloaded from the website [www.abbotsbromley.com](http://www.abbotsbromley.com)



## Taking Care of Our Verges & Wildlife

You may have seen the signs in Radmore Lane and Woodmill Lane, explaining that the verges will be left uncut until late in the year in order to allow wild flowers to grow and seed. This is a trial by the parish council to see the effect it might have on encouraging insects - important to the pollination of crops and to the survival of certain species of birds, bats and small mammals. If you would like to see this trial extended to other lanes in the parish, please contact the parish clerk - Sarah Meads.

A big thank you to those households who have made a conscious effort to encourage wildlife to their gardens by leaving an area of lawn uncut, by planting trees and shrubs, by cultivating insect-attracting flowers, by installing bird and bat boxes, and all the other ways you have responded.

The Parish Council seeks to enhance the well-being of the community by moving towards a greener and more sustainable environment and would like to encourage all residents to support this campaign by helping to take care of these green spaces. When using the lanes in and around the village or moving farm machinery please make every effort to keep off the verges and allow the plants and wildlife to flourish.



## Abbots Bromley Churchyard Fund

The Parish Council's very helpful community grant of £1000 to Abbots Bromley PCC and the Nostalgia Team jointly has helped kickstart a new project fund for churchyard memorial maintenance.

Many headstones in the churchyard have become unsafe over time and need attention so that they do not become hazardous, and so they also continue to commemorate those whose fascinating stories make up the history of our village.

The Nostalgia Team are working with the PCC to identify stones where families are still living in the local area to give them the opportunity of tending and mending their family memorials. Many families have responded generously and immediately – you may notice some stones which are once again upright, as well as clean and shiny!

However there are some stones belonging to families who no longer live in the area or who have no living relatives. The burden of making these stones safe falls to the PCC so the new fund will contribute to the not inconsiderable cost of this work.

And to illustrate the need for the churchyard fund, Elaine Summers of the Nostalgia Team has researched the story of Joseph Twigg and she writes:

*You've probably never noticed the headstone lying flat towards the bank on the west side of the church – this belongs to Mr Twigg and the inscription reads:-*

*Joseph Twigg died at Hoar Cross*

*14th January 1870 aged 74 years*

*Faithful and valued*

*servant to Hugo Charles*

*Meynell-Ingram Esq*

*For 37 years*

After researching the census records we found Joseph in 1841 working and living as a servant for Mr Meynell and his family in St James, Golden Square, Middlesex. In 1851 the family were living at Hoar Cross Hall where Joseph was listed as a house servant; by 1861 Joseph is listed as the Butler and was still in this post until his death. There was no church at Hoar Cross until 1876 and Joseph's sister, Hannah Harvey, was buried at Abbots Bromley in 1868. Joseph was buried here on the 19th January 1870.

The reason for telling the story of Mr Twigg is to say we would dearly love to have the headstone standing again and are asking for donations, not just for Mr Twigg, but for the many others that are lying flat or damaged. During lockdown we have been researching many of the names on the headstones and sadly a lot of families have died out. Some headstones have already been repaired or cleaned and have interesting stories to tell.

Our churchyard is a pleasant reflective green space in the centre of the village, which gives pleasure to villagers and visitors alike. To keep it attractive and safe for everyone please help the fund. **Cheques made payable to Abbots Bromley PCC can be given to Gill Grundy at Rose House on High Street - please indicate on the envelope that it is for the Churchyard Fund.**

## Wildlife Competition 2022

The Parish Council is to hold a competition in 2022 for those of school age on the theme of "Wildlife Conservation". Judging will take place in May/June next year. Anything will be considered - from the creation of a wildlife habitat to the making of a small pond to the decorating of bird boxes. Prizes of £25, £15 and £10 are to be awarded. Entry forms will be available in the new year. Keep a look out on the village website, noticeboards and in the village shops.

