Bromley **Bulletin**

Abbots Bromley Parish Council Newsletter

SEP 2026 - Issue 84



Horn Dance Day
Parish news
Traffic Plan
Tennis Courts Refurb
What's On

We're in the Village Hall!

Abbots Bromley Community Shop & Hub

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday
8:30AM-12:30PM
2:30PM-6:30PM

Saturday
8:30AM-4:30PM

Sunday
8:30AM-12:30PM

FRESHLY-BAKED GOODS SUBSCRIPTION

GIFTS & CARDS

PET SUPPLIES



DRY CLEANING

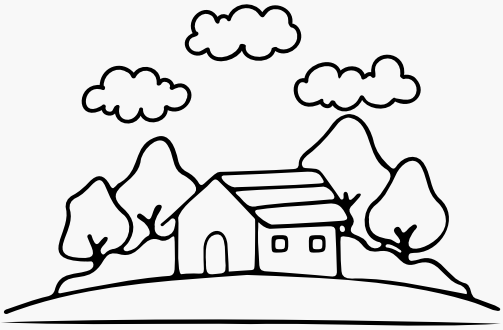
GROCERIES

NEWSPAPERS

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

SEASONAL GOODS

Village *News*





War Memorial Restoration

Cllr Rachel Garth

Just over a year ago the Parish Council managed to complete the process of getting our cherished war memorial repaired and cleaned.

The work cost £4,142, which was covered by generous donations from the community (£1,368); the War Memorial Trust grant (£1,690) and the Parish Council (1,084). Our deepest gratitude goes to all those who contributed, both in terms of funding and more importantly, effort.

The latest clean was not without many a hiccup!! The trust would only give us the grant on the condition that only the base be cleaned and only with non abrasive or chemical products. This was due to it's age to preserve further weathering. This, therefore, meant the person I had agreed to come and do it pulled out at the twelfth hour.

It was back to the drawing board and the deadline was looming for the applications. Finally, the IMI War Memorial Cleaning Company managed to fit us in, and what a great job they did! It was fantastic to be able to read the names on there and fully appreciate the finished result.

The advice given to us was to not leave things on the structure that might hold/trap water, penetrate into the stone and then cause further damage. This also explains why we remove the wreaths a few weeks after Remembrance.

Hopefully it will stay in good condition for many years to come before we need to start again!! Thank you so much for everyone's support it getting this done - it's amazing what we can do as a community and I'm so proud to be part of this village.



Go online to War Memorials Trust WMO/97274/2 WM42 to view our village memorial, and see its history and how it has been maintained

Remembrance

SUN 08 NOV 2026
11:00AM
Village green

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More Than Just a Shop

Cllr Claire Frame

Six months ago, an idea became a reality in the heart of Abbots Bromley. Today, Abbots Bromley Community Shop & Hub is open seven days a week, supported by more than 25 volunteers and an ever-growing range of local suppliers, producers and makers. And it all began with one person's vision.

From an idea to a village shop

The Community Shop is the brainchild of Sian Morgan, whose vision, energy and sheer determination turned the idea of a village shop into something real.

Sian worked incredibly hard gathering support, talking to the community and bringing together an amazing group of volunteers. Just six months into trading, that team has grown to more than 25 people.

The shop is completely volunteer-run and is open 8.30am–6.30pm Monday to Saturday and 8.30am–12.30pm on Sundays.

None of it, however, would have been possible without the support of Abbots Bromley Village Hall, who didn't hesitate to offer valuable space for the shop and Hub to call home.

The little shop that keeps surprising us

What started as somewhere to pick up everyday essentials has quickly become something much bigger. Groceries, newspapers, newspaper deliveries, stamps and local produce sit alongside an increasingly varied selection of products — many added because customers have simply asked, "Could you stock ... ?" And whenever possible, the answer has been "Yes".

The range continues to grow as the volunteers respond to requests for customers' personal favourites. Quite how everything fits inside is becoming something of a mystery, and we feel 'Tardis status' may soon officially have to be awarded.

There's also a particular pleasure in those moments when someone rushes in needing something urgently and discovers that, against all odds, the Community Shop has exactly what they need. For the volunteers, those little 'saving the day' moments bring enormous joy.



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Local supporting local

From the beginning, supporting local businesses, producers and artisans has been an important part of the shop's mission. Fresh flowers come from **The Petal Shed**, while cards and notebooks feature the work of **S&P Watercolours**. You'll also find **Claire Elizabeth Usborne Books**, our very own village **Avon Lady**, and sustainable creations from **The Creative Recycler**. There's also plenty produced locally to eat too.



Zoe's Cakes
The Grub Club
Heidi's Honey
Tom Philly Eggs
Just Crisps
Just Oil
The Pie Shack
Alkmonton Dairy

Doing things a little differently

Community is also about looking after what we have.

The shop uses paper bags rather than plastic and, wherever possible, waste plastics are passed on to **The Creative Recycler**, where materials that might otherwise be thrown away can be given another purpose.

The shop also supports the **Donate a Bra** scheme, offering another simple way for unwanted items to be put to good use.

And the volunteering opportunities are reaching the next generation too. Already, two young people have volunteered at the shop as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award, gaining valuable experience while contributing to their own community.



It's the 'Hub' that really matters

Perhaps some of the shop's greatest achievements can't be found on its shelves.

They're in the conversations across the counter.

For many villagers, particularly some of our older residents, a trip to the shop is also an opportunity to see a familiar face, have a chat and stay connected with village life.

The noticeboard keeps everyone up to date with what's happening locally, but often it's the people behind the counter who provide the real connection.

The feedback from the community during these first six months has been fantastic, and every visit, purchase and kind word of encouragement helps remind the volunteers why they give their time.

It's a lovely circle of support: shop locally and you're not only helping the Community Shop thrive, you're supporting a whole network of independent businesses and local people at the same time.

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Six months in ... and plenty more to come

For a shop only celebrating its sixth month of trading this August, an enormous amount has already been achieved.

Over 25 volunteers; a seven-day opening; a growing network of local suppliers; young people volunteering; sustainability initiatives; an expanding product range. The list goes on ...

And, most importantly, a shop that has already established itself as a valued part of village life.

Sian has plenty more ideas for developing the Hub further, too.

We can't reveal everything just yet, so for now we'll simply say...

Watch this space

In the meantime, there are three very easy ways every one of us can help.

Shop often.
Support local.
Volunteer, if you can.

Pop in for your newspaper. Grab the milk you've forgotten. Pick up some eggs. Treat yourself to a slice of cake. Choose locally made flowers, gifts or cards. Or simply come in and see what we've managed to squeeze onto the shelves this week.

Because Abbots Bromley Community Shop & Hub isn't simply a shop in the village. **It's a shop created by the village, for the village, and that's something worth celebrating.**

Defibillator at Marsh Farm Tea Rooms

Many of you who have visited or drive past Marsh Farm will have noticed our defibrillator. This is for public use and the entry code is provided when calling 999. The cabinets also contain a bleed kit. Hopefully the need will never arise but it's available for everyone 24/7.



THE BROMLEY BULLETIN IS AVAILABLE ONLINE
abbotsbromley.com

Abbots Bromley Surgery

From 01 SEP 2026



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Planning Advice: Constructions in your garden

Cllr Keith Baker

"**Permitted Development Rights**" allow us to do certain things in the garden without having to seek consent from the local planning authority (ours is ESBC). However there are some things that are not included in these rights. Below is an explanation of the most common exclusions.

Large outbuildings or sheds that exceed height rules

Putting up a shed or summerhouse is usually fine, but only if it meets certain size limits. If it's too tall or too close to your boundary, it falls outside permitted development. That's when you'll need planning permission.

Before starting, measure carefully and check how close it is to fences or walls. Staying within limits saves hassle, but if your plans are bigger or higher, apply for approval before building.

Turning a garden building into a home

A garden office or gym is normally allowed, but turning it into a fully self-contained flat with its own kitchen and bathroom is a different story. That kind of change counts as creating a new dwelling, which isn't permitted automatically.

If you want living space in the garden, you'll need proper planning permission. Without it, you risk enforcement action from the council and problems if you ever sell the property.

Verandas, balconies or raised decking over 30 cm

Adding a place to sit outside sounds harmless, but verandas, balconies, and high decking aren't included in permitted development rights. These are considered bigger changes and can affect neighbours' privacy.

If you want raised areas higher than 30 cm, check with your council first. Keeping outdoor structures low avoids issues, but for anything larger, approval is needed.

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If you want living space in the garden, you'll need proper planning permission. Without it, you risk enforcement action from the council and problems if you ever sell the property.

Buildings in your front garden

While back gardens are often more flexible, front gardens come with tighter rules. Putting a shed, office, or greenhouse in front of your house usually isn't allowed without planning permission.

If you're thinking of building near the street, always check first. It avoids wasting time and money on something the council could ask you to remove later.

Covering more than half your garden with buildings

There's a limit on how much of your garden you can build on. If more than 50% of the land around your house becomes covered by outbuildings or hard structures, you'll need permission.

Think about how much space is already taken up before adding new structures. Staying under the half-garden rule means you're less likely to run into problems.

Projects in conservation areas or protected zones

If your home is in a conservation area or another specially protected location, the usual freedoms don't apply. Even small outbuildings could need approval because of stricter rules.

Check your property's status before building. If you're in one of these areas, expect to apply for permission for most changes, no matter how minor they seem.

High garden walls, fences, and gates

You can usually put up boundaries, but there are limits. Anything over two metres high in a back garden, or over one metre near a road, could require permission. Exceeding those limits puts you at risk of enforcement.

Measure carefully before adding height. If you want taller boundaries, apply to the council first, rather than risk being told to take them down later.

Using a garden building as a business base

A hobby space or home office is fine, but running a full-time business from your garden isn't always covered by permitted development. If clients visit regularly, or it causes extra traffic, permission is often required.

If you're planning business use, be upfront with the council. It avoids complaints from neighbours and the risk of being ordered to stop trading from the property.

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Building near listed properties

If your home is listed, the rules are even stricter. Outbuildings, walls, or alterations within the garden often require listed building consent as well as planning permission. Ignoring this can bring heavy penalties.

Check your property's listed status before making changes. If it is listed, expect to need approval for almost any work within the garden boundaries.

Raised play structures

Climbing frames, treehouses, or other raised platforms for children can exceed height restrictions. If they overlook neighbours' gardens or breach the 30 cm rule, they'll often need planning permission.

Keep children's play areas low to the ground to avoid issues. If you're planning something bigger, check first to make sure it won't cause complaints or force you to alter it later.

Extensions that count as new buildings

Extending into your garden with something that looks more like a house extension than a shed often needs planning permission. Bigger garden rooms, home gyms, or workshops can cross this line easily.

Keep structures small and clearly separate from the main house if you want to stay within permitted development. For anything larger, go through the proper approval process to avoid problems.

Advice has been given in good faith. Always check with ESBC's planning department for definitive advice.



THE BROMLEY BULLETIN IS AVAILABLE ONLINE
abbotsbromley.com

The Little Children's Market West Midlands

SUN 11 OCT
2:30-16:00PM
Lea Hall Social Club
Rugeley WS15 2LB



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Abbots Bromley Village Hall Tennis Courts Refurb

Tony Rawlinson

Just in case you haven't yet heard, the Tennis Club Crowdfunder campaign to raise money for the village courts renewal has been concluded ... SUCCESSFULLY!

Thanks to the generosity of village residents, businesses, sports clubs, the Parish Council, the Village Hall committee, and particularly tennis club members, we have raised the required match funding and have been awarded a **£15,000** grant from Sport England!

We've now entered final negotiations with a specialist contractor and the work of laying a new porous tarmac, erecting new stronger fencing and installing a wider disabled access gate will commence this Autumn. When the new surface has cured, a slip resistant paint surface, in LTA approved colours, will be applied in Spring to create a bright, inviting area where current and future generations can practice, juniors or adults can be coached, or friends and families can simply enjoy a social game.

Our recently installed LED floodlighting will allow for play in all seasons, winter or summer.

The final piece of the jigsaw will be installing a pay and play system for use by members and non-members alike featuring a home-based internet booking through the Tennis Club website.

The Hall will then boast a first-class facility in the heart of the village benefitting the entire village, all of the time.

Many sincere thanks to those who contributed to this campaign!



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Traffic Plan Sub-Group Final Report

Cllr Keith Baker

The significant traffic and parking problems which affect our village are only going to increase over time.

About four years ago councillors met with members of the County Council to discuss possible solutions. Despite many attempts on our part, no further dialogue followed. At roughly the same time a village SpeedWatch group was formed to monitor traffic speeds. This group disbanded when support from the Police was not forthcoming. The Parish Council decided, therefore, to "go it alone" and do what other frustrated parish councils had done and write its own Traffic Plan.

A Traffic Plan has a "Best Practice Process", beginning with an initial assessment of the problems (supported and evidenced by a community questionnaire), and the formation of a working group. The group, which comprises of councillors and non-councillors, first met just before Christmas of 2025. Since then, it has met on numerous occasions to consider the community's concerns as expressed, for example, in the autumn 2025 questionnaire returns.

Data collection from the Lichfield Road Speed Indicating Device has been studied, and meetings have been held with the Police, and Staffordshire Highways (although their lack of commitment has been disappointing). In addition, communications have been ongoing with the NFU, the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership, the Chief Constable, the Civil Enforcement (traffic) team, and a national road safety charity. In July 2026, the Traffic Plan Sub-Group presented its recommendations to the Parish Council for consideration.

The Parish Council agreed with the recommendations set out below:

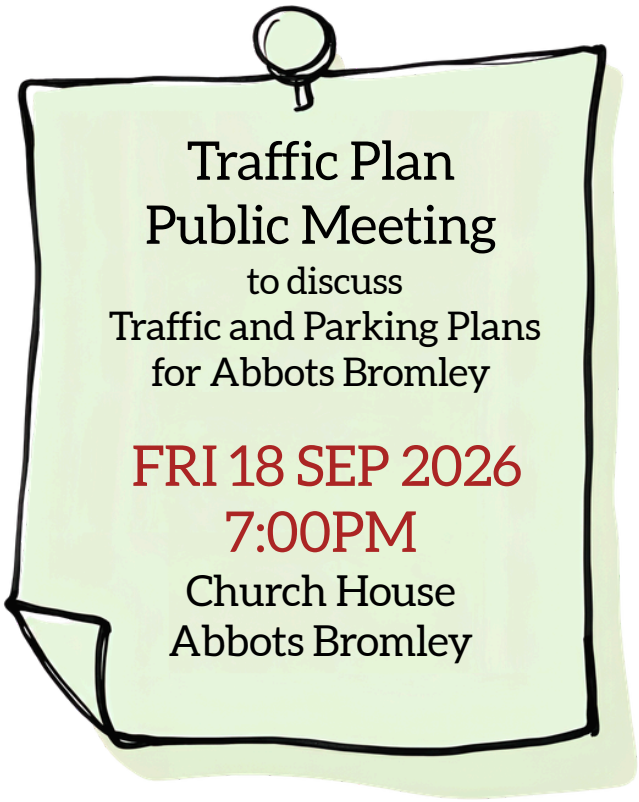
- A pedestrian crossing on the Goat's Head corner.
- A raised area of road by the Goats Head corner (similar to the one in Barton).
- Double yellows (or double reds) in the Hall Hill Lane vicinity.
- Double yellows (or double reds) around the Goat's Head corner should a pedestrian crossing not be possible. Also at the junction of Pagets Rise and the main street.
- The replacement along the main street of the white H-bars with double yellows (to provide passing places).
- A rolling chicane along the 30mph stretch of Lichfield Road.
- An alteration to the existing Ashbrook Lane chicanes to that of a rolling chicane.
- 40mph zones before the Lichfield Road/Uttoxeter Road and Ashbrook Lane 30mph zones.
- The removal of highway classification at Crown Bank and the herringbone marking of c.12 parking bays.

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Continued ...

Less expensive recommendations are:

- speed reduction markings on entrances to the village;
- diminishing white lines on Lichfield Road;
- a Lichfield Road village gateway;
- Rumble strips on approaches to village;
- the revival of the Speedwatch team (AB was the first parish is East Staffs to form a Speedwatch team);
- a social media/"Bulletin"/ noticeboard promotion of a "Be Considerate" campaign;
- windscreen notices for vehicles parked inappropriately;
- A Code of Conduct agreed by farmers, delivery companies, regular contractors and public transport providers;
- increasing the number of sites for our SID sign.



Recommendations the Parish Council rejected were mainly related to double yellows/reds at other junctions with the main road through the village.

There will now follow a public consultation in the form of an open meeting, where you will have the opportunity to comment. A Traffic Plan has to be community-led and supported.

Not everyone will be in agreement with every proposal. Balancing the needs of our community with those of motorists passing through the village is difficult but, wherever possible, the Traffic Plan Sub-group has considered local need to be a priority.

There will probably never be a solution to the parking problems of residents who live on the main street – and with the increasing number of electric vehicles, the need for charging points will only add to the problem.

Finding the funding for these recommendations will be difficult, especially in the present financial climate. In the short term the Parish Council is hoping for some S106 money as a result of the Friel development, and is being supported by our County Councillor and MP. The Traffic Plan should, however, be seen as a set of long-term aims which will hopefully help to protect the environment in which we live.

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Our Neighbourhood Plan Explained

Cllr Keith Baker

The responses to last autumn's Community Consultation booklet (which contained four questionnaires) indicated that 11% of respondents were unfamiliar with our Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and a further 56% were only partly familiar.

In the March issue of the Bromley Bulletin I gave an overview of the three layers of planning guidance: The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF); East Staffordshire's Local Plan; and our own Neighbourhood Plan.

In this month's Bulletin I shall explain the first of our NP's four policies: **Design and Heritage**. Please remember, though, that the NPPF has a key premise that there is a "presumption in favour of sustainable development" – this being the case, the community decided that if it couldn't control development it could at least influence the design and appearance of new buildings.

The purpose of our **Design and Heritage (DAH) Policy** is to:

- ensure that new development is sustainable and well-designed.
- preserve or enhance local heritage.

Ours is a historic village originally of linear design. Most of the built environment contained within the settlement boundary has been granted Conservation Area (CA) status.

The main street, and the ancient drovers' lanes which branch off, contain 51 listed buildings and structures (three of which are Grade II*) and one Scheduled Monument.

The majority of these buildings lie within the identified CA, many having been constructed from locally sourced materials such as timber, bricks, mortar and tiles. This uniformity of construction gives the village its unique character.

For this reason, it was thought essential that future design and materials were complementary to the original buildings in order to preserve the unique character of the village.

Conversion of current buildings to residential or commercial use must retain the original facades and rooflines.

Community opinion in support of this policy was primarily obtained from an initial questionnaire and separate survey (2016) and a series of topical open forums (2018-2019). Opinions strongly supported:

- protection for the street scene, conservation area and classic countryside views;
- the idea that building design and materials should be in keeping with the heritage and character of existing buildings and overall street-scene;
- the need for local design and scale in order to achieve sustainability within the village and wider parish;
- an encouragement and protection of wildlife flora and fauna, which must be planned;
- that the local heritage and rural location provide a sense of belonging amongst residents. These characteristics must be conserved.

DAH1:
Sustainable Design and Character Policy

1. New development must be well-designed, sustainable and maintain the distinctive identity of Abbots Bromley, meeting the following requirements of this policy proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposed development:

- In order to create a satisfying relationship between built and open areas, the existing character of the village and the immediate context of the development site must respect the surroundings in terms of scale, massing, height, distance of setback from the road, design and character, and materials.
- "Active" frontages (elevations with windows and doors) must be provided to road facing elevations, to provide natural surveillance.
- High quality and durable materials, in keeping with the surrounding built environment, must be used. Use of locally sourced materials is highly encouraged, as is use of reclaimed materials.
- Public realm designated areas should be complemented through effective 'placemaking' schemes that ensure high quality streets, with traditional landscape as an integral part of the design, and the creation of an inclusive, safe and convenient environment for residents to undertake a range of social activities.
- Design accounting for the specific site and context is required. Layout and form must respond to local features within and adjacent to sites including local topography, landscape and water features, trees and plants, views, wildlife habitats, existing buildings and microclimate.
- Front boundaries comprising hedges or historic brick walls or railings should be retained as part of any new development. New front boundary treatments must complement the existing character of the area, based on the use of low brick walls or hedges.
- All designs for new homes or commercial premises must include features and materials which actively reduce the impact of carbon emissions.

2. Development on the edge of the village must incorporate planting and landscape design to create a natural transition between urban and rural areas. Hard boundary treatments such as high walls and fences must be set back and be screened by suitable landscaping.

3. Creative and innovative design solutions will be considered, especially where they incorporate high environmental protection performance.

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The **Abbots Bromley Village Design Statement** (March 2007) captures a number of similar important points in relation to the protection of the village heritage:

- Developments and improvements should be designed to enhance the main elements: rural nature, heritage and community.
- Individual development should respect the settlement character of that part of the village in which it occurs, and adopt a sensitive and co-ordinated approach to design and layout.
- Any new development must sit comfortably with its neighbours, taking into account footprint area, shape, proportions and material of older buildings.
- Visual interest can be created by sensitive design detailing of windows, roof lines, and chimneys.

All of the above community views, and The Abbots Bromley Village Design Statement were condensed into our Design and Heritage Policy (except where they had to be omitted because they failed to support NPPF and/or the Local Plan). This Policy is now the official planning guidance that must be followed by developers and by our ESBC planning team. In the next edition of the Bulletin, I shall explain our Neighbourhood Plan's second policy: **Dwellings, Employment and Community**.

Recreation and village property

Cllr Edward Rodway-Bowden

Recreation

All **outdoor gym** equipment is in full working order including the swivel disk when last checked. As well as checks by the council, an independent company also checks the equipment, including both parks, throughout the year to ensure the equipment is in usable condition.

The damaged wet pour in t**he Nuttery** has been replaced with much more eco friendly bark chipping, generously provided and laid by Friel Homes.

The **Buttercross** is showing signs of deterioration and requires specialist attention to prevent further deterioration. A long term plan for some long overdue renovation work on the buttercross is has been made, but it has been moving very slowly.

Roads and highways

I'm continuing the relentless war on pot holes regularly reporting defects on multiple roads. I've also had numerous road junction lines repainted improving road safety in and around the village. I've worked closely with the highways department to ensure numerous blocked drains have been thoroughly emptied and jetted out in preparation for winter when we will inevitably have lots of rain. So with more drains working as intended the water can be directed away from roads and homes. Signs on Uttoxeter Road have been professionally cleaned by highways, helping to improve road safety.

Work continues to identify and report faults as well as ensure that identified problems are repaired to the high standard expected and also in a timely manner. There is still much more work to do to on the roads and footpaths in and around Abbots Bromley.

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The Richard Clarke First School

It was a busy and exciting end to the school year at Richard Clarke, with lots to celebrate.

One of the highlights was our first-ever pop-up swimming pool. The project was a tremendous success, with children swimming every day for two weeks and making amazing progress in their confidence and skills. Fittingly, the pool was located on the site of the original school pool, which many members of our village community may remember. We would like to thank our parents and PTFA for their support in making this fantastic opportunity possible for this year and future years as we will definitely have it again next year.

Our Year 4 pupils also enjoyed a brilliant residential trip to Condover Hall, taking part in a range of exciting activities including abseiling, tunnelling, buggy building and much more. The children represented the school wonderfully and returned with lasting memories and increased confidence.

We are incredibly proud of our personal development programme at Richard Clarke. Developing the whole child is at the heart of what we do, and we continue to provide a wide range of opportunities that help our pupils grow both academically and personally. The hidden curriculum is often more important to children's life chances than the academic one, which is why we value the extra curricular aspects too.

As always, the end of term was a busy one, with transition activities, leavers' assemblies and celebrations saying goodbye to all the leavers, moving on to the next chapters of their education, with the majority of pupils going to Oldfields Hall Middle School, who celebrated asuccessful Ofsted inspection at the end of the school year. We wish them all every succes at their new schools.

We continue to be incredibly proud of what we offer at Richard Clarke: excellent teaching, a fantastic curriculum and a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom. We are fortunate to have such dedicated staff, supportive families and committed governors. At the end of this academic year we had some valued colleagues move on due to either retirement, or promotion or new roles, and whilst it's always sad to say goodbye to staff, their progression creates opportunities for others to grow and for new talent to join our team. It is all part of the school's continuing journey. And with that, looking ahead, we are delighted to welcome Mr Reynolds to the Richard Clarke team as our new Y1 teacher. He brings with him an excellent PE background, and we are excited about the opportunities this will create to further enhance our sporting provision, as well as being a super class teacher.

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Linking to our journey, falling birth rates nationally have meant a fall in our roll at our school and this is massively impacting our finances and stability of our class and staffing structure. Research shows that in the UK, a village school (and especially a strong one like ours) can significantly increase house prices. Research in UK housing markets has often found a "school premium" that can range from a few percent to well over 10–20% in highly competitive catchments. In villages, the effect can be even more noticeable because supply is already constrained.

Hence, the importance of our school surviving is paramount to the continued success of the whole village. We therefore ask for your continued help in marketing our school, we still have places available across all classes, so if you know of families looking for a nurturing, ambitious and welcoming school, please do recommend us and help us secure a bright future for generations to come. Our number on roll has always fluctuated over the years, so hopefully this is temporary and our numbers will go up again soon.

Finally, we would like to say a public thank you to all our staff, families and governors for their passion, care and hard work. Together, you make Richard Clarke the special place that it is.

TOGETHER
EVERYONE
ACHIEVES
MORE

Have a great summer everyone!

Mrs K. Hanson BEd Hons
Proud Headteaher at Richard Clarke
headteacher@rcfs.i2e.org.uk
www.richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk

"Be Considerate" campaign

As part of its Traffic Plan for the village, the Parish Council is promoting a "Be Considerate" campaign to residents.

Whilst on the one hand we need support from organisations such as Staffordshire County Council and the Police to make improvements our the traffic and parking problems, we should not overlook the part that we can all play as residents.

For example, please be considerate about where you park your vehicle. Vehicles parked on the pavement/footway can obstruct those of us with mobility scooters or children's buggies, forcing us onto a busy road. Vehicles parked on double yellows and white H-bars are not only denying motorists a pulling-in place when faced with oncoming traffic, but may be obstructing the line of sight of drivers emerging from a side road.

It may be convenient to park outside/opposite your home but it is not always considerate.

Councillors and members of the Traffic Plan Sub-Group have polite reminders to attach to vehicle windscreens. Should these be ignored then, in instances of parking on double yellows, the Civil Enforcement team will visit and issue penalty notices. Some motorists have already received penalty notices.

Sometimes we just need to stop and think about others.

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What's On

Village Hall Events Calendar

Village Hall Activities

Mondays
9:30-10:30AM **Yoga**
- Gemma Williams 07943 572994

7:00-9:00PM **Spotlight Dance**
- Angelina Socci 07801 659540

Tuesdays
9:30-10:15AM **Keep Fit**
- Wenisa Flynn 07719 973177

10:30-1:00PM **Barbershop Singers**
- Peter Livesey 07972 571893

7:30-8:30PM **Yoga**
- Gemma Williams 07943 572994

Wednesdays
9.15-10.15am **Badminton**
- Anthea Blower 07943 571878

7.30-8.30pm **Keep Fat**
- Doug Moore 07831 140711

Thursdays
6:00-7:00PM **Badminton**
- Sheila Cotton 07805 341875

6:00-7:00PM **Mind**
- Wenisa Flynn 07719 973177

Fridays
7:00-9:00PM **Indoor Bowls**
- Barry Joynes 01283 840070

Saturdays
9:00AM-2:45PM **Spotlight Dance**
- Angelina Socci 07801 659540

Sundays
7:00-9:00PM **Bowls**
- Barry Joynes 01283 840070

The 200 Club

Every month the Committee runs a raffle for the chance to win three prizes of £25 and a grand prize of £50.



The 200 club has a maximum number of 200 participants entered into a monthly draw, which takes place each calendar month at the Village Hall Committee meeting. There are four numbers drawn, three of which win a £25 prize and the 4th wins £50.

One number costs £12 for a year – and there are a few numbers still available! If you'd like to take part and have the chance of winning please email us at abvillagehall@gmail.com.

Winning numbers are published monthly in the Parish Magazine.

Reel Hot Ceilidh Peppers

SAT 10 OCT 2026 | Time TBC

Get ready to dance the night away as a lively ceilidh is coming back to Abbots Bromley Village Hall! Whether you're a seasoned dancer or a complete beginner, everyone's welcome to join the fun—no experience needed. Enjoy toe-tapping music, laughter, and the warmth of community spirit as you learn traditional dances in good company. Bring your friends and family for an unforgettable evening brimming with joy, energy, and memories to cherish!

abbotsbromleyvh.com/whatson

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Village Clubs & Societies

Abbots Bromley Art Class



MEETS:
Thursday during term time
2:00-4:00PM | Church House

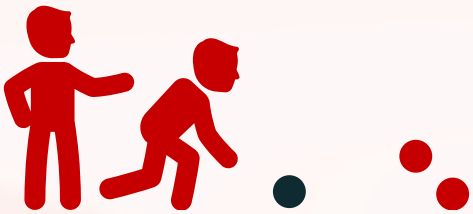
CONTACT:
Pat Clare
Tel: 01889 270139

Abbots Bromley Badminton Club



MEETS:
Wednesday mornings
Village Hall

CONTACT:
Anthea Blower
Tel: 01283 840624



Abbots Bromley Bowls Club

We play friendly fixtures against other local villages and hold "roll up" games on Saturday afternoons, Tuesday mornings and some evenings. As members you would be able to play any time the green is available.

CONTACT:
Carol Bradford
Tel: 01283 840510



Abbots Bromley Book Club

MEETS:
Third Monday bimonthly
7:30PM | Church House

Abbots Bromley Chess Club

MEETS:

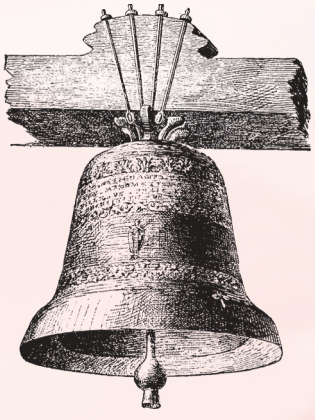
- Online friendly and league matches against teams across the world every week
- 'Over the board' meet-ups in the village on Sundays at 5:00PM

ABBOTS BROMLEY CHESS CLUB
Founded April 2020

CONTACT:
Peter Hornsby
Email:
abbotsbromleychessclub@gmail.com
Website: chess.com/club/abbots-bromley

Abbots Bromley Bellringers

We practice on Tuesday evenings; and ring for church services on Sunday mornings and also for weddings. Afterwards, we can usually be found in The Bagot Arms.



MEETS:
Tuesday (Practice nights)
7:30-9:15PM | St. Nicholas' Church
Sunday
9:15-9:45 | St. Nicholas' Church

CONTACT:
Stuart Hutchieson
Tel: 01283 8406360
Email: shutchieson@btinternet.com
Website: sites.google.com/site/abbotsbromleybellringers/home

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Village Clubs & Societies

Abbots Bromley Community Choir

MEETS:
Second and fourth
Thursday of the month
6:30PM | St. Nicholas' Church

CONTACT:
Jane Morris
Email: janermorris@yahoo.co.uk

Abbots Bromley Garden Club

Formerly Abbots Bromley Produce Guild

MEETS:
Second Wednesday in the month
7:30PM | Church House

CONTACT:
Kath Cadman
Tel: 01283 840606



Abbots Bromley Friendship Group

MEETS:
First and third Tuesdays of the month
2:00-4:00PM | Church House

CONTACT:
M. Allaker
Tel: 01283 840936





Abbots Bromley Golf Society

CONTACT:
Chris Wood
Tel: 07770 488975

Abbots Bromley Historical Society



MEETS:
Last Wednesday of the month
7:30PM | Church House

CONTACT:
Janice Rea
Tel: 07484 793792
Email: janrea@hotmail.com

Abbots Bromley Indoor Bowls Club

MEETS:
Friday or Sunday
7:00-9:00PM | Village Hall



CONTACT:
Arthur Tindle: 07923 506000
John Thorndyke: 07531 191735
Barry Joynes: 01283 840070

Abbots Bromley Ladies Club

MEETS:
Normally the third Thursday of the month
7:30PM | Church House
Membership: £10 per year



CONTACT:
Karen Hill
Tel: 01889 586379
Email: mksm.hill@googlemail.com

Abbots Bromley Nostalgia Team

CONTACT:
Elaine Summers
Tel: 07837 824779
abbotsbromleynostalgia.co.uk
info@abbotsbromleynostalgia.co.uk
https://www.facebook.com/AbbotsBromleyNostalgia/

Abbots Bromley Women's Institute

MEETS:
Second Monday of the month
7:00PM | Church House

CONTACT:
Liz Palmer
Email: lizpalmer696@gmail.com

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Village Clubs

For tiddlers to teens!



(4-7 years)

Abbots Bromley Rainbows
Fridays | 4:00-5:00PM | Church House
Jenny Simmonds
Tel: 01283 840887
facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069851853517

(7-10 years)

Abbots Bromley Brownies
Fridays | Church House
Lesley Griggs
Tel: 07800 824732

(10-14 years)

Abbots Bromley Guides
Mondays | 7:00-8:30PM | Scout Hut
Emma Catterall
Tel: 01283 840358

(6-8 years)

Abbots Bromley Beavers
Tuesdays | 6:00-7:15PM | Scout Hut
Hannah Love
Tel: 07807 102162

The Beavers are active and do activities inside our regular meeting place, go on day visits, and even have occasional sleepovers! We play games, do crafts, make new friends, explore the outdoors and create things.

(8-10½ years)

Abbots Bromley Cubs
Tuesdays | 6:30-7:30PM | Scout Hut
Simon Wilson
Tel: 07962 401224
Email: cubs@abbotsbromleyscouts.com

Cubs do a wide range of activities, including the occasional camp. Activities range from arts and crafts to climbing and abseiling to kayaking and sailing – we like to give the cubs an experience of the adventure that scouting has to offer!

(10 -14½ years)

Abbots Bromley Scouts
Wednesdays | 7:00-8:30PM | Scout Hut
Rebecca Male
Tel: 07913 355072
Email: scouts@abbotsbromleyscouts.com
http://abbotsbromley.scoutsites.org.uk/
facebook.com/abbotsbromleyscouts

(14-18 years)

Abbots Bromley Explorers
To register interest:
Ed Bayliss
Tel: 07768 046582

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Village Clubs

For sports enthusiasts



Abbots Bromley Cricket Club
Abbots Bromley Junior Cricket Club
Kassie Tracey (Secretary)
Tel: 07970 183205
facebook.com/abbotsbromleycc/

Abbots Bromley Football Club
Mark Hurst Snr
Tel: 01283 840210

Mark Hurst Jr
Tel: 07956 501364
Website: abbotsbromleyfc.co.uk

Abbots Bromley Junior Football Club
Nigel Richards (Chair)
Tel: 01283 840142

Nick Wells (Secretary)
Tel: 01283 840142
Email: abjuniorfc.secretary@gmail.com
Website: absasport.co.uk/abfc-junior

Abbots Bromley Netball Club
Susan Mayman
Tel: 07973 791943
facebook.com/groups/331003893671840



Abbots Bromley Sports Association
Chris Woods (Chair)
Tel: 07770 488975
Email: chris_wood53@live.co.uk
Website: absasport.co.uk
facebook.com/AbbotsBromleySportsAssociation

Abbots Bromley Tennis Club
Tony Rawlinson (Chair)
Tel: 07544 266330
Email: tony.rawlinson@btopenworld.com

Judy Smith (Secretary)
Tel: 07496 913751
Email: judysmith.abromley@gmail.com
abbotsbromleytennisclub.co.uk

Blithfield Sailing Club
Based in Blithfield Reservoir., new members are welcome and beginners training courses are run for both juniors and adults throughout year.

The main sailing day is Sunday, although Wednesday evenings and Saturdays are also busy during the summer.

Website: blithfield.org.uk

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Other Village Organisations

Abbots Bromley Village Hall

Book a Perfect Venue for Your Next Event

- A spacious main hall that can seat up to 140 guests, complete with an overlooking balcony
- A large reception foyer with a bar and kitchen facilities
- Two separate meeting rooms on the first floor, each with a seating capacity of 40 people



Liz Lampard (Secretary)
Tel: 01283 840567
Website: abbotsbromleyvh.com

Abbots Bromley Church House

Gill Grundy (Bookings)
Tel: 01283 840208



Abbots Bromley Fire Station

Sara Wilkinson (Watch manager)
Tel: 07956 111633
staffordshirefire.gov.uk

Abbots Bromley First Responders

We are a group of currently fifteen volunteers who are in training to act as lay medics in the local area. Our role is to respond to emergencies, and to arrive first on the scene to complement, but not replace, the statutory ambulance service response.

Rob Stevenson
Tel: 07800 849237
www.wmas.nhs.uk

Royal British Legion

Tom Wheeldon (Branch chair)
Tel: 01283 840096

St. Nicholas' Fundraising

Martin Godfrey (Chair)
Tel: 01283 840771



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Parish Council News



Code of Conduct for professional drivers

We have many professional drivers who pass through our village, from members of the farming community to delivery drivers to transport drivers.

An initial consultation with the local NFU has taken place, and the Parish Council has supported in principal the drawing up of a Code of Conduct which it hopes companies who regularly use our roads will sign up to.

The Code of Conduct will concentrate on pedestrian safety by asking drivers not to mount the kerbs, to drive at speeds appropriate to the environment/ conditions, to ensure loads are safe and not protruding onto the pavements/ walkways, etc.

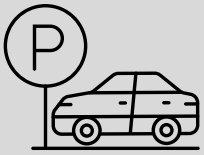
It is hoped to publish a list of companies who sign up, in order for members of the community to see which companies have given their backing – or even to offer thanks to considerate drivers.

Parking across a dropped kerb

We have a serious parking problem in many areas of the village and it may be that someone parks in front of your driveway, preventing you from driving in or out.

What can you do?

If you can, and if you feel comfortable about it, have a pleasant word with the vehicle's owner. If this is not possible then, as long as you have a dropped kerb to your driveway, you can contact:



East Staffordshire Borough Council
01283 509000
Mon-Fri 9:00AM-5:00PM

ESBC has signed up to Civil Parking Enforcement (Code 41UC) and will take action against a motorist who is obstructing access to your driveway.



Horn Dance Day
Wakes Monday
07 SEP 2026

We're looking forward to being delighted by our horn dancers again this year! Please do everything you can to publicise this amazing event.

Warm welcome to our new councillor

We're thrilled to announce that Claire Frame has joined the Parish Council as a councillor, and very much look forward to working with her to make the parish a great place to live!

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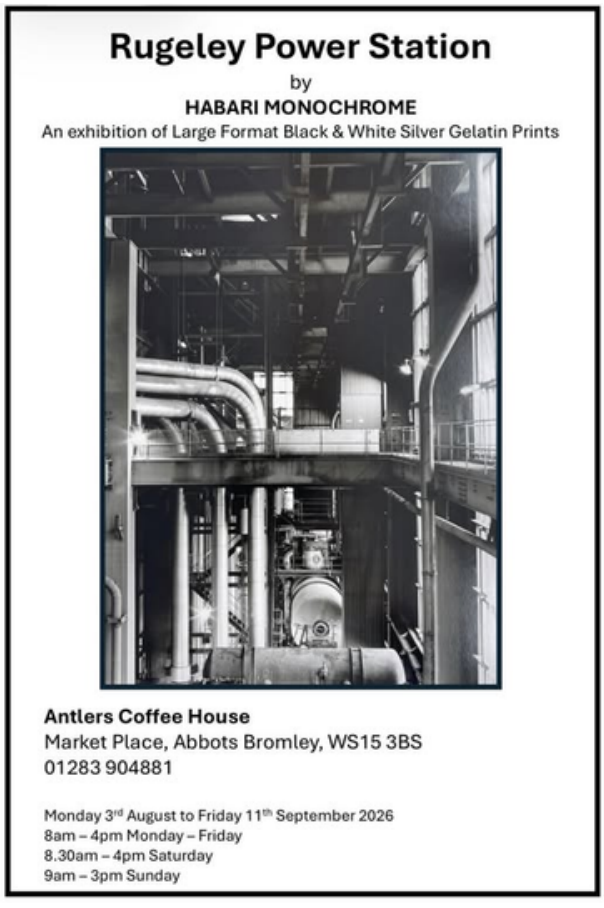
What's On
Parish Council Events Calendar

Parish Council Meetings 2026
Wednesdays | 7:00PM
Memorial Room, Village Hall

- 30 SEP 2026
- 28 OCT 2026
- 25 NOV 2026
- DEC 2026 - Christmas recess

Parish Council Surgeries 2026
Saturdays | 10:00-11:00AM
Church House

- 26 SEP 2026
- 21 NOV 2026



THE CREATIVE RECYCLER

Fused Recycled Plastics Day Workshops
Memorial Room
Abbots Bromley Village Hall

Come and join me, be inspired, learn a new craft
Bring your own picnic lunch
Tea (inc Herbal Teas) & Coffee available

HALLOWEEN
SUN 18 OCT 2026
Bunting + matching eco Lantern
£65 (6 places available)

REMEMBRANCE POPPIES
SUN 01 NOV 2026
Poppies inspired bunting + matching eco Lantern
£65 (5 places left)

FESTIVE
SUN 13 DEC
Christmas inspired bunting + matching eco Lantern
£65 (4 places left)

To book:
Email: hello@thecreativerecycler.co.uk
or visit :www.thecreativerecycler.co.uk/workshops

Traffic Plan Public Meeting
FRI 18 SEP 2026
7:00PM
Church House

Join the meeting to learn about and discuss the ABPC Traffic Working Group's proposals that have been accepted by the ABPC.

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Abbots Bromley Village Hall News

Farewell to Rose Maidstone

Cllr Keith Baker

After two decades of extraordinary service, Abbots Bromley Village Hall bids a heartfelt thank you to Rose Maidstone as she retires from her role as steward.

For 20 years, Rose has been at the very heart of village hall life, a constant, familiar presence whose dedication has touched every corner of the hall's operation. From cleaning and maintenance to bar management, stock control, event organisation and countless day-to-day responsibilities, Rose has given her time, energy and care with remarkable generosity. It has often felt as though Rose was part of the hall itself, always there, often around the clock, helping to keep this important community space thriving.

The committee would also like to extend sincere thanks to outgoing Chair Simon Wilson and Treasurer Paul Maidstone who have both given more than five years of dedicated leadership. Together they have guided the village hall through some of its most challenging times, including the unprecedented disruption of COVID, when community venues everywhere faced uncertainty. Alongside this, they worked tirelessly with the wider team to help secure Gallimore's Field for the village — a lasting contribution to the community's future.

Rose, Paul and Simon have embodied the original values and vision of Marcia Rice: to provide educational and recreational opportunities for the people of Abbots Bromley. Their commitment has helped preserve and strengthen that purpose for future generations.

The Village Hall Committee Meets:

On: Second Wednesday of the month
In: The Village Hall
At: 7:30PM

Chair:

- Georgie Kelly

Secretary:

- Liz Lampard

Treasurer:

- Dawn Jones

Committee members:

- Simon Wilson
- Keith Baker
- Sue Washbourne
- Rachel Walters
- Larry Gane

Committee members are elected annually at our AGM, normally in May. Members of the community and surrounding areas are welcome to attend our AGM and are invited to other meetings and events held throughout the year.

abbotsbromleyvh.com

As the village hall looks ahead, work is already underway to ensure the sustainability of the community venue and making sure it is evolving for the needs of today's community and as we enter this new chapter, the committee we would like to take the opportunity to extend a warm invite to those that would like to come and be apart of shaping the future of village hall.

Taking on the role of new Chair is Georgina Kelly, from Bagot Street . With family roots in the village dating back to 1969, her father played an active role in village life, including helping to establish the tennis courts and running the Abbots Bromley youth club. Georgina now hopes to continue that family tradition of community service by giving back to the village wherever she can.

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Parish Council
Our responsibilities

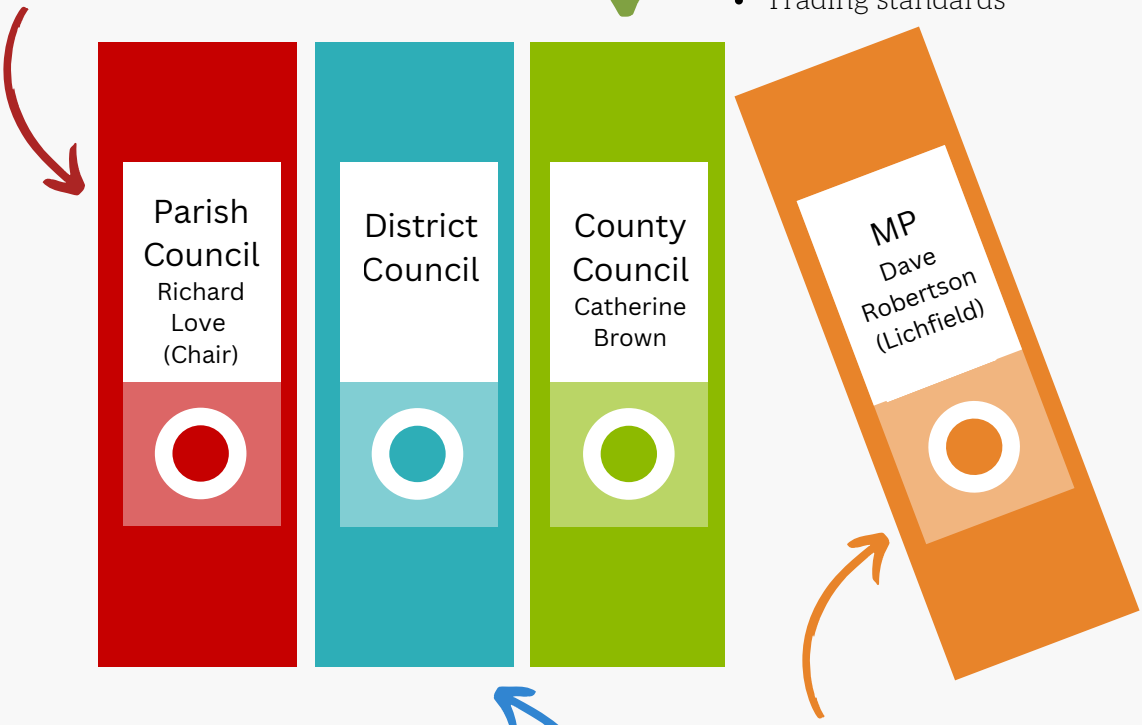
Abbots Bromley Parish Council

Local level: Grassroots governance

- Local amenities (allotments, cemeteries, playgrounds)
- Street lighting, minor road maintenance
- Residential support
- Neighbourhood plan
- Bus shelters, footpaths
- Local bins and litter
- Community events
- Planning application review
- Grants to local groups and charities

Upper tier: Large-scale services

- Education and school placements
- Social services
- Adult social care
- Highways and transport
- Public health
- Libraries and archives
- Emergency planning
- Fire and rescue services
- Waste disposal
- Street lighting
- Trading standards



Middle-tier: Local services and planning

- Economic development
- Housing
- Local planning and development
- Environment health
- Leisure and culture
- Voting and elections
- Council tax
- Benefits
- Licencing
- Community safety
- District parks and open spaces

National level: Legislative representation

- Legislation and policy development
- Constituency representation
- Government scrutiny
- Casework and support
- Campaigning and advocacy
- Attending Parliamentary sessions
- Working with local councils

Dave Robertson
Email: dave.robertson.mp@parliament.uk
Website:members.parliament.uk/member/5126/contact

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Useful contacts

Abbots Bromley Parish Council

Mr Keith Baker (Councillor) ★★★★
kbakerabpc@abbotsbromley.com

Ms Claire Frame (Councillor) ★
cframe@abbotsbromley.com

Mrs Teresa Froggatt (Councillor) ★
tfroggatt@abbotsbromley.com

Mrs Rachel Garth (Councillor) ★
rgarth@abbotsbromley.com

Dr Helen Lockey (Councillor) ★
hlockey@abbotsbromley.com

Mr Richard Love (Chair) ★★★★★
rlove@abbotsbromley.com

Miss Laura Parsons (Clerk)
parish.council@abbotsbromley.com
07931 346096

Mr Nick Round (Councillor) ★
nround@abbotsbromley.com

Mr Edward Rodway-Bowden (Vice chair) ★★
erodwaybowden@abbotsbromley.com

Vacant (Councillor)
One position

Working groups

★ Community engagement
★ Competitions
★ Finance/grants
★ Neighbourhood plan
★ Recreation/village property
★ Traffic/parking/highways

Representatives

★
★ Almshouses
★ Schools
★ Village Hall
ABSA
United Charities (Mr Philip Charles)

East Staffordshire Borough Council

ESBC Waste Management
Information about bins, rubbish and recycling
0800 269 098

ESBC Enforcement Team
Report dog fouling, improper parking, etc.
01283 508 576
enforcement@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

ESBC Planning Support Enquiries
01283 508 606
dcsupport@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Staffordshire Highways Hotline
Report problems with highways, lighting, signs, etc.
0300 111 8000

Ms Bev George
Borough Councillor
Tel: 01283 712369/07876 151860
Email: bev.george@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Mrs Vicki Gould
Borough Councillor
Tel: 07812 729826
Email: vicki.gould@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Mrs Jacqui Jones
Borough Councillor
Tel: 01283 711343
Email: jacqui.jones@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Ms Catherine Brown
County Councillor
Email: catherine.brown1@staffordshire.gov.uk

Police

Non-emergency calls: 101

Police Community Engagement Team

PCSO Christopher Edwards
christopher.edwards@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

PC John MacDonald
john.macdonald@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Sgt Helen Kirkland
helen.kirkland@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk



Editor: Helen Lockey
Our next newsletter will be published in Winter 2026. For comments on this publication, or if you'd like to include your news or publicise your organisation/events, please contact hlockey@abbotsbromley.com by 01 OCT 2026.