



5th Edition, Winter 2009

Message from the Chair of Brixworth PC

Already everyone is budgeting for Christmas, trying to make their money go further in these difficult times. The Parish Council also is also making its budget – how much we will spend next year.

It's a balancing task – we know what is needed, but how much can we ask cash-strapped families to pay? This year it is going to be even more important to squeeze the last drop of value from our income. We may not be able to reduce your bill like we did last year, but getting good value for money underpins all we do.

Please continue to let us know what you think needs doing around the village. If it's something we can do, we will actively consider every suggestion

Cllr Ian Barratt— Chairman

A safe route to the Country Park imminent?

When the bypass was opened it provided much needed relief to Brixworth, it also cut the village off from the Country Park. Ever since then there have been calls for a footbridge over it to provide a safe route from Brixworth to the Country Park.

At last Northamptonshire County Council are moving towards starting its construction. Richard Hall, Principal Officer, said "MGWSP are carrying out the initial studies, including preliminary design, at the moment. I expect an update soon with some costs. At the moment it is still on track for construction in the next financial year, subject to it not costing too much."

The Parish Council has been instrumental in moving this project forward by organising a count of people using this route.

We understand that consultation on the designs will take place over this winter.

Meet Councillor Mervyn Ward

At the October meeting there were two people who volunteered to be co-opted to the vacancy of Parish Councillor. Mr Mervyn Ward was co-opted by the meeting. The Parish Council would like to welcome Cllr Ward, who introduced himself as follows: -

'I am a retired teacher who has lived in Brixworth for 14 years. My teaching career lasted 35 years during which time I taught in Primary Schools, was deputy head teacher of one school and an acting head of two schools. Also, I spent four years as an Ofsted inspector, inspecting a total of eighty schools. Currently I am a governor of two schools and I am just starting as a tutor for Adult Learning Numeracy courses. Further to this I am a volunteer driver in Northampton'.

Don't miss out on your chance to vote



If you have not registered to vote there is still time.

If you have not registered or have a query you can contact the Electoral Register Helpline at Daventry District Council on 01327 302515.

Alternatively people can confirm their voter registration details, as printed on their household registration form, by following this link: www.registerbyinternet.com/daventry

The Parish Council's role in the planning process explained

The Parish Council (PC) is consulted by Daventry District Council (DDC) whenever a planning application is submitted within Brixworth and, often, on significant developments in nearby villages. However, DDC is the decision making authority.

Commercial developers are encouraged by the planners to consult the community before submitting an application. DDC Planning Officers are obliged to post notices on or close to any site giving details of an application and the duration of the consultation period. Normally they also notify immediate neighbours by letter.

The PC posts statutory notices of all its meetings, including Committee meetings three clear days beforehand on the notice boards in the entrance to the Library and in the shoppers car park in Spratton Road. Applicants are invited to attend PC Planning Committee meetings to answer any questions that Councillors may wish to ask. Members of the public are always welcome to attend and may be invited to speak, should they wish to do so. The PC cannot undertake to notify people individually who have views on an application, this is the duty of DDC. However, if you write to DDC to object or support, an application please send a copy of your letter to the Clerk of the PC who will advise you if the PC is still to consider its own response.

Help stop doorstep crime

Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire County Council Trading Standards have launched a new initiative to look out for and lock up doorstep criminals across the county who target elderly or vulnerable people.

The Northamptonshire Police website provides details about what to look out for - www.northants.police.uk/lookout.

If anyone has suspicions or concerns that distraction burglars or rogue doorstep traders are operating in your neighbourhood or targeting someone you know, call the dedicated doorstep crime number on 0345 23 07 702.

Do you know your Parish Councillors?

Parish Council Chairman

Cllr Ian Barratt

Councillors

Cllr Colin Bament

Cllr Bob Chattaway

Cllr Simon Gilkes

Cllr Angie Gunnet

Cllr Michael Lacey

Cllr Ron Low

Cllr Richard Monk

Cllr Elaine Nunn

Cllr Steve Pointer

Cllr Mervyn Ward

Cllr Stephen Whiffen

Cllr Elizabeth Wiig

Cllr Frank Wiig

Parish Clerk

Mrs Jane Macken

01604 881243

pc_brixworth@daventrydc.gov.uk

Parish Council meeting schedule

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. The Council and Committee meetings are generally held in the Library and Community Centre. Future meetings:

Finance & Grants	Tuesday, 10 Nov
Recreation & Amenity	Tuesday, 17 Nov
Planning	Monday, 23 Nov
Full Council	Tuesday, 24 Nov
Highways & Environment	Tuesday, 1 Dec
Planning	Monday, 14 Dec
Full Council	Tuesday, 15 Dec
Planning	Monday, 4 Jan
Recreation & Amenity	Tuesday, 19 Jan
Planning	Monday, 25 Jan
Full Council	Tuesday, 26 Jan
Highways & Environment	Tuesday, 2 Feb
Planning	Monday, 15 Feb
Full Council	Tuesday, 23 Feb

Council meetings start at 7.15.

Committee meetings start at 7.30

Minutes of Full Council meetings, dates of Council and committee meetings, contact details for the Clerk and Councillors, model publication scheme and guide to information are available on the website <http://www.brixworthonline.com/> and in the library.

