

Message from the Chairman

Events in the next few weeks will no doubt have an effect on Bray Parish and the wider area. Elections on 4th May will decide the political make-up of both the Borough and Parish Councils with all the councillor positions up for election. I would encourage all residents to participate in the democratic process and make their wishes known. A change in the rules for this year's election requires all voters to produce a proof of identity that includes a picture before being able to vote. Most voters will likely use their passport or driving licence to comply with this requirement but if you intend to use other forms of proof of identity it is worth checking, in advance, that your documentation is acceptable.

Two days after the election will see the Coronation of King Charles III and the associated celebrations. We wish our new King every success and a long and healthy reign.

While on the subject of health, Bray Parish Council has commenced the air quality monitoring in our parish for 2023 and results will be made available to the public on the Parish Website – We realise that not everybody has access to a computer and hard copies can be obtained from the parish office following a telephone request.

The recent wet and cold weather has resulted in the surface of a number of our roads breaking up, I would encourage all our residents to use the RBWM Report It system to make RBWM, and their contractors, aware of potholes and other hazards affecting our roads and footpaths.

Finally, I would like to thank all councillors, who have served on Bray Parish Council in the last four years, for their service and wish them every success in the future.

Cllr Ken Elvin – Chairman

Allotment Competition 2023



This year's annual allotment competition will take place on
Thursday 20th July 2023.

Two Councillors will spend time perusing the plots at the allotment sites at Bray and Gays Lane. Each plot will be judged based on overall usage of the plot, whether they display a good variety of plants and they are free of weeds.

All winners and runners up will be presented with personalized, framed certificates, and the winners will both receive a £25 voucher for a local Garden Centre.

Good luck!

Miss Dawn Hampshire – Assistant Clerk



Waiting List for Allotment Plots

Bray Parish Council have Allotment plots at both Bray & Gays Lane Allotment Sites at a cost of £8.00 per 25m square (pricing for 2022-2023 and subject to annual review).

The plots are currently all spoken for, however if you wish to join the waiting list for either site, please contact the Parish office.

Braywood Memorial Hall

Fifield Road

SL6 2NX

Tel: 01628 777997

Email: clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

Twitter: @parishbray

Basic Life Support Training Session Summary



On Sunday 5th February 2023 at 10:30am, John Poynter kindly delivered a Basic Life Support Training Course to the Residents of Bray Parish.

The session was a roaring success and enjoyed by all who attended and instilled vital information and techniques for providing basic life support to all who attended.

We would like to extend our thanks to John for taking the time to share his knowledge with us all.

We hope to hold another Basic Life Support Training Session later this year, if you would like to join us, you can sign up by emailing: Assistantclerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk or Tel: 01628 777997

Miss Dawn Hampshire – Assistant Clerk

Opening of Squirrel section at Bray & Holyport Scout Group

Bray and Holyport Scout Group are hoping to open a Squirrel section in May 2023 for 4–6-year-olds.

Sessions to be held at the Bray and Holyport Scout hut, Memorial Hall, Moneyrow Green, Berkshire, SL6 2NQ

To run the group, they need more children to attend and adult volunteers to help run the sessions. If you are interested, please see the contact: Kelly @ kelly.fricker@berkshirescouts.org.uk or call 0118 260 9760 to book your space.



Miss Dawn Hampshire – Assistant Clerk

Bray's Big Picnic Lunch on Bray Green



Sunday 7th May.

12-4pm with local food and drink pop-ups, live music and (accessible) loos available.

There'll be some children's activities and some informal games.

Attendees are encouraged to walk or cycle where they can although there will be a drop off area where people can unload gazebos, picnic hampers and passengers. No parking will be provided.

The Bray Village Hall Bar will be open and will be showing the Party at the Castle later that evening.



Tennis Court Hire

Bray Parish Council Tennis Court is available for hire at Jubilee Field for £6.00 per hour.

Please contact the Parish Office to make a booking.

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Bray Parish Council Air Quality Monitoring

The Council has long been concerned about poor air quality within the Parish and recognise that RBWM are only concentrating on five Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within the whole Borough, with only one of those situated within Bray Parish itself (Bray/M4 AQMA).

During January 2020, Bray Parish Council contracted The Centre of Health Services Studies at the University of Kent to monitor levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) at eight sites within the Parish, via diffusion tube technology. The aim was to submit data to RBWM for inclusion in the Borough Local Plan, but sadly the Council had to postpone the monitoring due to Covid-19 lockdown, which meant this important information was not included.

The programme restarted in July 2021 with the 6-month report confirming that Bray Parish is indeed an area of poor air quality, all eight sites monitored showing results that exceed WHO guidelines for health for NO₂ of 10 ug/m³ as an annual mean.

The recommendation of the report is that more attention should be paid to these areas by RBWM. A copy can be accessed via the link <https://brayparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Bray-Parish-Council-AQA-Summer-Report-Aug-2022.pdf> or by contacting the Bray Parish Office Tel: 01628 777997 email: Clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Council have approved the addition of four further sites from January until December 2023 and are busy collating data which will be reported in full early 2024.

Ms. Esther Cope, Clerk/RFO



Coronation Picnic **Sun 7 May 1-5 pm** **Braywood Memorial** **Hall Garden**

Bring your own Tables, Chairs, Picnic, Flags & Party Hats
Red, White & Blue outfits optional !

Prize for
Best Decorated Table • Raffle

enquiries@ogafcap.co.uk

07831 485645  Full info on web site

www.ogafcap.co.uk

Holyport Summer Fair – Holyport Memorial Hall **3rd June 12-5pm**

We have a fantastic range of stalls and activities lined up, including a tea stall, prosecco and Pimm's stalls, a beer tent, and trade stalls selling all sorts of goodies including flowers, sweets, and snacks. There will be music by Ollie Henry and lots of fairground fun for our younger visitors.

There will be a raffle with a top prize of £200, and a variety of other prizes including meals at local restaurants & days out. Tickets will be on sale locally in advance as well as on the day.

Parking will be permitted on the Green for those not able to walk or cycle to the village hall. The hall car park will be reserved for stall holders and fairground attractions.

All proceeds will go straight back into the maintenance of the hall and its surroundings for the benefit of the community (most recently, our brand-new children's playground).

If you can help organise one of the stalls in advance or can spare an hour or two to help set up in the morning, run a stall, or clear up afterwards, please email

chairman@holyporthcommunitytrust.org

Borough Local Plan (BLP): Previous Green Belt Developments in Bray Parish - UPDATE

Sadly, with the exception of The Triangle Site by the Braywick roundabout which was used for Littlewick Green show identified for Industrial/Commercial development and part of Harvest Hill (Golf Club Practice Ground), the majority of the BLP planning applications have now been released for sites in Bray Parish that were Green Belt.

- ❖ In the BLP known as AL13, Harvest Hill is the latest application which has just been released for 215 homes. An application for the land next to it for 47 homes has already been released. Total for the whole site as per the BLP is to Quote “approximately 2,600 residential units. Educational facilities including primary and secondary schools. Strategic public open space, formal play and playing pitch provision. Multi-functional community hub including retail as part of a Local Centre” Unquote
So the total for that area is up to 2,600 homes – density of homes is being confirmed as each application for area is released.
- ❖ On Windsor/Dedworth Road where Squires and Wyevale Garden Centres were, planning applications are in progress. 135 homes for AL21 North and 320 homes for AL21 South are planned along with a special needs school for 150 children. You will already see when driving past the building of 30 homes on what was Squires. There are also 3 additional homes with an application in progress the other side of the Willows.
So in that area of Bray Parish on the Windsor Road, there will be a total of up to 458 homes built.
- ❖ AL26, which is land next to the Hospice on the Windsor Road, the application has been released for 99 homes.

That is a total of potentially up to 3,157 new homes in or near the Bray Parish part of the BLP.

Regarding the applications already released for Harvest Hill (47 homes) and next to Hospice (99 homes) we are awaiting the date when they will go to the Maidenhead Development Management panel; anticipate it will be the next meeting scheduled for 7pm on 19th April 2023 along with the application for Holyport Studios. All these large applications are decided by Borough Cllrs on either the Maidenhead panel (Harvest Hill and land by Hospice) or Windsor panel (for land by Squires and Wyevale) and not by RBWM Planning Officers.

Unfortunately, as these sites have now been released from Green Belt and are in the BLP, they will be developed. BPC fought long and hard from the start of the BLP consultation around the number of houses required and continually questioned why so much of the Green Belt needed to be released. There were questions too, which are still unanswered, on how the surrounding roads will be upgraded to cope with the additional traffic, infrastructure etc. to support these developments; for example, to date there is no clear view on the future plans of Braywick roundabout, Harvest Hill nor Windsor Road.

BPC are still challenging the developers and RBWM with the BLP applications released to date. We have been requesting less density on these sites due to it being confirmed that RBWMs BLP has 11% more than required for a 5-year housing supply; this information is quoted from an Inspector in a Bray Parish planning Appeal Dismissal dated December 2022. BPC are also working with residents to help them try and protect the remaining Heritage

Assets/Listed Buildings in both North and South of AL21 (near Squires/Wyevale), sadly impacted due to the density of homes put forward by the developers.

When the BLP was approved in February 2022, BPC made the decision to do our own Air Quality Monitoring around sites within Bray Parish. BPC commissioned Dr Ashley Mills and Professor Stephen Peckham from the Centre for Health Services Studies at The University of Kent. RBWM does Air Quality monitoring, AQMA, but only has five sites throughout the whole of RBWM, in Bray Parish the area on the Windsor Road by the M4 Bridge is one of them and is where the M4 has now capacity for 33% extra traffic as its “Smart”.

BPC now has 12 sites around Bray Parish monitoring Nitrogen Dioxide pollution NO₂. The results have been concerning and confirms residents' fears around pollution in the area, for more information please see reports on BPC web site: brayparishcouncil.gov.uk/2022/02/01/air-quality-monitoring-report/. The report from August 2022 for the previous year states "Bray Parish is situated in an area with poor air quality. At the present time the only focus from RBWM is on the Bray AQMA area and the high values observed therein".

Unfortunately, RBWM, for some reason, do not accept BPC Air Quality findings as evidenced in recent application for land around the old Wyevale site otherwise known as AL21 South. BPC provided data that show sites like this will exceed the recommended pollution allowance by 2040 when the site is completed, but it was still approved.

BPC are working to understand why and will keep monitoring and highlighting the Air Quality issues in Bray Parish.

CLlr Louvaine Kneen, BPC Planning Chair, Holyport Ward Cllr.

Bray Village Hall Spring/Summer Update

Bray Village Hall will be the hub for several exciting events in the coming months.

To help celebrate the **Coronation** Bank Holiday weekend, Bray Village Hall will be open from **6pm on May 7th** showing a screening of the live concert from Windsor from 8.30pm – 10pm, followed by music and dancing. Come 'dressed-to-impress' and continue the celebrations from the 'Big Lunch' on the village green in the afternoon.

We are also working on an event on **July 8th** to celebrate the **Centenary** of the Village Hall this year. Dame Nellie Melba, the famous Australia Soprano, played an important part in hall celebrations a 100 years ago and in tribute to her, the flower scheme throughout the centre of the village will be the colour of the dessert named after her – the 'Peach Melba'. If your garden is near a road in the village and you would like to participate too, please plant flowers that are peach, raspberry and vanilla in colour ready for the summer!

Bray village hall will also be one of the Bray Ward polling stations for local elections on May 4th.

If you would like to be kept informed about future events planned for the community at Bray Village Hall, please contact Mike Charleton (mikecharleton@gmail.com) so you can be added to our distribution list. All events will also be posted on the village hall noticeboard.

The success or otherwise of Bray Village Hall depends largely upon volunteers. If you would like to get involved, please contact me, or any of our trustees via our website. We are looking for people to help formally on the committee or occasionally for the community events being planned throughout the year. With our new Bar Managers Tracey and Mike in place, our aim is to continue to keep Bray Village Hall as the hub of community activities for everyone in and around Bray. We plan to continue to run quizzes and other fundraisers throughout the year. Every penny raised is reinvested back into the fabric of the hall to ensure it successfully thrives to be the place to bring our village community together for future momentous occasions and it remains fit for its 2123 bicentenary!



Suzanne Cross – Bray Parish Councillor
& Trustee of Bray Village Hall



 **FIFIELD FUN DAY**
Sunday 6 August
2023

Come and Join us for
lots of Fun in Fifield
A real village fete!



GATES OPEN AT 1pm
Entry Free

Steam Train Rides, Ferret Races, Birds of Prey, Tombola,
Punch & Judy, Games, Fair Ground, Coconut Shy, Magician,
Dog Show, Musical Mats for Dogs, Bottle Stall, Plant Stall,
Raffle, Auction, Craft Stalls, Face Painting, BBQ, Beer and
Wine Tent, Tea and Cakes AND Much Much More!!

 **Deep Meadows,**
Fifield Road,
Fifield SL6 2NX
All proceeds will be
donated to charity

If you would like to get involved with the Fifield Fun Day and can spare a few hours before, after or on the day let us know and we will be happy to add you to the list.

You can email funday@ogafcap.co.uk or contact us via www.ogafcap.co.uk

Also, we have had a good interest from stall holders so if you are interested in having a stall or know someone who would please get in touch with **Barbara Frame** - barbariframe@btinternet.com

Money raised at last year's Fun Day enabled us to donate £2,500 to each of our two main beneficiaries and we donated smaller sums to other local charities and organisations amounting to £1000.

This year we will be raising money for two very worthy local charities:

- Rosie's Rainbow Fund which supports very sick and disabled children in hospital, school and in the community.
- Alzheimers Dementia Support (ADS) who provide constructive practical guidance as well as a wide range of services locally to whose lives are directly or indirectly affected by Dementia.

Music at Bray

Our spring series of Sunday afternoon recitals has been well received, with good attendances at each one, culminating on Palm Sunday with a performance of *St Mark Passion* by Charles Wood, with the choir of St Michael's and professional soloists. Next up on 14 May is a welcome return visit from Leah Nicholson, a talented young pianist preparing for her final recital at the Royal Academy of Music. Admission is free with a retiring collection.

To complete our summer programme, we present a double bill of enjoyable Jazz concerts. On 25 June in church Oliver Gooch will conduct distinguished local ensemble Cantorum Choir in Will Todd's *Mass in Blue*, then on 23 July, by kind permission of the Reverend and Mrs Ainsley Swift we are joined in the garden once again by the wonderful Josephine Davies Quartet for *Jazz at the Vicarage*. For these two events we are offering a combined ticket priced at £20, or £12 for the June date and £10 for the vicarage. Please contact jim@musicatbray.co.uk to book, or for further details. All three start at 3.00pm, with tea in the hall after the first two. For a lovely afternoon by the river, you are invited to bring your own refreshments.

Jim Tucker

RBWM Report It

RBWM as the Local Authority are responsible amongst other services for Roads and Pavements, Waste, Environmental Services, and Leisure.

If you have any problems with potholes, flooding, fly tipping, litter, graffiti, missed bins, problems with smoke or noise, then it can be reported online at; <https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/report-it>.

Reports made to RBWM this way are consolidated to show where there are particular problems within the area and help to provide data on further works that may be required. We have been asked to encourage residents to use this method of reporting problems to RBWM.

Miss Dawn Hampshire – Assistant Clerk

St. Michael's Church

In common with other places where groups of people gather, St Michael's has continued a gradual but joyful return to doing things in the "traditional" way, that is the way things were done before the pandemic. We have now resumed opening the 10am Parish Communion service with a procession, with choir and clergy following the processional cross through the church. Some things which we felt obliged to stop will not be brought back, because we can see the benefit of the new way.

Our greatest loss is undoubtedly those members of the congregation who departed this life during lockdown, meaning their loved ones and the rest of us were unable to bid them farewell in church. We have been able to make amends in several instances by holding memorial services, and we thank God that we are still enjoying that privilege at the moment.

So far in 2023 attendances at services have continued to grow, getting nearer and nearer to where they used to be. There is a small but dedicated band of worshippers each Sunday at 8am Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer, and numbers at Parish Communion get greater almost week by week. We are not offering Evening Prayer at the moment but continue to keep things under review.

After well-attended and moving Easter services, we are settling down to a routine of regular worship, with special celebrations for Ascension Day (Thursday 18 May), and Pentecost (28 May) and Trinity Sunday (4 June). Everyone is welcome to church on any Sunday, we would love to see you. Don't be afraid to ask if you are not sure how the service goes, there will always be someone glad to help you, and of course to walk you round to the church hall afterwards for a cup of coffee!

We will also be marking the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, with special prayers in the weeks before the day, and on Sunday 7 May, and a peal of the church bells that same afternoon.



Reverend Ainsley Swift

Annual Electors Meeting

Braywood Memorial Hall, SL6 2NX

Wednesday 31st May 2023 at 7:00pm

An open invite to Bray Parish electors, residents, and the local press

Your chance to meet councillors and hear reports from local community groups

Light refreshments will be served at the end of the meeting

The Civility and Respect Pledge is being introduced to enable councils to demonstrate that they are committed to stand up to poor behavior, bullying, harassment, and intimidation across the sector and to drive through positive changes which support civil and respectful conduct.



IN COLLABORATION WITH SLCC, NALC, OVW, COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

Bray Parish Council are members.

How would you like to hear from us?

We understand that some of our residents prefer receiving our newsletters via a more traditional medium, however we are also aware that some others may prefer the option to receive it electronically.



Bray Parish Council is now using MailChimp, you can subscribe here:

<https://brayparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Did you find this?



Located in the Braywood Memorial Hall stone memorials for WW1- 22 names and separately for WW2- 8 names.

Where is this?



This can be found in the Parish – do you know where?

Contact us:

Bray Parish Council
Jubilee Room,
Braywood Memorial Hall,
Fifield Road,
Fifield,
Berkshire,
SL6 2NX.

Office hours: 9:30 to 12:30 Mon-Fri

Tel: 01628 777997

Email:

clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

<https://twitter.com/ParishBray>

<https://www.facebook.com/>

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