



# Bray Parish Council

## Newsletter Autumn/Winter 2014

To contact your  
Ward Councillor

### BRAY

Steve Adams - 01628 622405

Ken Elvin - 01628 624823

Chris Graham - 01628 778054

Derek Mellor - 07768 209590

Margaret Pierce - 01628 622289

### HOLYPORT

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Louvaine Kneen - 01628 675996

Andrew Monks - 01628 628597

Leo Walters - 01628 627967

Kenny Gallagher - 07506 127632

Derek Wilson - 07789 755995

### OAKLEY GREEN & FIFIELD

Nick Pellew - 01753 830554

Chris Yates - 01344 882374

### ALEXANDER

Helen Howard - 01628 782003

### DEDWORTH

Michael Airey - 07809 243448

The number of Councillors per Ward is representative of head of population on the Electoral Roll for each area.

## A Message from Our Chairman

Since our last publication there have been a number of changes at the Parish Council. The Chairman and Vice Chairman have swapped roles and we have lost and subsequently replaced two Holyport Ward Councillors. Our thanks go to Chris Graham for his sterling work as chairman of this Council over the last few years and it is good to report that Chris's energy and expertise is not lost, as he is now undertaking the role of Vice Chairman as well as continuing to play a pivotal role in preparing the Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

Holyport Ward Councillors Sue Mackie and Mark Smith-Lyons have left the Council and we thank them for their service. However, Holyport is not without full representation as two new members have joined us, namely Kenny Gallagher and Derek Wilson. Kenny has lived in the area for a number of years and Derek is a RBWM Councillor representing the Oldfield Ward. Contact details for all Councillors appear in this newsletter.

Our Office Assistant of three years, Christine Carter, has successfully relocated to Devon and is currently helping this Council by preparing documents for planning meetings and fielding telephone calls, when required, using the marvels of modern technology.

Our search goes on to recruit a part time office assistant based in the Parish Office.

The "Focus on Your Parish" meeting held in May was very well attended and our thanks go to the speaker who gave an interesting talk on Crossrail. Our RBWM Councillors have promised a follow up meeting to cover the topic from the Royal Borough's perspective and residents will be kept informed of developments.

RBWM has recently appointed a new Community Warden to cover Oldfield and Bray. Clive Dent has replaced Rob Noble. We welcome Clive, thank Rob for his service to this community and wish him every success for the future. If you need to contact Clive, you can reach him on 01628 685636.

You will, no doubt, have seen the recent Maidenhead Advertiser report that Bray received a Gold Award and Best in Category in the UK (small village) award in the 2014 Britain in Bloom competition. Our congratulations go to everyone involved.

No pressure for next year then.

Ken Elvin - Chairman Bray Parish Council

### Parish Office Christmas Opening Hours

Our Christmas opening hours will be - last day Christmas Eve 24th December at 12.30 pm, re-opening on Monday 5th January, 2015 at 9.30 am.

## Elections on May 7, 2015



There will be three Elections taking place in our area on May 7 next year - the General Election for our two local MPs, a RBWM Election for Borough Councillors and a Parish Election for our Parish Councillors. The Royal Borough is responsible for organising all three.

In order to vote, you need to be on the Electoral Roll. Anyone interested in standing to be a Borough or Parish Councillor, please contact RBWM Electoral Services on 01628 796400 or email [electoral.registration@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.registration@rbwm.gov.uk)

Do you know  
where this is?



Answer on the  
back page.

## Is the Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan nearing completion?

Well, the Steering Group (SG) thought that they might have a final draft last January, and here we are in late 2014, approaching 4 years since the start, and, now, yes, we can actually see the finishing line! The Survey on a proposal for the centre of Fifield Village has been completed and is being analysed now. The Survey is reported on elsewhere in this Newsletter by Nick Pellew. We are also in possession of an edited Draft Plan which restructures the document to ensure consistency and readability. There is still work to be done in fine tuning the document but all sections are there.

So what will happen next? The SG intends to consult the residents of Bray Parish on the finalised Draft Plan document and incorporate any major changes which come out of that exercise. Then they will hand the Plan to the Parish Council which is the body responsible for submitting the Plan to RBWM for Inspection and, ultimately for the Referendum. Now the timescales for these activities are not yet confirmed, so keep an eye on [www.brayplan.com](http://www.brayplan.com) for more information.

Chris Graham, Steering Group Chairman, Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan



The three members of Bray Enhancement Committee - Margaret Pierce, Julie and Chris Graham - travelled to Bristol on Thursday 16 October to attend the National Finals of the 2014 "Britain in Bloom" competition. With a Royal Horticultural Society Gold Award and a Special Award for "Pride of Place" already in hand for Bray Village Conservation Area from the Regional Competition stage, they were delighted to receive a further accolade: Best Small Village U.K. together with another Gold Award.

Participation had been very much a community endeavour at both stages of this Competition which was recognised by the Judges as "a real strength of the entry" together with "effective engagement with young people". Residential gardens were praised as "excellent" while public displays in beds and containers showed "subtle, original, imaginative planting". The Village scored very high marks for cleanliness. Businesses joined in effectively and willingly. An interesting wildlife area in the Churchyard had been developed and used for nature study.

All these efforts were aided by funding from Bray Parish Council, RBWM Council and individual Sponsors. A Celebration is planned for all participants in Bray Village Hall in mid November. This is the third time that Bray has won the National Final in its category which is something of a record.

Bray Enhancement Committee

Britain in Bloom 2014



### Community Warden

May I take this opportunity of introducing myself to you all. My name is Clive Dent and I am the new Community Warden for Bray and Oldfield. My area also includes Fifield, Holyport, Moneyrow Green and parts of Oakley Green.

The role of the Community Warden is a varied one, but principally we are there to provide a reassuring presence, prevent crime, anti social behaviour and help build safer communities. We work closely with a range of partners including housing associations, the Police and the local authority.

I am often out on my bike, so I hope to meet many of you soon. If there is anything you want to know about Community Wardens or wish to discuss any community concerns, please call me on 01628 685636.

### Boundary Review e-Petition

The Parish Council is conducting an e-petition on changes to the Parish Boundary. The proposal is to remove the Alexander Ward from Bray Parish (placing it in Windsor) and include The Fisheries in Bray Parish (removing it from the Oldfield Ward in Maidenhead).

A Flyer about the proposal is being delivered to every household and the closing date is 25th February 2015. Please make your views known.

### Events in Holyport in December 2014

| Date          | Event          | Sponsor                     | Location                       | Time  |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| 6th December  | Christmas Fair | Holyport School Association | Holyport C of E Primary School | 12:00 |
| 6th December  | Christmas Show | Royal British Legion        | Holyport War Memorial Hall     | 7:30  |
| 14th December | Christmas Sale | Cats Protection             | Holyport War Memorial Hall     |       |

\* Tickets for the 6th December Christmas Show from 01628 631259



## Community Ties

Over the past year, I am sure that the residents of the Bray Parish Council area couldn't help but notice that something fairly major was happening on the Ascot Road in Holyport. I apologise to those of you who experienced disruption whilst we built Holyport College and hope that over the years we will make up for it by becoming a community asset, an organisation that adds value to what the local community already has to offer.

The College has certainly proven to be popular with local parents. Already highly over-subscribed, we recently hosted four separate open events to accommodate all those who are considering which secondary school their child ought to go to.

We are the first state boarding Free School in England. Our founders believe passionately in the power of education to open doors and create opportunities for young people. They also believe that boarding can be transformative and life-enhancing for those lucky enough to experience it. State boarding schools put boarding within the reach of a greater audience and Holyport College has a bursary scheme to admit a few boarders each year who without the bursary would not be able to afford the fees.

The other unique feature of the project is our partnership with Eton College. Already, all of our pupils have been to Eton Dorney to row and we use the sports facilities at Eton College from time to time. Boys from Eton come round three times per week to work on various projects with our pupils. Eton College also

paid for our all-weather pitch. I can't go into all the details of our partnership in this short article, but can guarantee that the partnership will be visible, meaningful and have impact on the lives of our pupils.

We have been represented at the last two Holyport Summer Fairs and are looking forward to next summer when, for the first time, our own pupils will be able to set up a few stalls. Before then, in late November, we may cause a little more excitement when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth comes to officially open the College. Our pupils are certainly looking forward to her visit. And, as we grow, it is my intention that you will see us out and about in the community making a difference. I look forward to strong ties between Holyport College and our local community.

Walter Boyle, Head Master  
Holyport College

## In Remembrance

On August 4<sup>th</sup>, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of World War 1, Members of the Holyport & District Branch of The Royal British Legion carried out the Act of Remembrance at each of the three graves of those who died and are buried in cemeteries within the Parish, two with Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstones, the other in an existing family grave.

Members paraded in the evening for the Acts of Remembrance. Each Act, comprised The Exhortation (They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, We will remember them), Last Post, The Silence, Reveille, The Kohima Epitaph (When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today). During The Silence the Branch Standard was dipped at the foot of each grave. A spray of Poppies was then laid against the headstone at each grave and the Parade dismissed.

Members have decided to repeat the Act of Remembrance on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of each of the soldiers.

Geoff Hayes - Royal British Legion

## Bray Village Hall

The Bray Village Hall was built in 1923 as one of two memorials to the fallen of the Great War, the other being the War Memorial itself.

After 90 years a survey of the whole building was commissioned and revealed that comprehensive work was required, both externally and internally. This included, new flat roofing, window frames, lighting, curtains, flooring, decorating and a new store cupboard. Costed at £18,000 Martin Smith (builders) was awarded the contract.

It was planned to have the project finished by spring 2014 and grant applications were made. They proved successful. Donors included, "The Big Lottery", "The Prince Philip Trust", "The Baylis Trust", "The Heathrow Communities Trust", "The Michael Shanley Trust", "The Royal Borough" and "The Bray Parish Council". The project was finished on plan, in time for the Britain in Bloom judging. Thanks are due to donors and Village Hall Trustees who made this success possible.



N.B The Village Hall is holding its annual Christmas evening of Carols, mulled wine and mince pies

on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets are available from Bobby Howes 01628 777017.

## Newsletter Deliverers - more needed please!



Thank you once again to our fantastic Team of volunteer deliverers who bring this Newsletter to you a couple of times a year.

This helps us to keep our costs (and therefore your Council Tax) down. But we are struggling to recruit replacements for those who have given their time over the years and "retired" or moved on in the past year.

If you feel you would like to "do your bit", providing a Service to the local Community, please join the Team! Contact the Clerk at the Parish Office to volunteer.



## Holyport Village Show

In September the Holyport Village Show was held in the Holyport War Memorial Hall on Moneyrow Green. Its success this year was helped by the spectacular entries from the pupils of Holyport CofE Primary School. Adult classes reversed the trend of the last couple of years and improved in quantity and quality; as always the judges were impressed by the standard of the entries. The Cookery Group was particularly well represented and ten competitors entered the new class of a 'Dessert in a Wineglass'. It was good to see so many villagers visiting and enjoying the exhibits.



The 'Collection of Five Vegetables' always provides an attractive display.

The Show Schedule for 2015 will be launched at the Show's Spring Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March in the Memorial Hall. There will be a presentation entitled 'Blessed are the Cheese-makers', for which samples will be provided.

Next year the Show will be running its Open Gardens event again in aid of the BOB Air Ambulance on 12<sup>th</sup> July. We are looking for some new gardens in Holyport to display (under controlled conditions) so please contact Pauline on 01628 636891 if you think that yours may be suitable.



An 'Open Garden' from a previous year

## Being a Bray Parish Councillor



There are two ways of becoming a Parish Councillor: by co-option or by election. Vacancies are advertised and may also be the subject of an item in the local press.

Each of the five Wards (or specific areas) in the Parish of Bray has its own particular Members, but all 15 Councillors vote on motions brought forward for the group to decide or promote. Some meetings are Planning Meetings where the Agenda is to consider Applications for Planning Permission within the Parish and to recommend them for approval or refusal. General Meetings will for example embrace Finance, Public Open Spaces, Footpaths, specific projects and new Legislation as affecting Parishes. As a Parish Councillor, expect to attend perhaps twenty Meetings per year and some of these may be meetings of Working Groups.

Why get involved? Because it is interesting. Being a Parish Councillor gives you the opportunity to get to know your own area and community in depth and to learn something of the structure of Local Government and its processes. If you enjoy working as part of a group and yet maintaining your own particular interests within it - for example provision of Playgrounds and maintenance of Open Spaces - you could find your participation rewarding.

Do not feel that this is just a role for retirees. Ideally all age groups should be represented. When I first came to live in Bray Village a long time ago, I wanted to participate in the Community. Becoming a Parish Councillor is one way of doing this and you could find it interesting and rewarding.

Cllr. Margaret Pierce

## Allotment Competition Results - June 2014

On Monday 23rd June, Allotments were judged in Bray and Gay's Lane Field, Holyport. Judging was based on full use of the Plot, well laid out with a variety of plants and weed free.

The Winner in Bray was Jane Marlow and in Holyport, Mrs J Armitage, Mr R Marten and Mrs S. Bahra-Morgan. There was a Runner Up in Bray - Sue Tomes - and others were Highly Commended: Mr & Mrs Molloy, Ms S Thompson and Mr & Mrs Graham (Bray) and Mr & Mrs Woolhouse (Holyport).

All these people were enthusiastic Allotment Holders valuing the productivity of their plots in terms of vegetables, fruit and sometimes flowers too. This is true of Jane Marlow who has this year added a pagoda which supports hops and has grown blueberries. Sue Tomes in her second year as a Bray Allotment Holder grows sweet peas and was pleased with her French climbing beans and courgettes. She always collects seeds from her flowers and vegetables in dry weather and suggests that doing so offers considerable savings in outlay for the coming year.

Mr Marten takes cuttings and will be putting in raspberries this Autumn in Holyport while Mr Woolhouse will set out leeks (raised at home) amongst the fruit trees, gooseberries and raspberries at his plot.

Mrs Armitage, a Winner in 2012 as well as in 2014, grows a wide variety of vegetables such a beetroot, sweet-corn and courgettes but she especially favours lovage (a herb) and freezes it for Winter use as well as enjoying it fresh.

Allotments are a valuable local resource and all these achieving Holders spoke with pleasure of their endeavours and with optimism for the future.



## Looking after our Assets



A number of projects have been completed over the summer period. The access to the Springfield Park Play Area has been reinforced using material that will allow the grass to grow through it and keep it looking green so it blends in with the surrounding area. See picture opposite.

Bray Parish Council owns a number of the cast iron, swan neck streetlights around the Parish and a program of repainting and refurbishment has been undertaken over the last few months. Lampposts associated with speed reducing measures, in Fifield for example, are the property of RBWM and for this reason cannot be included in this work.

The groundwork alongside the path between Gays Lane allotments and the rear of the houses in Trenchard Road is nearly complete and the plan is to have this project finished by the end of the year.

Holyport Memorial Football Club provides playing and coaching for a range of young people with teams for under 8, under 10 and under 12 years of age. They use the Gays Lane Field, which the Parish Council maintains, for training and coaching. The club has portable goals and other equipment and the facility is an important part of providing sport and exercise for all young people in the Parish.

In Bray, significant improvements have been made to the Jubilee Field Play Area path and the bus stop in the Jesus Hospital wall is being repaired and repainted.

The rose bed alongside the bus stop in Fifield has been difficult to keep free of weeds and a new planting scheme has been adopted that will, when implemented, overcome the problem. Also in Fifield, the Parish Council have responsibility for the area of land at the entrance to Manor Grove. We are considering what options there may be to enhance the existing landscaping and maintenance of this area and we will consult with the residents of Manor Grove by way of a questionnaire which accompanies this newsletter.

Finally the project to make improvements to the trees surrounding Holyport Green has proved to be quite a task and the more we look into it the bigger it gets. It is the Land Management Working Group's intention to split this project into a number of smaller tasks that can be undertaken over the next year. This type of work in a Conservation Area must be approved by RBWM and detailed specifications are required before consent can be obtained.

If residents have any thoughts on the maintenance of the Parish assets, the Land Management Working Group can be contacted via the Parish Clerk at the Parish Office.

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## A New Memorial

Financed by a grant to OGFRA (The Oakley Green and Fifield Residents Association) from Bray Parish Council along with contributions from RBWM Councillors, David Burbage, David Coppinger and Leo Walters, a new memorial was planned for installation in Braywood Cemetery.

Having raised the finance, seeking various permissions from RBWM and in particular from the Diocese was not going to be simple. Permission from the Diocese was only formally granted on October 3, by which time the site had been prepared and the memorial was ready to be installed.

It is in the form of a twisted obelisk, carved from a single sandstone boulder and weighs over 1.6 tons. It arrived from the quarry in Yorkshire on October 29 when it was settled onto its pre installed base in Oakley Green Road.

The inscription "In memory of those who served and those who fell" reminds us that since the end of WWII there has only been one year in which a British Serviceman or woman has not been killed in action. Many others survived these conflicts and deserve to be remembered as well as the fallen.

Much research is on going into the local history of those listed on memorials in the Parish and this is being incorporated into at least one database. Plans to provide access to this data via the Bray Parish Council website are currently being considered.

The memorial site has yet to be landscaped and this as well as other improvements are being planned.

A dedication ceremony will take place later this year.



## Grants and Awards

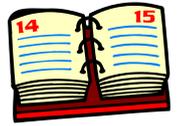
The following Grants and Awards have been made since the publication of the last newsletter:-



|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| * Bray Village Hall                            | £200.00   |
| * Fifield Fun Day                              | £250.00   |
| * Friends & Family                             | £150.00   |
| * Holyport Cricket Club                        | £4,800.00 |
| * Oakley Green & Fifield Residents Association | £8,500.00 |
| * Poppy Appeal                                 | £200.00   |
| * St Michael's Church                          | £5,000.00 |

If you would like to make an Application, please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

## Parish Council Meetings 2015 Dates for your Diary



Full Council Meetings:

|        |        |          |           |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------|
| 26 Jan | 16 Mar | 16 Apr * | 18 May ** |
| 20 Jul | 21 Sep | 23 Nov   |           |

\* Focus on Your Parish

\*\* AGM

Planning Meetings:

|        |       |       |        |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| 5 Jan  | 2 Feb | 2 Mar | 30 Mar |
| 27 Apr | 1 Jun | 6 Jul | 3 Aug  |
| 7 Sep  | 5 Oct | 2 Nov | 7 Dec  |

All meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated and are held in the main hall of Braywood Memorial Hall, Fifield Road, Fifield.

Fifteen minutes are allocated to members of the public who wish to speak at a General Meeting and interested Parties in Planning matters are also able to speak briefly on specific plans, subject to notifying the Clerk prior to the start of the Planning Meeting.



### Christmas at St Michael's Bray

Saturday 29 November, in the Hall, Advent Market 10 am  
Sunday 30 November, Advent Carols 6.30 pm  
Sunday 7 December, Music at Bray Concert for Advent 7 pm  
Saturday 20 December, Christingle Service 4 pm  
Sunday 21 December, Carol Service 4 pm  
Wednesday 24 December, First Communion of Christmas 11.30 pm  
Christmas Day, Holy Communion 8 am and All-Age Eucharist 10 am



Jim Tucker  
Church Warden

### Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead Councillors

#### Bray Ward

David Burbage - 01628 796322  
David Coppinger - 07866 493272  
Leo Walters - 01628 627927

#### Clewer North Ward

Wisdom da Costa - 01753 840040  
John Fido - 01753 860148  
John Penfold - 01753 861712

#### Clewer South Ward

James Evans - 07851 314137  
Simon Meadowcroft - 07500 765664

### Picture Quiz - Page 1:

Willow Tunnel in  
Braywood Cemetery

### Fifield Survey



The Fifield Survey was commissioned by the Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BPNPSG) to test whether there was strong community support for a proposal to have a playground and open space together with some houses on a field in the Green Belt close to Fifield Village Centre.

This was previously surveyed in 2008/9 by the Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association (OGAFCA) who included two similar questions in a survey of all 430 households in the Ward and found that 64.3% of respondents wanted more open space and 67.2% wanted a children's playground.

The BPNPSG survey was conducted during September 2014 across the 235 homes in Fifield that would be affected by the scheme, with the support of OGAFCA, whose volunteers delivered and collected most of the survey forms.

Out of 235 survey forms delivered, 164 valid responses were collected giving a response rate of 69.7%. Many thanks go to OGAFCA and their team of deliverer/collectors without whom this level of response would not have been possible.

Analysis is underway at present and the results will be made public shortly.

Cllr Nick Pellew

**This Newsletter is published by Bray Parish Council and distributed voluntarily by our local residents.**

**All queries and suggestions should be passed to: The Clerk, Janice Eden-Bagley at The Parish Office, Moneyrow Green (to rear of Holyport Memorial Hall) Holyport, Berkshire SL6 2NA.**

**The Parish Office is open to the Public from 9:30am to 12:30pm Monday to Friday.**

**Telephone: 01628 777997, email: [clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brayparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

**Website: [www.brayparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.brayparishcouncil.gov.uk)**