

# Brocton Paper Chase

Issue 57

February 2020

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## Annual Parish Meeting – 22 April 2020

The Parish Council are delighted to inform residents that Plastic Free Colwich have agreed to attend the above, to help spread the message about how to reduce single-use plastics in our homes and businesses. More details to follow in due course.

## Dates for Your Diary

### Civic Amenity Lorry Visits 2020-21

The dates for 2020/21 are currently being agreed with Stafford Borough Council and will be published on the Parish Council website and in the Parish Notice Boards once finalised.

The lorry will be parked at the top of Chase Road.

The purpose of the Civic Amenity lorry visit is to allow residents to dispose of excess waste.

Please note, this does **not include** the disposal of the following: soil, rubble, fridges, freezers or televisions, liquid waste, paint waste and hazardous materials **OR** any commercial waste from businesses. Further details can be obtained from Stafford Borough Council by visiting their website; <https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste-civic-amenity-site-visits>

## Brocton Village Hall events

- Weds, 19 Feb      Coffee morning. 10.00 – 12noon. Why not pop into the Village Hall and share coffee/scones with friends?
- Fri, 21 Feb      Quiz Night. Brocton Village Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets £20.00 for a team of 4, available from Post Office.
- Sat, 21 Mar      Jazz Night. Brocton Village Hall, 7.30pm. Barbara and All That Jazz. Tickets £15.00 each and will include a hot meal. Tickets available from Post Office.

For more information please contact Chris Allan on 01785 665466 or visit the website

[www.broctonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.broctonvillagehall.org.uk) or email [info@broctonvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:info@broctonvillagehall.org.uk)

Tickets can be obtained from Brocton Post Office.

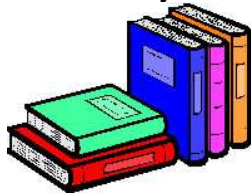
## Parish of Berkswich Church events

- Sun 16 Feb      **Parish Valentine Lunch.** Brocton Village Hall. 12.30pm for 1.00pm. 4 course roast meal with aperitif and glass of wine. Adults - £15.00, Child - £7.00, family - £37.00.
- Tues 25 Feb      **Shrove Tuesday Pancakes.** Community Hall, Baswich Lane, 1.30pm – 4.30pm. Sweet and savoury pancakes plus a glass of warm fruit punch. Adults - £3.00, Child - £1.50.

- Sat 28 Mar **Concert by 'Go Ukulele Crazy'**. Community Hall, Baswich Lane, from 7.00pm. With light supper and glass of wine. Adult - £8.00, Child - £4.00, Family - £20.00
- Sun 26 Apr **Afternoon Tea, with Flower Arranging Demo by Anita Wright**. Community Hall, Baswich Lane, from 3.00pm – 5.00pm. Adult - £10.00, Child - £5.00, Family - £25.00

For more information and/or tickets please contact Bob Moore, 01785 664302.

### Mobile Library Visits



### Mobile Library Visits in Brocton

Brocton Village Green: 9.30am – 9.45am on Mondays as follows:  
10 & 24 February; 9 & 23 March.

**Please support this service or its future may be in doubt.**

### Ladies Exercise Class

Brocton Village Hall, Thursday evening 7.30 – 8.45pm, during term time only.  
Suitable for all ages and abilities, the only equipment needed is a mat.

For more information contact Monica Mudway  
on 01785 662868

### Yoga Classes

Brocton Village Hall, Monday afternoon 1.30 – 3.00pm  
**And** Tuesday afternoon 4.30 – 6.00pm

Yoga classes are suitable for beginners and mixed abilities for people who would like to build up strength, gain mind and body awareness, improve balance, stamina, flexibility better breathing and a calmer mind. Yoga is an ancient discipline, an excellent antidote to combat modern-day stress. With practice it will promote tension release, relaxation and concentration leading to meditation. Take time to cherish yourself each week learning to unwind slowly and naturally.

To book a place please contact [diane.ralphs108@gmail.com](mailto:diane.ralphs108@gmail.com) or mobile 07709 613107

[www.broctonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.broctonparishcouncil.co.uk)

### **Brocton Pre-School Playgroup**

Brocton Village Hall, Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri mornings 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Learning through play for children from the age of 2 – 4 years old.

### **Brocton Baby and Toddlers (under 5's group)**

Brocton Village Hall, Wednesday mornings from 10am – 11.30am, £2.50 charge

For more information on either of the above please contact Amanda Nixon on 07875 193427 or email [broctonpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:broctonpreschool@gmail.com)

## **Neighbourhood News**

### **Parish Council meeting dates from April 2020 – March 2021**

The Parish Council meeting dates are as follows:

1 April 2020 – normal Parish Council meeting

22 April 2020 – Annual Parish Meeting \*

6 May 2020 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, followed by normal Parish Council meeting

3 June 2020 - normal Parish Council meeting

1 July 2020 - normal Parish Council meeting

August 2020 – no meeting

2 September 2020 - normal Parish Council meeting

7 October 2020 - normal Parish Council meeting

4 November 2020 - normal Parish Council meeting

2 December 2020 - normal Parish Council meeting

January 2021 – date to be confirmed. Budget meeting only.

3 February 2021 - normal Parish Council meeting

3 March 2021 - normal Parish Council meeting

\*More details of invited speakers at the Annual Parish meeting will be made available in the Parish Notice Boards and on the Latest News section of the Parish Council website

[www.broctonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.broctonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Parish Precept.** At the December 2019 Parish Council meeting the Councillors considered the budget for the financial year 2020/21. The factors considered by the Councillors were:

- The uncertainty of the grant payment from SCC towards the grass cutting within the village and therefore, it was resolved to fully cover this cost within the budget
- An increase in the tax base from 548.17 to 554.11 \*
- Increased assets of the Parish Council and the need to ensure sufficient funds are allocated to maintain these assets

- Modernisation of the village Paperchase, in order to improve communication with the community.

\*The tax base is the number of Band D equivalent dwellings in a local authority area and is used to determine the level of council tax payable by each dwelling. This rate is calculated by Stafford Borough Council and is affected by the following factors - an increase in dwellings; council tax exemptions; changes to Local Tax Support Grant payable to eligible residents. Further details, on Council Taxbase at a national level, can be obtained on the Government website [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

The precept approved by Councillors represents an increase on the previous year of £2.30 per annum based upon an average Band D property.

### **NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY**

#### **Parish Councillor vacancy**

Brocton Parish Council has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. So, if you feel you have the time and interest to join an enthusiastic team of Councillors to represent the interests of your community, **CONTACT THE CLERK IN WRITING ON OR BEFORE THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2020.**

#### **To apply for the position, you must: -**

- Be at least 18 years old; Be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union.

#### **And meet at least one of the following criteria: -**

1. Your name must appear on the current Register of Electors, for the Parish.
2. You should during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date have resided in or within three miles of the Parish.
3. Your only place of work during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date is in the Parish.
4. You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the Parish during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date.

In addition to the above you must not be debarred from standing as a Councillor.

Public Elections will not be held until the year 2023 but for the interim period, election to the aforesaid Council will be voted for by the present sitting number of Councillors.

### **Village Paperchase**

For your information - over the past few months the Parish Council has been reviewing the publication of the Paperchase and is considering modernising its style and presentation. The Parish Council sees the Paperchase as a valuable method of communicating with the residents but believes it is now due for an overhaul.

### **Community Bus Service**

The Parish Council is investigating the merits of providing a Community Bus service for residents and would be interested to receive your feedback. Please let the Clerk or your Councillors know if this is something that you would like to see the Parish Council investigate further.

## **Brocton Football Club**



Brocton's first team continue to enjoy league success - a number of postponements due to wet weather proved a setback and they slipped down to 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the league as a result. Leaders Leicester Road pressed ahead showing increasingly good form and are currently well clear at the top.

In the league, Brocton notched up wins over Stafford Town, Cadbury and Kirby Muxloe but then suffered defeats at the hands of Studley and Uttoxeter. They followed up bouncing back into form with good away wins at Ashby Ivanhoe and NFK Burbage, and are now firmly back in the runners-up spot in the league. Stafford Rangers proved too strong for Brocton in two cup encounters, emerging 4-0 victors in the Walsall Senior cup tie at Silkmore Lane in November, and then progressing to the next round, in the Staffordshire Senior Cup in January, this time by just two goals to nil.

The under 21 team underperformed over December and January - manager Dave Downing departed leaving the first team manager Kevin Weldon and his assistant Matt Allman to run the side. At the end of January Neil Beasley from Armitage accepted the position of manager and will be assisted by Tom Scott. Although late in the season, hopefully they will be able to get the team back into winning ways and restore some pride during the remainder of the season. They are currently at the foot of the Under 21(West) division of the Midland League. Despite some good overall performances, they have been unable to turn their efforts into goals scored, the standard of football played in the league being high.

Last year Brocton entered a team in the local FA Veterans League, and the team, run by former 1<sup>st</sup> team manager Dave Berks won every game played, clinching the league title and cup. Not only did the move serve to put yet another Brocton team on the map, but helped bring back former players into the club, and enhance the committee.

Home fixtures scheduled currently for the first team are:

8 Feb	NFK Burbage	3.00pm
18 Feb	Ashby Ivanhoe	7.45pm
21 Mar	Hinckley AFC	3.00pm
4 Apr	Rocester	3.00pm
11 Apr	Stapenhill	3.00pm
13 Apr	Heath Hayes	3.00pm
25 Apr	Atherstone	3.00pm

## General Information of Interest

### Managing Cannock Chase – Update November 2019

You will be aware that for a number of years now Staffordshire County Council, working with RSPB and Natural England, has been discussing and developing options for managing open habitats on Cannock Chase.

Options included types of management that have been used for many years on the Chase, such as cutting and controlled burning of heather, cutting and spot treating trees and scrub, and cutting and spraying bracken. They also included reintroducing grazing with livestock, which was the traditional way the Chase was managed before the Great War.

#### Heather Cutting

Current works at Cannock Chase Country Park include cutting some of the heather. It is important to have a good age range in the heather across the site, as this ensures continuity and so that different wildlife can use it at different stages.

#### Creating habitat for invertebrates

Bare ground is an important component of heathland habitat. It is used by insects such as colonies of solitary bees and wasps, beetles and also by reptiles. Bare ground warms up quickly in the sun and creates ideal areas for burrowing and nesting, chasing prey and basking in the sun. It can also create good areas for seeds to germinate, helping smaller less competitive plants to get a chance to grow.

For the full article please visit the Parish Councils website [www.broctonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.broctonparishcouncil.co.uk)  
The article can be found under Cannock Chase.

[www.broctonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.broctonparishcouncil.co.uk)

### **Clerk to the Council**

Jill Davies, 29 The Crescent, Stafford ST16 1ED, Tel. 01785 598434,  
Email: [clerk@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)

### **Useful Contact Numbers:**

**Staffordshire Police Non-Emergency Number:** 101 [www.staffordshire.police.uk](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk)  
**Crimestoppers:** 0800 555111 you can call this number anonymously with information about crime.  
**Neighbourhood Watch Membership** Local co-ordinator: Cllr Robin Bates – Tel: 01785 661518  
**Staffordshire County Council:** [www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk) Tel: 0300 111 8000  
**Stafford Borough Council:** [www.staffordbc.gov.uk](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk) Tel: 01785 619000  
**Deer Casualties:** Telephone Staffordshire Police non-emergency number: 101  
**Good Neighbour Scheme.** 07599 956939  
**To report fly tipping:** [grimewatch@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:grimewatch@staffordbc.gov.uk) or call 01785 619402.

**Who do I call if there is a power cut?** If you need to speak to Western Power Distribution in an emergency, perhaps because you are experiencing a loss of power supply, you can use the following numbers: 105, from a landline or mobile or 0800 328 1111 from a landline or 0330 123 5008 from a mobile. \* calls to 0330 numbers cost no more than a local rate number from a landline or mobile.

Should you require any help or assistance with any matter you can contact any of the people below who will be happy to try to help:

#### **Brocton Parish Councillors**

Chairman: Cllr Robin Bates  
[robin.bates@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:robin.bates@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)  
Vice-Chairman Cllr Lynne Smith  
[lynne.smith@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:lynne.smith@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)  
Cllr Julie Perry  
[julie.perry@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:julie.perry@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)  
Cllr Larry Goff  
[larry.goff@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:larry.goff@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)  
Cllr Bethan Smith  
[bethan.smith@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:bethan.smith@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)  
Cllr Alexander Kenny  
[alexander.kenny@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:alexander.kenny@brocton.staffslc.gov.uk)

#### **Stafford Borough Council Representative**

Cllr Andy Cooper  
01889 881895  
[ACooper@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:ACooper@staffordbc.gov.uk)

#### **Staffordshire County Council Representative**

Cllr John Francis – 665490  
[john.francis@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.francis@staffordshire.gov.uk)

#### **Member of Parliament**

Tel: 01785 252273  
Email: [theo.clarke.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:theo.clarke.mp@parliament.uk)  
[www.theo-clarke.org.uk](http://www.theo-clarke.org.uk)

*Every endeavour has been made to ensure information contained in this publication is correct at the time of printing*