



Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council normally meets on the first Monday of each month at Bretherton Endowed School.

Meetings commence at 8.00 pm.

All residents are welcome to attend

Forthcoming dates include
7th February
7th March
4th April

Parish Council News

Dear Resident,

Winter appears to be on us with a vengeance. The fields around the village testify to the heavy rain that we have suffered.

I am happy to say that funding is now in place, just before the pending spending cuts, for the refurbishment of the playground and work will be put in hand in the near future,

The usual Remembrance Ceremony was held at the Cenotaph and the morning's very wet weather cleared just in time for the ceremony.

Your council is applying for funds to enable the two replacement crosses to be erected on the original ancient stone bases.

Traffic speed is still an issue in the village but your council is doing all in its somewhat limited power to combat this. Slurry spreading is also an issue and all residents are urged to record any unannounced incidents with your council.

Our grateful thanks must go to our highways lengthsmen John who has now retired. Your council is now in the process of deciding whether to employ our own lengthsmen or join with other larger neighbouring councils to share their facilities.

I wish you all a peaceful and very happy

Christmas and hopefully a New Year of increasing prosperity.

Tony Rigby

Chair of Bretherton Parish Council

Mr Gordon Gregg

The death of Gordon Gregg has shocked us all; not least because he had been so active in the weeks before his death and his energy and enthusiasm for life were, as always, at the heart of everything he did. He was active in so many realms of village life; indeed immediately before his death he took time to call in at the Macmillan Charity Luncheon at the Congregational Church. He was an active member of the congregation at St John the Baptist and a much valued member of the British Legion.

Gordon had been clerk to the parish council for many years and the beautiful hand written minute books he created are testimony to the care and meticulous eye for detail he brought to the job. The introduction of the parish newsletter gave Gordon yet another role – as an informative gardening correspondent.

The community of Bretherton will be much the poorer without Gordon; he always retained a sense of what made village life special and his legacy will live on; both in Bretherton and beyond.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chairman

Cllr Tony Rigby Tel: 600602
Over Hall Farm, Bretherton

Vice Chairman

Cllr Gwyneth Lloyd Tel: 600705
45 South Road, Bretherton

Cllr Kris Jolley Tel: 600896
6 South View, Bretherton

Cllr Brian Monk Tel: 600035
5 Canal Leach, Bretherton

Cllr Simon Moulton Tel: 601388
5 South View, Bretherton

Cllr John Pigott Tel: 601455
9 Bamfords Fold, Bretherton

CONTACT THE CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL:

Jill Cavan
2 Tarnbeck Drive, Mawdesley,
L40 2RU
Tel: 01704 822265

Email: brethertonpc@yahoo.co.uk

Christmas Services

The Congregational Church

CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 19th DECEMBER at 6pm with Eccleston Brass Band
Gifts for Leyland Women & children's Refuge, and monetary donations for Derian House Children's Hospice

MIDNIGHT SERVICE FRIDAY 24th DECEMBER commencing 11.30pm led by Mrs Witts

FAMILY SERVICE SUNDAY 26th DECEMBER led by Pastor Les Kelsall

St John the Baptist Parish Church

CHRISTMAS EVE FRIDAY 24th DECEMBER at 4:00pm Christingle Service

Midnight Service at 11:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY SATURDAY 25th DECEMBER at 11:00am Holy Eucharist

BOXING DAY SUNDAY 26th DECEMBER Joint service at St Michael's Croston for Bretherton, Croston and Mawdesley parishes at 10:30am.

Bretherton Bowling News

Dear All,

Not much to report during these darker days. The Chorley Presentation took place at St. George's in Chorley where the B team picked up their cheque as runners up.

A singles knockout was held with Brian and Robert Howarth and Neil Helm entering. Neil had a good afternoon picking up the winner's cheque, well done.

The Leyland League Presentation Evening was a busy night for me being the new Treasurer and another Bretherton player - Jeff Holland who is this year's President. Jeff who is currently unwell and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

A few of us have tried our luck in the Longton Winter League doubles - with little success. Having said that a lot of the players play their games on this green, so we will keep trying Bretherton Bulldog spirit and all that!

Our own Annual Bowling Presentation (A.G.M) will take on the 8th January 2011, at the club, 7.30pm start. Any raffle donations gratefully received.

Any proposals please send to John Pigott a least a week before this A.G.M.

Have a nice Christmas and New Year and may all woods be touchers!

That's all for now
Regards,
Dave Hughes.

New Play Area Funding Approved



Funding for Bretherton's new play area on the Recreation Ground has now been fully approved with grants being agreed from three separate organisations. Lancashire County Council will provide £11,000, Chorley Borough Council £51,000 and the remaining £24,000 provided by the Veolia Environmental Trust.

It is now expected that construction work will commence in February and be completed by Easter 2011. Whilst the Parish Council will not need to contribute to the initial cost, they will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the play area.

The design of the play area, which involved representatives from local organisation and children from Bretherton Endowed Primary School, includes:

- the refurbishment of the existing swings, tractor and igloo;
- Four new items of equipment including a 6 metre Space Net (pictured above) and a 19 metre slide;
- Hard & soft landscaping including paths, mounds, shrubs and a variety of soft surfaces to provide an exciting natural play environment.

A detailed plan of the new play area will be available for viewing in the Village Heart notice board at the Apriary over the Christmas period.

Cllr John Pigott.

Bretherton School News

We are continuing to 'love learning' at Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School! Our Y4/5 children are learning to play the steel drums in school this year and having great fun. As a reward for such outstanding attitudes and behaviour the **whole school** went to the cinema to watch 'James and the Giant Peach' and had a lovely time.

Global Renewables, in partnership with Lancashire County Council, provided all our Key Stage 2 children (Y3-6) free sessions in environmental education and they also all went on a visit to their new education centre and waste processing facility in Farington. We have a new team of Eco-Warriors in school this year, who along with our School Council help to make important decisions about our school.

As a school we were delighted to receive from Helen Denton, Executive Director for Children and Young People for Lancashire County Council the Lancashire Physical Education Mark Silver Award in recognition of high quality physical education and school sport. Our staff and volunteers do such a great job in providing our children with such valuable experiences.

We continue to enjoy being part of the village community. We had a lovely Harvest Worship at St. John's Church in a service which the children presented themselves. Kind donations of food were given to the Rose Queen. Two of our Y6 pupils represented our school at the Remembrance Service and placed a wreath on the War Memorial.

Our Y5/6 children thoroughly enjoyed their 3-day residential to Robinwood Dobroyd Castle in Todmorden. The staff there said they were the best group of children that had ever been, which made us very proud!

Jesus' Christmas Party is the name of our forthcoming Class 1 and 2 Christmas production and the children and staff are working hard on producing the show. Christmas is such a special time in a primary school. Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School wishes you a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2011!

Please visit our website if you would like to know more about our school - it is constantly updated with news. The website is www.bretherton.lancsngfl.ac.uk.

Nick Ward
Headteacher

Gardening Correspondent Required!

Are you a keen gardener who would be willing to share your knowledge with your fellow residents?

Following the death of Mr. Gordon Gregg, Bretherton's Gardening Correspondent, we are looking for a local resident who would be willing to write a quarterly column of seasonal gardening tips for the parish newsletter.



If you are interested please contact the Clerk, Jill Cavan on 01704 822265, for further information or speak to any of the parish councillors.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Next of Kin Cards. One of our local PCSO's had to deal with an emergency involving an elderly gentleman who was not carrying any identification. She has managed to acquire some next of kin cards for distribution, so if you know anyone who would like one of these cards, please let me know. Margaret – 01257-246384.

Car Key Burglaries. Over a 3 day period at the beginning of November there were a series of car key burglaries committed across Chorley and District with Euxton area particularly targeted for these thefts. The perpetrator of this type of crime has already identified the vehicle they want to steal and only need to locate the keys of the vehicle within the premises.

These thefts were conducted overnight. The following are recommendations to owners of high class vehicles regarding their safety:

Always ensure your doors are locked

Never keep your keys on display (either on a table or surface close to the front door and visible from letterbox, or worktop in the kitchen)

Don't leave your car unattended with the keys in the ignition (defrosting)

If not fitted then consider fitting a tracker device to your vehicle, which in the event of it being stolen can be activated.

If you see anything suspicious, ring the Police immediately and report the incident.

Lancashire Trading Standards is warning consumers to beware of bogus telephone callers currently ringing Lancashire residents. The callers claim to be from one of the large software providers. They inform consumers that their computers are full of viruses, and then request credit card details in order to charge a fee of typically around £70. As well as the loss of money, there is also the potential future fraud once criminals get hold of a customer's credit card details. An additional worry is in case they ask consumers to install a program to give the scam company remote control of your computer.

Reappearance of an Old Postal Scam The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906

6611911 (a Premium rate number). Do not call this number as it is a mail scam originating in Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655

In case you Missed This: Police in Northamptonshire would like to make people aware of the report on BBC's "Watchdog" programme featured on 4 November 2010 about the following survey that is soon to be sent to over 1 million homes. N-Power, Unilever and Talk Talk are among the many companies sponsoring a survey that is to be sent out by TNT. They request you to complete it with your personal information and leave it on your doorstep in **an unsealed paper bag for** collection the following day.

The questionnaire is five pages long and contains one hundred and eighty six questions about your personal circumstances. The Information Commissioner's Office has stated that; "These surveys usually require people to provide a large amount of personal information - ranging from whether they have any outstanding medical conditions, to details of their household income. Anyone approached to fill in one of these surveys should think twice before leaving information like this on their doorstep. They should be aware that anyone could potentially pick it up, opening the way to identity theft. People completing these forms should also understand who will have access to their information and what it will be used for."

More advice and information is available from the Watchdog website link. http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/watchdog/2010/11/tnt_survey.html

May I take this opportunity to wish you all on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch a Peaceful and Merry Christmas and all our best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Eddie Johnston

New SID Helps to make Our Roads Safer



The Parish Council's new SID (Speed Indicator Device) is now operational during every week of the year, helping to make motorists aware of their speed and improve safety on roads through our village.

As well as advising drivers of their individual speed, the device records the speed of each vehicle, but not the number plate, so that the data can be analysed to identify stretches of road for the use of mobile speed checks to catch speeding motorists.

The charging, movement and operation of the SID is carried out by volunteer Parish Councillors and the Parish Council thank Plocks Farm, the Lilford Estate and Lancashire County Council for helping to fund the capital cost.

Cllr John Pigott.

Birds and Butterflies in Bretherton

The following fascinating observations for 2010 (and earlier years) have been made by Brian Pope of Wyre Nook on North Road.

The hard winter saw a pair of Bullfinches make regular use of the feeders

Winter visitors - Fieldfare were abundant, but the usually regular Redwing were not seen.

This summer Goldcrests have been unusually absent from our pine trees (victims of the winter?)

Birds of prey

Common buzzard , increased sightings

Kestrels , regular sightings (typical year)

Tawny owls , increased activity (noise) with fledglings seen in trees around the garden

Barn Owls sightings over the neighbouring pasture fields were regular from 2002 - 2007 with the exception of 2006.

No Barn owl sightings 2008-2010.

Butterflies

We observe approximately 12 species in the garden each year.

Butterfly highlight of 2010 was a single sighting of a small copper, the first since 1999.

I assume such butterfly observations are often linked to a particular host plant or habitat.

Our earlier Small Copper populations disappeared after I removed a large mound of clay (builders spoil) from the garden in 1998.

Has anyone else lost their Gatekeepers from their garden or paddock?

From 1997-2008 these 'common' butterflies were seen in abundance every summer from July onwards.

2009 - just a single sighting

2010 - not one.

Many thanks to Brian for his contribution - it is great to be able to compare sightings in different parts of the village - please keep your eyes open and tell us about your own patch.

For my part, I have been trying from memory to count butterfly species seen in my garden this year, but can only bring to mind eleven with any certainty: Small White, Large White, Orange-tip, Brimstone, Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell, Red Admiral, Painted Lady, Comma, Holly (or Common?) Blue, and Speckled Wood. I shall look out for Gatekeepers and Small Coppers next year, and I have been inspired to be more systematic in recording what I see. 2011 may also be the first year of the Bretherton Bumble Bee survey - anyone interested?

John Jolley—South View Tel:600896
jolley@johnjolley.plus.com

Police News

It has been a very quiet time on the crime front, with only 2 crimes recorded over the last few months. However there are always opportunist thieves about so please be careful with your belongings. There is still an area of concern with the number of people riding bikes without lights, if you have children/youths that regularly ride bikes, please ensure they have working lights fitted.

Neighbouring villages have had a problem with garden ornaments being stolen, if you have ornaments in your garden, please make sure they are secured as much as possible and please ensure they are security marked and photographed. Recently we have had a haul of garden ornaments recovered but we are unable to identify who they belong too, because none are marked.

With cold winter mornings upon us, please don't be tempted to leave your car unattended with the engine running. Thieves are on the lookout for this and in seconds your car can be stolen and you will get another shock when you try and claim on your insurance, because insurance companies will not pay out on thefts of this nature.

A last word of warning, with Christmas nearly on us, make sure you do not leave gifts in the car or in view from a window and also please make sure you do not advertise your gifts to may be thieves by leaving boxes and other packaging on show outside your house whilst awaiting refuse collection.

The next PACT meetings are as follows:-

2pm Sun 2nd Jan 2011 at Croston Police Office

7pm Mon 14th Feb at The Old School, Ulnes Walton

7.30pm on Mon 7th March at Bretherton School

2pm Sun 3rd April at Croston Police Office

If you have any queries with regards to this article or any problems please do not hesitate to contact us on the following numbers:-

0845 1 25 35 45 or by e-mail on

Caroline.plummer@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Maria.fetherstone@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Crimestoppers can be contacted on 0800 555111

Bretherton Film Society

Spring Season Programme.

Friday 14th January—Tamara Drewe

Starring Gemma Arterton, Roger Allam and Luke Evans.

Stephen Frears directs this big-screen adaptation of the comic strip by Posy Simmonds. Gemma Arterton, stars as Tamara Drewe, a former ugly duckling turned glamourpuss who makes a triumphant return to the sleepy Dorset village of Ewedown. Having spent a few years in London reinventing herself as a music journalist and sex kitten, Tamara now makes an indelible mark on the village and its clutch of middle-class, sex-obsessed residents including philandering novelist Nicholas Hardiment (Roger Allam), narcissistic pop star Ben Sergeant (Dominic Cooper), teenage tearaways Jody and Casey (Jessica Barden and Charlotte Christie), and Tamara's lovestruck former boyfriend, shy hunk Andy (Luke Evans)

Certificate 15, 114 minutes.

Friday 11th February—Cerified Copy

Starring Juliet Binoche and William Shimell

Set over the course of one day in rural Tuscany, the film follows the enigmatic relationship between a man and woman who appear to have just met. James Miller (William Shimell) is an English writer who has arrived in Tuscany to promote his new book. When an unnamed French gallery owner (Juliet Binoche) attends Miller's lecture discussing the value of original artworks as opposed to copies, the two meet up afterwards and set off together on a sightseeing tour to the village of Lucignano. On arrival, they are mistaken for a married couple - but what is the real nature of the connection?

Certificate 12, 106 minutes.

Friday 11th March—Made in Dagenham

Starring Miranda Richardson, Sally Hawkins

Acclaimed British drama portraying the 1968 strike at Ford's Dagenham car plant, where female workers walked out in protest against sexual discrimination and unequal pay. Like many local women, Rita O'Grady works at the Ford assembly plant stitching seat covers. Although it is intricate work, carried out in sweltering conditions, she is paid the same as an unskilled labourer. But as time passes the female workers come to question this inequality, and eventually take their plight all the way to the House of Commons with the support of political firebrand Barbara Castle

Certificate 15, 120 minutes.

Friday 1st April - To be confirmed

All films will commence at 7.30 pm (doors open 7.00 pm) at Bretherton Endowed School.

Refreshments available (including wine).

Please contact Margaret Simmonds (01772 601455) or Gwyneth Lloyd (01772 600705) for further information.

We look forward to seeing you all at the film nights.

