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BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue Four

Winter 2011

Brizlincote
Parish Council

ELECTION TIME?

Why might there be a Parish Council Election?

Elections are held every four years, the next on Thursday 5th May 2011, and if there are more prospective Councillors than seats this will force an election. Brizlincote has eleven seats, all of which are filled, so if all current councillors wish to stand again and there is just one more other person interested in standing, it will go to the public vote.

Who can stand for Brizlincote Parish Council?

You must be 18 or over, a British, Commonwealth or Euronational Citizen (who is registered to vote). You must have been a resident for 12 months prior to the day of the election, occupied land or premises as owner or tenant, or had a principal place of work either in or within three miles of the Parish boundary.

Who is excluded from standing?

Those who currently have a paid office with the Council and those with certain convictions and bankruptcy notices will also be excluded.

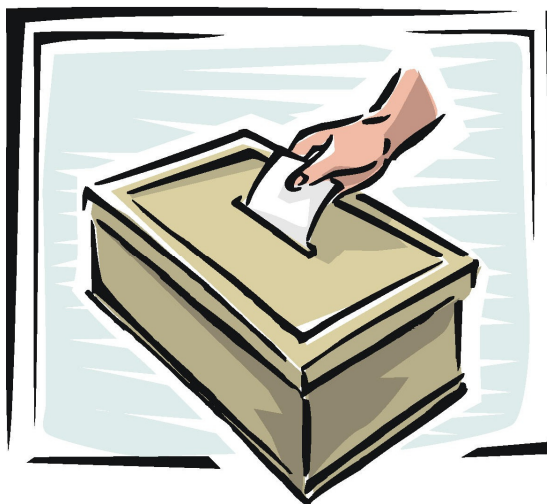
Why should you stand for election?

As Parish Councillors receive no payment for their work, it should be from a desire to serve the community. Perhaps you possess skills relating to current issues within the Parish such as speeding or Anti-Social Behaviour or you may have just retired and would like to give something back to the community? All of these and

many more are valid reasons for standing.

What does the Parish Council do?

The best way to find out is to come along to the meetings. These are held monthly (the dates are on the last page of this newsletter) and are open to the public. A warm welcome awaits you!



For more details on the elections please email spca.parish@staffordshire.gov.uk or give them a call on 01785 277499.



Where Do You Think You Live?

The answer to this question may not be as obvious as you imagine! On arrival in Clifton way seven years ago, I assumed wrongly that St. Peter's Church, Stapenhill was my Parish church. In fact by just a few yards I was in Winhill Ecclesiastical Parish, the hedge between the Water Tower and Tesco Express being the boundary. I was happy to find a warm welcome in both churches.

Brizlincote Civic Parish came to life some eight years ago, but it is still a challenge to persuade and inform some that they live in Brizlincote. Perhaps it was like this on a County level in 1894 when although geographically in Derbyshire, Stapenhill was transferred for civic purposes to Staffordshire.

Do you think "Welcome to Brizlincote" signs are needed? Where should they appear? The corner of Brizlincote Lane might seem obvious, except that almost immediately you would be in Winhill. How about on Stapenhill Road near the cemetery, but would that need to be renamed Brizlincote Cemetery? A sign in St. Peter's Street just before the Post Office would likewise produce Brizlincote Post Office. I should like to hear your comments and suggestions.

Geoffrey Willett (Chairman)

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL PLANTING SCHEME

The Plan

The Brizlincote Parish Council has allocated £1,000 to fund a planting scheme within the Parish that compliments planting schemes already going ahead in neighbouring parishes. These co-ordinated planting schemes support the Burton's entry in the Britain in Bloom competition entry; as well as enhancing the local area. The planting scheme will initially involve the construction and planting of three circular shrub beds beside the main traffic route through the parish (Violet Way and Beaufort Road). A professional gardening contractor will construct, cultivate and fertilize the beds in preparation for planting by volunteers. All maintenance, mainly weeding and pruning, will be done by volunteers supervised by the Parish Council.

We need your Input

We would appreciate Brizlincote resident's suggestions on suitable locations within the Brizlincote Parish for the siting of future beds; any ideas will be taken into consideration along with advice from Paul Steed, manager of the ESBC Greenhouse Centre.

We also need volunteers

In order to keep the costs down, and to involve the community; we need volunteers to help with the planting and maintenance of the project.

How to contact us

Contact the Parish Clerk by email: clerk@brizlincote-pc.org.uk or by using the 'Contact us' page on the website; www.brizlincote-pc.org.uk

Brizlincote in Bloom 2011

Following the success of last year's competition the Brizlincote Parish Council is to promote its second gardening competition to run concurrently with the Burton in Bloom 2011 and Brighter Borough 2011 Competitions. There will be three main categories open to all residents of Brizlincote Parish;

The best front garden

The best hanging basket or floral feature

The best improvisation of a sloping garden

The gardens will be visited in July 2011 by a team of judges from the Brighter Borough Competition. Trophies, Prizes and Certificates will be awarded for the best of each competition category.

So now is the time to decide which category or categories you want to enter, put your ideas into action and prepare your garden for judging...

Good luck!

Help Required!

This newsletter is written and distributed entirely by volunteers. With over 2,000 houses to reach, we are asking for some help with the delivery. If you feel able to give us an hour or two of your time please contact Cllr Graham Lomas on 01283 538721

A CHAT WITH CEDRIC INSLEY

This May will see the Borough Council elections, however one name will be missing from the ballot paper in the Brizlincote Ward, that of Cedric Insley CBE who has served the community since 2003 as a Councillor and as Mayor in 2007/8.

"I have made the decision not to seek re-election to the Borough Council very reluctantly," he confesses with a sadness in his voice. "It has been a privilege to be one of the Councillors for the Brizlincote Ward. It was not an easy decision but I was of the opinion that four years on from 2011 I will be of the age that perhaps I will not have the energy to serve the ward as the residents have the right to expect."

What prompted him to seek election in the first instance?

"It was my involvement for over fifty years as a political activist and having spent so much of my time campaigning for others to be Councillors that when I retired from work I had the time to work for myself and for the residents of Borough."

And has he achieved in his objectives?

"I hope that I have given the Borough and Brizlincote value and service.

I have tried to solve the residents' problems. Yes, there are some that I have not been as successful as I wanted but I have never walked away."

It is this commitment to making Brizlincote a better and safer place to live that has seen Cedric involved in numerous areas of the community. He reflects on some of his notable



achievements.

"From day one traffic through the Valley has been a problem. I was able to persuade the Borough to make a contribution to solve this problem resulting in the Highways Department of Staffordshire County Council installing speed humps in an effort to reduce the speed, this I understand may have achieved this, although I am not sure that this was correct and may have caused other problems for the residents," he admits, although excessive speed will undoubtedly continue to be a problem for as long as the car exists.

"Anti Social Behaviour is also a problem in the Valley and I have worked with PCSO Ellie Beaumont and PC Roy Whatley to solve this. I have made contributions from my Council WASP fund to the

Violet Lane School Woodland Area and the Briz Fest that have helped to develop the community along with the picnic tables on the Stapenhill Hollows."

Although no longer to be a Borough Councillor, this doesn't mean an end to his involvement in politics, with Cedric intending to be involved with the Parish Council.

"In the future Parish Councils will have a greater say on the local community and I would like to continue my involvement with the Parish."

"In the future Parish Councils will have a greater say on the local community and I would like to continue my involvement with the Parish."

BPC Newsletter would like to take this opportunity to thank Cedric for his hard work over the last eight years and wish him a long, happy and fruitful retirement

Watching Your Speed!

After five years of campaigning by Brizlincote Parish Council, two teams made up of volunteers, Borough and Parish Councillors have been trained to operate speed checks along Violet Way, Beaufort Road and Grafton Road. A further site on Stapenhill Road will soon be operational.

The teams vary the day and time when they are monitoring and in the past few months have reported a shocking 158 drivers for exceeding the 30 mph speed limit which is in force throughout the entire Parish!

Speedwatch is about promoting safe driving through education, rather than prosecution and is a way for members of the community to become directly involved in raising awareness about the dangers of speeding and poor driving in our Parish.

Pot Spotter

With Burton presently a mass of roadworks there are more than enough holes in the road to concern drivers, without beauties like this one popping up after the recent bad weather!



If you are aware of any dangerous a potholes you can report them on-line at
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/
0300 111 8000 Mon-Fri 8am-6pm.

PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

Councillor Contact Details

Name	Position	Telephone no.
Geoffrey Willett	Chair of Parish Council	01283 548868
Bill Warrilow	Vice Chair of Parish Council	01283 567447
Michael Ball	Parish Councillor	01283 534095
John Bidder	Parish Councillor	01283 562334
Arthur Goldstraw	Parish Councillor	01283 567974
Ruth Goldstraw	Parish Councillor	01283 567974
Graham Lomas	Parish Councillor	01283 538721
Jim Muir	Parish Councillor	01283 544477
Kay Sherratt	Parish Councillor	01283 547504
Ian Webster	Parish Councillor	01283 540994
Ian Williams	Parish Councillor	01283 500645
Cedric Insley	East Staffs Borough Councillor	01283 561497
Bernard Peters	East Staffs Borough Councillor	01283 740404
Kathy Lamb	Staffordshire County Councillor	01889 562196

Dates of 2011 Parish Council Meetings

Thurs 17th Feb Thurs 17th Mar Thurs 21st Apr Thurs 19th May
 Thurs 16th June Thurs 21st July Thurs 18th Aug Thurs 15th Sept
 Thurs 20th October Thurs 17th Nov Thurs 15th Dec

Annual Parish Meeting Thurs 12th May (venue to be confirmed)

To be held at Violet Lane Infants School with a prompt 7pm start.

FEEDBACK PLEASE!

Feel free to send us your suggestions and comments on anything relevant to the Parish Council. You can contact the Council by post, telephone or email, or by using the online contact form on the website.

The Chair of Parish Council is:

Geoffrey Willett, 22 Clifton Way, Stapenhill, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE15 9DW. Tel: 01283 548868

Editorial Committee

Michael Ball, Graham Lomas & Ian Webster



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