Windsor Drive Woods Lane Blue Cedars Drive Best Avenue Beaufort Road Betony Road Sefton Close Ashbrook Ashdale Close Ashby



## Winter Arrives in Brizlincote!



Since our last newsletter there has been a lot of correspondence between the Parish Council and Staffordshire County Council (SCC) requesting additional grit bins for Brizlincote.

Brizlincote Parish Council offered to pay for additional grit bins and refilling them, but the siting of grit bins alongside highways can only be approved by SCC following a grit bin assessment. We had requested 22 additional bins within the parish, and 12 sites were approved by SCC and will be supplied and refilled by them. The sites are:

- Foxglove Ave/Honeysuckle View 1.
- 2. Darley Close / Hargate
- Celandine Close, at the bottom end 3.
- 4. Cricketers Close, opposite no. 14
- 5. Clay Street East, side of no.14
- 6. Derwent Road, opposite no. 32 7.
  - Ashbrook, side of no. 1 Avon Way
- 8. Doveridge Road, side of no. 48
  - Yarrow Close, opposite no. 8

- 10. Cottesmore Close / Quorn Close
- 11. Franklin Close, opposite no. 10
- Best Avenue, opposite no. 10

Grit from the SCC grit bins can only be spread onto public highways, not on pavements or private drives.

#### **ICE BUSTERS**

A new initiative called 'Ice Busters' has been launched by the SCC highways team. The initiative will support self help groups to keep locally important footways and pedestrian routes clear of snow and ice during the winter months.

To become involved you'll first need

to contact your **local Community Highway Liaison** team on 0300 111 8000



## **VIEW FROM THE CHAIR**

I suspect many of you will warm to what the late Hugh Gaitskill wrote in 1960: 'I get impatient with those who think that everyone must continually be taking an active part in politics or community affairs! The vast majority find their happiness in their family or personal relations, and why on earth shouldn't they? There will always be a minority who are genuinely interested in social activity and social work. They can get on with the job!'

Nonetheless, so Brizlincote Parish Council can get on with an even better job, please take just a few minutes to complete the Parish Plan Questionnaire. Have a look too at the budget for 2012–13 (below), requiring a precept of £16,000, and consider whether you would opt to pay more than this in order for the Council to meet more of your wishes.

Geoffrey Willett (Chairman)

## Brizlincote Parish Council Budget and Precept requirement for 2012/13

Net Payments	Suggested Budget
Clerks Fees	£ 6,000.00
Clerk expenses	£ 500.00
Room hire	£ 300.00
Audit Costs	£ 300.00
Website/Comp expenses	£ 500.00
Grants/donations - including BrizFest	£ 3,300.00
Membership Subs	£ 700.00
Election costs (for 2011 election only)	£ 1,000.00
Planting/Brizlincote in Bloom	1,000.00
Newsletter	£ 2,000.00
Insurance	£ 400.00
Precept required for 2012/	13 £16,000.00
Precepts over last 3 years	
2009/10	£15,000.00
2010/11	£15,000.00
2011/12	£15,000.00

### **PARKING MAD UPDATE**

Brizlincote Parish Council has been informed that a consultation on parking restrictions in Greenvale Close and outside the two schools in Violet Way has now started and residents will be contacted about their views.

Under the new proposals issued by Staffordshire County Council, a 'no waiting' restriction will be imposed in a section of Greenvale Close from 8.30am to 9.30am and from 2.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

Entrances to both schools in nearby Violet Way; Paulet High School and Violet Way Academy & Nursery, will also have 'no stopping' restrictions from 8am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

These proposals are considered to be essential for road safety and have come about after numerous complaints from residents and councillors.

#### Brizlincote Parish Council Meetings 2012

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

Annual General Meeting 26th Apr

Meetings are held at Violet Way Academy & Nursery with a prompt 7:00 pm start

## Things the Parish Council does...

The Parish Council monitors, through out the year, the state of the hedges, trees and shrubs bordering public highways, footpaths and pavements.

Councillors walk the entire parish, recording any overgrowing foliage that is obstructing footpaths or pavements. The findings are correlated onto a database and are reported to the appropriate responsible Council.

Staffordshire County Council is responsible for ensuring public highways and adjoining pavements are clear of obstructions, and will write to land owners whose boundary hedges, trees or shrubs are causing an obstruction requesting them to cut them back.

East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) is responsible for the green spaces around the parish, and also maintains a lot of the hedges bordering the footpaths and alley ways. ESBC employ contractors to carry out this work, and Brizlincote Parish Council monitors that the contractors work is carried out correctly, reporting any defects. ESBC will write to landowners whose boundary hedges, trees or shrubs are causing an obstruction requesting them to cut them back.

## BrizFest 2012 Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup>

Over 1700 people attended the last BrizFest in 2010. The organisers, The Community Church, want BrizFest 2012



to be a much larger event and require a change of venue to accommodate it. They hope to partner with Paulet School, and involve more community groups from the area.

Susan Jolley, from the Community Church, told Brizlincote Council "This is an opportunity for us on Brizlincote Valley to celebrate the life of the people who live here, celebrate the local talents, enjoy friends and neighbours, and support local community groups and schools.

Brizlincote Parish Council is the main sponsor of BrizFest, having financially supported all the BrizFest events held so far.

# **Start planning now and get**involved!

Brizlincote Parish Council will be promoting its third gardening competition in spring, to run concurrently with the Heart of England in Bloom (*Burton in Bloom*) 2012 and Brighter Borough 2012 Competitions.

There will be an additional category this year, making four categories open to all residents of Brizlincote Parish;

- The best front garden
- The best rear garden
- The best hanging basket or floral feature
- The best improvisation of a sloping garden



The gardens will be visited during the last week in July 2012 by a team of judges from the Brighter Borough Competition. Trophies, Prizes and certificates will be awarded for the best of each competition category.

Cllr Graham Lomas said 'The Parish Council is keen to get as many people involved in the competition as possible. If you have a look around the parish there are some excellent gardens, but people are a little bit shy about showing them off. As a keen gardener I enjoy getting out and about and looking at people's gardens, and when out delivering parish council newsletters it is amazing to see how many beautiful gardens there are, yet very few of them are entered for the competition.'

Please think about entering your garden in the competition and start planning, it is free to enter.

## Improving the Parish

The footpath that goes from Franklin Play Area to the Model Dairy Farm through the fields & Grafton Road Open Space footpath has been renovated. Walkers will appreciate the new stone surface that has been laid on either side of the wooden bridge on the enclosed section of the footpath near Franklin Close Play Area. Further along the footpath hedges and trees have been cut back to keep the path unobstructed.



Work on Tower Woods has begun taking out smaller stunted trees or trees with poor structure to bring on better specimens. The rides will be widened to 5 to 6 metres to improve access; a line of back into the site with no heavy trees will be removed on the perimeter edge where they are adjacent to residential properties. 170 metres of redundant fencing is to be removed, 150 meters of hedge is to be reduced and

gapped up with new plants, there will be remedial work to six ash trees as required. All stumps will be ground to avoid trip hazards, brash will broadcast concentrations, some small self set ash / cherry will be felled near the orchard to open up views and conservation volunteers plan to do some smaller scale works such coppicing of hazel etc.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Geoffrey Willett (Chair) 01283 548868 Bill Warrilow (Vice Chair) 01283 567447 Michael Ball 01283 534095 Arthur Goldstraw 01283 567974 Ruth Goldstraw 01283 567974 Cedric Insley 01283 561497 Graham Lomas 01283 538721 Peter Lyne 07980 868726 Jim Muir 01283 544477

Kay Sherratt 01283 547504 Ian Webster 01283 540994

#### **BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Jake Fellows 01283 546092 Bernard Peters 01283 740404

#### **COUNTY COUNCIL**

Kathy Lamb 01889 562196

#### **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

## **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.

Thank you!