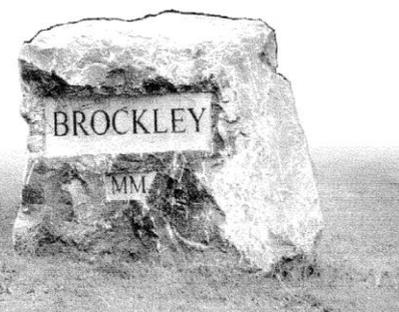


Your council

Julian Ridge Chair 01275 462313
Tessa Jarman Vice Chair 01275 462619
Mike Fishwick 01275 462995
Martin Jarvis 01275 462456
Bryan Smith 01275 462434
Karen Bailey 07725 782650
Clerk: Andy Warren 07932 191964

Main notice board: Chelvey Batch triangle
Email: brockleypc@hotmail.co.uk
Website: www.brockleypc.org
Facebook: @BrockleyParishCouncil

Brock's News



THE ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF BROCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

June 2022

Issue 20

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

The 128th APM was held at St. Bridget's Church on 27th April and it was good to get back to a face to face meeting!

Chairman's Report

Because of Covid 19 there hasn't been an Annual Parish Meeting since March 2019, however we can now revert to face-to-face meetings again but need to be aware that the virus is still out there.

Your Parish Council

Since 2019 there have been a number of changes to the Council.

Jo finally decided that she couldn't continue being Clerk from a distance and her very big shoes were filled by Andy Warren who is also Clerk to Cleve Parish Council.

My brother Antony resigned in 2020 and Karen Bailey was coopted onto the Council. Antony joined the Council in 2005 and for the last few years was deputy chair. During his time on the Council, he contrib-

uted a lot and his thoughtful approach and attention to detail was much appreciated. Sadly, he died of lung cancer in January.

Karen Shaw also resigned in September 2020 and her place was filled by Tessa Jarman who now is also deputy chair.

Your council is therefore: Me, Bryan Smith, Karen Bailey, Martin Jarvis, Mike Fishwick and Tessa Jarman. Our Clerk is Andy Warren.

Our District Councillor for the Wrington Ward is Steve Hogg. Steve is very keen to hear your concerns and can be reached via his mobile 07429 005512 or via email at steve.hogg@n-somerset.gov.uk

We try to keep parishioners informed of anything important and have a Facebook page in addition to our web site at brockleypc.org. The Clerk also has a short list of email addresses of people who have given permission for these to be used. Please let him know if you would like to be added to this list. Agendas and minutes of meetings are posted on the web site and on our main notice board at the Backwell end of Chelvey Batch.

Bristol Airport

Our local friend whom we love to hate has persisted in its attempt to get permission to increase passenger throughput from 10 mppa to 12 mppa. It appealed the rejection of its planning application and won despite many objections and a vigorous campaign by the PCAA.

The Bristol Airport Action Network Coordination Committee, BAANCC, has submitted an application under section 288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for permission to appeal against the decision of the Planning Inspectors of February 2022.

The BAANCC's main points are 6 errors in law in the judgement covering such things as: Interpretation of National Aviation Policy, Discounting the impact in relation to local carbon budgets. In determining that replacement habitat amounted to mitigation rather than compensation.

BAANCC is a group composed of various environmental organisations in the SW region as well as residents from local communities affected by the airport's expansion.

North Somerset Local Plan

The North Somerset Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation was published in March. It is a massive tome, and your Council has responded.

The new Local plan is for the next 15 years and will replace the current development plan. It is an ambitious plan which attempts to combine the government's demand that an additional 20,085 new dwellings be provided by 2038 with minimal damage to the countryside and maximum improvement to living conditions and reduction in carbon emissions. A tall order which has, in our opinion, not been achieved. In particular, there is very little information on how the massively increased population proposed in Backwell and Nailsea will be accommodated without completely overloading the local roads and Brockley Lane and Chelvey Road in particular. The development to the East of Backwell of 500 new homes will be built on what is at present green belt land and it is proposed that a new area be designated as green belt in compensation to the west of Backwell. This will provide a buffer between Backwell and Nailsea but much of the land designated is unsuitable for housing anyway.

Antony Ridge 1938-2022

Antony served on the Parish Council from May 2005 until May 2021 and was vice Chair for many years.

He was educated at Rose Hill School, Alderley, Blundells, Tiverton and Southampton University where he gained a BSc in Zoology and a PhD in Physiology. He spent his working life doing research in Physiology and teaching Medical

and Veterinary students at Kings College, London and Bristol University with a number of working visits to America where he met his wife, Connie.

Antony's interest in Natural History started when he was a small boy and continued all his life. He also had very strong views about the built environment and although he lived all his life in old buildings, he was always interested in what he considered good innovative modern architecture and took a keen interest in local planning issues.

He was also a member of the Friends of Brockley Church and undertook the installation of water to the church. This proved a herculean task with many layers of bureaucracy to penetrate but all his hard work has come to fruition.

He will also be remembered for the Brockley Lectures which he and Connie organised for many years. These were given by people he had contact with and who were experts in their fields ranging from Neuroscience to the Arts. He was one of the first to see the potential for using St Nicholas as a venue for Parish social and educational purposes.

Other matters

New Footpath gates have been installed to replace old wooden stiles. We are very grateful to North Somerset Council for doing this free of charge as part of the rights of way improvement plan funded by money obtained from Western Power Distribution as a result of work carried out in Nailsea for the new Hinckley Point power station inter-connector.

Queen's Green Canopy. As a celebration of Queen Elizabeth becoming monarch in February 1952 an oak tree has been planted in the grass triangle outside St. Nicholas church to join the other oaks celebrating various anniversaries with kind permission of the landowner, Roger Fortune.

Annual Litter Pick

The annual parish clean up took place on 2nd April. There was a record turnout of 16 people (including several younger members of the community). Lots of lovely black bags of litter were picked! Thank you to all who attended and to Mike Fishwick for organising it.

Speed reduction in Brockley

Your Council has wrestled with the ongoing problem of speeding traffic in our narrow lanes and have proposed to erect SLOW signs along with painted road signs near the three major entrances to the parish, namely, outside Brockley Hall, on the first bend in Chelvey Road after joining from the A370 and where the road narrows just south of Chelvey Church. We will apply for a grant from the airport Fund to pay for it and North Somerset Council will do the work next year.

Clerk reported that figures for the year ended 31 March 2022 are currently being audited but will be made available shortly.

Julian concluded his report by thanking St Bridget's Church for permitting the use of the venue. He then introduced Cllr Bryan Smith as guest speaker.

Bryan reviewed research on the Smyth-Pigotts of Brockley since "Brockley and the Smyth-Pigotts" was last updated in 2019. New information has emerged regarding the nature of entertaining at Brockley Hall, and at the Bowling Green.

More prints of watercolour paintings by the Buckler family of places in Brockley have been located, and a photograph of a ship launched in Bristol called "Brockley Combe".

Evidence has been found to show that John Hugh Smyth Pigott was involved in the slave trade with a ship called "Marlborough".

Contact has also been made with the producer of plays at Ashton Court on the Smyths. This has revealed information about Florence Smyth before she married Col. Thomas Pigott.

Other reports: Cllr Steve Hogg gave a short report.

THE FULL SET OF DRAFT MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE WEBSITE.

BROCKLEY AT THE PALACE

In recognition of over 50 years as a Brockley Councillor Bryan Smith was invited to attend a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 11th May. Accompanied by his daughter and, despite the disappointment that the Queen was unable to attend, they thoroughly enjoyed this well-deserved day out.



THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

We are pleased to have planted a new oak tree on the triangle near St Nicholas Church under the Queen's Green Canopy Scheme for the Platinum Jubilee. <https://queensgreencanopy.org>



We are also taking the opportunity to have plaques made for the other trees in that area which were planted for 4 other Royal occasions namely:-
 Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee 1897
 King George V's Coronation 1911
 Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee 1977
 Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee 2002

PARISH CHURCH OF ST BRIDGET'S

Brockley Parish like most small parishes has had very limited access to its parish church over the last two years. I am pleased to say that St Bridget's Church is now back to pre-pandemic times with three regular services on the first three Sundays of the month at 9.15 am. We also still say Morning Prayer on a Tuesday at 9.00 am.

The costs of keeping our one church "open" throughout this period has only been achieved by the generosity of our small band of supporters. Few realise that our little church pays over £14,000 to the Diocese of Bath and Wells annually in addition to paying for all the running expenses incurred looking after this 900-year-old building. Our income relies on the generous giving of our regulars and the marvellous support we get for our fund-raising events.

Our programme for this year starts with a Coffee Morning at "The Old Rectory", opposite St Bridget's on Saturday, 11th June, 10.00am – Midday followed by a Strawberry Tea at Nailsea Court, 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm with stalls, jazz, games and tombola on Saturday, 16th July. A Harvest Tea and Concert is being planned for October followed by a Christmas Fair over the weekend of 12--13th November. Please support as we really do count on your generosity to keep this serious yet beautiful church going.

If you have never seen a copy of the Guide and History of this "gem of a country Parish Church", the Dean of Wells words, not mine, please contact Tony Stirratt on 01275 853138.

BROCKLEY CHURCH YOUR LOCAL PLACE TO MEET



Brockley Church is now available for use by local residents as a community hub and place for meetings. The Church is still consecrated but only used for two services a year as it is owned and maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust. However, it is now available for use by the local community.

After a fundraising campaign lasting several years the church clock has been fully restored and is now chiming again. The restoration involved extensive work to rebuild and regild the face and a full service of the motion. A small kitchenette has been installed behind the organ that enables users to have basic catering facilities on site and thus the Church is now well suited to smaller meetings and events. You can of course still request to use the Church for local weddings, christenings and memorials. Following discussions with the CCT it has been agreed that Brockley should become the lead in a countywide attempt to find alternative uses for redundant churches so that they can remain in active and regular use. We recently had a series of workshops and lectures detailing how churches in the mediaeval days were the social and business hub of the community and it is hoped that St Nicholas will be used by our local

residents who need a venue for meetings, activities and smaller events. There is an active group of people who care for the building on a day to day basis but we are keen to make it available for other activities. At this stage we only ask for donations towards power used during the event and something towards the upkeep, and it is thus very economical to use, particularly for small groups!

In addition to the main church with seating for around 60 people there are two smaller side rooms that are ideal for committee meetings and workshops. Toilet facilities are available nearby if requested. There are no specific restrictions on the type of event that can be held but this does need to be approved by the committee and should be in keeping with the history and ambience of the building, and of course not damage or harm the fabric.

In recent months there have been lectures, a photographic fashion shoot, a mediaeval crumhorn band and lessons in clock winding. 'In the Stones' is booked for 13th June and this will be an entertaining play performed by a band of travelling players but with audience participation, aimed at children of all ages. Following that we hope to have a medieval music jamming session and later in the year a lecture on the true story of Guy Fawkes and the Gun Powder Plot.

The group caring for the church is urgently seeking a Treasurer and a fund raiser. These posts need to be filled urgently. We are also keen to welcome new members who are interested in this very old building – parts go back to the Norman period - and who want to help in its care and long-term survival as a facility for

use of local residents, and of course people who wish to use the space for events and meetings. If you would like to join us, offer yourself as Treasurer or Fund Raiser or just join the group of 'friends', please email and we will send details: ross@mvalmoral.com

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Parish Council meetings take place on the first Monday of the month (except August and December) and are held at 7pm. Venues will be either St Bridget's or St Nicholas. This is subject to change so check our website for up-to-date information.

2022/23 dates (subject to change):

| | |
|------------|------------|
| 6 Jun 2022 | 4 Jul 2022 |
| 5 Sep 2022 | 3 Oct 2022 |
| 7 Nov 2022 | 9 Jan 2023 |
| 6 Feb 2023 | 6 Mar 2023 |

Agendas and minutes are available to view on the website. **ALL WELCOME**

GREEN WASTE & COMPOSTING



From 1st April 2021 an annual charge of £50 per bin was introduced for the collection of garden waste. To encourage home composting, NSC is offering a subsidised 200l compost bin for £10. To order your compost bin or register for the garden waste service, go to www.n-somerset.gov.uk/gardenwaste or call 01934 888 888.