

Brixworth supports Games Area

Brixworth Parish Council has agreed, in principle, to support the creation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on St. David's Recreation Ground.

If approved by Daventry District Council, the MUGA will provide a fenced in, safe playing surface with lines marked out for various sports, including netball, basketball and hockey. In addition, there will be a new play area and associated landscaping alongside it. The project will be financially supported by over £100,000 from Section 106 funding.

A Section 106 Agreement is commonly negotiated between developers and councils to make new house building schemes more attractive and beneficial to the local community. Part of the Section 106 Agreement between Daventry District Council and the Saxon



An illustration of what the MUGA might look like – the Parish Council has made no decisions on either the format or the supplier for the MUGA and associated landscaped area.

Rise development included a substantial allocation to improve the sporting and recreational facilities in the village with over £65,000 for Parks & Gardens to be spent by September 2022, over £72,000 for Indoor Sports and nearly £117,000 for Outdoor Sports, both to be spent by February 2022. On June 18th, Brixworth Parish Council held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the allocation of the Section 106 funding for Indoor and Outdoor Sports. (continued, page 2)

Good to be back

It's the Brixworth Bulletin (almost) as you know it, slightly shorter than usual, but back in print. As I'm sure you'll know, our June issue was primarily distributed electronically – with the country still largely in lockdown at the end of May, and many of our lovely distributors at an elevated risk from complications if they were to catch Covid-19, we took the decision to make the June 2020 issue available online only.

A limited number of printed issues were distributed by volunteers and at the shops, for those who weren't able to access it online.

We know that many of you missed the printed Bulletin, and we didn't want to stay away for too long, so here we are. Many of the local clubs and activities are still suspended (though several are experimenting with virtual or socially distanced activities). That means less for the Bulletin to report, which explains why we're four pages short of our usual 32.

Thank you to our many volunteers who always contribute text and help us distribute the Bulletin. We're always happy for any further contributions. If you have something you'd like us to consider for the December issue, please email editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk by 25 October, and we'll do our best.

Meanwhile, stay safe.

Nadine Flavell-White

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(continued from page 1) There are nearly forty sports and recreation clubs running in the village at present and all were invited to submit bids for a share of the funds. By the time of the meeting on June 18th, there were five bids up for consideration - from The Bowls Club, the Community Centre (BPC), the Cricket Club, the Brixworth Juniors Football Club and a MUGA, play area and associated landscaping for St. David's Recreation Ground (BPC).

The fund for Indoor Sport was enough to cover the bids from both the Bowls Club and the Community Centre. The Parish Council agreed, in principle, to support the Bowls Club bid for just over £5000 to buy an electric winding machine for bowls mats at Brixworth Centre. They also agreed, in principle, to support the bid for nearly £67,000 from the Community Centre to fund a refurbishment programme which would make the facility more conducive to indoor sports such as table tennis.

The Brixworth Cricket Club, represented by Mike Parsons, put in a bid for £10,000 of the Outdoor Sports allocation, for purchasing more secure equipment storage and a new roller for their pitch at St. David's Recreation Ground, where their third and fourth teams, younger players and women's teams play. The Parish Council unanimously agreed, in principle, to support this bid.

The allocation of the remaining funds for Outdoor Sports, however, proved to be

far more contentious. Both the Brixworth Juniors Football Club and the St. David's Recreation Ground (BPC) MUGA and play area, put forward bids for over £100,000 which they each needed towards financing different major projects.

The Secretary of the Brixworth Juniors Football Club outlined a proposal for funding towards installing a 7 aside all-weather, league standard floodlit pitch on the Ashway Playing Field. He pointed out that Brixworth is the third largest junior football club in the county, and he hoped that this pitch would allow the children to play all winter long, resulting in fewer cancelled games. If the pitch were to be used for league matches, however, it could not be a multi-use area for other sports. He also mentioned that it would be used by disability groups and the Walking Football team and could be free for the school to use during the day, though the school had yet to be consulted about this.

There were objections to the football club's proposal from Ashway residents who were concerned about the inevitable increase in cars parking on the surrounding roads, the effect of the floodlights on nearby properties and the fact that it would reduce the present area of the field by a third for other users. Towards the end of the discussion, it also transpired that when the land was originally donated by David Wilson Homes, there was a covenant stating that it should remain an open, green 'seeded' space for public use, which would have considerable legal implications for the proposal. After much debate, when put to the vote, there were four councillors for the proposal, one abstention and five against; the Parish Council, therefore, agreed that it could not support this application.

The bid for the MUGA at St. David's Recreation Ground was greeted far more favourably, and, although it was agreed that more consultation with nearby residents was needed, the Parish Council unanimously agreed, in principle, to support the funding bid for this proposal. At the end of the day, if Daventry District Council also support the project, the future looks bright for sports and recreation in Brixworth. – Tracey Calnan



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Result of Co-op appeal awaited



Brixworth is waiting for the outcome of the appeal against Daventry District Council's decision to refuse its second attempt to gain planning permission for a new shop at the site of the Red Lion pub.

Above: The former pub has stood empty since 2018. Right: A parking protest illustrated the potential impact. Photos by Ian Topham

However, because the inspector in the first appeal did not consider the issues with traffic and parking sufficient to rule against the proposal – it failed only on grounds of the building's design - any later applications and appeal cannot reasonably look at these issues again. It can only consider whether the new application sufficiently addressed the concerns about

the design of the building raised by the first inspector.

While the parking issues were mentioned during DDC's hearing, the Planning Committee rejected the application because the revised design was still not in keeping with the surrounding village. Brixworth Parish Council also objected to the application, citing both the building's design, and the lack of parking and impact on the highway.

The proposal has caused a great deal of debate in Brixworth, and villagers will face an uneasy wait until the second inspector's decision comes through.

– Claudia Flavell-White



The deadline for representations passed on 17 August. A planning inspector will now consider the appeal, with a final decision expected [when].

Planners for the Co-op earlier this year submitted the new plans for the development, after DDC last year turned down a previous application. The Co-op's appeal against that first decision was refused on grounds that the proposed development was not in keeping with the character of the village. The resubmitted plans addressed that point with a new design for the shop, designed to bring the premises more in line with the historic character of the conservation area of Brixworth.

However, the biggest issue villagers have with the proposal isn't the design, but the amount of parking and impact on local traffic. There are concerns that the 12 car parking bays that form part of the proposal are not going to be enough, and more cars will be parked nearby on the roadside.

As the site is located on a sharp bend, the worry is that any cars parked on Northampton Road would make the road even more difficult to navigate and lead to accidents. The point was starkly illustrated when villagers staged a park-in days before the application was due to be heard at DDC (pictured). On top of this, there are no off-road unloading facilities for the shop, and vehicles including HGVs would have to park on the side of the road while unloading.

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Industrial site expansion turned down

A proposal to create a new industrial development north of the Mercedes AMG site in Brixworth was refused planning permission by Daventry District Council.

Councillors voted nine to four to refuse the application. Councillors noted that there was insufficient evidence of interest from potential tenants, claiming that there were several vacant premises in the existing industrial park in Brixworth.

They also pointed out that Mabbuts woodyard between Brixworth and Creaton, which was granted planning permission for conversion into an industrial site over five years ago, has not yet been developed.

Residents had also raised concerns about the impact the increased traffic would have on the A508.

The decision to refuse the application comes despite an internal committee at DDC recommending it should be approved.

The committee report pointed out that while the evidence of interest from potential local tenants was limited (of the four local businesses who had initially expressed an interest, two had since found suitable premises elsewhere), Daventry's 2017 Employment Land Study suggested that there was a local shortage of units for small and medium-sized companies.



The layout of the proposed site. Plans courtesy of pHp architects.

It also found that the additional space would have potentially attracted new engineering, manufacturing and other high-tech businesses or allowed existing such businesses to expand.

It is not clear at the time of writing whether the developers plan to appeal.

– Claudia Flavell-White

Educational grants in Lamport and Hanging Houghton

The Isham Charities make grants to people up to the age of 25 who have lived in Lamport, Hanging Houghton or Faxton for at least two years. Grants can be used toward education, training and formal apprenticeships, and associated costs. This might include buying uniforms, special clothing, tools, instruments, books, travel, computer equipment (where this is required for school, university or college etc).

Grants can also be used to help buy household items and appliances, services or facilities to reduce hardship for the person concerned. All requests are treated in strict confidence.

Trustees will next consider applications in November. For further information or to apply, contact Frances Allbury on lhpcouncil@btinternet.com or 01536 790870.

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Bulldog and Bear targeted by vandals

During the early hours of Friday 31st July, the Bulldog and Bear barber's shop on Northampton Road was attacked in a deliberate act of vandalism which left both of its large shopfront windows shattered and its owners in shock.



which had had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions. Instead of celebrating their wedding day, they were now facing the fact that somebody had specifically targeted their business and intentionally caused extensive criminal damage. So far, they have been unable to

identify what object was used to strike the windows but, luckily, they were made of toughened glass and only the first layer shattered. This meant that they were able to carry on operating the business as usual inside, although all the staff have, understandably, been left very shaken by the incident. Tasha says that she is now quite nervous about being in the shop alone in the evenings in case the perpetrators return.

In these unprecedented times, when so many small independent businesses are struggling to stay afloat, it is disheartening to think that somebody would go out of their way to make things even more difficult for one of our local shops. Tasha and Dan, however, have shown great stoicism by adhering to the mantra 'Keep Calm and Carry On', although they say that the kindness and support received from villagers and other local business owners since the incident has helped them to keep their spirits up. – Tracey Calnan

Tasha and Dan, the shop's owners, are now putting out an appeal for anyone with a house or business premises on that section of the Northampton Road or anywhere along Holcot Road who may have some CCTV coverage from the night of Thursday 30th July. They are hoping that it might be able to help them identify a motorbike entering or leaving the village at great speed during the early hours of Friday morning. It is believed that the culprits carried out the attack on a motorbike, entering the village at the Mercedes roundabout end and leaving via the Holcot Road. The barber's shop has its own CCTV covering the inside of the premises but, unfortunately, it was unable to pick up anything happening on the pavement outside during the night.

Meanwhile, villagers have set up a crowdfunding appeal to raise funds to repair the damage and pay for security improvements. If you can help, visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk and search for Bulldog and Bear.

The Bulldog and Bear was set up in Brixworth two years ago and Tasha and Dan say that they have received nothing but positive support from the village as their business has grown. It, therefore, came as quite a shock when at eight o'clock in the morning on Friday 31st July, whilst away on holiday, they received a phone call from the owner of Wilder Floral, the business next door, telling them what had happened during the night. Other residents living nearby reported hearing a few loud bangs, voices and a motorbike roaring off in the early hours of the morning. When they looked out to see what was going on, however, the darkness meant that they were unable to make out what had happened, although they saw the motorbike turning off into the Holcot Road. These witness accounts have led police to believe that it was most likely a targeted attack rather than a random act of vandalism.

It was a double blow for Tasha and Dan, they had only gone away for a few days holiday to try to forget the fact that on Thursday 30th July they were meant to have been getting married, an event

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Chris Millar to chair Daventry District Council – after 20 year delay

Veteran councillor Chris Millar has been sworn in as the new chairman of Daventry District Council – 20 years after he was first supposed to take the job.

Millar, who was first elected to DDC in 1998 and lives in Brixworth, had been due to take the chair of DDC in May 2000 but at the time opted to become Leader of the Council instead. He remained in that role, which saw him as the administrative and political leader and spokesman for the council, until October last year. On top of that, Millar also represented Brixworth Division on Northamptonshire County Council from 2005 to 2013.

He is expected to be 48th and final chair of DDC, as Daventry District Council is replaced by the new West Northamptonshire Council in April 2021.

The new role is largely civic and will see Chris representing the council at formal events, presiding over meetings, and raising money for the local charities Time2Talk and Marie Curie.

He said: "You could say that it has taken me 20 years to get from Vice-Chairman to the role of Chairman! I'm hugely honoured to have been chosen for this wonderful civic role and represent the Council in its final year before local government reorganisation. There are so many wonderful things our District has to offer, and I'll be doing as much as I can to raise their profile as widely as possible." – *Claudia Flavell-White*



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Brixworth & District U3A

Due to us all being in lockdown during the Coronavirus outbreak the U3A members have been finding different ways of being involved with their groups. Book Group 1 are keeping in touch via e-mail and Book Group 2 have set up a Zoom video conferencing group. Some tabletop games members are holding scrabble matches on line.

Five members of the cycling group covered 19 miles Brixworth to Brixworth via Ravensthorpe Reservoir where they enjoyed a picnic.

The U3A has also set up a Facebook group that any member can join by contacting the Secretary and giving their membership number, as it is a closed group. The committee are meeting via Zoom and the AGM will be held the same way.

Further information on the U3A and interest groups can be found on our website www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth. – *Judy Smith*

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Brixworth Juniors continue to pursue Astro Project

Brixworth Juniors Football Club were sadly unsuccessful with our proposal to Brixworth Parish Council for Section 106 funding to establish a 3G training facility within the village. It was hoped that the proposed facility would be at

The Ashway playing field and would have been approximately the size of the current car park. This small 3G pitch would have been great for the 300 plus junior footballers we already have within the village club but more importantly Walking Football and Disabled football could have started up. Moulton FC has a very large Walking Football membership and it was believed that Brixworth could also attract a large membership to this sport and in doing so increase sporting and social activity in the over 50s.

This proposal had the opportunity for a fantastic partnership between the Parish Council and the Football Foundation who were prepared to match fund or even increase the funding available as a new 3G facility such as this is mentioned within both the Neighbourhood Plan from four years ago and the most recent and comprehensive football pitch plan survey produced by the partnership of the Football Foundation & Daventry District Council. In this report Brixworth is identified as a 'high priority' location to increase participation in the female game and, as one of the largest football clubs in the county, to improve the facilities available to its members in order to avoid them travelling outside of the village to train.

In the end it was a very close vote amongst the parish councillors and Brixworth Juniors Football Club's proposal failed by just one vote. The Parish Council are now moving forward with their plan for an open area MUGA facility at St David's. As this will be without floodlights, the village football clubs will again be travelling across the county to train this coming winter.

As a club we have not given up on the dream of our own piece of



land and we appeal to any farmers or land owners that wish to donate (sell/lease) a parcel of land to contact Brixworth Juniors Football Club so one day we may have a place to call home!

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Through fire, flood and plague

How Brixworth residents drove the rebuild of Northampton Museum and Art Gallery



Many readers may be aware that the Northampton Museum and Art Gallery has been closed for the past three years as part of an expansion and refurbishment programme in the new Cultural

Quarter around The Guildhall. What many may not know, however, is that two Brixworth residents have been instrumental in bringing the project to fruition – Tom Jagger (GSS Architecture) as the Project Architect and Edmond Calnan (EGC Management Ltd) as the Project Manager on behalf of Northampton Borough Council.

It's probably fair to say that the project was not as straightforward as it might have been; with numerous challenges along the way, from the discovery of asbestos in some of the old buildings at the start followed by fire, flood and plague (Covid 19)! Both Tom and Edmond, in their respective roles, however, have overcome these setbacks, and the opening of Phase I of the new Northampton Museum and Art Gallery is now on target for the end of the year.

Tom first got involved in the project about three years ago and was delighted to be working on designing a public space that would benefit the town and, hopefully, become a major cultural attraction and venue for the county. The initial brief was to come up with a design that would combine the old museum building with two of the old County Council office buildings on The Guildhall and the Old Gaol Block (women's prison) at the back. The main objective was to create a new exhibition gallery to house the Museum's extensive shoe collection, thought to be one of the largest in the world. The Borough Council also wished to create income generating areas which could be hired out for corporate events, catering, selling spaces and temporary exhibitions.

For Tom, coming up with a design to combine the existing buildings with a modern extension was one of the most difficult aspects of the project, but he approached it as though he were solving 'an interesting, complex puzzle to find the optimum solution within the budget available'. The final design has more than doubled the size of the existing exhibition space, cleverly incorporating the old museum and County Council buildings with links to the modern courtyard extension. Tom was particularly pleased that when they uncovered a historic arch within the building, they were able to keep it as a focus feature and that the materials used in the new extension are sympathetic with those of the older buildings. The highlight for him, however, is the sense of space that has been created and the feeling



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the smoke and water damage was subsequently found to be more extensive than first appeared. This event was then followed by the task of keeping the building watertight during one of the wettest winters on record and, just when the finishing line was in sight, Covid 19 reared its ugly head and significantly disrupted the final fit out phases.

Edmond believes, however, that one of the most rewarding aspects of the project was that the team were able to overcome all these challenges and have ended up with a vibrant new building for the public to enjoy. Like Tom, he is particularly pleased with the sense of openness that has been created and the greatly enhanced visitor experience, including multi-use educational facilities, a 70 seater café/restaurant with a terrace and secondary kitchen for event catering, a shopping gallery and an events venue – The Central Hall. The highlight, however, is the main gallery for displaying the shoe collection, giving the visitor a state-of-the-art, audio-visual experience and with the shoes displayed using a new integrated lighting system. It is hoped that, after the completion of Phase 2, the Museum will be on course to gain National Shoe Museum status.

that you get as you walk through the glazed link from the main entrance into the newly created areas.

He hopes that the end user, the general public, will have a really positive ‘arrival experience’ as they enter the museum and, as a father, he is very much looking forward to enjoying the space and facilities with his own young children in the years ahead.

For Edmond, as Project Manager from inception to completion of the construction phase, the challenge was more about managing the Museum’s expectations (wish list) within a strictly defined budget and overcoming the obstacles that were thrown in their path. The old NCC buildings proved to be a problem from the start; they were in a dilapidated state and riddled with high levels of asbestos, a problem which had to be sorted out before the rest of the project could proceed. Then, one night in February 2018, a fire broke out on the top floor of the Old Gaol Block, currently being used for storing furniture. Edmond was in the middle of a pre-Valentine’s Day meal with his wife when he received the call, but was relieved to find that by the time he arrived at the museum, it was under control and had not spread too far, although

It’s been a long and winding road for Edmond, Tom and the whole team, but during a time when so much of life appears to be on hold,



it’s reassuring to know that some things are still moving forward and we have an exciting new cultural experience to look forward to in Northampton. – Tracey Calnan

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Country Eye

Seeing the World – in a patch of grass

Not quite a golden carpet, but I am looking out of my window at hundreds of shining golden stars on my lawn: they are the flowers of hawkweeds, a dandelion lookalike, and as the sun arcs across the sky they turn their heads to follow it. Then when the sun starts to lose its power they close up until they are awakened again the following day. They are part of a rich harvest of wildflowers, fungi and mosses, result of minimal cutting and removal of all mown clippings. And even they are not wasted, being cast into my compost bin where in darkness they are turned into a rich soil by the ever-eager army of little rotters that await them.

Also on my lawn I have found around thirty other wild flowers, regulars like daisies, creeping buttercups, dandelions and the delicate little Wedgewood blue speedwell. Celandines of course have flowered earlier. Over the years, plants such as selfheal and St. John's wort have come and gone. Mosses flourish in a thick mat some years, turning the lawn into a thick bright green carpet, and making it hard for me to push the mower. Butterflies and moths, bees, hoverflies, beetles and a host of others came seeking nectar and pollen. And so the annual cycle moves on. Many kinds of birds have come to feed on this plenty of insects, spiders, and the harvest of seeds.

The local sparrows and starlings are regulars, the latter from the end of July onwards through the winter, using their strong sharply pointed beaks to probe for worms and insect larvae. I used to have song thrushes but they are a rarity now, mirroring the national decline in their numbers. Highlights for me among these avian treasures have to be the colourful goldfinches that feast on the seed harvest. Then there is the occasional pied wagtail – John Clare's 'Little Trotty Wagtail' – which runs rapidly along, all the while earnestly pumping its long tail



up and down, pausing now and then to pick up a seed or flying up to snatch a passing fly.

Blackbirds and robins are there as I write this piece, certainly among my garden favourites. By now the breeding season has ended. The blackbirds may have raised up to four broods of young, the robins two. The garden seems full of them, all busily feeding up to face an unknown autumn and winter. I worked out that my garden and the immediate area could easily have produced in excess of 60 young, so no wonder we seem so well blessed with them. But not all will have survived to this stage, in fact many fail even to leave the nest. Nearly all will get eaten, succumb to parasites, starvation, disease, to accident, to a myriad other causes. So that year on year numbers tend to stay pretty well in balance. A fluid equilibrium is the way I have described it.

Its well established that this tends to be the rule across the entire wild population, be it blackbirds or bees, butterflies or buttercups, bats or bears. Yet these wild population are in serious decline and in too many cases the buck stops with us, and our endless quest for more of everything, not excluding more of us. Regarding our burgeoning human numbers I take heart from a recent study which has shown that, for reasons not fully understood, our numbers across all continents apart from Africa have either stabilised or started to fall. Predicted numbers, far from the eleven billion forecast, could go down to around eight billion by the end of the century. As long ago as 1964 David Lack published his 'The Natural Regulation of Animal Numbers' so the science has been around for a long time. But what this study points up is that, whether we like it or not, we are still subject to the rules of nature. So the solution for our future is clear and simple. Either we get to grips with coronavirus, with climate breakdown, and associated problems, or we leave it to nature to do it for us. I know which I prefer. – Brian Webster

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Brixworth C of E Primary School



I can hardly believe that we have just had the final week of a school year that was beyond everyone's comprehension and an academic year I hope we never have to repeat! However, like most organisations, we have had to adapt and innovate in line with the evolving government guidance and make the most of the situation we all find ourselves in.

To this end, we adapted our learning using a combination of google classrooms, the school website, Zoom lessons and learning packs. We were delighted to remain open throughout the pandemic to our vulnerable pupils and children of keyworkers. It was a pleasure to be welcomed daily by their smiley faces and positive attitudes and their enthusiasm shone through to the staff who were in school caring for them. In June we were further inspired by the successful return of our Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils who adapted brilliantly to being taught in their new 'bubbles', the one-way systems and playtime zones. The return rate was amazing with 93% of our year 6 pupils attending school. Overall, we had 200 plus pupils per day in school.

In line with 'the new normal', we held a virtual sports day where children could participate, whether at home or in school, and send their results to their teacher. Events included: keepie up challenge – how many keepie ups can you do with a toilet roll? Shot putt – how far can you throw a toilet roll using the shot putt technique? Toilet

roll race – how long does it take you to run 20m with a toilet roll between your legs?

We changed the arrangements for the children's transition into their new classes for 2020-21. In view of all the disruption this year, we felt it was important to provide all children an opportunity to say goodbye to their current class. Therefore, we invited years 2 -5 to spend a 'socially distanced' hour on the school field (although the weather was not kind to us so the venue changed to the hall) with their class and class teacher. The following week all children were invited in to meet with their new class and class teacher. Again it was warming to see how well supported this was by both parents and children alike.

Determined our year 6 pupils would not miss their leavers events we were extremely happy they still went ahead, although in a slightly different format. Talents and performances were practiced prior to being recorded and put together to produce a video for the Leavers Assembly. They had their evening party by bringing a picnic onto the school field prior to watching the video. The Presentation Assembly took place in the hall and parents of the children receiving an award were able to watch this via a live Zoom link. Parents were also able to watch live the Leavers Service, where all year 6 pupils received a bible kindly provided by members of All Saints Parish Church and Brixworth Community Church. Both these events were also filmed and appear in a secure page of the website for Year 6 parents. I wish them all the best as they continue their learning journey at their secondary schools.

I am looking forward to welcoming all children back to school full time in September and meeting our new starters, however I will not be taking my eye off the latest guidance throughout the summer holidays! – Kathryn Young, Head Teacher

Messages from the Year 6 Leavers

Thank you Miss Davies for teaching me in lockdown and for always smiling – Bethany R

Thank you to all the teachers who have helped me become smarter and more confident. Thank you Mr Boucher and Mrs Young for both being amazing Head Teachers. Thank you to all my friends for sticking by me all of these years – Summer M

Thank you for my friends. Thank you for my teachers and TAs. Thank you for the best years of my life – Eden L

Thank you Mrs Casson, you have taught me three times and you never fail to make my year. You are #1 – Sean C

This is a special thankyou to Brixworth Primary for helping me along the way for two amazing years – Luke H

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Brixworth Photographic Society



First place in the lockdown category, and the honour of overall winner, went to the fishing boat on the reservoir, as captured by Jason Shuttle



Second place in the minerals section was this rocky sunset, by Rebecca England

The winners have been revealed for the Brixworth Photographic Society's lockdown photo competition. There have been many fantastic entries across the four categories, animal, vegetable, mineral, and lockdown, and the decision was not easy.

All that said, one talent stood out. Congratulations to Jason Shuttle, who took the winning photos in three of the four categories.

That is not to say that the competition wasn't closely fought. Here's the full list. Animal: Winner Jason Shuttle, second Laura Bestwick, third Yvonne Keller. Mineral: Winner Jason Shuttle, second Rebecca England, third Paul Ward. Vegetable: Winner Paul Ward, second Laura Bestwick, third Christina Cheshire. Lockdown: winner Jason Shuttle, second Nick Maddison, third Paul Ward.

Congratulations to all. The winner in each category will receive a £25 gift voucher to be spent at the local shops. The top three entries in each category will be featured in the Photographic Society's 2021 calendar. – cfw



Runner up in the animal section was this image of a bee going out for lunch, caught by Yvonne Keller



Runner up in the lockdown category, everybody's favourite postie, posing for Nick Maddison

announces competition winners



The winner of the animal category – a male starling, showing off his plumage for Jason Shuttle



First place in the vegetable category went to Paul Ward



The favourite in the mineral category was this photo of the reservoir, by Jason Shuttle

Redistributing dormant trusts

Northamptonshire Community Foundation is delighted to have been part of the Revitalising Trusts initiative, which has seen over £3million invested across Northamptonshire.

The programme forms part of the government's Civil Society Strategy and comes as a result of a partnership between the Charity Commission, the Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), the Office for Civil Society and UK Community Foundations (UKCF). It aims to transfer up to £20million from inactive or dormant trusts to 46 Community Foundations across the country to invest in local communities.

Inactive trusts are defined as those which have spent less than 30% of their income over the past five years, whereas dormant trusts are those which have not spent any income whatsoever over the past five years. It is expected that the initiative will provide an extra £1million in grant funding to local community groups each year.

Northamptonshire Community Foundation, a grant giving charity that provides much needed and often life changing grants to some of the County's most vulnerable and in need people, has liberated several dormant trusts locally, including the Queen's Institute Relief in Sickness Fund, the Mark Taylor Charitable Trust, the Leslie Church Memorial Trust and the Cecil Pettit Legacy Fund.

These trust transfers alone have resulted in £2.1million being made available for the benefit of the local community, with an additional £1million due to match funding.

There are a variety of reasons why a Trust may become inactive or dormant. The charity's objectives may be outdated or no longer relevant, making it increasingly difficult to find appropriate beneficiaries to support. The charity's assets may be so small that the income available to distribute will not be able to make a significant impact. It

may be that the founders have passed away, as seen through the Cecil Pettit Legacy Fund.

Cecil Pettit worked tirelessly for the equal rights of disabled people; his primary concern being to ensure disabled people had access to a normal education and an ordinary life. He was recognised in 1982 with an MBE for his outstanding contributions and his property was put into trust with Howes Percival Solicitors.

Now sold, the building was match funded 50% from the Constance Travis Endowment Match Challenge, creating a fund of just over £1million.

Gerald Couldrake, senior partner of Howes Percival and a trustee of the Cecil Pettit Will Trust, said: "I am sure that Cecil would be both astounded and delighted that his legacy is a £1million fund to benefit disabled people in the county. We have worked very successfully with the team over a number of years as we were convinced that they were the right people to take on the administration of finding the best projects to fund. I look forward to reading about how Cecil's money will be spent in supporting many worthwhile projects in the years to come."

Community Foundations are established, trusted charities that support local communities across the UK. We are leading grant makers, reliable, have a trusted model of delivery and are all quality accredited. We ensure that funds are distributed to tackle the most pressing issues in our localities.

If you are concerned that your charity may be considered inactive or dormant, or would like further information, please get in touch with the Foundation's Head of Philanthropy, Mary Hollands, or CEO, Victoria Miles DL.

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Donald Sumpter – Brixworth's lost son

Donald Sumpter is a name known to many, and his face is known to many more. A film and TV actor, he has never been far from our screens since the 1960s, with roles in Game of Thrones, Chernobyl, Enigma, and The Constant Gardener, to name but a few.

What a surprise then when a member of the Bulletin's editorial team, idly browsing the internet one evening, found that Donald Sumpter's birthplace is listed as Brixworth! Of course we had to try and contact him and beg to speak to him. This was no small order, as Donald is well known to avoid the promotion circus and rarely gives interviews.

However, we were delighted to receive the response below.

"Dear Tracey. I thank you for your interest, but you are quite right that I am no enjoyer of the trappings of my trade. So please forgive me if I don't acquiesce to your charming request.


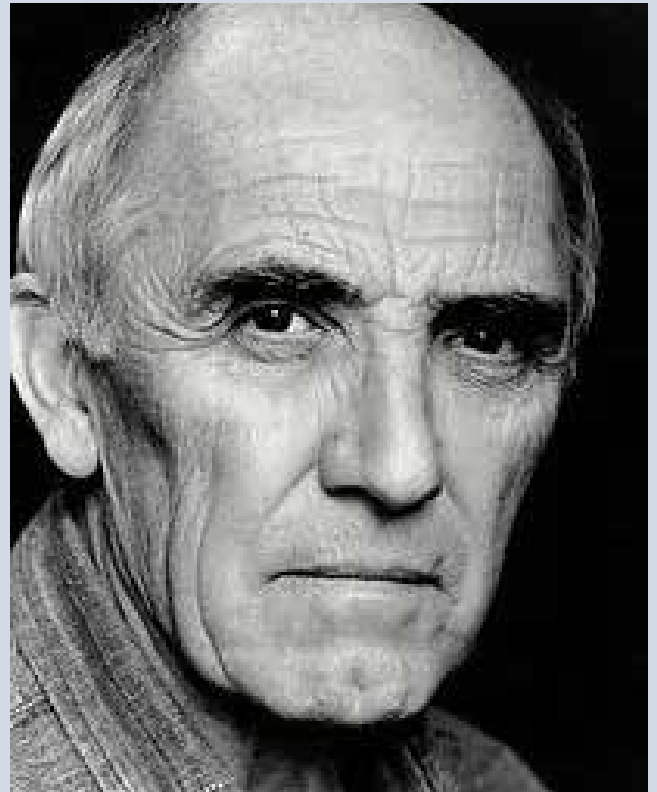
I will say that my knowledge of my home village is severely limited as I was only resident until I was 10 days old. I was born in East Haddon Hall which had been taken over during the war by Whitechapel Maternity Hospital for the benefit of East London mothers to have their babies in safety. This achieved I returned with my mother in tow to the bombs of London which mercifully we both survived.

Sadly, I have not been to Brixworth since. I have meant to visit for many years but never quite got round to it. Should our world become safe to travel again perhaps I finally will. If so, perhaps you would be kind enough to show me around?

And then perhaps a small interview....

Very best wishes. Donald Sumpter."

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Brixworth library reopens



Along with most the rest of the country's libraries, Brixworth library re-opened at the start of August. For the time being, opening hours are restricted to three days a week: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 4pm, and Saturdays, 10am to 2pm. This will allow staff to carry out rigorous cleaning regimes to keep visitors safe and manage staff timetables.

Services will initially be restricted to

- A signposting enquiry service
- Access to the internet by booked appointment
- A select and collect lending service by prior arrangement only

Unfortunately, normal activities and browsing will not be possible as yet. Customers visiting the library may be asked to wait outside to be assisted by staff. – cfw

Brixworth's free money?

Like most things that end in disaster it all began as very well intentioned. Victor, not his real name but we'll call him that because Brixworth is such a small place, had given me a white envelope to peruse. I opened it but there was nothing inside it.

"Empty?" I said. I didn't know what he expected me to make of it. I was a bit distracted because his son was stood behind him shaking his head and twirling his index finger by the side of his temple.

"Read it. Originally it had twenty pounds inside."

I looked at it again and sure enough there was some writing. -You may not need this, if so pass it on to someone who does. A friend-

"Who gave you this?"

"No one gave it me, it's mine."

And then he went on to explain his scheme. What he'd been doing throughout the lockdown period every Wednesday morning, a bit like the posties who have been dressing up every Friday, or the clapping that we've all done every Thursday night to support the NHS, he'd been leaving envelopes with cash in them sellotaped to various benches in Brixworth in hopes that



needy and deserving people would find them. He seemed quite pleased with himself. I was a bit taken aback.

"What was the idea?" I asked. "Twenty pounds isn't life changing."

"No but it shows that philanthropy isn't quite dead in Brixworth. I also thought it might create a bit of fun, a mystery, get into the papers perhaps. Mysterious benefactor

and all that."

"Hang on. Andrew Carnegie Built Northampton's library and he'd never even been here. That's philanthropy. Twenty pounds in an envelope might not qualify."

"OK, so tell me what good does clapping really do?"

"It makes us all feel better. Brings us together."

"Exactly. Ditto my twenty quid every Wednesday morning. I was hoping it would catch on nationally, with people across the whole country doing it."

"What? Everyone everywhere giving money away?"

"If they can afford it why not?"

"Well it clearly hasn't worked. I haven't heard anything about it. You're crackers."

"I'm doing it for eight weeks; this is week seven, that's one hundred and sixty quid total. It makes me feel good. Where's the harm? Besides it might catch on."

I didn't want to rain on his parade, and I didn't see it doing any actual harm.

"So why are telling me? I'm not joining your twenty quid gang."

"I need your brain power. Every envelope I've ever left I've gone back a few minutes later and they've already been gone."

"I'm not surprised. If I saw money I'd take it quicker than winking."

"Yes, but you'd pass it on wouldn't you, and tell the person you gave it to the story about how you found it and so on? And then wouldn't they tell someone else and before you know where you are someone would post it up on Brixworth Let Us Know and then the Chron would come sniffing, then



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maybe after that Anglia news. Isn't that what you would expect to happen?"

"Well I suppose so yes, in the normal course the news outlets are a bit starved lately and good news is at a premium because of corona virus so yes I think you might have hit on a winner."

"Exactly. I might even have become a mini celeb if it had caught on widely and they started doing it on the continent and in America. Twenty dollar Wednesday has a certain catchy ring to it, to go with NHS clap Thursday, and Postie dress up Friday. And they'd have winkled me out somehow they always do. But that hasn't happened. I think the very same person has been finding my money every week and keeping it. That's why the word has never got out; probably don't even need the money."

"And that's the only reason you're not on world news alongside Captain Tom?"

Crazy as it sounded, I could see his logic.

"So how can I help?"

"Find out who's been taking my money, then write it up and put it in the Bulletin. Anonymously of course."

"Eh? They don't just print anything you know. And besides how am I supposed to figure out who's been taking your money?"

"You're the intellectual you figure it out."

"Give me the detail." I said.

The first envelopes he'd sellotaped to either the park bench facing the Chip Shop on Spratton Rd, or the bench that is on what might pass as our village green at the High Street / Creaton Road junction. He'd returned only shortly after to find them gone a straight six times out of six. On the seventh we set a trap. I was to watch, loitering as if I was waiting for a lift, and then he was to come by without acknowledging me and affix the envelope to the bench. He came back a few minutes later without me seeing anything. I felt he should have left it a bit longer.

"It's gone." He said to my amazement. It made me look like an idiot because that was the whole purpose of the escapade. Some lorries and the X7 had gone by I mentioned lamely so maybe I'd been blindsided.

"What sort of spy are you?" He asked in disgust.

"We still have next week left." I said hopefully.

I persuaded Victor to change things up and make the following Wednesday's drop in Brixworth Country Park which had just reopened and I knew just the right spot for it. There is a bench dedicated to a keen sailor

and an enthusiastic walker if you know the place at all, that sits not far from a line of trees that I could hide in. I got there early, not wearing camouflage, but dark clothing and settled in to wait. First came Victor, he left the envelope and then walking on kept looking to see where I was but I don't think even he spotted me. I knew he would be back in a few minutes. A dog walker went by, didn't even glance at the bench or the envelope. Then a jogger came, he went straight to the bench, pocketed it, and loped off back the way he'd come.

"Cheeky blighter," I said to the undergrowth, but at least the mystery was now solved. Next, and before I could get there along came Victor breathless from rushing back.

"Gone again! And don't tell me the X7 comes round here because I know it doesn't."

"It was a family" I said lying. "Two young kids with them. Seemed really pleased to have found the money. I think they'll find a good use for it."

"Ohh, at least that's something." He brightened.

This next bit's a bit awkward. The jogger was Victor's son. I recognised him straight away, only I hadn't got the heart to tell Victor that. But assuming the Bulletin don't take it, he'll never know. Fingers crossed eh?

– Clive McDonald

Physiotherapist opens in Spratton



A new clinic for physiotherapy and rehab for people who have suffered a variety of neurological conditions has opened in Hawthorn Park in Spratton. PhysioFunction Spratton offers access to large team of physiotherapy specialists offering services for people who have suffered a stroke, have Parkinson's, MS, a brain or spinal injury. They can also treat a number of neurological conditions, as well as help with muscular pain and sports injuries. For more information, visit www.physiofunction.co.uk

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Brixworth & Scaldwell Scout Group

Our spring and summer terms have not been what anyone expected, we have been very restricted due to the lockdown.

We are very grateful to all the support from parents helping to keep things going.

Everyone has had to adapt to new ways of working from home and our leaders have

the best of a bad situation.

Beavers have had a Zoom scavenger hunt, played a virtual pass the ball challenge (<https://youtu.be/liU69OHBURk>) and a virtual water fight (<https://youtu.be/nCHgxXDTjVQ>). Explorers have held a virtual campout (in their own gardens) participating in online activities over the weekend and even an online campfire.

In the meantime, we should recognise the achievement of our scouts leaders who have continued their training during lockdown. A special Well Done! to Jonathon, our beaver leader, who completed all his

training over the spring term.

We are following national scouting guidelines on resuming scout meetings and, just as for every activity, the



guidance is constantly changing. We will notify everyone once we are allowed to meet.

– Bob Pickles



tried to maintain contact via Zoom or virtual activities while we have been closed for regular sessions.

It has been challenging but we have made

2020 – a view from history

How will history look back on 2020 and Covid-19?

The public and politicians will no doubt be judged harshly from hindsight. From washing hands and not shaking hands, to keeping our distance and self-isolating, lockdown, economic carnage and over 45,000 dead; and that's only the UK.

There is more sporting history waiting to be made on our doorstep, as Lewis Hamilton goes for a record equalling seventh Formula 1 World Championship on engines made at Mercedes/AMG at Brixworth.

A note from past history, one hundred years ago in America, women finally won the right to vote.

We still do not know whether our next meeting at the Village Hall will take place on the 17th September, entitled "The Great Fire of Northampton."

Watch out for posters, Facebook and e-mails for more news.

In the meantime, keep safe and well.
– Chris Knowles, Secretary, Brixworth History Society



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Tennis Club flourishes in lockdown



Fortunately for Brixworth Tennis Club tennis was one of two sports able to keep going during the COVID-19 crisis and the club saw its membership increase to 185 members with a healthy split between family, junior and adult membership. Ensuring that we follow the LTA safety guidelines we were able to support a team of coaches, who are more often than not self-employed, because the demand for junior coaching, including Tiny Tots right through to individual coaching for adults, soared as people had both the time and the need to stay fit and healthy.

The future of Brixworth Tennis Club looks very bright with the new clubhouse due to be opened this autumn and a focus on raising money to install floodlights. In addition to this the squads have been preparing themselves for the Northampton Winter League 2020/21 – last year both the Ladies and the Men's squads were awarded trophies as a result of finishing top of their divisions!

If you are interested in becoming part of Brixworth Tennis Club then please do not hesitate to contact the club secretary on 07434 621395. – Sandra Moxon

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Highgate House Hotel re-opens

Highgate House in Creton has re-opened, having had to close earlier in the year due to the coronavirus lockdown. Serving breakfast, brunch, lunch, afternoon tea or dinner from their new all-day dining menus, it offers a local stop and welcomes people from all local areas. Highgate has pedestrian access from the Welford Road between breakfast and closing time.

Visitors can enjoy a meal in the Terrace Restaurant or if the weather is fine on the beautiful lawns. The hotel is also open, including hot tubs and dog-friendly rooms.

The team at Highgate House are delighted to be reopening the family-run hotel and restaurant and cannot wait to see everyone.

Upcoming Open Events:



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Thursday 12th November



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Planning update

What's on

PD/2020/0008 12, Far Brook, Brixworth Prior approval for single storey rear extension 6m from original dwelling	DDC approved
NMA/2020/0012 The Rookery 36, Church Street Non material amendment to application DA/2018/0852 (Single storey rear extension)	DDC approved
DA/2020/0204 Fairmount 4, High Street, Brixworth Felling trees in a conservation area	BPC no observations DDC approved
DA/2020/0105 & DA/2020/0104 The George Inn, Northampton Rd Listed Building Consent and planning permission for removal of existing field gate and replace with stone wall and coping detail to match existing	BPC supported DDC approved
DA/2020/0103 Land To Rear Of Hydrangea Cottage 2, Newlands, Brixworth Change of use of land to residential garden and retention of timber fence and garden shed	BPC supported DDC approved
DA/2020/0102 Land To Rear Of 14, Newlands, Brixworth Change of use of land to residential garden and retention of timber fence, garden shed and greenhouse.	BPC supported DDC approved
DA/2020/0190 Southern Roundabout at the Junction of Northampton Road and the Brixworth Bypass Non illuminated roundabout sponsorship signs	BPC supported DDC refused
NMA/2020/0022 24, Pytchley Close, Brixworth Non material amendment to application DA/2019/0889 (raise roof to create rooms in roofspace including dormer to rear roof elevation and rooflights to front roof elevation) to increase length of rear window over dormer stairway	DDC approved
DA/2020/0343 Hydrangea Cottage 2, Newlands, Brixworth Single storey rear extension and raised patio area.	BPC supported DDC approved
DA/2020/0314 The Rookery 36, Church Street, Brixworth Work to and removal of trees in a conservation area	BPC objected DDC approved
DA/2020/0254 The Old Post House 2, Kennel Terrace, Brixworth Replacement of existing first floor door with window	BPC supported with conditions DDC approved
DA/2020/0054 The Red Lion Hotel, Harborough Road, Brixworth Demolition of public house and construction of new A1 retail unit (revised scheme)	BPC objected DDC refused

16/08	The Handlebards present - Romeo and Juliet	Lampport Hall
22/08	The Impresario - Operatic Comedy	Lampport Hall
29/08	Outdoor concert by Fiori Musicali	Lampport Hall
9-31 Aug	Kids4aQuid	Northampton and Lampport Railway
14/09	Brixworth PC Planning Meeting	Virtual Meeting
16/09	Lampport and Hanging Houghton Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting
24/09	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting
01/10	Bonhams Valuation Days - by appointment only	Kelmarsh Hall
5/10	Brixworth PC Planning Meeting	Virtual Meeting
17/10	Autumn Gift and Craft Fair	Lampport Hall
18/10	Autumn Gift and Craft Fair	Lampport Hall
29/10	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting
31/10	Halloween Specials	Northampton and Lampport Railway
01/11	Halloween Specials	Northampton and Lampport Railway
16/11	Brixworth PC Planning Meeting	Virtual Meeting
18/11	Lampport and Hanging Houghton Parish Council Meeting	Check notice board
26/11	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting
7/12	Brixworth PC Planning Meeting	Virtual Meeting
17/12	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting



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All Saints Church reopens with Interim Rector

In this time of great uncertainty, we are delighted to announce the good news that Reverend David Reith, at present a curate in the benefice of Weldon and Deene, will be inducted as our new Interim Rector within the next few months. Work on the vicarage is in progress, and we are looking forward to welcoming David, his wife Leah and their baby daughter Hannah!

After remaining closed for several months, the church is now open on every Sunday 3 – 5pm and on every Thursday 2 – 4pm for private prayer and (limited) visitors.

Since the beginning of July, we have held short outdoor Sunday morning services at 10.30am in the churchyard. This joyful worship has been led by our Archdeacon, Richard Ormston. Hopefully, these services can continue and later, if the Covid-19 situation improves, move back into the church. Please keep an eye on the church noticeboards, Website and Facebook page for details of future services.

We also have Zoom Praise and Prayer every Thursday evening, which is a wonderful, relaxed opportunity for worship and keeping in touch with each other. Please let Vanessa Crooks (crooks@btinternet.com) or Anthony



Farrow (anfarrow@hotmail.com) know if you would like to be added to the All Saints Church Community Contact List, which will give you access to the Zoom meeting.

Unfortunately, our Summer and Autumn fundraising events have had to be cancelled. For future events – watch this space!

If you need to contact the churchwardens, you can reach Vanessa Crooks on 01604 882058 or Verity Chilver on 07568 387868.

We pray that God will guard and guide us all in the coming months. – *Vanessa Crooks and Verity Chilver, Churchwardens*

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The corona virus and consequential lock-down has 'spoken' to the world in many different ways has it not? What has spoken to you? The need to be a better neighbour perhaps? To spend more time with the family? The need to be a bit fitter and healthier? The fact the virus has not discriminated has been a great leveller in society hasn't it? Perhaps this has raised a greater need for equality in your heart?

What it has most certainly shown is how broken and fragile the world really is and that any time things can change in a moment. Humanity is not as powerful as we would like to think. However, we have all been granted more time to reflect and seek a greater security in this moment of fear and insecurity. Have you done that? There is still time. Our viewing figures for our on-line Sunday services suggest that some folk are exploring a deeper strength to be found within Christian spirituality. If that is true, I believe they will find it by trusting in Jesus Christ. Throughout the Bible, Jesus is described as being like a 'rock'. In other words, he is able to support us and uphold us in any situation and circumstance. He is able to give us confidence and guide us like a lighthouse on a rock guides a ship through a 'storm'. If we would just look to him, he will guide us through these turbulent times we now find ourselves in.

I can testify to how my faith in Jesus Christ has strengthened me personally. Jesus promises that God is always with us throughout our day and my own experiences of peace in difficulty remind me that God never breaks his promises. We don't know what lies ahead and it may be COVID-19 has or will effect us more personally and painfully. However, Jesus wants to guide us with God's peace and wisdom through it all.

Many blessings [Andy](#)



Contact [Andy Lloyd-Williams](#) on 07958 604961

UNCHAINED LOVE

One of the most difficult things to overcome in Brixworth Community Church during this current lockdown has been the inability for friends and families to meet together for normal fellowship on Sunday mornings.

Fortunately, for those who have access to the Internet the Church has provided a lovely 30 minute service each Sunday enabling us to worship, read God's Word, pray and listen to a short message from our Pastor.

Yes, physical movement during this pandemic has certainly caused a number of problems hasn't it? Yet, God is still able to use this time to send His message of love to reach many more people. For example, some of those who have received the short Sunday service have been able to forward it to others they know including friends and families throughout this country. Not only in the UK but also overseas including Canada and New Zealand.

Isn't it amazing that in times of nationwide restrictions on travel, it has not prevented God from reaching more and more people within this World. The Apostle Paul reminded Timothy of this in the Bible when sharing about his own difficulties adding, "But God's word is not chained." 2 Timothy 2:9



On Sunday's after our weekly online service we meet up on ZOOM for Tea and Coffee and a chat. Above are some of our congregation joining a zoom chat.



YouTube Channel Brixworth Community Church

Every Sunday
Online Short Service.

Every Wednesday
Midweek Message.



After a long lockdown, we were delighted to re-open the doors of our Coffee Shop. The Olive Branch Coffee Shop inside the Library and Community Centre has a beautiful garden which we have been able to use to enable social distancing and provide a choice of indoor and outdoor seating.

Run by volunteers for over 20 years, the Coffee Shop has lost a few helpers during the shutdown due to care for relatives, so we have had to reduce our opening hours to 10.00am to 1.00pm Monday to Saturday. If more volunteers come forward, we would hope to reinstate opening hours to afternoons in the future. Please let Sue Salmon know on 07769 311449 if you would like to help out. It is a very enjoyable way of serving our community.



Well, what a strange year we are having. Like most of the other small businesses, The Olive Branch Community Coffee Shop went under lockdown from the end of March. We sold off some of our stock and gave some to the local food bank. The Directors were in the dilemma of trying to work out how we were going to survive. Thanks go to Mike Nice who worked very hard to organise funding.

The Olive Branch reopened on 6th July. Currently with reduced hours to accommodate volunteers who were unable to come in due to family or health issues. We joined the Eat out to Help out scheme which helped us immensely. The patio and garden area at the back of our building has been well used following all government guidelines.

We look forward to when everything returns back to "normal" but in the meantime, as ever, service with a smile will always be waiting to welcome you.





Chairman’s Chat

Stephen James reviews the current quarter’s work with the Parish Council.

Grants Applications

Apply for a grant.

Enhancing Sports

Outcome of plans for allocating the s106 money.

Working through the Pandemic

The Parish Council’s work schedule and achievements through lockdown.

Lockdown Litter

Be litter friendly and avoid fines.



Looking forward to a bright future!

Chairman’s Chat

The Parish Council has had a busy few months keeping up to date with the Covid-19 rules and regulations as well as all the usual parish business. As lockdown begins to ease, the Parish Council has now reopened the play areas in Brixworth with signage in place giving guidelines for their use.

The Olive Branch Café is now also open but adhering to the strict government guidelines. Northamptonshire Libraries has announced its second phase of reopenings cross the county with Brixworth Library due to reopen on August 3rd. The Community Centre remains closed for the time being—the Centre manager will be writing to the many groups that use the Centre to ask about plans for future bookings.

As the Centre is closed the Clerk to the Parish Council will continue to work from home but can still be contacted by telephone or email on 07983 141786 or parish.clerk@brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk



Applying to Brixworth Parish Council for a grant

Each fiscal year Brixworth Parish Council allocates a proportion of its precept to community grants. We are pleased to offer these grants, throughout the year, in order to encourage and support our voluntary organisations with their community activities and projects with the purpose of bringing direct benefit to the parish and its residents.

All applications for funding are considered on their merits and the amount of any grant awarded is always at the sole discretion of the Parish Council. The grants awarded during the last financial year included the Brixworth Park Run, Brixworth Cricket Club and Brixworth First Responders.

If your local group would like to be considered for a Brixworth Community Grant, please check eligibility and download the form <https://www.brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/forms/>

PARISH COUNCIL



Enhancing Sport in Brixworth

As previously publicised the Parish Council has been allocated various sums of Section 106 money from the Saxon Rise development which has to be allocated in the following areas:

- **Outdoor Sports**
- **Indoor Sports**
- **Parks and Gardens**

Following applications from a number of village organisations the Parish Council has agreed to support the following applications for funding:

Outdoor Sports - An application from Brixworth Cricket Club for a new roller and improved security at St David's playing field;

Indoor Sports - An application from Brixworth Indoor Bowls Club for an electric winding machine for the mats and improvements to Brixworth Community Centre to allow for greater diversity of use for indoor sports;

Outdoor Sports, Parks and Gardens - The provision of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) including a new play area and landscaping at St David's playing field. The MUGA will replace the existing tennis court and be designed to enable various sports such as tennis, basketball, netball and football training to take place.

These schemes have now been submitted to Daventry District Council for their evaluation.



Parish Council working through Covid-19



MEETINGS

The Parish Council has carried on working to capacity throughout this period of isolation. Once the government gave permission for meetings to take place via technology, as reported in the Chronicle and Echo, Brixworth is the first council in the county to have meetings using Microsoft Teams. To date the Parish Council has successfully had full council, planning, finance and media meetings. Dates and times of meetings can be found on the website and members of the public are welcome to join the meetings. Please send a request to the clerk and he will invite you to attend using Teams.

EMERGENCY PLAN

As a result of the impact of the pandemic the Parish Council is reviewing and updating the Brixworth Emergency Plan as part of the annual review of policies and procedures. The idea is for Brixworth residents to know about particular hazards and problems that affect the village, be aware of individuals who might need assistance in an emergency, and have access to people, resources or buildings that allow them to respond more effectively to specific incidents.

WORKING TO KEEP BRIXWORTH TIDY

All the daily and weekly jobs that the Parish Council staff undertakes in order to keep the village tidy have continued as usual, taking account of social distancing and lockdown regulations. Litter bins have been emptied, the grass cutting rota has carried on and general repairs continue. Alongside all the daily routines Brixworth Parish Council has been supporting the Covid-19 volunteer schemes that are running so successfully in the village.

LOCKDOWN LITTER

We have all been really lucky to enjoy the sunniest spring on record this year and it has been great to see so many people making the most of daily exercise. But as lockdown lifts, litter is increasing. It has been reported by environmental groups that there is a huge rise in litter as people discard PPE such as masks and wipes around the open spaces that we are enjoying.

Councils now have the power to issue on-the-spot fines of up to £150, so please take time to avoid the fine and pick up your litter.

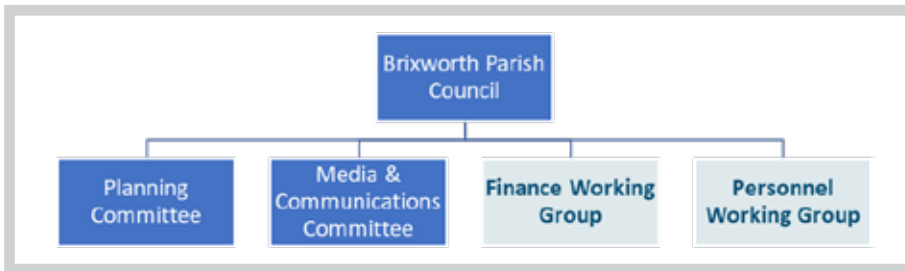
Places like Brixworth Country Park ask us to take our litter home with us, as litter bins can often encourage people to leave litter even when the bin is full. Dropping litter may cause others to follow. You can ask the Parish Clerk to use the litter picking equipment on one of your walks.

Set a good example to the rest of us. Be prepared to:

- Take litter home with you;
- Take rubbish bags out with you;
- To pick up other people's litter;
- Consider picking up other people's litter;
- Dispose of PPE safely and responsibly.



How does Brixworth Parish Council work?



Planning Committee: BPC does not make a final decision on any planning application put before it - it is an advisory body to Daventry District. However the BPC's role is important as its recommendations are based on local knowledge including:

- The suitability of the site for the proposed use;
- Conflict with Council or National Planning policies;
- Whether the appearance and size of proposals are in keeping with the village and neighbouring properties;
- Whether the proposal will overshadow or overlook neighbouring properties;
- Whether the proposal will generate noise or disturbance;
- If the access and parking arrangements are safe and suitable;
- The visual impact and loss of trees or hedgerows.

Media & Communications Committee: This Committee provides information to residents via its own website, Facebook, the Bulletin, Twitter and Instagram.

Finance Working Group: BPC is allowed to decide how to spend its own budget and the function of the WG is to advise on financial matters including:

- Drafting annual budgets and precept recommendations;
- Reviewing the end of year accounts in readiness for presentation to the Parish Council;
- Ensuring that we are in line with the official 'Financial Regulations';
- Identifying issues which would impact on the agreed budget of the Council.

Personnel Working Group: This is not a public group and its responsibilities include staff development, disciplinary and grievance procedures.

Full Council (Thursdays): 24 Sept, 29 Oct, 26 Nov, 17 Dec

Media & Comms (Wednesdays): 09 Sept, 14 Oct, 11 Nov, 09 Dec

Planning (Mondays): 14 Sept, 05 Oct, 16 Nov, 07 Dec

Surgery (Saturdays): 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 7 Nov, 5 Dec

Please check website and noticeboards to confirm dates and times.

Note: All meetings are currently being carried out via video conferencing. For further information please contact the Clerk.

Contact the Parish Clerk:

Peter Rowbotham, 10 Shelland Close, Market Harborough, LE16 7XU
E-mail: parish.clerk@brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

 [facebook.com/brixworthpc](https://www.facebook.com/brixworthpc)

 brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

 [brixworthpc](https://www.instagram.com/brixworthpc)

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Stephen James
Chairman



Sandra Moxon
Vice-Chairman



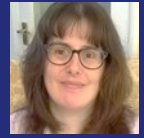
Elaine Coe
Chairman, Media & Communications



Tom Mitchell
Chairman, Planning



Frances Peacock



Ian Barratt



Jackie Bird



James Collyer



Kevin Parker



Lina Howarth



Lynne Compton



Stuart Coe



?

Peter Rowbotham
Parish Clerk



Northampton Sailing Club back on the water

Sailors, paddleboarders, windsurfers and canoeists at Northampton Sailing Club have returned to the activities they love following the Covid-19 shutdown. Our members have been navigating the government guidelines and putting measures in place to ensure that everyone can enjoy the water safely.

Our Risk Team has worked really hard to get us back on the water and it's great to be back. We're also pleased to be able to welcome new members again. Watersports provide the perfect opportunity for outdoor exercise as well as enjoying the beautiful natural surroundings of the reservoir.

Pitsford Reservoir is one of the hidden gems of Northamptonshire, and with many people staying at home this year, it provides an opportunity for some fabulous leisure activities.

Membership of Northampton Sailing Club is open to anyone of any age who is interested in water sports, from complete beginners to experienced paddleboarders, windsurfers and sailors. Free informal coaching sessions are available to members during the summer months. In addition, taster sessions and training courses are also available to non-members. Annual membership runs from January



to December, but a pro-rata fee applies to any new members joining part of the way through the year. For more information visit www.northamptonclub.org or www.northamptonclub.org or call 01604 880248. – Miles Odell, Northampton Sailing Club

Brixworth Short Mat Bowls Club does the triple



Brixworth Short Mat Bowls Club achieved the triple by retaining the champions title in the Northamptonshire Independent Friendly Bowls League. The team only lost two matches and again remained unbeaten at home. Runners up were Yelvertoft who were six point behind Brixworth.

Because of Covid 19 we have not been able to play since March but hope to be back before the end of the year.

Short mat bowling is good fun and we have members of all levels playing with new people joining all the time. Come and have a go, equipment and tuition is provided. We meet at the Brixworth Center in Church Street on Fridays (Covid 19 permitting) at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

For more information contact the club chairperson on 07762 211721 or visit us on brixworthbowls.com – Martin Carnell

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