



Barnham
Parish Council

Community Newsletter

Eastergate Parish Council



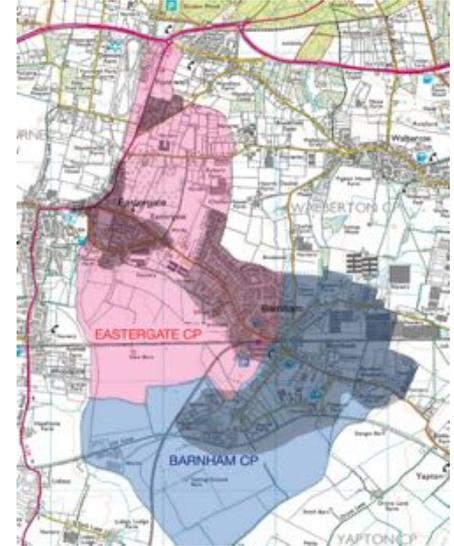
**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE IN THE
PARISHES OF BARNHAM & EASTERGATE.**

This is the latest newsletter issued jointly by the two Parish Councils to keep you informed about what is happening in and around our two parishes. We continue to work closely together on parish and wider issues, to seek to improve facilities within our villages, to represent our community to higher levels of local & national government, and to ensure that Arun District Council Planning Department work within our Neighbourhood Plan policies.

This newsletter looks at several issues that we hope are of interest to everyone in our community.

David Philips
Chair Barnham PC

Chris Allington
Chair Eastergate PC



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BARNHAM COMMUNITY TRUST

Many of you will have heard of BLADE, which has for nearly 20 years run community events and raised funds to improve our village; create the Murrell's Field community park; and build the new Community Hall

which opened in May 2013. BLADE and the charitable trust formed to run the Barnham Community Hall are now combining to create a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) -- the Barnham Community Trust.

BLADE has been an extremely successful fundraising charity and has mobilised tens of thousands of volunteer hours and, in partnership with Barnham Parish Council, has built a £1.5m community hall and park. The trust formed to run the Barnham Community Hall in 2013 has now established a sound trading record and is operating as a sustainable social enterprise.

The volunteers and trustees of the two charities have voted for this merger to simplify governance and to create social enterprise that will continue to run and improve the Hall and Park for the people of Barnham & surrounding villages.

Barnham Community Trust will be running the same wide range of events as in the past such as the Barnham Bonfire Night, Music at Murrell's Field, quiz nights, barn dances, fairs and concerts. See back page for events and contact details.



If you would like to help make our villages a more enjoyable place to live please don't hesitate to sign up as a volunteer.

Eastergate Players – 40th Anniversary Pantomime

Aladdin

Evenings Tuesday 24th January to Saturday 28th January - Show begins 19:30
Matinée Saturday 28th January - Show begins 14:00

Fontwell Housing Development - Secretary of State call-in

We are currently challenging the 400 Home Dandara Scheme at Fontwell which was approved by the ADC Development Control Committee in early Dec-15. After considerable lobbying, with the support of Nick Herbert MP we successfully secured a Secretary of State

Call-in which is a very rare event. Our simple argument is that the development is not consistent with our Neighbourhood Plan. The Public Enquiry has been held but we are awaiting the decision of the Planning Inspector.

On 2nd July 2014 the referendum on the Barnham and Eastergate Neighbourhood Plan took place and produced a turnout of 36.3% - a record for similar referenda – with a 95% yes vote for adoption of the Plan. Following this overwhelming support Arun District Council made (accepted) the Plan at a full Council meeting on 16th July 2014. Old news, you may say, but our Neighbourhood Plan is being used to challenge the speculative development that is blighting our parishes without any democratic process in terms of where it should go, how the development is designed and whether community infrastructure is provided to support it.

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

Our District Council has clearly followed a flawed strategy and their failure to get their Local Plan approved in 2015 is the simple evidence of this. We believe that they have insufficiently engaged with our community and continue to view the Parish Councils as adversaries. Our Parishes have been arguing for real engagement over six years and we continue to press ADC to engage in positive discussions with the Parish Councils that will lead to acceptable compromise to

accommodate the housing growth that Arun District must deliver.

Sadly, recent events suggest that ADC does not learn by its mistakes. It has agreed 18 months (Dec-16) to fix its Local Plan but continues to pre-determine the 'strategic' solutions for more housing, kowtow to developers and to ignore our B&E NP despite its solid legal status.

Without a Local Plan the law gives housing schemes "a presumption in favour of sustainable development". Developers use this to argue that without a 5-year land supply their schemes should be given permission. Even when ADC refuses permission, they appeal and the Planning Inspectorate gives permission.

The Local Plan process is currently calling for sites as part of a process called Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA). The current consultation ended 3rd June 2016 so please look at it on-line on ADC's web-site.

This strategy has been very successful for developers whilst no Local Plan exists. In the last few years in, and adjacent to, the boundaries of Barnham and Eastergate major schemes have received permission for 1,144 houses. 85% of these were on appeal. When built these major developments will have delivered at least a 56% increase in the number of households and 11x the number of houses that the parishes were asked to build when given the targets for the B&E NP.

However, the reality is that housing target that ADC now must plan for to meet central government policy has increased from 580 dwellings per annum to over 900. This will increase the targets placed upon parishes like ours and we will need to update our Neighbourhood Plans.

We await the next draft of the Local Plan. It is likely to bring back the proposals to build a new village south of Barnham, Eastergate and Westergate ... on a flood plain!

Infrastructure to support a larger community

New housing developments are supposed to provide funding for all sorts of local infrastructure—e.g. libraries, schools, fire brigade, and importantly local outdoor facilities such as playgrounds, playing fields and the like – in the communities where they are built. Legislation exists to ensure this happens, under the

ungainly term of "Section 106 Developer Contributions" (S106 for short), and "Community Infrastructure Levy" (CIL).

The big question is will the money to deliver infrastructure be spent to support our community?

This area of West Sussex, broadly known as the Villages or the Six Villages, is poorly served with outdoor recreational spaces. Arun District Council has pursued a policy of stripping out and closing many of the local small playgrounds, citing lack of funds. The few sports fields and open parks around Barnham & Eastergate are mainly provided and maintained by the Parish Councils, with little or no help from the District Council. The large numbers of new residents who are coming into the Villages because of large-scale house-building, as well as existing residents, will need access to more and better

facilities in the future. To be sure, new estates now being planned or built usually have small play areas, green spaces and even on occasion allotments and the like – all praise to the enlightened developers seeking to improve their new housing estates. But nevertheless, there is a clear need for investment in better sports, play and outdoor leisure facilities, within the Villages, a need which the Parish Councils and local charities cannot by themselves provide. One would have thought that the S106 or CIL funding which the developers should make available for these purposes would be made available for these needs, to the benefit of all, new residents and old.

Sadly, this is not so, at least in this part of Sussex. The problem seems to lie in Arun District Council, which as the planning authority has responsibility for negotiating these S106 developer funds and the projects they should deliver. The ADC Officers appear to work very hard to disenfranchise the villages and sadly we must report that relations are acrimonious.

Our position is simply that we must receive the funding to support the community infrastructure that is required by a growing community. We've already built a Community Hall without ADC's help but there is only so much that volunteers can do.

The local Parish Councils and community organisations are set to challenge ADC, in order to secure that an equitable/fair proportion of the available funds actually come to our communities rather than being siphoned off into projects elsewhere or indeed unspent and returned to the developers. Watch this space.

BARNHAM WI – NOT DEAD YET!

Sadly, the Barnham WI has gone into suspension. Recently it has catered for an older membership, but due to falling numbers has been put into suspension by the WI Federation. Some of the members have moved across to the lively Westergate WI.

There remains hope that a new Barnham WI will be formed, with a wider membership from a broader age range as has happened in many inner city and village communities where the WI is, amazingly, vibrant, exciting, and much in demand. Different, more flexible meeting times, a wider membership, and activities aimed at a younger membership may well help re-establish the Barnham WI at a time of a growing village population. New residents and those facing changing circumstances may well find that the WI offers the opportunity for making new friends and developing interests outside the home.

If you at all interested in helping re-establish or in joining a new Barnham WI, contact details are: West Sussex Federation of Women's Institutes, North Lodge, Northgate, Chichester, PO19 1BJ, or see the websites www.thewi.org.uk, & www.wsfwi.co.uk.



Winter Preparations

The forecasters are predicting a harder winter than last year. If this happens, we may well have snow and floods to deal with. There is a small Village Emergency Team, run by local volunteers. The Team has supplies of salt and grit for use in snow, as well as sandbags and tools for use in floods.

In case of heavy snowfall, any volunteers will be welcomed to clear snow and spread salt in central Barnham, and on the pavements to the schools, the station and wherever ice makes the footways dangerous.

In case of flooding, help will be needed to fill & distribute sandbags to threatened properties, and to assist where houses have flooded.

In either case, anyone willing to help should contact the Parish Clerk at Barnham Community Hall or a member of the Barnham Village Emergency Team (see below for contacts.)

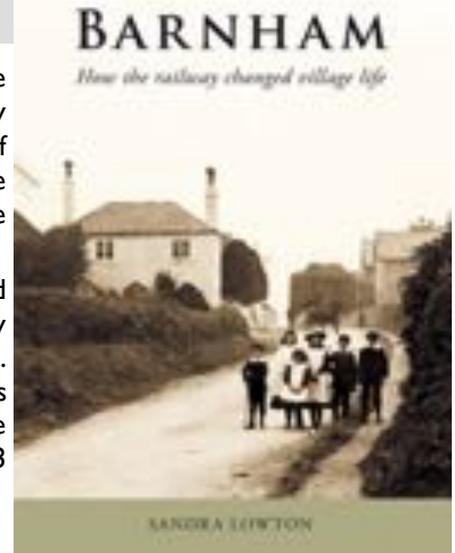
Salt, sandbags and equipment are held at Barnham Community Hall, which is the local emergency centre for people forced from their homes.

If the worst does happen, then the Parish councils would be keen to hear of vulnerable people needing help, so please look out for neighbours in trouble and contact us. (Barnham Parish Clerk & Emergency Team contacts.)

Local History Website

Many of you will know that local historian Sandra Lowton has been researching the history of Barnham and Eastergate parishes for some years now. With the help of many residents she has collected a lot of information, documents and images and, as part of the follow up to the Neighbourhood Plan, she has begun to share her collection via the parish council websites. The project has begun and will continue to grow over the coming months.

Please look at the Barnham Parish Council and Eastergate Parish Council websites and follow the link to the history pages. Sandra would welcome feedback and also any contributions so that the history of the places and the people will live into the future. If you haven't read the book, 'Barnham How the railway changed village life', it is available from Barnham Community Hall, the Parish Office and Sussex Barista, price £7.50, with all proceeds going to the new hall. Sandra can be contacted on 01243 553238 and slowton@bopenworld.com



LITTER IN OUR VILLAGES

Litter and fly-tipping are a major eyesore and a danger to people and the environment alike. Who clears it up? Eastergate Parish Council employs a weekly litter-picker who keeps Eastergate Playing Field & Barnham Road clear, Barnham Parish Council clears rubbish from Murrell's Field, and individuals do their best, but apart from the occasional motorised WSCC street sweeper no-one else, so the rubbish accumulates. Barnham Parish Council has organised for many years a Spring & Autumn litter pick, where volunteers and community groups collect litter. The record is over 40 full bags on one day. The most recent litter pick in appalling weather produced seven hardy souls who collected around 20 bags.

We would like to publicly thank those who took part in this and previous litter days, and ADC for their support in providing equipment and taking away the rubbish. It is widely agreed that this is a very worthwhile initiative and it is proposed to make it a regular event for the Spring and Autumn of each year with the next event being scheduled for Saturday 4th March 2017. Individuals and community groups are encouraged to take part, so if you want to help keep your village attractive and help the environment, please come along to Barnham Community Hall where there will be rubbish bags, litter pickers and gloves as well as refreshments. If you can't make the day, then please pick up any litter in front of your own property. Every little helps!

Remember to put Saturday 4th March 2017 in your diary.

Barnham Community Trust

Web site: barnhamcommunityhall.org

Future BCT events for 2017 are:

- Monthly Quiz Nights – 27th January, 24th February, 3 1st March 28th April. Doors open 7 p.m. £5 entry to include Ploughman's Supper
- Cinema nights recommence on Friday 24th March. Showing 'Bridget Jones' Baby' – Tickets £3
- Barn dance Saturday 22nd April at Barnham Community Hall
- Music at Murrells Field (MAMF) 2017 Saturday 10th June Murrells Field Barnham (Stones Tribute)
- Barnham Wedding & Special Occasions Fayre Sunday 1st October at Barnham Community Hall
- Barnham's Big Bonfire Night Saturday 4th November at Murrells Field Barnham

Contacts

Arun Councillors

Cllr. Keith Ballard	07771 515099
Cllr. John Charles	07889 988612
Cllr. Christopher Hughes	07479 211391

Parish Councils

Barnham Parish Council (Clerk)	Alison Crabb 07565 052 617 barnhamparish@hotmail.co.uk
Eastergate Parish Council (Clerk)	Garry Sleet 01243 586511 g.sleet@btinternet.com

Venues

Barnham Community Hall Bookings/Enquiries	Ali Tarbard 01243 278110 Terry Bedford 01243 553817
Eastergate Parish Hall Bookings/Enquiries	Mr A Upton 01243 543183 eastergate.arun.gov.uk

Voluntary Organisation Directory

Parish Councils

Barnham & Eastergate have two parish councils with 8 volunteer councillors on each. Councillors are elected every four years but can co-opt local residents at any time. Parish councils are funded by levying a "precept" collected with the council tax paid by the residents of the parish. Both parish councils have vacancies and would welcome new members who should email the clerk if interested

Barnham (clerk) 07565 052 617
Email: barnhamparish@hotmail.co.uk

Eastergate (clerk) 01243 586511
Email: g.sleet@btinternet.com

Charitable & Fund-raising trusts

BEADYs Supporter Group - fundraising for St Wilfrid's Hospice-

01243 552230

Community organisations:

WI Westergate

Mrs.J.Barugh 01243 545910

Village Friends

Good neighbour scheme for the elderly & isolated.

Mrs.E.Folman 07925 217843

Five Villages' Community Minibus

Providing low cost transport for elderly and infirm across the 5-Villages-

Organiser Mr B. David 01243 553635

Barnham Village Emergency team – Team of volunteers who can be called in emergencies (flood, snow ...)

Organiser Mr D. Phillips 0777 570 8595

Villages Action Group

Residents' group seeking to protect villages from excessive development

<https://villagesactiongroup.wordpress.com>

Organisations for young people

Rangers, Guides, Brownies & Rainbows

Mrs S Callandar 01243 553235
www.girlguiding.org.uk

Barnham Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts)

www.1stbarnhamscouts.org.uk

Clubs & Societies

Eastergate Players - local dramatic society.

Mr.C.Playford 01243 542574

Five Villages Society – Local history & heritage

Joanna Williams -01243 551524

U3A History group- Barnham Community Hall

no details

Sewing Buddies Thursdays – Barnham Community Hall

no contact details

Coffee Morning at Barnham Community Hall - Wed 1015-1200

Barnham Community Hall 01243 551167

Barnham Community Choir - singing Tuesday evenings 1900hrs

07837 465 097
Email: barnhamsings@gmail.com

Pre-schools & playgroups

Squirrel's Den @ Barnham Community Hall

07925 038352, 01243 551400

Eastergate Pre-school @ Eastergate Parish Hall

07743 938043

Hopscotch preschool @ Aldingbourne Community Centre

01243 543948/542232

Walberton pre-school @ Walberton Village Hall

01243 555992/554979

**Voluntary & commercial organisations
Sports, exercise & therapy, arts & crafts, leisure**

@ Barnham Community Hall

Al Anon
Baby Ballet
Child Health Clinic
Circuit Training
Community Choir
Community coffee Morning
Eight to Beat Jive – Lindyhop Dance Classes
Fitsteps
Girls Guides ages 5-14yrs
Junior Kung fu
Kick Boxing

Pilates
Play and Learn together
Retired Musician workshop
Spiritualist pioneer centre
Sewing Buddies
Squirrells Den Day Care
Tai Chi
U3A History group
Village Computer Club
Weightwatchers

See Who and What's at the Hall
www.barnhamcommunityhall.org

@ Eastergate playing field:

Eastergate Cricket club	01243 542723
Yapton Football club	no details
Stoolball	Judy Nanson 01903 730052.
@ Eastergate Parish Hall	
Badminton – Wed eves	Mr.M Kennedy 01243 543530
Table tennis – Tues eves	Mr.A.Brackenbury - 01243 855129
Short mat bowls – Wed pm, Fri pm	Sheila Burman - 01243 822966
Bognor Regis Cycle Club –Thurs eves	Richard Miles - 01243 555202

Parish of Aldingbourne, Barnham and Eastergate

St. Mary's Church Aldingbourne St.Mary's Church Barnham St.George's Church Eastergate	Parish Office – 35 Barnham Road, Barnham, PO22 0ER. Telephone: 01243 553955 e.mail: parishofabe@btinternet.com Parish Administrator – Mrs Vera Saunders
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Film Race Night



Barnham Community Hall

In aid of ABF The Soldiers Charity
ON 4TH MARCH 2017

Ticket price £10 each player or £100 for tables of 10 players as a syndicate. Price includes Supper.
Races are Sponsored at £100. Full Licensed Bar

For more information:- [Contact John W Parham](mailto:John.W.Parham@btinternet.com)
07836 289232 or 01243 786235.

ABF THE SOLDIERS' CHARITY The Army's National Charity Since 1964