

BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Elected to represent the residents of Burley-in-Wharfedale, Stead and Burley Woodhead

Newsletter No 12

June 2009

Introduction

This edition marks the beginning of the Parish Council's fourth year and we anticipate another busy year ahead. Burley Grange is about to re-open its doors once again and the result of the Inquiry into Burley House Field is eagerly awaited. The programme for the Summer Festival event in late August is filling up and we are pleased with the response from individuals and groups who are taking part.

It is sometimes difficult to know people's views of the Parish Council and its work and no doubt people will tell us if we are seen to be failing in our duties. I hope we have been serving the village well over the last three years. What I can say is that your Parish Council together with our Clerk - Jo Griffiths - works extremely hard on your behalf.

Finally, my thanks to Cllr Sylvia Tilford who has stepped down from the Chair after leading the Parish Council in what was an eventful year for the village.

Keith Dale
Chair, Burley Parish Council

Don't forget...

The Parish Council runs an awards scheme to assist local voluntary groups and organisations with projects that benefit the local community. Awards are given quarterly with the next deadline for submission of applications on 1st July 2009. If you would like details of the scheme or an application form then please contact the parish clerk Jo Griffiths or

download the documents from the village website.

How to contact the Parish Council

All meetings of the parish council are open to the public. Details of the times and dates of meetings are advertised on the notice boards around the village and on the village website.

Planning meetings are generally held on Monday evenings (see notice boards for dates) and meetings of the full Parish Council on the second Thursday of every month. Meetings of the Maintenance & Allotments Committee are held every 6-8 weeks. Meetings are held in The John Squire Room at Queen's Hall.

At the start of every meeting there is a slot for public participation when members of the public may ask questions or raise issues with the parish councillors. Local residents are always welcome at meetings either as observers or to ask questions or raise issues of concern.

If you wish to raise an issue with the council between meetings then please contact the parish clerk, Jo Griffiths, or any member of the Parish Council. The Parish Council has an office in The John Squire Room at Queen's Hall. The office is open to the public on **Wednesday mornings between 9.30am and 11.30am** when Jo and/or a member of the parish council will be available to answer questions.

To contact the parish clerk, Jo Griffiths:

email parishclerk@burley-in-wharfedale.org or telephone 864728 or 07971 772181 or write to Burley Parish Council, The John Squire Room, Queen's Hall, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7BT.

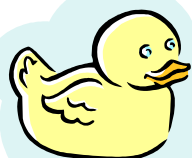
The Parish Council is made up of nine councillors:

Keith Dale, Chair	862662
Mike Walker, Vice Chair	430329
Kathryn Forrest	864097
John Horton	863438
Peter Jenkins, Chair of Planning	

Committee	863131
Caroline Jones	863587
Matt Palmer	863790
Peter Riley	862916
Sylvia Tilford, Chair of Maintenance and Allotments Committee	863218

13 th July	4.00-4.30pm	Co-op, Station Road
17 th July	9.30-10.30am	Contact Point, Queen's Hall
20 th July	10.30-11.30am	St Mary's Parish Centre
23 rd July	6.30-7.30pm	Contact Point, Queen's Hall
30 th July	10.00-11.00am	Burley Library

Duck Race



The annual Duck Race on the River Wharfe will take place on Sunday 28th June (please note: **not** on Father's Day this year!).

The race starts at 2pm, and tickets will be on sale in the village in the weeks leading up to the race. All proceeds are shared between the Burley in Wharfedale Community Trust and Burley Scouts & Guides Association.

Teas on the Village Green will follow the Duck Race and Cornmill Pond will open to visitors on the afternoon of the race.

Contact your local Police Officers

The Police Contact Point at Queen's Hall is open every **Thursday evening between 5.30pm and 7.30pm and Friday mornings between 9.30am and 12 noon.**

Police Community Support Officers are also available at the following times and locations to discuss issues or concerns.

Date	Time	Venue
1 st June	4.00-4.30pm	Co-op, Station Road
5 th June	9.30-10.30am	Contact Point, Queen's Hall
8 th June	10.30-11.30am	St Marys Parish Centre
11 th June	6.30-7.30pm	Contact Point, Queen's Hall
18 th June	10.00-11.00am	Burley Library
22 nd June	4.00-4.30pm	Co-op, Station Road
26 th June	9.30-10.30am	Contact Point, Queen's Hall
29 th June	10.30-11.30am	St Marys Parish Centre
2 nd July	6.30-7.30pm	Contact Point, Queen's Hall
9 th July	10.00-11.00am	Burley Library

Neighbourhood Forum

The next Neighbourhood Forum is on Thursday 18th June 2009 at the Queen's Hall, Burley in Wharfedale at 7.30pm.

Come along and find out what is happening in your community. Give your views and opinions on local issues and projects and plans for Burley.

Included in the next Forum will be:

- Simon D'Vali Principal Engineer for the Shipley Area to discuss traffic & highways issues in the village;
- Nina Mewse, Research & Development Officer and Val Jordan, Admissions Manager for Bradford Council will provide information on admissions arrangements for primary schools in the Burley area;
- Alan Hayes, owner of Burley Grange to give an update on this important village building and its future use;
- Paul Stephens, Voluntary Organisation Support Officer on advice and support available to voluntary groups in the local area;
- Update on work towards Burley Summer Festival including outline programme and content;
- AGM of Burley Community Council;
- Crime and Policing update from members of the Neighbourhood Policing Team;
- Update from Burley Parish Council
- Open Forum when YOU can raise concerns and issues with the Parish Council and representatives of Bradford Council

Scouts & Guides Bonfire

The Scout & Guide Executive has informed the Parish Council that the annual bonfire event has now grown to such a degree that the Executive has taken the very difficult decision not to hold the bonfire this year due to the rising health and safety issues. The Executive would like to say a huge thank you to the residents of the village for their fantastic support of the annual bonfire over the years. The Executive will

be looking at arranging other events that they hope will prove just as popular. Sincerest thanks go to all those who have helped in the past with the event. If any individual or group within the village would be interested in running a similar event please contact the Parish Council as we may be able to assist.

Parish Plan

Thank you to all those residents who took the time to respond to our request in the last newsletter to contribute to the updating of the Parish Plan. The council has received some excellent feedback. We would like further responses in order to assess the strength of feeling on some matters. If you haven't replied so far please contact us by the end of June. A quick reminder of the questions asked:

Thinking about the village and its public facilities, activities and organisations, please write down:

- 1. Three things about Burley that are very important to preserve and keep;*
- 2. Three things about Burley that you would wish to see improved or changed.*

Please send comments via email to: parishclerk@burley-in-wharfedale.org or in writing to Parish Council Office, John Squire Room, Queen's Hall, Main Street, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7BT

Parking

The new arrangements whereby parking offences are now the responsibility of Bradford Council came into effect in April. Parking causing an obstruction and dangerous parking continue to be handled by the Police. The new arrangements have led to stricter enforcement on West Terrace. The parking problems for residents in this area are being considered and BMDC may review the current weekend parking restrictions.

As residents will have seen the Queen's Hall car park has been re-surfaced and the area around the recycling bins has been tidied. The new one-way system in the car park (in from Long Meadows and out onto Main Street) is designed to improve the flow of cars through the car park. Currently there is no charge for parking, or time restrictions. We ask for residents' consideration in the lengths of time they park between 9.00am and 10.00pm. This ensures that there are places free for people attending activities in Queen's Hall and those wanting to shop in the village.

Dropped Kerbs

In the last newsletter we carried an item about dropped kerbs. Dropped kerbs are important for mobility vehicle users and pushchair users. We invited suggestions for where more dropped kerbs

are needed and we have received a number of responses. If you have not replied it is not too late to notify Jo Griffiths at the Parish Council of any suggestions. A complete list will be forwarded to Bradford Metropolitan District Council.

Village Diary - the village website (www.burley-in-wharfedale.org) includes a village diary section. Please remember to forward details of any special events or meetings so that they may be included.

Third Public Inquiry on Burley House Field 20-21 April 2009

The third public inquiry on the Burley Community Council application to secure village green status for the field took place on Monday 20th April and Tuesday 21st April. As indicated in the Annual Report no indication was given at the end of the inquiry when the result would be available. BCC hopes to hear during the next month in time for the June Neighbourhood Forum

Helping Bumblebees

Many of you will be aware of the startling decline afflicting our bumblebee populations at the present time. The main reason for this is the loss

of flower-rich habitats of which less than 5% remain compared with 50 years ago. Along with the honey bee these insects are vital pollinators of our plants and crops - up to a third of our food crops depend on them.

The cutting regime which has now been agreed with Bradford Council for the bypass verges and roundabouts is intended to make a contribution to correcting this situation. These areas are full of flowers such as clovers, trefoils and vetches which are just what bumblebees need to thrive -

this is beneficial not only for them but for us as well. I hope you will appreciate that the verges and roundabouts look stunning for much of the year even though they can appear a little unkempt as the flowers are left to set seed for the following year. This policy is not just a matter of aesthetics but has great value for our wildlife in general and bumblebees in particular.

Of course we can all help bumblebees by planting bee-friendly flowers in the garden - contact Councillor Peter Riley for more details on 862916.

Annual Report of Burley Parish Council 2008-09

This is a copy of the report given at the Annual Meeting of the Parish on 23rd April 2009

Burley Parish Council has completed the third year of its 5 year term and we expect to be able to apply for Quality Parish Council status in the coming year. The Council is now established in the Queen's Hall. A number of matters outstanding at the beginning of the year have now been resolved while others are still ongoing. I will comment on the routine activities of the Council prior to updating on specific issues.

Full Council meets once a month and there are two sub-committees of the Council: Planning, and Maintenance and Allotments. Planning meets on a 3 weekly basis and Maintenance and Allotments 6 times a year. The Council cooperates with Shipley Area Committee in setting the agendas and chairing the Neighbourhood Forum meetings which take place three times a year. There are also 2 working groups: staffing, which meets twice a year and finance 4 times a year. The Parish Council is also represented on a number of other bodies including: BCC and BWCT; Chamber of Trade; WRUG; Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, SCAPAG, the Governing Bodies of Burley Oaks and Burley Woodhead Schools, Burley Website Committee, Yorkshire Local Councillors Association; Parish Councils Liaison group, South Pennine Branch of Local Councils, Police Ward Tasking group (now changed to PACT - Police and Communities Together) and Rural Transport. Yesterday evening both the SCAPAG and the Parish Council Liaison group meetings took place in Burley.

Parish Plan: this was developed in the year preceding the set up of the Council and acts as a guide to our work. Individual sections are regularly updated at full council meetings and the updated version of the Plan is on the website. We

have come to a view that because of changes and developments over the last 4 years a more thorough review of the content of the Plan is called for as well as of the processes by which we relate to it in our ongoing work and accounting for our activities and their outcomes. We are currently undertaking a limited consultation with the village, via the newsletter plus some other activities in order to identify any issues that need to be incorporated in the Plan. We hope to get a large number of returns from residents. We may also decide to revise the sections into which the Plan is divided in order to make it more compatible with the Shipley Area Action Plan areas and with other parish plans in the district.

Planning: the Committee has been very ably chaired for a second year by Peter Jenkins with Caroline Jones as Vice Chair. The Committee meets on a 3 weekly basis. The agendas for the meetings are posted on the notice boards and the website. Using the numbers given to each application full details can be pursued through the planning portal on the BMDC website. Applications can also be viewed on Wednesday mornings in the Queen's Hall. Paper copies of applications have been provided for the Committee's consideration. Recommendations are passed forward although the final decision is taken by BMDC planning officers. This year we have considered and made recommendations on 84 applications. A major issue this year has been the need to respond to the creation, without planning permission, of a new road alongside Green Lane. Where the decision taken by planning officers is different from our recommendation we are given the opportunity to ask for the decision to be taken to the Planning Panel consisting of elected councillors. We have been to this Panel on

3 occasions this year and in 2 cases our recommendation was actually supported. We have also made representations on a number of applications that went to the Planning Inspectorate. Bradford Metropolitan District Council is now moving towards the provision of all plans in electronic format rather than in the paper format as used to date. This is posing challenges to parish councils across the district. I am pleased to report that Burley Parish Council has been quick to develop the means to respond to the new procedures. A projector has been acquired and thanks are expressed to Cllr Jenkins for the time he has given to mastering the new procedures. During the year it has also been most helpful to councillors to have the photographs he has provided of application sites which assist the processes of the Committee. During this year we have dealt with a number of footpath issues, most of which are still ongoing.

Maintenance and Allotments Committee: has been chaired by Mike Walker with Sylvia Tilford as Vice-Chair. It is made up of 7 parish councillors and two representatives from the allotments, Juliet Newsham and Peter Burnell, who we thank for their participation and contributions. The number of Committee meetings has been increased this year from 4 to 6 in response to the agenda items that need to be covered.

Maintenance tasks in the village are largely the responsibility of BMDC and it is the role of Burley Parish Council to check that required things are happening and to alert BMDC to tasks requiring action. We have, for example, asked for attention to the bottom of Langford Lane, the footpath leading to the school from Prospect Road via the allotments, drawn attention to poor road and pavement surfaces etc. In the context of competing priorities across the district we cannot always be successful in getting the actions we would like. An ongoing issue is the tree work which is planned for the village green. We had expected that some of this work would have been undertaken before the new season's growth, especially in the area which impacts on Norwood Avenue. Despite our best efforts this has not happened and we expect to have to wait until September before the work is carried out. On the village green BMDC cuts the grass, carries out some tree work and plants two flower beds but most of the remaining routine maintenance work was taken over from Burley Community Council and is now the responsibility of the Parish Council. This work is carried out by the excellent

group of volunteers, supported by parish councillors, which turns out on the last Saturday of the month. We are very grateful indeed for their support. There are other parts of the village which need some extra care which could be undertaken if the number of volunteers could be increased. Please join us between 10 and 12 on the village green.

Water feature: as was reported last year we have again reduced the number of hours that the feature is switched on during the winter months in order to keep the electricity costs down. We have pursued alternative options for power for the water feature but, to date, without success.

Allotments. After two years the management of the allotments is running smoothly although the final legal transfer has still to be completed. This year we have been able to offer allotments to a small number of new tenants but the waiting list still stands at over 70. A very neglected allotment on the Aireville Terrace site was divided into two and the tenants have worked hard to bring these allotments back into use. Fencing work on this site is to be undertaken. Discussions have been taking place with Burley Oaks School about the use of the margin of the playing field next to Prospect Road for additional allotments. The Governing Body is fully supportive of the proposal but opposition from Sport England has to be overcome.

Finances

Copies of the approved budget for 2009-2010 are available for anyone who is interested. The income we have sought from the precept for the coming year is £25,762 which represents an increase of 45p on a Band D house (5.3%). Last year we reported that the capital sum received at the set up of the Council would be kept intact until such time that the Council had resolved its search for a permanent home. With our location in the Queen's Hall the situation has now changed. There is, however, another potential need for financial support should there be a successful outcome of the 3rd public inquiry on the Burley House Field. This has been taken into consideration in developing the budget this year. At the same time the budget contains an amount, brought forward from reserves, to enable us to begin work on a number of larger projects in the village: e.g. allotments fencing, play facilities for young children elsewhere than in the park, refurbishing the youth shelter etc.

Responses to consultation documents

The Parish Council has been invited to respond to a number of district and national consultation

documents. In the past year it has responded for example, on behalf of the village to consultations on: the closure of the Moor Lane Centre, the rebuilding of the Coronation Hospital, the development of Ilkley Grammar School, and the voting age for young people.

Handbook

An important activity in the past year was the publication of the Burley Handbook which had previously been the responsibility of BCC. We only now fully appreciate the work that members of the BCC carried out in the past. I would like to express my thanks to Jo Griffiths, our Parish Clerk, for all the effort she put into finalising the new edition, to Mike Harris from BCC for his advice and to all those who helped to check that information was up to date and correct and the team of volunteers who distributed the Handbook. Inevitably a very small number of minor errors always creep through for which the Council accepts responsibility. These have been amended on the website version. Updating of the web based version of the Handbook will go on as we receive information of changes required.

There were a number of ongoing matters in the village at the start of the year – two are now resolved and we hope the other soon will be:

The Grange

As you will be aware for the past three years we have been concerned to see the Grange in use again and preferably offering some adult education provision once it became apparent that social housing was not an option for the building. We were very pleased when the building was finally sold and will be offering education and training. Some of us would very much like to have been able to acquire a long term base for the Parish Council in this building but the decision was taken in January that this would no longer be pursued now that the Queen's Hall base is established.

The Lawn

We are pleased to note that that the Lawn is moving nearer to completion and will lead to an increase in affordable housing and housing for those in the over 50 years age group.

Ongoing matters:

Burley House Field

As you will all be aware the 3rd public inquiry to examine the BCC application for village green status for the field took place on Monday and

Tuesday. Although three parish councillors are also part of BCC the Parish Council itself has not been directly involved in the inquiry. We would wish to express our great appreciation to John Gundry for all the work he has put into this third inquiry, as well as the two previous ones, and to the generosity of our barrister who has given so much of his time and experience. It was heartening to see so many residents coming into the inquiry. The Parish Council was promised a long lease on the field two years ago but to date this has not been made available. We can report that the farmer who currently holds an agricultural lease on the field has been given one year's notice. At this point we are still unsure of the long term future of the field but we will keep the village informed.

Flooding: there were further problems this year under the railway bridge causing flooding in Station Road and problems to residents and Burley Oaks School. The root cause of these was finally identified and the work has been completed to resolve the matter. The widening of the footpath under the bridge and the creation of the chicane can now take place. The gaps in the wall along the Grange Road flats were filled in to help protect them further from flooding from the beck.

Parking: the good news is that the resurfacing of the Queen's Hall car park has now taken place which should be to the benefit of all users. The Parish Council made a contribution towards the funding of this project which received funding from the airport windfall monies. Thanks to Cllr Palmer for facilitating this. The new parking restrictions in the village have still to be implemented but the work is due very soon. The responsibility for checking parking compliance now rests with BMDC rather than the police. As a result of this change some issues have arisen with respect to West Terrace but a prompt reconsideration has been put in place and we hope for a satisfactory resolution. Responding to dangerous parking and obstructions will remain the responsibility of the police.

Policing in the village: we have been pleased to welcome Inspector Susan Sanderson and other members of her team at monthly Council meetings and at Forum meetings to report on policing issues in the village. We have been kept very fully informed. We would like to express thanks for the prompt responses to issues raised with the team. The Police Contact point continues in the Queen's Hall and residents are encouraged

to make use of it. Cllrs Keith Dale and Peter Riley have attended the Police Ward Tasking Group meetings. This group is changing to a more local group made up of community representatives and to be called PACT.

Fair Trade: it was with great pleasure that the Council welcomed the designation of Burley as a Fair Trade village. Our thanks to Mary Wood and the Committee, including Councillor Keith Dale, who facilitated the process and also our thanks to the businesses and other organisations that have made it possible to achieve this status.

Local Development Framework: last year we reported fully on this. This is the Bradford response to the Government requirement to identify land for building over the next 20 years. Because of what has happened over the last few months the urgency of this issue may seem to have dropped and we have not given much consideration to it during our recent meetings. However it is continuing to receive active attention by BMDC which reports regularly through its newsletter 'Plan-it Bradford' which can be accessed easily on the BMDC website.

Council communication: our newsletter has been issued four times during the year. We are grateful for the support from the Shipley Area Committee which partly finances this. We are ever grateful for the team of volunteers who distribute the newsletter. We have also produced an allotments newsletter which goes to tenants.

Website: the Parish Council has a designated section on the Burley website which has been amended this year. Our thanks to Malcolm Fisher for his work on the website and to the members of the website committee. We are very privileged in this village to have such an excellent website.

New Initiative:

Summer Festival

During this year we initiated the idea of having a week of activities at the end of August culminating in the ever popular Flower and Produce Show. Following open meetings we decided to go ahead and planning is well in hand, managed by a working group involving residents, members of the Chamber of Trade and parish councillors. We are hoping for full support from the village. The programme will be published in June and we will be seeking lots of volunteers who can help out with activities for as little as an hour to as much

time as they can offer. The aim is to keep the costs as low as possible to enable full participation in a range of events. We have made a bid for funding to support a crafts day to be facilitated by artists from Rural Arts, Thirsk.

With the move to the Queen's Hall we have changed the morning when the clerk and one or more councillors is available to respond to residents queried from Tuesday to Wednesday. We have received a steady flow of visitors but are happy to welcome more.

Contact can also be made by telephone and email or by ringing councillors. Details are always included in the newsletter, are in the Handbook, and on the website.

I will not be seeking re- election as Chair in May but will continue to work actively on the council. I would like to express thanks to Keith Dale, the Vice Chair and other councillors for their support and their hard work during the year. I would also like to thank the Chairs of the sub-committees. Most importantly I must thank Jo Griffiths, our Parish Clerk, without whom the Council would not function. I am very pleased to report that she is about to complete her clerk's training after which we will be able to apply for Quality Parish Council status.

Sylvia Tilford
Chair, Burley Parish Council 2008-09

Summary of Accounts 2008-2009

Income	£
Precept	24,528
Allotments	2,028
Burley Handbook	4,163
Bank Interest	525
Other income	953
Carry forward frm 07/08	7,877
Total income	40,074
Expenditure	
Administration	14,645
Newsletter & website	1,680
Subscriptions	782
Insurance	383
Audit fees	431
Training & travel	607
Civic functions	115
Water feature	1,847

Projects	11,895
Maintenance & allotments	1,234
Other	109
Burley Handbook	3,366
Section 137	25
Total expenditure	37,119

Please note: the accounts have been audited by the council's internal auditor but are not yet fully audited. Copies of the full accounts may be inspected at the Parish Council Office by appointment only.



We have now been informed by Bradford Council that the work on the trees on the Village Green will take place in September.

We have recorded our dissatisfaction with this delay particularly on behalf of residents living

adjacent to the rear of the Green.

Burley Summer Festival

Burley in-Wharfedale '09

Not going away in August this year? You think the summer school holidays last too long? This year there will be a week of activities in Burley when the first Burley Summer Festival takes place. This has been initiated by the Parish Council but the programme is being put together by a team from across the village. The week will conclude with the well established Gardeners' Show.

A special logo has been designed and will be on tickets, programmes and other items and is shown above. The majority of activities have now been confirmed and the final programme will be available in June. It will be delivered to every household together with a booking form. All details of the festival will also be provided on the village website (www.burley-in-wharfedale.org) in a special Burley Summer Festival section which will be active from early June.

Many activities will be free, some will entail a small charge to cover part of the costs and a few evening events will be full cost. We hope that there will be something to meet the interests of most people and most age groups in the village. We are most grateful to the village organisations and individuals who have offered to provide events during the week. It is not too late to put additional activities into the programme. If individuals or organisations have ideas for these please contact Jo Griffiths, Parish Clerk

Some Confirmed Activities:

- Classic Car Rally
- Art & Craft Workshops run by professional artists from Rural Arts, Thirsk
- Live Music Events
- Local Guided Walks
- Barbecue & Family Day on the Village Green
- Ceilidh
- Children's rugby & football workshops
- Dance events for all ages
- Battle of the Bands Night
- Afternoon Tea Dance
- Drama and theatre workshops for adults and children
- Play activities in Burley Park including bouncy castles, games and fun

HELPERS WANTED

For the Festival to succeed we will need helpers for a number of the activities. We will appreciate offers in the weeks before the

festival and during the week. Offers from an hour to as much time as people can offer will be appreciated. The kind of help needed will include:

- Selling tickets for events at the Village Fete in July
- Selling tickets on Saturday mornings
- Stewards at some outdoor events
- Serving refreshments
- Dealing with inquiries at the festival base

CONTRIBUTIONS STILL REQUESTED

We are still looking for some village organisations or groups of individuals who would be willing to provide the following activities. These provide an opportunity for fundraising:

- Teas on the Village Green
- Children's Sports Activities

For any offers of help or assistance please contact Cllr Sylvia Tilford on 863218 or s.tilford@btinternet.com