



BRYMPTON NEWSLINK - Summer 2009

Serving and informing the Community

www.brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk

From the Chairman

Respect

It is topical at this time of D-Day Remembrance that a little piece of local history may be of interest to Brympton residents. During a recent planning application on Lufton Business Estate and the request to remove several TPO protected trees it came to light that many of the trees on this estate are Commemorative Trees, planted in remembrance of the many service personnel that gave their lives during German bombing raids over Houndstone Camp. It has now made everyone aware of the sensitivity of these now wonderful specimens and their full significance.

Oak Tree Park.

With long summer evenings now with us we are now seeing a resurgence of minor anti-social behaviour on certain evenings, if you become aware of problems, please, contact our PCSO or the Police(PC J Poole 3573) { 0845 4567000} to report and they WILL attend.

It is with disappointment we are aware of the deterioration in the mural on the skate equipment. However with the guidance of the Rural Youth Service a keen and willing group is emerging who wish to become involved in the renovation, so if anyone is interested to "join in" please make contact with BPC.

Larkhill Open Space,

As a related matter some people are mis-using the certain parts of this area, again if you are aware of problems please contact the police at the time of the incident.

Cycle Tour of Britain

As you are probably aware the Football Club is to be the "Finishing Line" for this event on the 18th Sept and the competitors will be cycling up Western Avenue, so if you are a keen cyclist please turn out and cheer them on. Or if you're even keener you are invited to volunteer as a "helper" contact Graham Bagely.

Shrubbery Removal.

There seems to be some collective "taking leave of senses" at SSDC regarding the removal of mature shrubbery across Brympton in the last 6-9 months and many complaints have been received regarding this. SSDC are now addressing this and now plans to rectify the awful mess left behind. So we will keep a "watching brief" on this matter.

We have had another busy and productive year and I would like to thank all my fellow councillors for their dedication to Brympton and the residents, and unlike MPs, we are all volunteers.

Liz Glaisher,
Chairman

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Annual Meetings and Election of Chairman



The Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meetings have come and gone with the usual public interest (none). The Council's Annual Report can be seen elsewhere in this edition of Newslink.

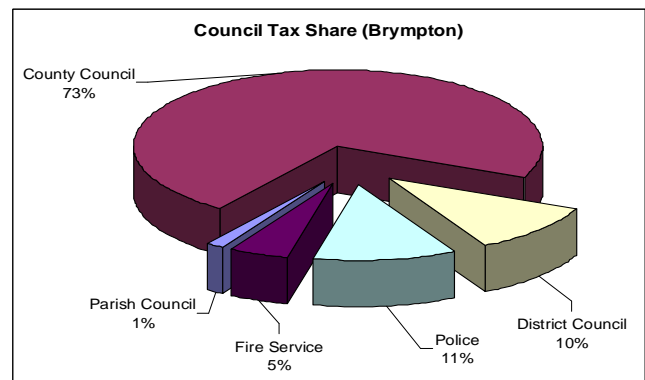
Following a hard fought battle the previous Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council (namely Liz Glaisher and Roger Meecham (me)) were re-elected for another year.

Council Tax



In terms of house numbers, with 2513 Band D equivalents, the parish of Brympton is the fourth largest in the South Somerset area behind Yeovil, Chard and Crewkerne. However, of the 121 parishes, Brympton is 75th in order of Council Tax per property charging just £19.45/year. We strive to give value for money.

The pie chart below may be of interest and shows how much of the Council Tax you pay goes to the various authorities. This information and much else is available from the 'Your Guide' booklet you will have recently been sent with your Council Tax bill. Much of the big 'slice' that SCC get goes towards education and social services provision.



Speaking of Elections

It can't have escaped your notice that there were County Council and European elections a couple of weeks ago but sadly the turnout was particularly poor. This kind of public apathy, although perhaps understandable bearing in mind what's going on in politics at the moment, can often result in some unexpected results due to the low turnout and/or protest voting. Such is the case, perhaps, with the success of some British Nationalist Party candidates in the European Elections where the proportional representation process resulted in two BNP candidates being elected.

If you're into collective nouns you'll know that a group of owls is known as a 'parliament'. Suggestions of 'feathering' of nests and not giving two hoots come to mind.





It could be considered unfortunate that the County Council elections took place at this time of public resentment about what's going on in central Government. Many long-standing and hard working County Councillors were caught in the 'backlash' of public feeling (or apathy). In Brympton we're pleased to note that our County Councillor Sam Crabb was re-elected.

Somerset County Council is now, after 17 years, controlled by the Conservatives. Unfortunately the amount of money at their disposal is the same as previously so I don't anticipate any significant changes in services for a while at least.

Spring Bulb Planting

As you'll recall from the previous Newslink there was a spring bulb planting held at Alvington in November, where a group of Lufton students joined SSDC staff. Here's a photo of the results -



Oak Tree Park

In an effort to keep this excellent facility looking good Brympton Parish Council are paying for additional litter picking to be carried out. SSDC are looking at possibly relocating some of the litter bins (and possibly adding flashing lights on so people can see where they are).



What No 'Noise'

No, this year there isn't going to be an event at OTP. Possibly next year if enough volunteers come forward. We are also looking at the possibility of having an open air theatre event at Brympton House next summer. This is an excellent venue and the owner has agreed in principle to allow an event to be held.

Graffiti

There seems to have been a splurge of graffiti over the past couple of months. This is a crime so please ring the police if you see anyone carrying out this vandalism. 0845 456 7000 is the number to ring.

Street lights -

The new street light at the spinal path should now be working. There was some delay caused by the electrical contractors waiting on parts.



Pedestrian Crossing at ASDA/Crematorium

I was intrigued to note a few weeks ago that Yeovil Town Council were looking at the idea of a pedestrian crossing to

get across Bunford Lane. What a good idea, wish we'd thought of it (actually we did, about 4 years ago, but it's all on hold pending funding from the Key Site developments).

Trees at Western Avenue

The replacement of some of the trees on the Abbey Manor side of Western Avenue is still set to go ahead. BPC are liaising with SSDC and SCC about suitable replacements and the initial phase should be going ahead in the Autumn. A contribution of £500 from Somerset County Council has been offered towards the costs.



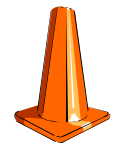
Speaking of Contributions ...

Our thanks to Mr Liles (I think I've spelt it right) for a donation towards replacement trees in the LOSP area.

Yeovil Town Football Club

A long awaited meeting was held recently to discuss traffic problems on match days. The Parish Council had suggested the use of double yellow lines at various locations to alleviate the problems but unfortunately this was rejected due to cost and enforcement issues. Unfortunately not many positive solutions came out of the meeting although County Highways are however looking into the possibility of making Thorne Lane a "clearway". This would stop the lane being used as a "free" car park for football supporters and keep the lane clear.

One of the problems apparently is that YTFC have 'lost' a lot of their traffic cones. If you know where there are any traffic cones hidden in hedges, gardens, etc., which have been removed from the YTFC area after a football match, could you either take them to the Football Club or ring Liz James on 424332. Maybe they could run a 'sponsor a cone' scheme.



A few weeks ago there was a bit of a traffic problem when a car boot sale was held at YTFC premises. We are advised that this was a one-off due to a double booking at Yeovil Show Ground.

Planning

Not a great deal to report really, planning applications seem to have dried up a bit. We have had another disappointment with an application to redevelop a site at the junction of Boundary Way and Oak Way on the Lufton Business Park. The parish council were unhappy with the amount of parking being provided but apparently it's within the 'guidelines' so that's alright then!

You may have noticed that development of the land at Alvington Farm is going on apace. One of the parish council's concerns with this site was to do with traffic along Alvington Lane. This lane is being widened but we still have some reservations.

CRIME and DISORDER

Not much room for a major report this time. We have a new beat officer in PC Jackie Poole who came along to the last BPC meeting. We are advised that crime levels are generally reducing and that anti social behaviour is also reduced. There were some problems a few weeks ago with youths from Chilthorne Domer migrating



to Oak Tree Park via Thorne but we understand that this has settled down. - if you know better please let the Police know. Recent 'activity' in the area alongside the stream at Abbey Manor has resulted in quite a bit of damage to trees. If you see anything of this nature happening please report it. Without information the Police can't build up a picture of what's going on.



SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Update On The Garden Waste Collection Service:

This year all District Councils across Somerset have agreed to continue subsidising the garden waste collection service. Actual costs for providing the wheeled bin service are around £50 per year per user for South Somerset (over £70 in the first year when the bins are provided) but garden waste customers are only being asked now to contribute £35.

The current leases on the lorries used on the scheme expire in August. Replacement vehicles are being procured and built at this moment and should be ready for service in August. Each of these will have double the capacity of the existing vehicles and SSSDC will be able to take on everyone on the waiting list in the serviced areas at this point.

South Somerset are committed to helping you manage your garden waste, either through collections where practical and available or through home compost bin offers from Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP). You may be interested to hear that SWP have agreed an ongoing compost bin promotion with bins starting from just £16.50 from April 1st. To order either go to the SWP website (www.somersetwaste.gov.uk) or phone 0845 130 6090. The website will also soon be updated with information about how you can make your own low cost compost bin.

Home composting is clearly the cheapest and most environmentally friendly way of recycling your garden waste, but SSSDC are still committed to providing a garden waste collection service for those unable to compost that represents good value for money.



Innovation Centre

South Somerset's Innovation Centre at Copse Road is proving to be quite a success with many of the units now occupied. On 13th June a South Somerset Together ZeroSom Sustainability Event was held (see picture).



If you're driving past you may notice a new feature on the skyline. A wind turbine has been installed to service part of the electricity demand for the Innovation Centre. This turbine is fairly modest by normal standards but it's a start.

New Play Areas

South Somerset District Council has just opened two fantastic new play areas. One of these is at Ninesprings and the other is at Yeovil Recreation Ground (no, it's nothing to do with the Sports Zone).

Lots of great new equipment has been provided. At the Yeovil Rec 'Flagship Playspace' you should find :

- o Tree house walkways with rope bridges, net tunnels and climbing walls
- o Shipwreck
- o Skull and snake themed tunnel slides
- o Aerial runway/zipline
- o Tyre swing
- o Large sand pit
- o Water play
- o Use of ground contouring, boulders and plants to enhance and create an interesting space for play
- o Terraced seating area
- o Refreshments kiosk located in the existing pavilion



The revamped play area at Ninesprings includes:

- o Increased size of the play area
- o New Climbing Frame/Fort
- o New Net Swing
- o New Play Train
- o A Large Sand Play Area
- o Water Play
- o Net Tunnel and variety of new Climbing Equipment

See SSSDC's website for further details of these great new facilities.

I wish I was young again!! In my day all you had were some dodgy swings and a slide.

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

We eagerly await what the new Conservative led Council will bring but in the meantime:



Highways

You will have noticed that lots of potholes are being filled. The winter has had a toll on our roads and now that Spring is here County Highways are working flat out to carry out repairs. It's often a question of whether they will run out of time first or money!

Verge Cutting

Cutting of verges (or lack of) is often a cause of complaint. The following explanation of the policy may be of interest.

The highway network is vital to the people of Somerset as travel is an integral part of life for each individual and for the local economy. During the growing season Somerset Highways carry out a number of environmental maintenance operations to ensure the safe passage of all road users.

Grass Cutting

Highway verges are cut a minimum of one swathe width (around one metre width) to provide a safe refuge to pedestrians, preserve visibility and assist the flow of surface water along road channels. Visibility sight lines are also cut to meet safety requirements at road junctions and bends. 'A' and 'B' roads are cut twice a year and 'C' and unclassified roads are cut once subject to seasonal growth.



Grass cutting of highway verges in urban areas is normally undertaken by the District Councils. Further information on the standard used can be obtained from your District Council. Somerset County Council contributes towards the cost of amenity grass cutting.

Verge cutting in the rural areas usually commences in early May. The busiest routes are cut first due to the higher volumes of traffic using this part of the highway network.

Hedges and Banks

Where there are no verges and the roads are immediately bordered by a bank or hedge, a vertical cut of seasonal growth is cut to a sufficient height to accommodate vehicular traffic using the road. The majority of hedges bordering the highway are in private ownership. Landowners and occupiers are required to maintain their boundary, outside of the bird nesting season (1 March - 31 July) to ensure that their hedge, tree or shrub does not obstruct highway users nor obstruct visibility splays. Any debris should be removed from the road surface to prevent nuisance or blockage of surface water drainage systems.

Roadside Ditches

Ditches adjacent to roads form an important and integral part of draining the highway. The efficiency of these ditches is dependant upon adequate maintenance. The owner of land adjoining a highway has a common law duty to scour and cleanse the ditches that adjoin the highway to prevent them from causing a nuisance to road users.

Weed Spraying

Weed spraying is carried out to all kerbed sections of road to prevent damage to the road and footway structure, to prevent obstructions to drainage and to maintain a safe environment for the travelling public. Somerset County Council's policy of weed management is one of control, not eradication. This is done approximately twice a year using sprays that take into account the safety of operatives, the public, timing of control, size of infestation, effectiveness, and the effect on the environment. The first treatment this year will commence mid-April for the duration of approximately six weeks. The second treatment is planned for mid August with completion by the end of September, subject to growing conditions and weather.

The invasive weed species currently being treated in Somerset are Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed.

Conservation

Somerset County Council's Environmental Maintenance Policies are directed to conserve flora and fauna on roadside verges, as well as protecting wildlife, whilst not jeopardising safety.

ABBEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Following many years of hard work and the successful conclusion of the improvement project several of the ACA Committee members have stood down. The new Chairman is Tim Biggs and there is a new Treasurer.



OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Southwest Trains

We reported in the last edition of Newslink a proposal to reduce opening hours of the railway station office at Crewkerne. In spite of the recent campaign and subsequent ruling by Lord Adonis, the Transport Minister, we understand that Southwest Trains are still seeking to reduce the opening hours of their station booking-offices. They will monitor the number of tickets purchased at the stations for each shift and if these do not reach a certain level, they will apply for the offices to be closed on the grounds that opening is not justified.

The public are being asked therefore, if they will make as much use as they can of their local station to buy tickets (rather than using the internet) so that Southwest Trains cannot cite "insufficient use" as the excuse for withdrawing this valuable facility.

It's a case of 'Use it or Lose it'



News from St. James Church

Thank you to those who gave generously during Christian Aid week recently - at time of writing we don't have a grand total, but it's great to see that during the 'crunch' people are staying generous.



Coming Up:

Midweek Groups for parents and pre-schoolers continue: Tuesday Tots & Toys, 10am St. James Church Room (contact Becky 422286)

Wednesday Abbey Parents and Toddlers, 10am Abbey Community Centre (contact Karen 425877)

Baptisms and Weddings:

It's a busy time of year for those celebrating new life and new families, so if you were thinking about contacting the church for a christening, especially if you have a date in mind, then 'sooner rather than later' is the advice!

There are also new rules covering weddings: previously, only people living within the parish of St. James (roughly bounded by Preston Rd., Ilchester Rd. Thorne Lane and Western Avenue) could be married there. There's now a lot more flexibility, so if your parents or grandparents had contact with a particular church (baptism, marriage, church members) then you can be married there without a special license.

For more information about St. James or St. Peters church, service times or other enquiries, please contact Rev. David Keen (422286) or Rev Tony Perris (429398)

Are you interested in handicrafts?

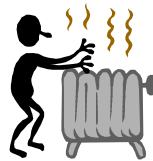
If you're interested in making cards, scrapbooks or other crafts, Liz James (the Clerk) is considering setting up a club to meet upstairs in the community centre from September. Depending on hall bookings it is hoped to hold this on a Thursday evening from 7 - 9. The idea being to meet, share ideas, make things, possibly have a swap table and to have an occasional demonstration. The cost would be solely to cover the cost of the meeting room hire, refreshments and speakers.



If you're interested please contact Liz at 102 Monks Dale

SAVE MONEY AND STAY WARM

The Centre for Sustainable Energy is working in Partnership with your District Council, to promote energy savings, grants and discounts throughout South Somerset.



The newly launched **Warm Streets** programme is just one of a number of schemes available to help residents to heat their homes for less.

Funded by South Somerset District Council, **Warm Streets** offers free cavity wall (and in many cases loft) insulation to homeowners and private tenants over the age of 70 or in receipt of a qualifying benefit. Benefits include Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance.

Householders over 60 and families with children under 16 with a low income and low savings may also be entitled to free measures through a council grant. And for those households that don't qualify for free installation, considerable discounts can still apply.

Warm Streets manager, Helen Richardson says: "Insulating your walls and roof can make a dramatic difference to both your fuel bills and the comfort of your home. An uninsulated house will lose approximately 35% of its heat through its walls and 25% of its heat straight through the roof!"

Other grants and discounts, such as Warm Front, Warm Front 300 and the Magic Boiler Scheme, are also available to help fund the installation of heating or repairs to existing systems.

If you would like further information on any of the above, or other energy-related matters, please contact the South West Energy Saving Trust advice centre on **0800 512 012**. Their team of advisors can help you access a range of local and national energy efficiency grants and discounts as well as offering free, impartial advice on how to reduce your fuel bills through low cost and no cost measures.

Youth Café

Would you be interested in assisting with running a youth café at The Forum Café. This would be held on one evening per week and will be aimed at young people of 11-15 years of age. A CRB check would be required but this would not cost anything and the Parish Council can arrange for this to be done. Please contact the Clerk if you would be willing to help.



Somerset Rural Youth Project working at Oak Tree Park



The Somerset Rural Youth Project have been working with young people aged 13 - 25 years old at Oak Tree Park on the Abbey Manor Estate since March and during this time have engaged with over 40 young people from Abbey Manor, the surrounding area and villages who use or have visited the park. There are a core of about 15 young people who regularly meet with the youth workers on a Monday evening at the park between 6.30pm and 8.00pm. The project has been talking to the young people about the facilities at the park and in their community. Following a prioritising exercise the young people have come up with a list of things they would like to see happen including: painting and repairing of the skate ramps, a new mini spine, improved lighting, a new or refurbished shelter, increased PCSO presence, more activities and organised trips.

During April and May the Café Forum opened its doors on a Tuesday evening for the young people to meet and work on the project and many thanks to Mary and Sarah for accommodating the project and the young people. At one of the café sessions Steve Barnes, Play and Youth Facilities Officer at South Somerset District Council came along and talked to the young people about their ideas and the issues raised. The outcome of this meeting was very encouraging with a promise that the skate ramps will be repainted and repaired during the next few months and further investigation into the installation of a mini spine, improvement to the lighting and a new or refurbished shelter. In June the young people will be working on funding applications and preparing a presentation for the Parish Council with a view that they can work together to bring their ideas to fruition.

In addition to the project work the Youth Workers have been providing information and facilitating discussions on subjects such as substance abuse, safe sex, health, relationships, exams and careers. The young people have also participated in a range of activities such as circus skills, rounders, cricket, a scavenger hunt and quizzes.

Feedback from the young people has been positive: "you brighten up my Monday's", "if you were not here I would be getting into trouble", "the Youth Workers are professional, informative and fun".

For further information on the Somerset Rural Youth Project see: www.sryp.org.uk



Hi,

We are very pleased to announce the launch of a new free online art magazine for the South-West called ArtReviewSouthWest (www.artreviewsouthwest.org). The magazine features art of the South-West. Articles are short and interesting and talk about a wide range of art. Check us out at www.artreviewsouthwest.org.

Kind Regards
Jackie Allman



Tax Efficient Investing Made Even Simpler



Most people dream of what they will do once they have retired. Equally, however, many people fail to plan ahead to ensure that their vision of the ideal way to spend their later life becomes a reality.

It's never too early to start investing for retirement. The earlier investments are made, the more time they have to grow and reap the proven benefits of a long-term investment strategy. And investing for the long-term really is the key to successful planning for retirement.

However, there's far more to investing for retirement than simply putting money into a plan every year. Making the most of retirement savings requires clearly defined objectives and a solid investment strategy based on specific long-term goals. This involves determining the amount of annual income required in retirement and the amount of wealth that must be accumulated to generate that level of income.

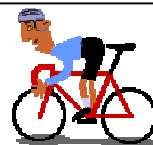
Clearly, with an ageing population, there are going to be far greater pressures on the already stretched State pension provision. In addition, new government legislation will increasingly make people become more responsible for their own pension provisions through taking out their own personal investment plans (including SIPP's). This is why now's the time to get ahead of the game.

Once an investor has determined their long-term retirement goals, there are a number of considerations to be borne in mind:

- **Contribute fully** - the investor should put as much as they can into their retirement plan every year. Any money sitting in low interest investments such as bank accounts will work much harder under the tax shelter of SIPP's, ISAs and other tax efficient forms of long-term investment.
- **Invest early** - already stated above, but so important that it's worth reiterating here.
- **Simplify and consolidate** - bringing investments together under one roof makes it easier to monitor performance and map the overall investment strategy.
- **Diversify** - investments should always be diversified among asset types for greater investment potential and effective risk management. Diversification enables the investor to ride the ups, downs and natural cycles of the investment market.
- **Portfolio review** - this should be carried out at least once a year to ensure the diversification strategy is effective.
- **Equalisation** - retirement savings and retirement income can be evened out by making investment contributions in the name of a spouse. This equalisation can help reduce a couple's combined tax liability at retirement by preventing one spouse being taxed on the bulk of retirement income at higher rates.

Chris Leon

Tour of Britain cycle race,



The race is scheduled for September 17th and 18th. This year, the SW region has managed to secure two days worth of racing, which is approximately 75% of the total miles covered.

The first day will start in Frome, travel to Wells, Wedmore, Highbridge, Bridgwater, Minehead, Porlock before finishing in Bideford.

Day two will start at Haltherleigh, race to Okehampton, Exeter, Honiton, Chard, Crewkerne before finishing in Yeovil. The South Somerset part of day two will see the riders racing the A30 from Chard, through Crewkerne to East Chinnock. They then turn left, up Chinnock Hollow to Odcombe, straight over Odcombe crossroads, past Brympton D'Evercy House to the roundabout. Turn right, past Yarlinton Homes and Aerosystems, left, past the Crematorium, straight over the Asda roundabout and the Houndstone Retail Centre roundabout, up the hill to the former Yoplait factory, left into Copse Road, left again into the car park of Yeovil Town Football Club to the finish line.

The finish will be in the early afternoon. Volunteers are required and registration will close on Friday 14th August 2009. Further information is on-line at http://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/_ns_volunteer/ but if you don't have access to the internet please contact the Clerk.

What would a marshal's role include?

It's all basic common sense really.

Making sure the riders have a clear route and that enthusiastic spectators don't accidentally get in their way by:

- o Managing crossing points.
- o Making sure cars don't try to use closed roads.
- o Giving spectators information when asked.

Please download the Volunteer Information document for more information.

Somerset's Woodland Strategy



An update on the latest progress with Somerset's first county-scale Woodland Strategy. It is currently in draft form and out for public consultation until the 19th June.

The document is available from <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/etes/consultation/woodlandstrategy/> in 9 parts, along with a questionnaire that you may like to use should you wish to comment on the strategy. In particular, the County Council would like to know whether you agree with their recommended actions and whether these can be improved (the comments box can be used to make further comments).

St James Rainbows -



urgently need some new leaders.

No experience needed, training given. Fun and friendly crowd.

Age group 5 to 7 years old. Meet at St James Church, Friday 6.15 to 7.15 pm.

For more details please contact Anna Shutler (Yeovil Guide Division Commissioner) (01935) 848768

Motoring with Pete



When cars were first invented, because they were so slow nobody bothered with car insurance. By the start of the 1914-18 war the motor vehicle had developed dramatically and its role was considerable during the conflict. As a result of the war many people were trained to drive the vehicle used in action, with the result of a dramatic increase of interest in the motor vehicle, so that by the end of the war people were returning from the conflict with an interest to continue their driving experiences. Even at this stage in time no compulsory requirement for motor insurance existed.

The price of a motor vehicle was certainly out of the reach of most people until the availability of hire purchase in the 1920's. Hire purchase suddenly opened the gateway for many people to afford their own motor vehicle and suddenly the motor vehicle became a common sight on the roads of Britain.

Due to the poor standard of driving skills, and little road discipline, remember there was still no driving test, you just applied for a licence and off driving you went, with the result that accidents soon became a common sight on the roads of Britain. A situation soon became apparent in the fact that many people who had taken on the cost of buying their own vehicle were now finding themselves out of pocket if their vehicles were damaged or destroyed. The other side of this was the total lack of compensation for those innocent victims involved in these road traffic accidents, which lead to the introduction of the first "Road Traffic Act".

In the 1930 Road Traffic Act it was made compulsory for vehicle owners and drivers to be insured for their liability for injury or death to third parties whilst their vehicle was being used on a public road. Motor Insurance as we know it today had been born.

To begin with most people used the same "Insurance Broker" for their vehicle as they used for their house and life insurance. In the early years of High Street Broking the whole procedure was based on the personal touch, with the Broker able to offer quotations from up to 50 Insurance Companies and also easy payment schemes. The expansion and growth of the motor insurance market seemed endless until the night of the 2nd. March 1971. when "Vehicle and General" owned by Dr. Emile Saundra collapsed overnight, due to the fact that "V & G" had endured massive claims as a result of the careless regard for the risks they were underwriting from all the High Street Brokers.

During the 1970's and 80's the High Street Brokers thrived and many household names became established, for example "Swintons". Once again it seemed that nothing would stop the massive growth of Insurance and High Street Broking until the development of the "Computer". When computers appeared on the scene, firms like Swintons took full advantage of them and before long they had spread throughout the country and became the biggest and best known High Street Broker in Britain. Computers had developed so much that their use had become very relevant. It seemed that the industry had undergone the biggest change that could ever happen, until a further, and bigger revolution occurred in 1985.

In 1985 a man called Peter Wood had the foresight to see that the combination of massive countryside advertising, computers, phones and the investment of a large company to underwrite the insurance would clean up a high street market restricted by overheads and a soft approach to selling. He also had the idea of the "Call Centre" that would handle the business that dozens of High Street Brokers would handle but at a fraction of the cost, "Direct Line" had been born. Direct Line were not Brokers they were Insurers, and soon became the largest motor insurers in Britain.

The "Internet" has, and is set to cause a revolution within the insurance market place because of its interactive online capabilities. The most popular form of marketing and consumer interest at the present time is the "Insurance aggregators market place" where customers can go onto price comparison sites such as "Confused. com" or "Moneysupermarket. Com" By answering one set of questions the consumer is then presented with a variety of insurance prices from which they can then go to that company and purchase their insurance at competitive rates.

COMMUNITY CHOIR



Would you like to join a new community choir? The Yeovil Music Centre has started up a new Community Choir (SATB) and are welcoming all new members aged 16 and over.

Tuesdays, term time, 7.30 - 8.30pm, Holcote House, Yeovil College, £2 per session.

COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA



Do you play an instrument? Would like to play with others? If you are grade 5 or above, aged 16 or over, please come along and join us.

Tuesday, term time, 7.30 - 9.00pm, Holcote House, Yeovil College, £3 per person

Programme:

Tuesday Evenings	
Junior Choir (4-9yr olds)	5.00 - 6.00pm
Junior Recorders	5.00 - 5.30pm
Senior Recorders	5.30 - 6.00pm
Theory Groups	5.00 - 6.00pm
Junior Strings	6.10 - 6.40pm
Senior Strings	6.45 - 7.15pm
Pop and Gospel Choir	6.10 - 7.15pm
Wind Band	6.10 - 7.15pm

Fees per term: £15 half hour activity, £30 hour activity, £10 each additional half hour Concessions for income support For details please ring **07811 760255**

Definitions



- Adult* - A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.
- Beauty Salon* - A place where women curl up and dye
- Cannibal* - Somebody who is fed up with people.
- Committee* - A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.
- Gossip* - A person who will never tell a lie if the truth will do more damage.
- Handkerchief* - Cold storage.
- Mosquito* - An insect that makes you like flies better.
- Secret* - Something you tell to one person at a time.
- Toothache* - The pain that drives you to extraction.
- Tomorrow* - One of the greatest labour saving devices of today.
- Yawn* - An honest opinion openly expressed.



Annual Report from Brympton Parish Council 2009

The Council has had another busy and successful year, and I would like to thank both new and old councillors for their dedication to the interests of the residents of Brympton.

We lost Caroline Edwards and Tony Powell but were fortunate to have Darren Shutler and Mark Amor join us so we continue to have a full council.

Particular thanks are also due to both our SSDC Councillors (Peter Seib and John Richardson) and to our County Councillor Sam Crabb for their continued support.

Quality Status - has now been awarded to Brympton Parish Council and we are now seeking the final element being the Power of Well Being, which hopefully should be achieved this year

Larkhill Open Space Project - progresses now with physical evidence on the ground (footpath, bridge and clearance works). I would like to take this opportunity to thank Steve Fox and Darren of SSDC for all the work they have both undertaken on this project and may I say I think the improvements have been really good so far.

Abbey Community Centre - The Parish Council took out a 5 year loan from the Public Works Loan Board to assist with the refurbishment project of the community centre and the project is now complete. We are all aware of the problems encountered during the last year with this project, but these have now been finally resolved. The centre can now move forward for many years of successful community usage.

The Noise 2008 - was again very successful last summer, whether we decide to continue this event as a bi-annual event or at all is for discussion in the autumn.

Grants - have been given to numerous bodies this year who provide potential benefit to our residents i.e. St Margaret's Hospice, Citizens Advice, Age Concern and a number of others

Unitary Status - Although not approved for Somerset an interesting outcome has been the Joint Area Committees of SSDC and SCC on which parishes have a non-voting representative. It will be interesting to see if the voice of Parish Councils becomes more valid in the future at this level of government.

Planning - continues to be a significant item to the Council but the "down-turn" affecting the building trade seems to have been reflected in the "fall off" of activity on Key Sites.

Meetings - Over the last year the Council has met on 13 occasions at 3 venues across the parish.

Financial Report

Summary of Financial Statement year end 31 March 2009

Income

Balances brought forward	£67,065
Annual Precept	£47,747
Other receipts	<u>£38,570</u>
	£153,382

Expenditure

Staffing costs	£15,837
Other expenditure (including purchase of street furniture, grants, cemetery, Larkhill Open Space Ranger, roundabout sponsorship, repairs to play equipment, training, etc.	<u>£104,210</u>
	£120,047
Balances carried forward	£33,335

Your Parish Council

Elizabeth Glaisher (Chairman)	11 Athelney Way, Yeovil, BA21 3TN
Roger Meecham	13 Tintagel Road, Yeovil, BA21 3RE
Mark Amor	47 Shrewsbury Road, BA21 3UY
Peter Dutton	46 Thorne Gardens, Yeovil, BA21 3RG
Alan Graham	96 College Green, Yeovil, BA20 4JU
Denise Jagger	2 Poplar Drive, Yeovil
Chris Legg	3 Glastonbury Court, Yeovil, BA21 3TW
Graham Pritchard	10 West Combe, Yeovil, BA21 3UE
Peter Seib	11 Forde Park, Yeovil, BA21 3QP
Darren Shutler	79 Merevale Way, Yeovil, BA21 3UW
Mary Thomas	40 Elmleigh, Yeovil, BA21 3UJ
Parish Clerk: Elizabeth James	102 Monks Dale, Yeovil, BA21 3JH

Parishioners can contact the Parish Council by:
 Telephone: 01935 424332
 e-mail: clerk@brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk
 or by writing to: Brympton Parish Council, FREEPOST NAT 14843, Yeovil, BA21 3TZ

Parish Council Meetings



Members of the public are always welcome at Brympton Parish Council Meetings and there is an open forum at the start to raise any concerns. Agendas are published on the Parish Notice Boards 5 days before the meetings and also on our web site www.brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Please note that all meetings at the Community Centre are held in the 'Parish Room' and access to this room is from the ramp, sited between the Centre & The Arrow. There is NO access from the main hall.

Next meetings:

24th June 2009	Abbey Community Centre
23rd July 2009	Jubilee Hall, Thorne Coffin
19th August 2009	Jubilee Hall, Thorne Coffin
23rd Sept 2009	Airfield Tavern

All meetings to start at 7.30 p.m.

Brympton Newslink is published by Brympton Parish Council and is normally delivered to about 3,000 houses in the parish.

Our thanks to St James Scouts who are helping to deliver this edition of Newslink.

The views in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of Brympton Parish Council or the Editor (Roger Meecham)