

# Burbage Parish Council Newsletter



## What's to do at Britannia Fields? Watch this space

GENEROUSLY blessed with recreation grounds and play spaces, Burbage is a place where people of all ages who are keen on keeping bodies (and minds) busy can find something to do.

Offering them a popular choice is part and parcel of tasks taken on board by Burbage Parish Council and it involves a rolling programme of improvement. Add a set-aside budget (with an eye peeled for opportunities of funding assistance wherever available) and a readiness to listen to what people actually want and the result is that there's almost always something going on to improve amenity spaces and facilities in the parish.

Play equipment that lasts for ever hasn't been invented... and the choice of play space adventure doesn't stand still either, with each new generation of youngsters demanding something as good or better when it's time to renew equipment showing the effect of hard usage.

The next issue of new gear is lined up for the Britannia Fields recreation ground. The parish council is already talking to play equipment suppliers and has started the always-essential consultation process, asking potential users what they would like to see. So members of the 1st Britannia Cub Scout Group, who have their HQ on the site, were welcomed to a council meeting this month to present their ideas. They are working on a project towards gaining "Community Impact" badges and the enterprising lads, who have conducted a survey of more than 300 children aged between 8-10 years (a survey of 11-plus youngsters is in hand) made the point that although the field area at Britannia Road is vast, it doesn't have a lot to offer those over 8.

Top of their wish list... a skate/bike park, followed in the popularity voting by a zip wire. The council's Open Spaces Working Party are on it.

## A vision for Burbage is waiting on YOUR opinion

IT HAS taken a while to reach this important stage, but the first full-on sighting of a plan likely to influence the future of Burbage is now available to the people who live here. Along with those who work or conduct business in the area, and all statutory consultees, they can take a look at the Draft Burbage Neighbourhood Development Plan, before its submission for approval.

The plan represents months of investigation, research and opinion-gathering in which volunteer teams (with some professional help) sought to establish the optimum future shape and development of the parish. Their work started in 2015 and topics addressed have ranged from housing development to heritage, transport and highways to employment and commerce issues. Arriving at a wish list for the parish involved countless consultations, to ensure the draft plan embraces the community's right to engage in neighbourhood planning.

The final feed-back process will last for six weeks, starting on 9th October and closing on 20th November, 2017.

To view an online copy of the draft plan visit (from 9th October) <http://www.burbage-council.co.uk>.

If you do not have internet access, a paper copy of the draft plan can be examined during the consultation period at the Burbage Parish Office at the Millennium Hall, Britannia Road, Burbage, LE10 2HF. The office is open Monday-Friday, between 9am-12pm.

A pre-submission comments form will be available for public responses. This form can be downloaded from the parish council's website or a paper copy collected from the Parish Office. Completed forms in paper version can be posted in a drop-off box at the Parish Office or electronic forms emailed to [neighbourhoodplanning@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplanning@ruralcc.org.uk). Alternatively, post response forms to John Preston, Neighbourhood Planning Officer, Rural Community Council (Leicestershire & Rutland), Community House, 133 Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5LQ.

Forms must be returned by 20th November. It is the last time the Burbage Neighbourhood Plan Group will be asking people for their comments. All responses received by that date will be considered by the team and may be utilised to amend the Plan.



## Poppies, roses, and a day to remember ordinary men who were special

PEOPLE paying homage to those who gave their lives fighting for village and country will get a better view on Remembrance Day this year of the handsome memorial to the fallen of Burbage. Some judicious hedge-cutting has opened up a freshened vista that has earned the admiration of more than one onlooker, impressed by a stunning view in evening light.

They have also enjoyed the roses – three dozen different David Austen varieties were planted a while ago to revive an old tradition honouring Burbage heroes named on the memorial.

Armistice Day will be marked in the village on Sunday, 12th November this year and while there may be no roses blooming by then, there will be an extra splash of colour on the parade route, where emblem poppies will be fixed to lighting columns. Parade and service details in next newsletter.

THE elected membership of Burbage Parish Council is: Sketchley: Stan Rooney (chairman), Mike Hall, Amanda Wright, Christopher Ashton. Lash Hill: Ann Hall, Howard Wilkins, Stuart Bray, Mark Nickerson, Roger Johnson. Stretton: Peter Morris, Liz Rooney, Keith Lynch. Tilton: Richard Flemming, Lucie Hoelmer, Noel Robinson, Tony Illiffe. St Catherine's: Peter Wallace, Mary Sherwin, Andrew Clayton (vice chairman).

• A POLL to fill a parish council vacancy in Stretton ward, following the death of Cllr Mr David Inman, has been fixed for Thursday, 16th November.

## CALENDAR or diary to hand?

Burbage's Bonfire Night has another early date this year - the annual pyrotechnics will illuminate Britannia Fields on Sunday, 29th October. Ticketing details available shortly.

Make a note, too, of a date unique to Christmas-time in Burbage. You can share the special magic of carol singing and an open-air service in Church Street on Friday, 22nd December, joining the throng around the Coronation Tree to get in the mood for the Christmas break. Road closures and waiting restrictions will be in force.

## A hand here and there would be so helpful

IT'S part of the rural fabric that helps Burbage nurture its village roots... and the community's monthly farmer's market ploughs on steadily as a popular attraction for shoppers looking for locally sourced products and fresh produce. But events like this don't run themselves and the hard-working team behind the array of stalls set out in Windsor Street on the first Saturday of the month could do with some help.

Sallie Hooper, of East Midlands Markets and Events, explained: "We need volunteer stewards to help marshal the road closure that operates between 7.30am and 2pm. They are there to ensure no cars, or mounted cyclists, enter the market area, so that the shopping public and stallholders are safe. Stewards also help the traders get their vehicles on and off the site."

The market opens at 9am and continues to 1pm. The organisation is also looking for someone willing to put up and take down the signs that advertise the market and indicate the road closure and traffic diversions, a job that takes about two hours. This is a paid post. If you can help, contact Sally Hooper for details on **07956 631683**, email [ogdgs@aol.com](mailto:ogdgs@aol.com) or [info@emme.uk.com](mailto:info@emme.uk.com).

• EXTRA hands are also needed to help the volunteer staff at Burbage's busy Community Library cope with demand.

If you could contribute an hour or two on admin duties, including issuing and re-shelving borrowed items, get in touch with the flourishing Church Street hub.

COUNCIL and committee meetings at the Millennium Hall in Britannia Road normally start at 7.30pm and follow this rota, subject to change if clashing with Bank Holidays: First Monday of month – Parish Council; second Monday, Planning Committee; third Monday, Finance & General Purposes Committee; fourth Monday, Planning Committee. Meetings in the weeks ahead: Monday, 9th October, Planning; Monday, 16th October, Finance and General Purposes; Monday, 23rd October, Planning. Monday, 6th November, Parish Council; Monday, 13th November, Planning; Monday, 20th November, Finance and General Purposes; Monday, 27th November, Planning.