

Burbage Parish Council Newsletter



July 2021

Top officer takes her leave

The Parish Council has said goodbye to Principal Officer Hazel Thomasson who is moving on after managing the local authority through some of its most challenging times.

Mrs Thomasson, who joined the Council in March 2012 as Deputy Principal Officer, had twice stepped up as Acting Principal Officer before being appointed to the top job in March 2018.

During her tenure, she oversaw the £1million redevelopment of Burbage Millennium Hall, the largest capital project to have been undertaken by the Council, and most recently steered staff and Members through the challenges of Coronavirus, including supporting home working arrangements and hosting remote meetings.

Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Keith Lynch said: **"Hazel has been a brilliant Principal officer and we will all miss her greatly."**

"On behalf of the whole Parish Council and, I am sure, very many of the residents of Burbage, may I thank her for her years of care and of superb service to the parish and wish her all the very best for the future."

Former Responsible Financial Officer and Deputy Principal Officer Juliet Perry has now been appointed to a combined post of Principal Officer/Responsible Financial Officer.



Following a recent committee meeting, Cllr Lynch presented outgoing Principal Officer Hazel Thomasson with a National Trust joint membership, to be shared with her husband, together with flowers and champagne.

Planting marks 75 years of peace

Members of the Royal British Legion Burbage branch have planted a new VE Day Memorial Garden which is being created outside Burbage Millennium Hall with the help of a £4,163 grant from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's Environmental Improvement Programme.

The garden will feature a memorial rock bearing a plaque from 1995, previously sited to the side of the hall, which reads:

"This garden is dedicated to all those who strove to end hostilities in 1945 and to commemorate 50 years of peace"

A plaque to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in 2020, when the new garden project began, will also be added.

Plants have been chosen for elements of red, white and blue foliage, flower and berries, for year-round interest and for their attraction to beneficial insects



and birds, increasing the site's biodiversity.

The RBL branch is the first group to sign up to carrying out work on behalf of the parish under the Council's new Volunteer Policy, with members meeting regularly on Mondays, primarily to maintain the War Memorial garden.

Burbage Parish Council's Volunteer Policy provides a framework for any group or individual wanting to contribute to the community by supporting the Council and ensures that volunteers – aged between 18 and 90 – are properly insured for the tasks they carry out. Any individual or community group interested in carrying out volunteer work across the parish is invited to contact the Council by emailing info@burbagecouncil.co.uk or calling 01455 637533.

Hanging gardens

Baskets are blooming around Burbage thanks to R C Smith Plants at Mancetter, who answered the Council's call for containers full of colour to bring some cheer in these still challenging times.

Deadlines and logistics meant it was not possible to involve Burbage Gardening Club in the planting, as in previous years. The Council has expressed its gratitude to Club members for their sterling work over the past two decades and hopes that, with its new Volunteer Policy in place, there will be other opportunities for floral co-operation in the future.

Carnival call

Burbage Carnival Committee has called off this year's planned event, which was to have been held on Sunday July 18.

Due to the delay in the easing of the Government's Coronavirus restrictions, the Carnival has been postponed until 2022.

However, the committee is continuing to work towards organising a community bonfire and fireworks event on November 7 this year if restrictions at the time allow.

Meetings for the month ahead

Council meetings are being held at Burbage Millennium Hall on Britannia Road, with strict procedures in place to ensure Covid safety and **public attendance limited to 6 people**. An agenda confirming date and start time will be published 3 working days ahead of each meeting on www.burbage-council.co.uk

At the time of printing, meetings were scheduled as follows:

- Parish Council – July 5
- Planning Committee – July 12 & 26, August 9
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – August 16

Your comments count on Zoom

To give as many residents as possible an opportunity to comment on planning applications affecting the parish, while **public attendance at formal Planning Committee meetings is restricted to a maximum of 6 people**, Councillors hosted a pre-planning Zoom meeting online on June 25.

For notification of and links to any future online meetings, please check the website www.burbagecarnival.co.uk

Contact us: The Parish Office remains open for business but is temporarily closed to visitors, in line with current Coronavirus restrictions. The best way to make contact is to email info@burbage-council.co.uk Alternatively, call 01455 637533 between 9am and midday Monday to Friday, or use the post box inside the front sliding door between 9am and 4pm on weekdays.

The next Parish Council newsletter is due out on August 16.
For more news, updates, and links to useful sites, please visit our website www.burbage-council.co.uk