

## Supporting the community through COVID-19

Who could have imagined how the world has changed since our last newsletter in February. We responded quickly to identify those in need, bringing together local volunteers and a support package for the community.



Since the start of lockdown we have distributed support leaflets to every household and set up a dedicated phone line to provide easy access to help, advice and practical support.

Through multi-agency working and local knowledge we identified a list of vulnerable people who we have contacted to ensure that they are safe, have the right support and everything they need. We have undertaken hundreds of welfare checks and phone calls over the past 15 weeks to ensure that shielding residents are keeping well and are not isolated.

Our team of dedicated volunteers have been out collecting prescriptions, essential shopping and delivering food parcels come rain or shine.

We have provided and delivered over 300 hot cooked meals to vulnerable older people shielding at home, from our kitchens at the Community Centre. We will continue to provide meals twice a week for those shielding over the summer.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to our volunteers who have given up their time to support our community and to all the NHS, care staff and other key workers who have looked after us all through this difficult time.

The parish council offices and community centre reopened to the public on 6 July and we look forward to welcoming back our groups and classes in September.

## Help for families through the summer holidays

We know that many families can struggle during the summer holidays when the normal support provided through schools is unavailable. This summer we have been working with local schools to ensure that families can still receive any support that they may need.

The Community Centre is open and can provide access to:

- Emergency food parcels and meals for families in need
- Access to Citizens Advice Bureau
- Free internet to help you access online support services
- General help, a friendly supportive chat and access to a range of specialist support services

If you need help and support, please contact us on: 01452 863123 or email: [office@brockworth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:office@brockworth-pc.gov.uk) You can also drop into the Community Centre anytime Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

## New Parish Clerk starts



Despite being in lockdown, the Parish Council and its staff have continued with its work and this has included recruiting a new Parish Clerk to lead council's work. Clare Nelmes joined us at the beginning of May and has been busy getting to know Brockworth and its issues and planning to deliver on a range of council projects and priorities.

If you need to talk to the parish council about a local issue, your first point of contact is Clare who is based at the Community Centre and can be contacted using the details below.

### CONTACT BROCKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

We are based at the Community Centre, Court Road, Brockworth, Glos, GL3 4ET (open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

Phone: 01452 863123

Email: [info@brockworth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@brockworth-pc.gov.uk)

Website: [www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk](http://www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk)

You can also contact us through our Facebook page

## Councillor vacancy

### Do you have what it takes to serve your community?

Following a resignation, we have a vacancy for a new Parish Councillor to serve the east ward of Brockworth and we are looking to co-opt a new Councillor as soon as possible.

If you are passionate about Brockworth, care about the issues it faces and have a few hours a week to play an active part in its future, we would love to hear from you. You must be over 18 years of age, on the electoral role and have lived or worked in Brockworth for the past 12 months to apply.

Further information about this voluntary role, eligibility criteria and application process is detailed in our Co-option Policy available on our website.

You can also contact the Parish Clerk for an informal chat about the role if you would like to know more, have any questions or wish to apply.

The closing date for applications is 4pm on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020.



**"Your Parish  
Council Needs  
YOU"**

## Dates for the diary

Details of all our meetings, agendas and minutes can be found on our website. You are welcome to observe all our meetings and there is a public participation session at the beginning of each meeting where you can ask questions or raise local issues. If you would like to take part in a council meeting, please contact the Clerk. Meetings start at 7pm and are currently taking place online via Zoom.

- 5th Aug Full Council
- 12th Aug Buildings & Grounds
- 19th Aug Planning, Highways & Environment
- 26th Aug Finance
- 2nd Sept Full Council
- 9th Sept Buildings & Grounds
- 16th Sept Planning, Highways & Environment
- 23rd Sept Communities
- 7th Oct Full Council

## Exciting improvement plans

Council may not have been able to physically meet, but online Council meetings, committee business and projects have still progressed during lockdown.



We have undertaken works to improve security at Mill Lane and new boulders and bollards have been installed and the carpark is now locked overnight. This is the start of a wider package of improvements at Mill Lane where we will also be looking at improving the play area, site access and paths and increasing site security. A working group has also been formed to develop a package of improvements for the cemetery.

The Council has also started the tender process for commissioning a new CCTV system which will cover various locations in Brockworth including Mill Lane, the Cemetery, Community Centre and Court Road.

B-Epic our new youth work provider has started delivering detached youth work around Brockworth until the Youth Centre can be safely re-opened.

As our improvement plans progress we will be consulting with local people so watch this space.

## Community grants open

We have launched our new community grants scheme, which is open to community groups providing a social, community or environmental benefit in Brockworth.

Do you need funding to:

- Support your groups running costs
- Buy equipment
- Run an event
- Provide support to vulnerable people
- Create a community art project
- Carry out an environmental improvement project

**The deadline for applications is Friday 23 October.**

Grants will be considered at Full Council in November and successful applicants will receive funding by the end of the year.

A copy of the application form and grants process is available from our website or from the Community Centre. Please contact the Clerk if you have any questions about how to apply.

Gloucestershire County Council are holding a consultation event on the proposed new special school in Brockworth on Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 4 – 7pm at the Community Centre. Visit [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/new-special-school](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/new-special-school) for info