

BROCKWORTH PARISH

Welcome to the Brockworth Council pages of the magazine. We hope you have enjoyed reading these pages and receiving information about Brockworth village and events that are taking place in Brockworth.

Please send your stories, articles or information about Brockworth to the Clerk at Brockworth Parish Council so that we can include in the next edition of the magazine. The deadline for the next edition is 10th March, and the magazines will be delivered at the start of April. For advertising requests, please contact the publishers of the magazine (details inside front cover page).

For parish council information, meeting dates, minutes of meetings, please see the Brockworth Parish Council website www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk

Brockworth Parish Council Offices are open Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm and are located in the Brockworth Community Centre on Court Road.

Telephone 01452 863123 or email clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk

the charity for
your community



The Citizens Advice Bureau will be offering a drop-in session on Tuesday afternoons 1.30 to 4.30pm at Brockworth Community Centre.

Come and talk to advisors about Housing, Debt, Benefits, Employment, Discrimination, Family matters and much more. No bookings needed, just call in and wait to be seen. Please see www.adviceguide.org.uk for further advice and information.

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL ADVICE SERVICE

Tewkesbury Borough Advice & Information is still available at Brockworth Community Centre on Tuesdays 9am to 12pm and Thursdays 2pm to 4pm. To contact Tewkesbury Borough Council at any other time, please telephone 01684 295010.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET CUTS

Brockworth Parish Council launched a campaign to keep Brockworth library and youth centre open and as part of that campaign we sent you all a card asking for your input as to what services, if any, you would like the parish council to put money towards to keep the services available in Brockworth. The cards were delivered during severe weather conditions in the days before Christmas and we're sorry that some houses were missed.

We're now looking at the responses and taking into account all the comments that we've received. The Parish Council has until 1st June to put in a business proposal to the County Council, so there will be more opportunities to make your views known. Brockworth Parish Council has requested a council tax figure of £153,000 which is a very slight decrease on last year. If any of the cut services are taken on by the parish council then they will be funded out of parish reserves for the first year.

We are inviting members of the County Council Cabinet to come and talk to residents of Brockworth at a **PUBLIC MEETING**. Please look out for notices publicising the event. We must show the County Council how we feel about losing the Library and Youth Centre in Brockworth.

BROCKWORTH SPORTS CENTRE

Extra Public Swimming During the Half Term Holiday:

Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February 2011 – 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Adults: £3.20 Children & Concessions: £2.00

Swim school children are free on presenting their membership card at reception. Children under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by an adult (of at least 16 yrs).

Crash Course Swimming Lessons:

Tuesday 22nd February to Friday 25th February 2011 (£18.00 for 4 lessons)

9.00am Stage 1 for beginners and nervous children

9.30am Stage 2 for confident non-swimmers who are comfortable in a swimming pool environment

10.00am Introduction to Synchronised Swimming for children who have completed Stage 4, looking for an alternative water-based skill

For further information or to make a booking please contact the Centre on 01452 864796

Cold Kills - Warm Homes Save Lives

Please take action to identify those in your community who may be living in cold damp homes.

Cold damp homes are most likely to be:

- private rented accommodation
- older traditional stone cottages and houses particularly end terraced and detached houses.

Those most at risk are:

- the over 80s
- vulnerable people
- the unemployed

Residents can call **0800 512 012** and ask for Gloucestershire Warm & Well who offer free independent advice about home insulation and keeping warm in winter.

Top Tips for winter warmth

- draught-proof doors and windows
- insulate the loft
- lag the hot-water tank and pipes
- arrange for cavity walls to be insulated.
- set the heating to between 18–21°C or 64–70°F
- use a hot water bottle or electric blanket – but never use both together.
- try not to sit still for more than an hour
- get up and walk around
- make warm drinks
- spread any chores throughout the day
- eat at least one hot meal every day
- have a hot drink before bed and keep a hot drink in a flask by the bed
- arrange a flu jab for the over 65s and for the under 65s with serious health conditions – check with your GP practice.



BIG SOCIETY

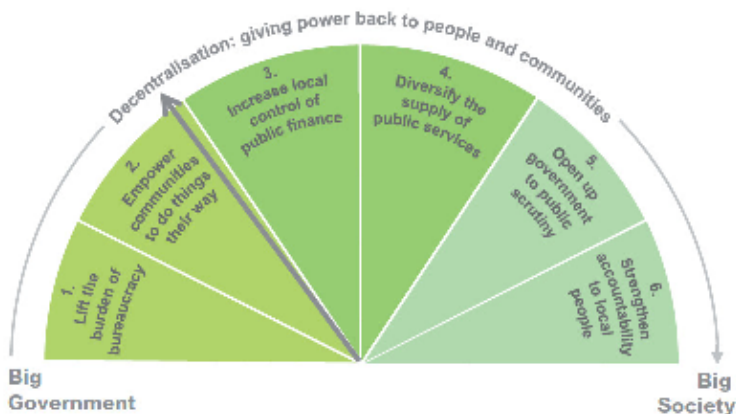
I'm sure a lot of you will have seen mention of the Localism Bill and the Big Society in the newspapers and on the news. If the Bill goes ahead as currently planned then a lot of changes and power will come down to community levels.

Here are some headline key points:

- a new power for local people to approve or veto excessive council tax rises through a local referendum, but with the intention that the majority of local councils will fall below the level set by the Secretary of State;
- a right for local councils – as well as voluntary and community groups, social enterprises and local authority employees delivering a service – to challenge a local authority, by expressing an interest in running any service for which they are responsible;
- the chance for communities to develop a bid and raise the capital to buy a local community asset when it comes on the open market;
- measures to give people, councillors and councils the power to instigate a local referendum on any local issue;
- a new general power of competence to provide local authorities – including certain local councils – to enable them to do anything apart from that which is specifically prohibited;
- changes to the Community Infrastructure Levy including provisions requiring some of these funds to be passed to neighbourhoods where the development has taken place;
- a new right for local councils to shape their local areas through neighbourhood plans which will enable communities to permit development – in full or in outline – without the need for planning applications;
- the power for communities to take forward development in their area without the need to apply for planning permission,

subject to meeting certain safeguards and securing 50 per cent support of the community through a referendum.

The Localism Bill has to go through a number of stages before it becomes Law and it will a year before any of it is Law. However, it is clear that communities will be able to take charge of shaping their neighbourhood and community and it is more important than ever to get involved and make your views known.



STREET LIGHTS

How do you feel about having 178 street lights in Brockworth switched off at midnight and back on again at 5.30am? The Parish Council is looking at a proposal by Gloucestershire County Council to convert 178 lights into part-night lighting. The benefits of these conversions are two-fold: a) reduced carbon emissions and b) reduced energy cost. It is estimated that for each individual street light conversion there will be a reduction of 40% in both carbon emissions and energy cost.

The street lights on the main road through Brockworth already dim at 10pm, and the lights ear-marked for part-night lighting are on the estate roads in Brockworth. There will be a public meeting where you can view the plan and make your comments. Please see notice boards and local press for the date of the meeting.

BROCKWORTH PARISH PLAN

Thank you to everyone who attended the drop-in sessions, it was good to meet and chat with you. Based on your comments, and the ones received in the initial 'likes & dislikes' sheet, we have put together a survey which will be sent to every household in Brockworth at the end of February.



It's really important that you take this chance to make your views known: these results will shape the actions to give the future for Brockworth that you want. The sorts of things we will be asking are:

“How would you like Horsbere Brook improved?”

“What other facilities would you like to see at the Community Centre?”

We know there seems to be a survey about everything these days, but we really hope you will give our Parish Plan one a few minutes of your time, to just tick against the options given. The data from the surveys will be kept anonymous, with a separate tear-off slip to enter the FREE PRIZE DRAW.

HELP WANTED: Would you be able to collect the completed surveys from the houses in your street? This would be a one-off job and if you can help us, please could you contact Julie on 01452 863123 or email clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk.

*“Brockworth Parish Plan: Proud of the Past,
Improving the Future for Everyone”*



There has been a Scout group in Brockworth since 22nd February 1938. It was on this date that the first troop meeting took place with 12 boys and their leader at the now demolished Robinson Memorial Hall. There may be many of the older generation that might remember this building. The troop remained at the hall until the outbreak of war when the hall was commandeered by RAF for the sitting of a barrage balloon.

During the war the group became quite nomadic having to move from accommodation to accommodation, namely Bentham church hall, then Brockworth church hall on Ermin Street. This was then taken over by the ARP making them homeless yet again. Not to be beaten the group began holding their meetings under an oak tree in Green Street where they continued to meet until after the war.

The group had many homes after this time but we were fortunate, with much hard work from past leaders and supporters, to raise enough funds to build our own hall, Vaughan Lodge in Clyde Road. Since the Official opening of 'Vaughan Lodge' in 1977, the 29th Gloucester Scout Group has seen many young people from Brockworth and the surrounding areas pass through their doors. Vaughan Lodge is not only the home of the 29th but is also rented by the 'Little Gems under 5's' Playgroup on weekday mornings, and the Brockworth Dog Training Club who hold their weekly meetings on two evenings a week at the Hall. Not only does this provide much needed community accommodation but helps us cover the cost of running the hall.

The 29th have been trying very hard to raise funds over the last 5 years to extend the hall. This would enable us to provide much

needed storage and training area. We would dearly love to be able to make a start on this project in 2011, this being our 73rd Anniversary year. We have raised several thousand pounds toward our project but we still need more. If there are people in the community who could donate their time, knowledge or experience to help us raise more funds or help us with their building expertise we would be extremely grateful, and who knows you may be helping to ensure that the 29th Scout group will still be here in another 73 years.

If you think you can help in any way, please contact Clive on 01452 713651 for more information.

During the last 12 months the 29th have been actively involved in the Brockworth community. We attend the Parish Fete, marched in the Remembrance Parade with the Royal British Legion with whom we have officially become affiliated youth members. Ending the year the **Cubs** visit Horsbere House where every year we sing carols and give presents to the residents and bag packing at Tesco. Throughout the year we also deliver the Brockworth Magazine to residents of Brockworth.

The 29th is split into three sections which cover many age groups. If you would like to join any of the following sections or would like more information please contact the relevant person. If you are an adult and would like to join us, either as supporter or help with section meetings, please contact any of the telephone. No experience needed just willingness and a sense of humour.

Beaver Scouts is for the youngest boys and girls aged between 6 and 8. The Beavers motto is 'Fun and Friends', which is what we hope you will do by joining – make new friends, play games, go on visits and help others. **Beavers** meet weekly during term time on a Monday evening from 6.30-7.45pm. Interested? Phone Mike or Alison on 01452 551757.

Cub Scouts are young people aged between 8 and 10.5 years old. **Cubs** get the chance to try lots of different activities for example, learning how to follow tracking signs. Map reading, computing, first aid and keeping yourself safe. You will also have the opportunity to help in the Community. All activities also go towards badges. There is an annual camp that takes place under canvas with many outdoor activities enjoyed by all the **Cubs**. **Cubs** meet every Wednesday evening from 7-8.30pm during term time. Interested? Phone Wendy on 01452 713651.

Scouts are older young people aged between 10.5 and 14.5 years old. As a **Scout** you are encouraged to take part in a wide range of adventurous activities, learn new skills, develop independent thinking and challenge yourself. Achievements are recognised in many ways, through badges and awards but also through your own personal growth and independence. **Scouts** meet every Tuesday evening from 7-9pm during term time. Interested? Phone Clive on 01452 713651.

We are currently trying to raise funds to extend and repair our Scout Hall. If you would like to volunteer to help us build or even have fixtures and fittings that we could use to update our hall, then please contact one of the leaders above. Thank you.

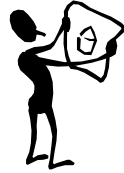
The “Shell Land”

Brockworth Parish Council bought the land behind the Shell garage some years ago and it is known locally as “The Shell Land”. We would like to hear some suggestions for a better name for this piece of land. We have recently planted 105 trees at the Community Tree Planting event, and locals regularly walk through the land on the public footpath on their way to Coopers Hill. Please write or email the parish clerk with your name suggestions. We will print a selection of the suggested names in the next newsletter and ask the Parish Council to choose the new name. Email clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk or write to the parish council offices on Court Road.

BROCKWORTH COMMUNITY PROJECT

SPRING TIMETABLE

This page removed from web version of newsletter due to space requirements. See "Community Education" on website for timetable.



PLANNING INFORMATION

There are a number of possible housing developments that are trying to come to Brockworth. Brockworth Parish Council is opposed to any future unsustainable development in Brockworth. Unsustainable is taken to mean developments that have not considered the impact they make on the present and future resources of an area and made provision for these. This includes provision of such things as education, community facilities, green open space, affordable housing, health care facilities, road and pedestrian needs etc.

Residents who wish to respond to Tewkesbury Borough Council about large housing development proposals may like to consider the following points:

What will be the Impact on the surrounding area:

Does the style and layout of the development seem appropriate to the size and scale of local housing?

Are 2.5 storey buildings too near to areas of bungalows or 1.5 storey housing?

How will the development look when approaching the village?

Is there enough Green Space provision?

Has the developer made provision for play areas, green spaces etc?

Should there be provision for community facilities?

Will the development be part of the village?

Is there enough provision for pedestrian access and from the village centre?

Are there safe routes to and from local schools and community facilities to encourage people to walk?

Drainage

Has adequate provision been made for drainage, given some areas of Brockworth have a history of flooding?

Is there social housing included in the plans?

There is a shortage of affordable housing for local people in Brockworth.

Does the plan provide for affordable housing? Is it enough? This could include shared ownership, elderly people's housing as well as rented schemes.

How will the development impact on the local road infrastructure?

Village roads are already congested at peak times.

Is there adequate access on and off the site?

Is there provision for adequate traffic management on existing roads, eg roundabouts or traffic lights?

Will it create more parking problems in and around the village?

How will local community facilities be affected?

Have they provided education and community facilities?

If they haven't, is there a need to contribute to expansion / improvement of current facilities?

Will the development impact on local GP / health care provision?

Will there be opportunities for local employment?

There is a limited amount of local employment for villagers.

Is there anything in the development that might help with this?

It is not helpful to make comments about non-planning issues, such as:

- The purchase price of your house
- Future value once the development takes place
- The type of people who might move in
- Where prospective tenants come from

You can get involved in fighting any future unsustainable developments by:

- Telling Brockworth Parish Council how the proposed development will impact your life
- Write to the planning officers at Tewkesbury Borough Council once a formal planning application has been submitted
- Respond through the planning portal on Tewkesbury Borough Council website at www.tewkesbury.gov.uk

If you wish to discuss the matter with the Parish Council, please contact us on telephone 01452 863123 or email clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk. Our postal address is:

Brockworth Parish Council Offices, Brockworth Community Centre, Court Road, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4ET

Do you need help with planning?

South West Planning Aid offers free, independent and professional advice and support on planning applications and development plans to individuals and community groups who cannot afford professional fees. Need help with planning application? Call the Casework Helpline on 0870 850 9807. Want to get your point of view across to the planners? Contact the Community Planning Helpline on 0117 929 7292

2011 Census: 27 March 2011



Help tomorrow take shape

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) carries out a census to find out more about the people who live in England and Wales and about the make-up of local neighbourhoods.

The next census will take place on 27 March 2011. ONS will be sending out questionnaires for around 25 million households to complete, asking about work, health, national identity, citizenship, ethnic background, education, second homes, language, marital status and so on. The answers will be turned into statistics used to build a picture of today's society.

Why should this matter to you?

Census population statistics are really important in understanding people's needs and making sure all communities get the services they need where they live.

It's simple. If the census can't see you, the organisations responsible for delivering the services you need won't be able to see you either. In discovering and understanding communities, the census could make a very real difference to people's lives. The census needs to include everyone, everywhere – and that's why everyone has to take part.

What will you need to do?

Just answer a few questions about yourself and the people who share your household with you on census day, 27 March 2011.

Whatever you tell the census will be in strictest confidence and will only be used to produce statistics. ONS will not share your personal information with any other government department or organisation.

You'll be able to do it online. Or by post. But you must do it. If you need help and advice, you will be able to find everything you need online and on the census helpline from 4 March 2011.

The census needs everyone to take part in helping tomorrow take shape – and this will be your chance to make a difference.

Find out more about the census by going to www.2011.census.gov.uk

BROCKWORTH YOUTH CENTRE WEEKLY PROGRAMME

Day	Time	SESSION	School Year
Mon	4:00-6:00	FOOTBALL	7-11
	4:45-6:30	INTERMEDIATES	8-11
	7:00-9:00	BROCKWORTH YOUTH COLLECTIVE	11+
Tues			
Weds	1:00-3:00	BROCKWORTH SCHOOL SUPPORT	8-11
	7:00-9:00	SENIORS	11+
Thurs	4:30-6:30	JUNIORS	6 + 7
	6:30-8:30	INTERMEDIATES	8-11
Fri	6:00-9:00	OPEN YOUTH CLUB	7-13

Calling everyone involved in sport and physical activity in Brockworth

Would you like some help with funding? Use of a minibus?

Need to attract new members to your club?

Are you interested in sport but not sure what's happening in the community?

The new CSPAN (Community Sports and Physical Activity Network) could help you.

Get in touch with Neil Meynell Sports Development Officer at Tewkesbury Borough Council 01684 272092 email neil.meynell@tewkesbury.gov.uk who will be organising a meeting for everyone interested. He would like to make contact with every sports group in Brockworth and will be setting up a database to help promote your club.

Who knows what could come out of it, in Tewkesbury a boxing club has been set up!

Brockworth Children's Centre

Would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and to remind you all that we are open as normal. The cold weather is upon us; while we will make every effort to stay open please contact the Children's Centre to ensure we are open before setting out on your journey.

For those of you, who don't know where we are, we are located within the grounds of the Brockworth Primary School on Moorfield Road. The centre has a reputation as a place of opportunity, education and fun for children and adults alike.

Dad's Group dates for your diaries- Saturday 29th January, Saturday 26th February and Saturday 26th March.

The centre staff can also offer help and advice on more specific support and other groups available to such as Ante Natal Classes, Parenting, Weaning, Baby Massage, Smoking Cessation, Teenage Pregnancy, Helping with Debt & Financial matters whilst promoting emotional health and wellbeing on a one to one basis if required.

For those of you that are interested in seeking employment, updating your CV, accessing training or both then why not make an appointment to speak to Danielle Turner our Journeys to Work Advisor.

If you would like any further information about any of our groups/sessions please pop into the centre or phone us on 01452 863617 or via email on Brockworthcc@gloucestershire.gov.uk and we can send out timetables and leaflets of the services and groups available.



**Brockworth Children's
Centre**
Moorfield Road,
Brockworth
Tel: 01452 863617

To help pay for snacks groups cost 50p per family per session.

Timetable from January 2011

Monday	9:00am-11:30am Baby Group (Ages birth to pre-toddler) Weaning Group {ask for dates}	12:30pm-2:30pm Antenatal Group with the Midwife (Bookings only)	12:30pm-2:30pm Childminder's drop-in	
Tuesday	9:00am-11:00am Toddler Time (Toddling to 2 years old)		1:30pm-3:00pm Baby Clinic with the Health Visitors (Collect your healthy start vitamins/drops using your voucher)	
Wednesday	9:30-11:30am Polish Group		12:30pm-3:00pm Parenting Puzzle Course (Invite only or phone for info)	1:00pm-3:00pm Relate Counselling (Appointments only)
Thursday	More Course's Coming Soon			
Friday	09:00am-11:00am Stay and Play (0-5 year olds) Toy Library open	10:00am-12:00pm Antenatal/Postnatal Drop-In with the Midwife (Collect your healthy start vitamins/drops using your voucher)	10:00am-11:00am Baby Massage (Bookings only)	1:00pm-3:00pm Parents Group Alternate Fridays See notice board for dates. (Crèche available, Please book at reception. £1 per session)
Dad's Group at Brockworth Children's Centre last Saturday of the month 10.00-12.00pm (0-6 year olds)				

Castle Hill Primary School

The term finished before Christmas with a continuing feeling of community spirit. Our Christmas Fayre was a tremendous success and we are grateful for the wonderful support from everyone. The event also gave the Year 5 and 6 children an opportunity to demonstrate their enterprising skills. After transforming their classrooms into an 'Aztec Café', they went about serving their customers refreshments. These were all made by the children using Fair Trade products. The menus were also carefully designed by them. Their Aztec Dance added additional reasons to visit this venue! The children's ability to work together productively was very commendable.

The real meaning of Christmas could not have been better portrayed to the children than their visit to St. George's Church. Everyone was overwhelmed by the effort the church team had gone to make the 'Christmas Experience' so interactive and atmospheric. We were very grateful to them all for their hard work. We were also lucky to have the 'Open the Book Team' organise the telling of the Christmas story through drama at our annual Christmas Singalong. We certainly completed the term feeling very festive.

This term already is gathering pace as the children spend time with their class teachers discussing their new topics to be studied. They are gathering together information about what they already know and what they need to find out. We will be using our local community and visitors as much as possible to make the skills that need to be covered more interesting and meaningful. Our aim, each term, is to provide at least one 'wow' moment that each child can identify and remember for the rest of their lives. A tall order, but we like a challenge!

Introducing The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club

The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club is a long-established organisation with about 200 members. Its purpose is to promote interest in the natural history, environment, antiquities and cultural history of Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds, and further afield. Each year, the Field Club organises a varied programme of coach excursions, most with a departure point in Brockworth. Plans for 2011 include:-

- a visit to Flaxley for wild flowers and ancient orchards;
- excursions by coach to Chastleton House in Oxfordshire, Boughton House and Gardens in Northants., Snowhill Manor in North Gloucestershire, and Greys Court, near Henley on Thames, also in Oxfordshire;
- a guided visit to St Mary's Church, Fairford, to view the most complete set of medieval stained glass windows in England;
- plus, in September, the much-anticipated week-long visit by coach to Northumberland.

We also have a series of Lectures on the first Wednesday each month, held in Painswick. This year, the Summer Evening Lectures include the following talks: Butterflies by the local Chairwoman of Butterfly Conservation; British Wild Flowers with hints on what to look out for on our visit to Flaxley; and A Taste of America, with particular emphasis on birds, all illustrated with fantastic photographs. The subjects of forthcoming Winter Afternoon Lectures include Sudden Cyprus, and the Flowers and Wildlife of India.

The Field Club also has a programme of guided walks, covering botany, geology and other aspects of natural history. Our first walk in March is a visit to Chase End Hill and British Camp in the Malverns, for the landscape and geology.

Membership costs £15.00 per year, and covers the walks and all lectures. The charge for the excursions is calculated for each trip, sufficient to cover the costs. If you would like to know more about the Field Club and how to join, please contact me on tel. 01452 813228.

Jane Rowe, Membership Secretary

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERYONE VOTES IN THE LOCAL ELECTIONS IN MAY 2011

Did you know that your local Councillors are consulted on nearly everything that happens in your area? They take an active part in influencing what services are and are not provided – and that affects you and your family.

Brockworth Parish Council is responsible for many things; bus shelters, the community centre, dog bins, the play areas, burial ground; it is also consulted by the County and Borough Councils on planning applications, highway improvements, street lights and projects. Local Councils are delivering more services for residents than ever before and with changes proposed by the new Coalition Government, Parish Councils will be in a position to do even more in the future.

Voting in the local Parish Elections takes so little time, but will have a daily impact on you for the next four years, because Councillors remain in office for a four year term.

Councillors live side by side with you in Brockworth; they are the most local level of Government, being easily contacted and directly answerable to the community every time they walk out of their front doors. They raise money, primarily through your Council Tax, to administer their decisions.

If you do not vote, others will and their views may change your life. Have a voice – vote in the local Election on 5th May 2011.

INTERESTED IN BEING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

The parish council elections are due to take place May 2011. If you are thinking about getting more involved with the community and want to help shape the future of Brockworth, then in May you will have the opportunity to become a parish councillor. For further information, please see Tewkesbury Borough Council's website - <http://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=3218>