

BRICKENDON LIBERTY

Newsletter

2026 – Spring (and early Summer) Edition No 173

www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk – website includes Minutes, Newsletters and Photos – to subscribe to updates please use 'subscribe to our updates' box on home page of website

X – formerly Twitter: @BrickLib

Facebook page: *Brickendon Liberty*

Brickendon WhatsApp group for reporting CRIME in the Parish: 07887 782567

Brickendon WhatsApp group for VILLAGE MATTERS: 07811 397399

The contents of this Newsletter are for the benefit of residents living in Brickendon Liberty Parish and are not for wider publication without permission from the Editor. While care is taken in presenting information, no responsibility can be accepted for inaccuracies or opinions that are not necessarily those of the PC, FRC or the editor.

ANNUAL FETE & FESTIVAL

A TRADITIONAL FUN DAY FOR ALL THE
FAMILY

Sunday 6th September 11.30am-3.30pm on
Brickendon Green

Lots of stalls, games and children's
activities, food, entertainment and more!

Can you help? Volunteers are needed to
start setting up on the previous day and at
9am on Fete Day. We also need help with
the Car Park and with serving refreshments,
as well as volunteers to run stalls and
games. Also wanted: **tombola prizes, bric-a-
brac, cakes, books and raffle prizes.**

DOG SHOW ... after many years organising
our Dog Show Debbie and friends are no
longer able to continue, we send them our
thanks for bringing so many canine friends
and their owners to our Fete. While we are
confident that the Dog Show will remain, if
anyone has a contact that may be able to
take on organising it we would be happy to
hear from them. (Pam 07775 446606)

Brickendon Newsletter: When recently
organising some Parish archives it came to my
attention that this Newsletter was started by Beryl
Scott Smith in 1999, meaning it is now in its 27th year.
The Newsletter originated because some residents
felt isolated and left out. Now everyone should know
what's going on, and hopefully it has encouraged a
greater community spirit and more interest in the
work of the Parish Council. So, as long as it continues
to be appreciated, we will be continuing, although
quarterly rather than monthly, which was how often it
was originally published!!! However, please be aware
that the editor depends on receiving news and
information from everyone, not just the PC and FRC.
Also, if you are aware of anyone living in the Parish
who, inadvertently, does not receive a newsletter
please let the editor know.

**Finally, my continued thanks to our distributors
without whom it would all be a waste of effort.**

Brickendon Petanque/Boules Club: Please
note that the Tuesday evening meetings in the
Farmer's Boy car park are now following a summer
schedule and run from 5.30 – 7pm. Thursday and
Sunday morning play is still from 10am – 12noon.
New players are welcome to come along and try this
increasingly popular game. Open play is welcomed at
other times; boules are available from the Farmer's
Boy for a small deposit. Or just come and watch.

Parish Council updates:

- At the meeting on **26 March**, District Councillor Tim Hoskin reported that Local Government re-organisation is underway. He also said the East Herts budget is currently 'in good shape'. There is now a national parking pay-by-phone App which works in EH car parks reducing the need to install all the separate parking Apps.
- There is always an item on the PC agenda for parishioner questions and comments and in March the substantial increase in the precept for Brickendon Liberty was questioned. The Chair explained that it is used to pay for, among other things, standing charges such as insurance, the work of our professional PC clerk, proposed improvements to parking at the tennis courts which will hopefully increase their use and hence income. Further work on the Green, including the QEII memorial garden, essential tree work and play equipment reparation is planned. None of this is cheap, hence the need for an increase.
- The proposed installation of charging points for EV cars will not be paid for by the PC when it eventually happens; however, it appears we are not a top priority site!
- A Wormley West End resident reported poorly sited road signage, the PC advised that this is a Highways issue and it is they to whom it should be reported. (East Herts App) The PC has raised the issue of traffic calming in WWE with Highways but so far there has been no progress, Cllr Hoskin said he will lend his support to this.
- Parking in the road at Bayford station was discussed, this is not a matter for BLPC and parishioners were advised to approach Bayford PC at their next meeting (see their website for dates).
- Purchase of the village green is still waiting on the Land Registry.
- Improvement and naturalisation of the village green is progressing, led by some parishioners. (updated on 21 May – seeds are now in stock)
- The Litter Pick on 22 March covered an extensive area and the Chair of the PC thanked all who were involved.
- The installation of a bench on the path to the station was discussed. This may encourage local residents not to drive to the station and would provide rest for those walking up the hill to the village. Further investigation will take place. (updated on 21 May – a parishioner is making further investigations of a suitable site and bench).

The Annual Parish Meeting of the PC was held on Thursday 21 May immediately before the PC meeting on that evening.

- Councillors re-elected Councillor Tony Roberts to be Chair of the PC and Councillor Hannah O'Donnell to be Vice-Chair.
- The Clerk to the PC, Laura Brooks-Payne, ensured all existing policies and documents were in correct order and newly required policies are adopted.

The Parish Council meeting immediately followed the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 21 May.

- It was noted that a defibrillator has now been installed at the Woodman & Olive PH in Wormley West End. The Chair of the PC reported that there are new regulations governing defibrillators and that existing ones will need updating or replacing at some point, this will be costly so the PC is looking at funding options.
- Ditch clearing is still on the Agenda and the PC is planning to get a Work Party to address this issue.

- The clerk reported a low rate of crime during the early Spring months, however, the police recently reported the theft of a motor vehicle from outside a resident's home in WWE, any information available can be passed on to 101 quoting crime number 41/42719/26 or alternatively information can be given anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

The next meeting of Brickendon Liberty Parish Council will be held on Thursday 23 July at 7.30pm in the village hall. All parishioners can attend.

Police Awareness notice:

Officers in Hatfield are appealing for help to reunite a number of tools, believed possibly stolen from commercial vehicles, with their rightful owners. This follows an arrest in February when a significant quantity of tools was recovered. Anyone who believes the recovered items may be theirs should email PC James Holt-Whittall quoting Operation Continuum at: James.Holt-Whittall@herts.police.uk

Fraud and Cyber Crime: for tips on avoiding this increasing type of crime visit:

www.reportfraud.police.uk or

www.herts.police.uk/cyber-fraud

If you believe you are a victim of this type of crime you can contact: **Report Fraud on 0300 123 2040.**

Fanshaws Room Committee:

The AGM of FRC took place on Thursday 30th April in the Village Hall. Everybody in the Parish is invited to this meeting but only the committee were present. The election of officers took place, Linda Ashley agreed to remain as Chair and Robert Williams agreed to remain as Treasurer. The position of Secretary is now vacant and it would be helpful to have a Vice-Chair. Thanks were extended to Alison Blakey, who has served as Secretary for the past eight years, and a rose bush was presented to her in gratitude of her work.

The Chair went through the various activities that have been held, and largely financed, by FRC including the D-Day event, a Summer Disco for residents, our village fete, the children's Christmas Party and the Senior Resident's Christmas Lunch. The Treasurer reported an end of year deficit of £977 and finances

were discussed in detail; it was noted that fund raising activities need to be held in order to be able to continue to fund future activities including the Children's Christmas party and the lunch for Senior Residents. Although Hall lettings are satisfactory, costs like electricity, are high and letting fees cannot be increased as we must remain competitive with other halls in the area. The Chair of FRC said we would benefit from more parishioner participation. Anyone who is able to help should contact her on 01992 511313.

Stop Press!! Plans are afoot to run a book exchange in the FB in order to raise funds and also a Bingo night - look out for more details.

Check out Hertfordshire Road Safety Strategy

Consultation – see Website

(www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) – started 11 May, ends 22 June 2026. This is a public consultation on HCC draft Road Safety Strategy and a review of speed management and expansion of 20mph zones. A chance for residents to put forward their views.

Celtic Harmony Camp:

With seven thatched roundhouses and surrounded by native woodland, Celtic Harmony Camp is the largest replica Iron Age village in England. Children and visitors can rediscover the natural world and traditions of life in ancient Britain through creative activities and fun experiences. During the week educational trips are hosted but at weekends and during school holidays there are a host of other exciting activities plus the **Woodland Bistro** is open for a range of food and drinks.

Their Disc Golf course is open to players of all levels to test their aim across the landscape and this can also be booked for special events.

Celtic Harmony has openings for volunteers and they would love to hear from anyone interested in this. For more information phone: **01438 718543** or go on their website celticharmony.org/events/ to check out open weekends and find more information on how to book a visit or join the volunteer team.

Brickendon Grange Golf Club

Tel: 01992 511258

A reminder that residents of Brickendon can purchase Local Residency Membership of BGGC for the much reduced price of £14.40

Events at the Farmers Boy PH

1st Monday of each month at 7.30pm - calm circle for women

Every Tuesday - Knit & Natter from 10am

Also every Tuesday - Quiz night 8pm

And every Tuesday evening - Petanque 5.30pm

Wednesday - every other week Knit & Natter from 8pm

1st Wednesday every month - Sea Shanties from 7.30pm

1st Thursday - Open Mic night

2nd Thursday - Comedy night

Thursday mornings @ 10am Petanque

Every Thursday night - motorbike meet up

Every Sunday @ 10am Petanque

Congratulations to Rachel and the Team at the Farmers Boy for a very successful Music Festival over the May Bank Holiday when a whopping £1,516.61 was raised for the Teens Unite Cancer Charity ... and a good time was had by all.

Parish People: Just now there are 3 or 4 properties for sale in the parish, it's always sad to say farewell to our neighbours but we do wish them well in their new homes and extend a welcome to any newcomers who may be reading this Newsletter for the first time.

Parish Councillors:

Philip COSFORD – 01992 511207

Hannah O'DONNELL – **Vice chair** 07775 652432

Tony ROBERTS – **Chair** 07734 715002

(tony.roberts@brickendon-liberty.org.uk)

Alastair WHITAKER – 07775 626181

Amanda WHITAKER – 07984 937315

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne – email clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk

Fanshaws Room Committee:

Linda Ashley **Chair** 01992 511313

Secretary - vacancy

Robert Williams **Treasurer** 01992 511605

Brenda Lambie **Hall lettings** 01992 511551

Lawrence Price **Environment**

Local Member of Parliament: Lewis Cocking MP
(lewis.cocking.mp@parliament.uk) (telephone 01992 845335)

Sign up to our local MP's newsletter at:
www.lewiscocking.uk/newsletter

Herts County Councillor: Steven Watson
(steven.watson@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

East Herts District Councillor: Tim Hoskin
(timhoskin@eastherts.gov.uk)

Police: Emergency 999 Non Emergency 101 Online:
<https://herts.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Chapel of the Holy Cross and St Alban:

Rector: Revd. Theresa Musiwacho – 01707 875940

For Chapel enquiries please contact Virginia Haryott 07770 944854 or email wellpondharyott@gmail.com

Services: 1st Sunday each month - **11am Family Communion**
3rd Sunday each month - **11am Family Service**

Parish Activities:

Book Club Contact Andrea for details:
(01992 511588)

Hall Letting Contact Brenda for details:
(01992 511551)

Knit N Natter Farmers Boy, **Tuesday mornings 10am – 12noon** Contact Janet for details:
(07795 963531)

Petanque Farmers Boy car park. **Tuesdays 5.30 – 7pm**
Thursday and Sunday mornings 10am – midday
(Club Secretary Janet 07795 963531)

Pilates **Every Tuesday morning in Fanshaws Room (the village hall) at 9.15am.** For details contact: Harriett on 07795 577210 or pilateswithharriett@hotmail.com

Tennis Courts £5 per court per hour, to book telephone: 07734 715002 or email tony.roberts@brickendon-liberty.org.uk

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