

# Broomfield **TIMES**

Issue 59 | Autumn 2019

News & events from your Parish Council



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# Broomfield TIMES

The focus of this edition is very much on the land south of Broomfield Place.

Those of you who have been following our planning reports will know that the land is owned by Essex County Council but the planned development (which included provision for a new primary school) is no longer going ahead.

You can find more details on pages 21-28 plus a questionnaire asking for your views on the future use of the land.

Please make your views known so that Broomfield Parish Council can focus on those proposals that have the most support.

Ultimately the decision will lie with Essex CC but BPC stands more chance of influencing their decision if they can demonstrate that they have the support of the local residents.

**Selina Matthews**

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## Your Council

As a Council we **communicate** though this magazine (which receives constant praise), our notice boards, our website and a Facebook page which is informative rather than responsive.

It is the final point which is interesting. Your Council gets regular mention on social media platforms, generally critical and ill informed. Our current policy is not to respond but I confess it is not always easy to hold back!

It has been suggested in the past that we should actively engage through social media. The last time it was raised formally it was rejected by Council due to a certain fear of the unknown, but also due to the workload as it needs constant attention through the office. Although we might be the lowest level of government we are still a representative body of the electorate and any statements made must be factual, accurate and measured. For that reason it is our policy that all official communication goes through the office.

We plan to debate social media at a future Council meeting and would very much appreciate the input of an expert on the subject. If somebody in the Village is prepared to give the benefit of some guidance it would be very much appreciated. Please contact me for a chat if you think you might be able to help. The commitment can be as little or as much as you can offer.

### What else is happening?

At the **Village Hall** the new public car park is finished and by publication of this magazine the Adventure Cycleway should also be complete. I hope it will become a regularly used facility for children and young people to play and exercise, for new cyclists to learn the rules of the road and parents to teach their child how to cycle in a safe environment. There are not many facilities like this in Chelmsford so we are hoping that visitors will come to Broomfield from all over town. The original idea for the Cycleway came for feedback from Villagers that we needed more facilities for young people. It has been a long time coming but I hope it will be appreciated.

A working party led by Cllr Wendy Daden is looking at how the community might use the land behind Broomfield Place if Essex

County Council would agree to a proportion of it being made available for community use. The working party organised an open day in May which some parishioners did attend but a greater interest in what we are doing would always make such events more valuable. Options are being assessed and we are talking to ECC, through Cllr John Aldridge. Work continues so if anybody is interested or thinks they might be able to add value please contact **wendy.bpcwendy@gmail.com**. Later in this edition members of the working party have set out their own ideas that you might find interesting and a questionnaire to help inform our discussions with Essex County Council.

ECC's consultation on possible **library** closures has now been concluded and a press statement has been made confirming that all Essex Libraries are to remain open. This may be seen as a victory by many but we do have to read the press release carefully. ECC talk about "communities offering to run the service", "all Essex libraries will stay open during the future strategy we are drawing up" and "a large number of local groups wish to run their library and turn it much more into a local community centre" It is just my interpretation but I read the press release as saying ECC will help and support but they expect the local communities, around the smaller libraries, to take an active part in the operation and support of their facilities. I do not think we can be complacent that the status quo will just continue unchallenged. In Broomfield we must accept that in terms of book lending our library is the least used facility in Essex. Put crudely there must be a case of use it or lose it.

As a Parish Council we are planning a focus group meeting to explore what steps we can take to improve the use of our library. Once we have developed a draft strategy the next step will be to look for help from the villagers to fine tune the detail and put a plan in place. That will involve active levels of volunteers to come forward and get involved. The Parish Council and the Library team simply do not have the resources to do more than is currently being done themselves. So again if you think you can help in any way in developing a strategy to keep our library open then please get in touch with me through the office.

**John Barnes**



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## Defibrillator installed at Broomfield Village Hall

**Broomfield Parish Council have installed a Defibrillator on the outside wall of Broomfield Village Hall.**

It is now connected to the emergency services, so anyone who needs it can call **999** and will be told what to do. The Council is particularly grateful to Rebecca O'Mahony who has been very generous in her expertise and time in making this possible. We are even more grateful that she will be offering training in how to use the defibrillator this autumn. The training will be in the Village Hall and everyone will be welcome.

If you think that someone is having a cardiac arrest, the first thing to do is call **999**. If the emergency services think that the defibrillator is needed, they you will be told where to go and how to get to the equipment.

Everything will be explained to you, and the defibrillator will only administer a shock if it is the right thing to do.



You do not have to do anything other than follow the instructions. We really hope that it is never needed, but if it is, you know where to find it.

If you do have occasion to use it, please return it to its box after use and call the numbers on the list.



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## Libraries to stay open

**I am pleased to confirm that all Essex Libraries are to remain open**

after just over 20,000 people responded to the consultation revealing a renewed enthusiasm for

the library service. The new service strategy proposes a future for every single library in Essex and also commits that no libraries will close in the next five years. The strategy focuses on developing an investment plan to improve libraries and work with community groups or other organisations to set up community run libraries, with the aim of ensuring a library service is retained in every current location, and potentially established in three or more new locations. A £3m investment programme for library services will be introduced to include grant funding of £18k over three years, an initial donation of books, refresh of reading materials and support to community-run library groups to train volunteers.

After scrutiny by Place Services and Economic Growth Policy Committee this the package will be agreed by the ECC Cabinet.

## Footway Repairs

**During the coming months Essex Highways will focus on the repair of pavements.**

On receipt of the most pressing cases Highways will carry out the necessary repairs alongside more routine work. County Councillors have been asked to prioritise up to five defects in their area. I have received, as you would expect, quite a number of footway defects which are now being processed by Highways for prompt action.

If you have any problems about County Council matters please let me know on:

**01245 421524** or email:  
**cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk.**

**John Aldridge CC**



## On behalf of your City Council

**I am very excited about my new role as your Chelmsford City Councillor and thank you for this opportunity.**

Listening to the

passion each officer has for their department is inspiring. Most impressively, with 252,000 refuse collections each and every week our team only missed one day in 2018 due to snow! CCC recycle the majority of our waste, burning the rest for energy. Whilst keeping the oceans plastic free it is not perfect for reducing our carbon footprint; using less plastic is really the way forward.

CCC have pledged to reduce its own carbon emission to net zero by 2030 declaring a Climate Emergency. The announcement at full council opened the door nicely for me to request prioritising the cycle and footpaths to link Broomfield Hospital (Chelmsford's biggest employer) and the City Centre.

The local plan was reviewed by the new administration but any major amendment would make it subject to the more recent 2019 government policy, meaning more housing for Chelmsford! Minor amendments are currently part of the public consultation with the plan due to be adopted towards the end of the year.

Chelmsford Museum has reopened after £1.44 million investment from the Heritage lottery fund and is well worth a visit, if only to view a working hive. Many of you will have enjoyed the new Riverside Leisure Centre this summer. As well as all the usual facilities the café overlooks both the river and swimmers – the location and menu designed to make it an attractive venue in its own right.

**Cllr Wendy Daden**

*Representing Broomfield and the Walthams,  
Chelmsford City Council*





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## Village Amenities Committee

### Centenary Woods

**The woods are a lovely place to take the children for a picnic or to just sit and reflect in a quiet place away from the hustle and bustle and the noise of traffic.**

A couple of us walk through the woods each week with our secateurs cutting off bits of sticky out branches so "little ones" don't get their eyes poked out whilst they are running around! We pick up the usual beer bottles and litter, the odd item of clothing and bonfire remnants.

**PLEASE REFRAIN FROM LIGHTING FIRES!**

### Allotments

**By the time you read this it is unlikely there will be any vacant plots.** If you would like a plot, please contact the Parish Office to put your name on the waiting list.

We are keen to get an Allotment Association up and running to give allotment plot holders a bigger voice as to how we can improve the day to day running of the allotment site. At a recent meeting with some allotment holders it was agreed to send a letter out to all holders seeking views on an allotment association. In the meantime any concerns or issues at the allotments should be referred to the Parish Office.

Our Open Day was a great success with many compliments about how beautifully maintained the allotments plots are.

The scarecrow competition was good fun and Heidi Mussell deservedly won first prize. Hopefully we can repeat next year with even more scarecrows participating!

### Parish Pathway Partnerships (P3)

**Just a reminder** – we have now passed this duty back to Essex County Council. If you notice a public footpath that requires attention, you can report it on the ECC Highways website.

### Improvements for the Village

**We are keen to get started on our Broomfield in Bloom project.**

We are planning to install planters around the village with plants and herbs which are easy to maintain with the help of parishioners.

Scruffy areas can easily be tidied up with some colourful planting to enhance the area. We are also hoping that the takeaway restaurants will let us replant or replace their plant tubs. Wild plant seeds will be scattered in appropriate areas.

Permission is being sought from Highways to install a bus shelter at Erick Avenue, near to Felsted Field and quotes are also being tendered to replace the surface in the playground adjacent to the village hall.

**Sue Hubble**

## BROOMFIELD LITTER PICK

**Saturday 7 September  
10.30 – 12 noon**

**Back to Village Hall for  
homemade cake and refreshments!**

**Look out for the banners on Angel and Church Greens.  
If you can help it would be greatly appreciated.**

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## Do you work from home?

**In 2017, the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire suggested that nearly half of Broomfieldians carry out paid work from home, either regularly (19%) or occasionally (29%).**

The rise in working from home is probably due to several different factors, for instance:

- Employers introducing hot-desking and home working to save on office accommodation costs
- Employees wanting a better work/life balance, with less time spent commuting
- Mobile staff who cover an area that is closer to home than the office
- People starting their own small businesses that won't ever need a separate work base
- People starting small businesses that will one day need separate small premises if the business is to grow and flourish.

Another benefit of home working to the wider community is that it should lead to less traffic, especially at peak times. That's a good reason for the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan to encourage home working, as well as the benefit to businesses and local workers who want to do it.

Neighbourhood plans are all about local communities shaping new development over the next 20 years or so. Plans can potentially make specific requirements for new developments to meet local circumstances and needs. So, we're thinking about how our Plan could help people who work from home. Here are some very basic ideas that we've had so far:

- Should our Plan encourage developers to include office-sized rooms in new homes, in addition to normal domestic rooms?
- Are there sufficient small office/workshop spaces in our area, so that new businesses starting in someone's home can move without undue difficulty into a larger space once they outgrow the home?

- Should significant new housing developments contain a communal Work Hub, so that home-based workers can:
  - have access to small meeting rooms
  - benefit from shared technology that might be too expensive for a new start-up to afford on its own
  - share a networking space to help relieve the sense of isolation that some home workers can experience
  - rent a work space if, for instance, the home contains other commitments that are hard to get away from (e.g. children!).

These are just initial ideas. We only want to pursue them if they're going to be of some use to Broomfield residents and businesses. Equally, are there other ideas that we haven't thought of?

So please tell us if you have any thoughts or comments about working from home. For instance:

- If you work from home now, what are the joys and challenges?
- If you've worked at home in the past but had to go back to a formal office/work environment, why was that?
- Would you like to work at home, if certain conditions could be met?
- If you've started a small business at home that will eventually outgrow your home, what would help you when you get to that stage?
- If you're an established local business, would you like to promote home working for your staff? If so, what might help?
- Or, if you're a small local business, are you being held back by any premises-related issues?

Please e-mail us at:

**planning@broomfieldessex.co.uk** or contact us via the Parish Office in the Village Hall to share your thoughts and views. We want to make sure that the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan (when we finally finish!) is a help to all sections of local community.

**Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.**





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# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019 Finance Committee

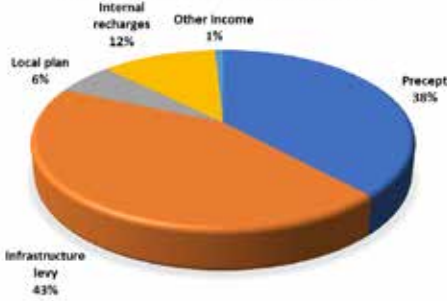
Every year, the Parish Council has to complete an annual return that explains where the money has come from and gone to. This has to be presented in a standard format, and here it is.

Balances bought forward	£212,594	£161,588	Total balances & reserves at the beginning of the year
Annual Precept	£109,214	£117,837	Total amount of Precept (council tax) income received in the year
Total other receipts	£14,803	£191,067	All other income the Parish Council has received
Staff costs	£71,321	£61,553	Total expenditure made to and on behalf of all employees.
Loan interest and capital repayments	£33,457	£33,457	Repayments on borrowings
Total other payments	£70,246	£108,299	All other Parish Council expenditure
Balances carried forward	£161,588	£267,184	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year.
Total Cash & investments	£151,551	£252,834	Money in current and deposit bank accounts held as at 31 March
Total Fixed assets	£169,778	£174,045	The recorded current book value at 31 March of all tangible fixed assets as recorded in the asset register
Total borrowings	£113,239	£81,562	The outstanding capital balances as at 31 March of all loans.

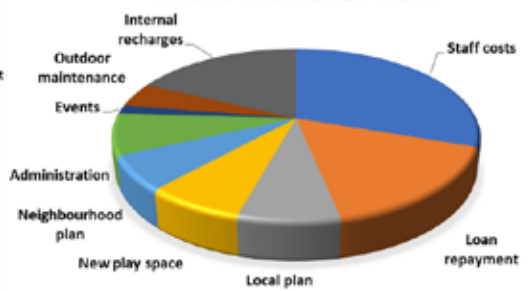
Now, we realise that this is not the most helpful way to show the council's finances, so here is another way of looking at it.

<b>Income</b>	<b>£308,904</b>	
Precept	£117,837	Your contribution to the Parish finances
Infrastructure levy	£134,309	Money allocated to the Parish from housing development
Local plan	£18,004	Money from other parishes that are collaborating on the Local Plan response
Internal recharges	£36,211	Money received from the Village Hall to cover the cost of payroll.
Other income	£2,543	mostly bank Interest and rent
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£203,309</b>	
Staff costs	£61,553	Salary, pension, national insurance for four staff
Loan repayment	£33,457	Repayment of loan for rebuilding the Village Hall
Local plan	£15,419	Cost of preparing the Parish Council's part of Chelmsford City Council's Local Plan.
New play space	£15,068	New tarmac play area and kick wall
Neighbourhood plan	£13,155	Cost of preparing the Parish Council's own plan.
Administration	£15,778	Office rent and running costs
Events	£3,318	Seniors lunch, play in the park
Outdoor maintenance	£9,350	Grass cutting, tree maintenance, bins, benches.....
Internal recharges	£36,211	Money paid-out on Village Hall payroll and subsequently recovered.

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM



WHERE THE MONEY WENT



And the £105,000 difference is the amount by which the reserve has gone up.

Once again, I am pleased to report that the council continues to keep itself in the black while managing to improve the services we offer. I am also pleased to report that we have done this by holding the average precept at £54 for the third year running. As you can see from the numbers, the amount of money raised by the precept has gone up, but this is because there are more houses contributing. The amount you pay stays the same.

Last year, the council was successful in getting an £8,000 grant from Essex County Council, and you can visit the parish play area to see how this has improved the kicking wall in Angel Field. There have also been grants provided to help offset the money spent on the neighbourhood plan. In case you were wondering, the Council has not made a profit from the neighbourhood plan.

The grant money has paid for most of the work, but Broomfield has collaborated with neighbouring parishes on a joint response and the costs have been shared proportionally – sometimes the money gets spent in one year and recovered in the next, so it looks like we have done better out of it than we had.

Don't forget that grants can flow both ways and one of the things the Parish Council can do for you is support your organisation with a grant. It is disappointing to see that very few organisations have taken advantage of this. Events like Play in the Park and the Seniors Luncheon also received support from the

Parish, but it would be good to see some new organisations coming forward for grants. The council has invested a significant amount in planning matters like responding to the Local Plan and developing the Neighbourhood Plan. The Council wanted to make a strong case that stood-up to scrutiny, so professional support was needed. I think you will agree that the amount of housing allocated to the parish is much more reasonable now.

At a more practical level, the council funds or supports Play in the Park activities, litter picks, allotments, Centenary Wood, tree maintenance, grass cutting in the recreation grounds and village greens and even a few festive lights in the telephone booth.

You may be pleased to see that the Council has received a significant amount of money from the levy that is imposed on new housing developments. Elsewhere in this magazine, you will find some questions about how this should be spent but in the meanwhile, some has already gone towards improved parking and a new cycleway around the fields.

A summary of the unaudited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018 is shown on the charts and a copy of the Audited Accounts will be available from the Parish Office once the Audit has been completed. If you have any questions about the Accounts please direct these to the Clerk at the Parish Office who will provide any further information you may request.

**Councillor John Barnes**

## Join in the BIG Sleep Out

**Local charity CHES Homeless is asking the community of Essex to swap their duvet and grab a sleeping bag to experience a night out under the stars, by taking part in their Annual Sleep Out.**

This year's event takes place on Friday 22nd November from 7.30pm in the grounds of Chelmsford Cathedral.

The charity is encouraging you, your friends, family and company to take on the challenge and help raise vital funds so they can continue supporting single homeless adults from Chelmsford and Essex.

And if you can't make the CHES one then why not "Host Your Own Sleep Out". It's so simple you can even hold it in your own back garden.

Homelessness is on the increase and can happen to anyone.

CHES believes that everyone should have a warm safe environment to stay, with meals, drinks and hygiene facilities along with the support they need to help them turn their lives around.

"Our Annual Sleep Out Event by no means replicates what it's like for someone who is homeless and sleeping rough. But it does give you an insight into what it's like: the damp, the cold and the struggle to carry on with minimal sleep.

With homelessness on the increase and many of those being young adults, we really need the support of the community to help raise funds, so we can continue to support single homeless adults from Essex."

For further information and to register to take part visit:

[www.chelmsfordchess.org/sleepout](http://www.chelmsfordchess.org/sleepout)

Join us for the

# BIG SLEEP OUT

FOR **CHES** Homeless

Sign up [www.cheshomeless.org/sleepout](http://www.cheshomeless.org/sleepout)

Or host your own SLEEP OUT





## GoodGym

Once again Village Amenities Committee would like to thank GoodGym for their hard work on the Broomfield Allotment Site.



Sometimes, due to injury, illness or for other reasons, allotment plot holders are unable to maintain their plots in the manner they would like and Presto - GoodGym step in to help!

Once in June and again in July, members of the GoodGym team jogged up to the Broomfield Allotment Site, raring to go as promised.

The rain poured down in June, but it didn't deter them, and they left in good spirit, although a little "muddy". In July the late evening sun gave them a boost and they were able to turn a sad plot into a happy plot. The plot holder is now very pleased to be able to enjoy his plot once more.

It is such a pleasure to see a crowd of young people who are so willing to help wherever they can. They turn their hand to digging, painting, visiting lonely people and even hang curtains! They always have big smiles on their faces and obviously enjoy what they do.

If you need a help in hand look them up on the website: [www.goodgym.org](http://www.goodgym.org).

*Sue Hubble*



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## Village Hall Report

**In all of our reports we have been able to chart the progress of our village hall .**

From its poor state seven years ago to now there has been a huge improvement in the facilities, from the MUGA, outdoor gym, kickwall, play park, centenary wood and now adventure cycleway. Indoors there is a tremendous range of activities and classes to participate in.

The sad thing though, is that we are plagued by constant vandalism. Why do they come and smash our table tennis table, set fires in the wood and damage our storage sheds?

The effort in raising funds has been carried out by volunteers for the benefit of the community. It's been a painstaking process with every setback by the vandals meaning more effort, work and cost to reinstate.

Please help us to stop this curse on our community by reporting any activity of this

type to the Police. You can report incidents online [www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/](http://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/) or by phoning **101** or alternatively **01245 491491**.

These are your facilities for you and your neighbours to enjoy.

On a brighter note we have just hosted a great charity night dinner and dance for the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance. This followed on from a quiz night and a bingo evening, raising over £3,000 for this wonderful charity. Again, all the work was carried out by volunteers for the benefit of others.

Do you have some time to come and help? Please let us know.

**Trevor Jones**

To advertise please call  
**01843 269513**

## Stay 'n' Play

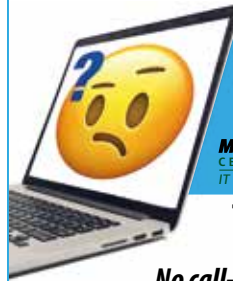


**Is back from Monday 9th September  
9.15 to 11.15 am for Under 5s**

£2.50 for one adult and up to two children  
50p per extra child  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Price includes Tea, Coffee, Juice,  
Toast and Biscuits



## COMPUTER PROBLEMS?



**IS YOUR COMPUTER  
RUNNING SLOW,  
CRASHING OR JUST  
GIVING YOU  
PROBLEMS?**

**Microsoft  
CERTIFIED  
IT Professional**

**Then give Micromend  
a call for free advice  
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mobile 07788 925085 | office 01245 463330

## Village Diary

Various activities including Karate, Bingo, Bridge Club, Aerobics, Women's Institute, Carpet Bowls, slimming clubs and children's activities take place in the Broomfield Village Hall on a weekly basis - please telephone the Village Hall **01245 443902**, email **hall@broomfieldessex.co.uk** or have a look on the website **www.broomfieldessex.co.uk** where the village diary is also published, for more information.

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 Community Wellness Fair**  
9.30 -6.00pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
The natural way to health & wellness  
Free entry

---

- 4 Village Coffee morning** with  
Mobile Customer Information Service  
10.00 – 12.00pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
All welcome

---

- Orchard Springs W.I.**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
A quiet day at the airport – Michael Benning

---

- Property and Planning Committee**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Parish Office

---

- 9 Stay N Play**  
09.15-11.15am  
Broomfield Village  
Hall Baby and toddler group for under 5's,  
parents and carers

---

- 11 U3A**  
1.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Tales from the Smithy- Roger Dorking

---

- Village Amenities Committee meeting**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Parish Office

---

- 16 Stay N Play**  
09.15-11.15am  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Baby and toddler group for under 5's,  
parents and carers

---

- 18 Broomfield Place presentation**  
6.00-7.00pm  
Broomfield Village Hall

---

- Parish Council Meeting**  
7.30 – 9.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall

---

- 23 Stay N Play**  
09.15-11.15am  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Baby and toddler group  
for under 5's, parents and carers

---

- 29 Broomfield Cottage Gardeners Society**  
2.00 – 4.00pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Autumn Flower & Produce Show

---

- 30 Stay N Play**  
09.15-11.15am  
Broomfield Village Hall Baby and toddler group  
for under 5's, parents and carers

### OCTOBER

- 2 Village Coffee morning**  
10.00 - 12.00pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
All welcome

---

- Orchard Springs W.I.**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Giving Up My Day Job - Ruth Dugdall

---

- Property and Planning Committee**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Parish Office

---

- 7 Stay N Play**  
09.15-11.15am  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Baby and toddler group for under 5's, parents  
and carers

---

- 9 U3A**  
1.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall 30 Years a BBC Reporter  
in and out of Parliament - Brian Curtois

---

- Village Amenities Committee meeting**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Parish Office

---

- 14 Stay N Play**  
09.15-11.15am  
Broomfield Village  
Hall Baby and toddler group  
for under 5's, parents and carers

### NOVEMBER

- 6 Village Coffee morning** with Mobile  
Customer Information Service  
10.00 – 12.00pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
All welcome

---

- Orchard Springs W.I.**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
A Female in Fleet Street - Deborah Brady

---

- Property and Planning Committee**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Parish Office

---

- 13 U3A**  
1.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall  
Dabs and DNA detects criminals - Chris Truran

---

- 20 Parish Council meeting**  
7.30pm  
Broomfield Village Hall

## Broomfield and District U3A

**We asked our members what they like about Broomfield U3A. Here are some of their responses.**

It leaves me with a lovely feeling after a monthly or interest group meeting, that I have been with like-minded friends, I would not have met if it was not for the U3A.

I enjoy the groups, the speakers but most of all the company of such lovely people. A place to make friends and learn new things. The U3A is a wonderful organisation, a place to make new friends and learn new things.

An opportunity to meet people who are up for the challenge of learning new things (such as the ukulele) or trying again activities they did when they were young (such as badminton) and meet people who are interesting, supportive and good fun.

The wide variety of speakers I especially enjoy the needlework group as we all bond over our love for knitting and craft and help each other out with our projects.

We enjoy the variety of speakers, meeting friendly people and attending various outings. The tea and biscuits are excellent.

Really enjoy the book club meetings.

I attend five groups – canasta, ten pin bowling, bus pass group, history group and meditation.

I like that our U3A is large enough to offer a great variety of interest groups, at the same time small enough to keep its friendly atmosphere.

I joined specifically for the walking group but have found all the events offered cover many people's interests.

The group is fairly small and therefore very friendly and tea and biscuits are excellent. It is an important meeting in my diary. Speakers are mostly interesting. Outings and interest groups are wonderful.

The scrabble group is popular each month for friendly games.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

I like the book and jigsaw swap shops at the monthly meetings.

Chance to try new activities with friendly people – have done geology, table tennis, ten pin bowling, bridge, beer appreciation, pub lunches, garden visits. Fitting it all in is tricky!

I attend four groups – ten pin bowling, history, lunch and bus pass groups – all are small and friendly. The ten pin bowling has 16-20 people and we do lots of chatting and bowl when needed. Bus pass group goes to places with an interesting museum, church or art gallery and our history group finds some very interesting places and lunch club is always fun.

We meet at 1.30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday every month in the Village Hall

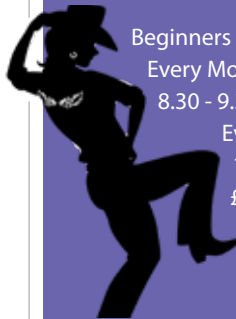
Find out about us on:

**[U3asites.org.uk/broomfield](http://U3asites.org.uk/broomfield)**

## Line Dancing

**If you are interested in learning Beginners Line Dancing and would like some exercise to some great music please come along to one of our friendly sociable classes.**

It's just for fun, we walk through the dance until we are all happy then we dance it - it's as simple as that plus a few laughs and a couple of drink breaks in between. If you would like to try it come along and watch or join in. For more details contact Susan on **07514086805**.



Beginners Line Dancing Classes

Every Monday Evening

8.30 - 9.30pm

Every Tuesday Morning

11.00 to 12.00

£5 per class





# Broomfield Place (land) Special

## Strengthening and sustaining our community

**Broomfield Place is the name for the six acres of land behind the fish and chip shop and Indian takeaway.** It is important to remember that this land is owned by Essex County Council, and theirs is the final say on what happens, but the Parish Council is keen to see it used to benefit the Community and to stimulate thought and discussion, they have commissioned some articles by people with an interest in making use of the land at Broomfield Place. Not all of these articles represent the views of the Council, and some are more personal than others. Read them, form your own opinions and let us know in the questionnaire.

Currently it is mostly wild grassland, with some woodland and a 72 place car park on the eastern side near Main Road. The land was going to form part of a wider housing development with a new primary school, but that idea was dropped last year. That means it should be safe from development at least until 2036, when the next Chelmsford Local Plan will be drawn up and there is a call for sites.

It's now been suggested the land could be used for community facilities instead. Broomfield Parish Council wants to know your views. We held an Open Day in May to discuss ideas about

how the land might be used for community facilities. The Open Day was attended by 32 local residents and some others.

Now the Parish Council want to hear from a larger number of residents to justify approaching the landowner.

Please tell us what you think by completing this short questionnaire and returning it to:

The Parish Office, Broomfield Village Hall, 158 Main Road, CM1 7AH (behind the Angel Pub). Please complete it even if you came to the Open Day, so that we have everyone's views on the same basis.

If you prefer, you can complete it online at:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYN55MV](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYN55MV)

Either way, please complete and return it by 30th October.

For more information about the Broomfield Place project and some of the facilities that might be offered, please read the information overleaf. Each section has been written by one of the parish councillors on the Broomfield Place Working Group.

(Articles by working group members)

# Imagine

Strengthening and sustaining our thriving community



Dear Valued Parishioner

**Imagine** creating a thriving community, set in a beautiful garden, manicured lawns to play on, perhaps a nature area for bees to pollinate and wildlife to flourish. Would you enjoy savouring a coffee, whilst watching your child scoot to school. Perhaps you would like to lunch with friends at a fork to plate café or enjoy escaping your busy household to study for an exam at a community library. Would you like an accessible GP surgery or a physio in the village. Perhaps regular access to a citizens advice bureau would ease a problem? sustain the book club, the return of the opportunity to give blood locally; welcome almshouses and a retired community... **imagine.**

Broomfield Place is the proposed home for your chosen facility. As local councillors some of us feel it is our purpose to find the means and will to strengthen and maintain our local community. Some local councillors are naturally cautious at ambitious schemes, whether we can get Essex County Council (the landowner ) to partner, support and ultimately help us make it happen.

I am therefore writing to draw attention to the questionnaire in the centre of Broomfield Times.

Your opinion on this matter is vital to expand and enhance facilities in Broomfield. Without you the Parish Council will not take any idea forward to the land owner. So please take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire and be part of the vision.

[www.broomfieldessex.co.uk/broomfield-place/](http://www.broomfieldessex.co.uk/broomfield-place/)

Wendy Daden

# Training Centre

**My personal opinion, is leaving Broomfield Place fallow is an invite to mass development.**

Offering a compromise, by accepting some development that Essex benefits from, whilst growing ideas with Broomfield and the facilities you request in mind, consumes the land with purpose.

## THE TRAINING CENTRE CONCEPT



Think of any facility you would like at Broomfield Place and you have instantly created jobs. Running this facility as a practical, working environment for high achieving autistic adults,

benefits the wider community of Essex (our brief from the landowner) AND delivers the facility Broomfield voted for.

- Fork to plate Café
- Library
- Farm Shop
- Beautiful Gardens
- Expansive lawns
- Nature Reserve
- Medical Centre
- Computer Repairs
- Meals on Wheels
- Path Maintenance



The autistic community are smart, capable workers. The vision is to provide annual courses for school leavers to prepare them for their chosen career in a real work environment.



The Centre would be managed by professional therapists, (self-funded not for profit) offering the best chance for students to sustain a job and live independently, thus minimising the care expense for ECC.



Wendy Daden



## Could Broomfield Place Become a Local Nature Reserve?

Local authorities can create local nature reserves (LNRs). The local authority must control the LNR land - either through ownership, a lease or an agreement with the owner. As a manager of an LNR you need to care for and protect its natural features. You must also make your land accessible for any visitors including the public, although you are allowed to restrict certain areas.

There are 49 local nature reserves in Essex. These range in size from 1.2 acres to 2678 acres. A local example is the Chelmer Valley Riverside LNR comprising 43 acres along the east bank of the River Chelmer from the Valley Bridge to Victoria Road. The illustrations on display are from this reserve showing features and examples of volunteer groups at work.

We could involve:

- 'friends of' community groups
- wildlife trusts and other recognised conservation bodies
- site-based rangers
- local school children- Broomfield School- forest schools? The scouts- for camping/ tracking, community assistance/ wildlife study?
- Natural England (who can give advice)



### Byelaws

Local authorities and town and parish councils can create LNR byelaws to govern the reserve.

### Advantages

The site would be protected for a period- the minimum period granted is 21 years.

Hopefully we could then argue for it to be kept. It would give opportunities to create a beautiful environment and space for wildlife in a heavily developed Broomfield, with scope for the community to come together for volunteering and providing a new and exciting facility to be used by the school, the scouts and other groups.

### Angie Fauds

## An early years autistic centre

An early years autistic centre provides therapy to help autistic 2-5 year olds develop communication skills beyond verbal. It would provide a limited number of places per session due to the practicality of providing one-to-one support.

I am proposing that such a centre be included at Broomfield Place, as it will be of great benefit to Broomfield as a stand-alone facility or part of the training centre. I am asking you to tick this option in question one of the questionnaire because:

1. Some of the centre facilities would be of benefit to the wider community. Sensory rooms and gardens are also valued by dementia patients.
2. These charities would have access to different revenues streams and grants government organisations do not. i.e. for the initial build, to improve the cafe, library, sensory gardens and open space.

We would welcome suggestions for similar charities.

**Wendy Daden**



# BROOMFIELD PLACE QUESTIONNAIRE

## QUESTION 1:

### What community facilities should be provided in the Broomfield Place?

Here's a list of ideas suggested at the Open Day in May or subsequently. Please tick all that you/your family would use or would support for use by other people. Just leave the tick box blank if you don't support the suggestion. If there's anything else you support/would use that isn't mentioned in the list, please add it under 'Other' at the bottom.

- Café
- Library
- Restaurant
- GP Surgery
- Meeting Room
- Physio
- Small Swimming Pool
- Petting Zoo
- Citizen's Advice Drop In Centre
- Supermarket
- Use Existing Car Park for Primary School Traffic with connecting path
- Almshousing
- Recycling Centre
- Creative Space to Reuse Plastics or for Woodwork/Metalwork

- Work Training Centre
- Flower Gardens
- Flower Shop
- Farm Shop
- Growing Produce for use in Cafe
- Nature Reserve
- Sensory Garden
- Early Years Facility for Children with Autism
- Youth Services

Other (please specify):

.....

.....

.....

## Question 2:

### What proportion of the land should be left undeveloped as general green space?

At the moment, the 6 acres (2.5 hectares) of land is all grassland or woodland, apart from a car park on the Main Road side. If some land is developed for community facilities, roughly what proportion should be left undeveloped as general green space?

Please tick one of the following or put your own figure at the end.

- No Green Space
- Up to 25%
- Up to 50%
- Up to 75%
- Up to 100%
- Other: ..... %



**Data Privacy Notice:**

We don't need to know your name(s) or full address. We will not store your personal data or use it in any way and your postcode will be deleted once the survey has been collated. However, if you complete the questionnaire online, you should be aware that SurveyMonkey will use I.P. logging and will store your data for their own purposes.

**Question 3:**

**How many houses would you accept to get the community facilities?**

One way of getting Broomfield Place land could be to let the landowner build some market houses for private sale, in return for donating the rest of the land to the local community. How many market houses (if any) should the Parish Council support to get the rest of the land?

Please tick one of the following or put your own figure at the end.

- Only Almshousing
- Up to 10 market houses
- Up to 20 market houses
- Up to 30 market houses
- No houses of any kind
- Other: ..... market houses
- Other: ..... almshouses & ..... market houses

---

**Question 4:**

**Any other ideas or comments?**

Please write them in the space below. If you know of a local community group that is looking for space and might like to be involved, please include details here.

---

**Question 5:**

**Please tell us your postcode.**

This is so we can tell if we have an even spread of responses across the whole village. We don't need to know your name or exact address.

---

You can fill in this questionnaire as a family/household or as an individual. If you disagree with other members of your family/household, please don't fall out! To make separate responses, just ask the Parish Office for another form or complete it on line at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYN55MV](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYN55MV)

**The number of people completing this questionnaire form is:** \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. The results will really help us to plan the next stage in line with the wishes of local residents.

**Please complete and return this Questionnaire by 30th October 2019 to the Parish Office, 158 Main Road, Broomfield, CM1 7AH**

# Broomfield Library **STILL UNDER THREAT,** is Broomfield Place the answer?

**Congratulations to SOLE and the relentless campaigners on avoiding the closure of many Essex libraries.**

Nothing will change initially, however, in reality ECC is developing a service with many libraries run by volunteers.

Many of you support the idea of expanding Broomfield library to grow with the population.

Broomfield Place land could be the tranquil heart of Broomfield, a café-library immersed in beautiful gardens, open 7 days because it is professionally run.

- Evening access
- More computers, with help at hand for on-line courses
- School visits and Summer reading programs continuing
- Sofas for peaceful lounging and reading.
- A reference library, a valuable teenage revision space
- Areas for students and primary schools for educational visits,

# SAVE OUR LIBRARIES ESSEX

BROOMFIELD LIBRARY USERS  
INVITE YOU TO  
OUR DAY OF ACTION

SEPTEMBER 28th

4pm

MEET ON

BROOMFIELD  
CHURCH GREEN

## STILL UNDER THREAT

- A space for book clubs to thrive,
- Glass walls overlooking the spectacular view, inspiring imagination and futures.

Now I would like you to consider the synergy with autism; the quiet and order of Broomfield library could be part of the work training centre (see page 22) overseen by librarians. Extending the reach of the library to neighbouring villages and hamlets would further strengthen our position from the least used to a library of value.

**Wendy Daden**



## A Doctors' Purpose-Built Surgery – Broomfield Place

### My vision ...

Looking into the future of Broomfield where development is rapidly increasing and no doubt will continue to do so, my vision is for a state-of-the-art doctors' surgery. The facility would include at least 9 consulting rooms, 2 large treatment rooms, 2 nurses' rooms and toilets all on the ground floor. There would be room for administration including work stations and wireless technology situated on the first floor with a kitchen and rest room for staff. This would be a magnet to attract GPs into Broomfield Place especially with ample parking already in situ.

Development companies currently looking to build in Broomfield (as per the emerging Local Plan) may be willing to either build the surgery or contribute financially. Including a pharmacy may be another option with a pharmaceutical company making a contribution.

In the first instance we need to know whether this is something Broomfield residents need, bearing in mind that the surgery would also attract patients from outside Broomfield so bringing more traffic into the area. However ECC has stipulated that the land must be used for the benefit of residents in surrounding areas, so a doctors' surgery would fit their criteria.

**Sue Hubble**

## What Is An Almshouse?



An almshouse is a unit of residential accommodation which belongs to a charity. Today the almshouse movement has developed into something vibrant and relevant that continues to provide a strong sense of community.

Each almshouse can forever belong to a charitable trust, as there is no right to buy, so this is a wonderful and safe way to provide affordable accommodation for the people of Broomfield.

The criteria as to who is eligible to live in an almshouse is set out by the founder. This could be BPC, influencing the shape of our community and the charities job is to fulfil this purpose. Would you accept a few alms houses if they were aimed at existing elderly residents? NHS staff? Students whilst preparing for life at the work training centre?  
[www.almshouses.org](http://www.almshouses.org)

**Wendy Daden**

# Invitation

You are invited to glimpse into the future of your local community and more at the presentation of a fresh new idea...

## Broomfield Place

Strengthening and sustaining our community

Wednesday 18th September 6pm - 7pm  
at Broomfield Village Hall

## How to Stop Mass Development on Broomfield Place

Broomfield Place belongs to Essex County Council (ECC). They've said they don't need it to fulfil their functions and have declared it surplus to requirements. Normally this means they would sell it for the highest price possible. Last year, they tried to sell it all for residential development but, thanks to the Parish Council and County Councillor John Aldridge, we put a stop to that.

As a cash-strapped local authority, ECC can't afford to just give the land to Broomfield Parish Council. The Parish Council can't afford to buy it because it has 'hope value', meaning it's worth a lot more than ordinary grassland because it may be potential building land one day.

That's a shame, because the ideal way to keep Broomfield Place green and unspoilt would be to buy it and turn it into a nature reserve, country park, sports fields or the like. Obviously, any community facilities that need buildings, structures etc. wouldn't help to keep Broomfield Place green and open – quite the opposite.

Fortunately, there is another way. The planning system has introduced 'neighbourhood plans', which are led by a parish or local community. We're working on the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan now. One of the things we're looking at is how we can protect as much of our beautiful countryside and green space as possible, using the additional scope we get by doing a neighbourhood plan.

When we consult on the draft Plan in early 2020, you can see what we've been able to achieve and tell us what you think of it – plus you get a vote on it at the end of the process. When our Neighbourhood Plan runs out in 2036, assuming the planning system is broadly the same as now, we can do another one and carry on.

Personally I'd like to protect as much of Broomfield Place as possible, but that's only my view. Please say in Question 2 what you think – tell us how much of the land should be protected as green space.

### Community Facilities

It's suggested that a lot of community facilities could be sited on Broomfield Place. Personally, I think there is only room for a small number if they need buildings.

Otherwise you start to eat into the green space too much and encroach on the setting of Broomfield Place, a lovely historic building. If new facilities don't need buildings (e.g. a nature reserve), it's a different matter of course.

But that's only my view. The key thing is that any community facilities - GP surgery, early years facility, nature reserve, work training centre, etc. – must be what local Broomfield people want. Please say in Question 1 what facilities you do want (if any) by ticking those in the list or adding more.

### How would Community Facilities be paid for?

Finally, do remember that there are no magic money trees in Broomfield. If you find one, please let me know first! Everything has to be paid for somehow. There may be grants for some sorts of community facility, but the first question is:

### How do we pay for the land?

The normal thing is that landowners offer to give some land, provided they can build private houses or commercial development on the rest. As a Parish Council, we've always opposed any residential/commercial development in Broomfield Place, unless ECC agrees to build the long-promised new primary school.

I don't want anyone to wake up in 20 years and find that the green space has unexpectedly all gone – either underneath community buildings or private housing needed to pay for them – unless that's what local people specifically want. If you really are happy for housing/commercial development on some of the land to finance the facilities, you need to tell us – parish councillors are here to do what you want as far as we can. But you need to make it clear when you answer Question 3. Otherwise our current position is to oppose it.

So, it's up to you the people of Broomfield to tell us what you want to happen at Broomfield Place. Whatever you decide, my personal hope is that there'll still be lots of beautiful countryside in Broomfield for our children and grand-children to enjoy in years to come.

**John Blake**





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## News from the Cricket Club

**Well, where to start? What a summer of cricket we've had.**

England's nail biting Cricket World Cup win and The Ashes series, all but over by the time you read this. Exciting times too here at Broomfield. Both of our Saturday senior teams continue with their push for promotion but how they fare will have to wait for next time!

Less exciting perhaps, but nonetheless extremely enjoyable was the Club's departure from the competitive league environment to visit Wickham St Paul on Sunday 21st July.

A social friendly XI, made up of seniors, juniors and a returning player making his comeback

travelled over to North Essex for a 35 over game and a reunion with former Broomfield 1st XI Captain John Gisby. A lovely day and a quintessential English village setting where cricket is played on the village green. All enjoyed by a large number of members and their families, some seen pictured below with the players from both sides.

The match itself was lost by 7 wickets. Broomfield's 155 being overtaken by Wickham St Paul with 2 overs left. Broomfield's decision to meet in the Victory Inn, overlooking the Green, and well before the start had, no doubt, some bearing on the performance!

**Tony Cowell, Chairman**  
[tony.cowell1@btinternet.com](mailto:tony.cowell1@btinternet.com)



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## Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society

### Summer Flower & Produce Show

The Summer Show, held on 14th July, was a huge success with over 450 entries and well over 100 visitors. Many thanks to those of you who supported it – feedback has been very positive which is really pleasing for the Committee. As usual the refreshments and raffle were very popular plus the plant stall which sold a wide selection of plants and a variety of home grown produce at bargain prices.

Malcolm Taylor kindly presented the Trophies

Summer show prize winners from left to right:

**Maureen Etridge** – winner of the most scented rose (as voted by the public).

**Lylia Searles** received The Delmas Ashford Cup for the highest aggregate in Cookery Classes.

**Hugh Walker** who received a £5 Trading Centre Voucher for his Sweet Peas,

**Christine Welch** received The Burrell Webber Silver Challenge Cup for her Floral exhibits; The Iris Haslam Memorial Cup for the best exhibit in Fuchsias; The Chairman's Challenge Plate for her Fuchsia – grown from a cutting provided; The Inglis Silver Challenge Cup for her Fruit and Vegetables exhibits; The G.V. Stains Trophy for her Fruit exhibits; the RHS Banksian Medal for receiving the highest aggregate in the Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables Sections 1 & 2 of the Show.

**Malcolm Deacon** (front) received The Society Silver Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in Section 1 (other than Sweet Peas and Fuchsias)

**Neville Walker** (back row) received The Trading Centre Cup for the highest aggregate in Preserves Classes **Christina Whitby** (back row) received The Margaret Reeve Cup for the best exhibit in the Handicraft Classes.

**Arjo Dutta** – winner of the decorated flower pot.

**Isabelle Hooper** received The Eric Young Challenge Cup for the highest aggregate in the Children's Classes.

**Poppy Moore** received the prize on behalf of the Red Six Cub for the potato challenge.

**Clare Hooper-Gowers** (back row) received The W. J. Day Challenge Cup for the highest aggregate in Handicrafts Classes

**Daniel Samouilham** received the award on behalf of Gabriel from Columbus College for a decorated flower pot.

**Sheila Hasler** received The M. H. Drake Trophy for the best floral or vegetable arrangement in class 301.

**Nicola Riley** received The Society Challenge Trophy for the highest aggregate in photography classes.

**Ron Marlow** received a £10 King's voucher for winning the Sweet Pea Challenge Class.

**Terry Bousfield** received £5 for winning the Homemade Loaf Competition with flour and recipe provided by Marriages.

We are now looking forward to our Autumn Show on 29 September and hope to see many of you there. This year we have included some classes for children so do get in touch if you would like more details either by emailing:

**bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com**

or visiting our website at:

**www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk**

You can also find us on facebook. See you at the Show.



**Plant sale:**

Thank you to all our members who provided plants and helped out at this year's Plant Sale, held on Sunday 19th May. The weather was lovely and we had a wonderful selection of flower and vegetable plants with our tables filled to the brim. It was great to see that lots of members attended the Plant Sale, along with many non-members from the Village.

The Sale resulted in over £223 being raised for this year's charity, St. Mary and St. Leonards Church Spire restoration fund.

**Committee Vacancies**

We are currently seeking a volunteer to take on the role of Secretary plus any additional people who would be prepared to join the Committee to offer more general help.

If you are interested or know of anyone who might be please email:

**bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com.**



**Broomfield Cottage  
Gardeners' Society**





## AUTUMN SHOW

Classes for Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, Cookery,  
Preserves, Photography, Craft and Children's Classes.  
All welcome to enter.

**Sunday 29th September 2019**

**Broomfield Village Hall**  
rear of The Angel, Main Road, Broomfield, CM1 7AH



**2.00pm to 4.00pm**



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For Schedule & Entry Form please phone Show Secretary  
on 01245 355505 or 01245 443108 or email:  
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## Broomfield Footpath Society

**The summer programme of evening walks has now ended and we will be meeting on Sundays until our last walk for this year on October 6th.**

All walkers to meet at Church Green, Broomfield and lifts are available for those without cars. Do come and join us for these last few walks – contact details are below if you want more information.

Sunday afternoons meet at 2:15pm.

### Sept 8

Paper Mill Lock – Bumfords Lane  
(tea and cakes) Cars to Bumfords Lane

### Oct 6

Stacey's, Priors & Scravels  
Cars to Broomfield

### Sept 22

Walthambury – Green Man  
Cars to Howe Street

### All Are Welcome

No walks longer than 5 miles and many are considerably less!

Contact - Stuart & Christine **01245 261102** or Pam & Gerry **01245 441021**

Follow us at:

**[www.facebook.com/broomfieldfootpathsociety](https://www.facebook.com/broomfieldfootpathsociety)** or  
**[www.broomfieldessex.org](http://www.broomfieldessex.org)**



## Orchard Springs WI

In July the committee of Orchard Springs WI provided members with a colourful array of food and drink from 9 countries around the world.

The committee members were also dressed in the local costumes of each country which caused a lot of fun amusement as well as enjoying the eats on display.

Our guest speaker was Philippa Croft who is the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) representative. The National Federation of WIs is affiliated with ACWW and many of our members, new and old, wanted to hear all about their work overseas. They support women and communities both as individuals and through societies. It is the largest organisation for rural women with 450 member societies across 80 countries representing 9 million women. Non-sectarian, non-political and forward looking like are the



aims of the WI which was the reason for the display of food, drink and dress from some of these countries.

We have a variety of speakers each month and welcome visitors to our meetings with fun and friendship plus a cup of tea. We meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month (not August) at Broomfield Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

*Sheena Ager*

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## St Mary's Church

**Rev'd Carolyn Tibbott has returned from her extended study leave and you will see her in the Church and out and about in the Parish.**

Over the past few months there has been lots going on at St Mary's Church – on 23rd June the annual Songs of Praise on the Green was held; this year the Puppet Crew also took part.

People from across Broomfield had chosen the hymns and the Bible passages, which were both thoughtful and emotive. It was a lovely evening rounded off with a Strawberry Cream Tea and enjoyed by all.

### Songs of Praise on the Green



Lots of dogs and a cat came along to the Pet Service in July; At the end of the service the owners and their pets were blessed. Afterwards there were cakes for the owners and treats for the pets. All were very well behaved as were their owners!

All our regular clubs and groups will be starting again in September. Please do visit our website [www.stmarybroomfield.org](http://www.stmarybroomfield.org) for more information and our Facebook page St. Mary Broomfield which has regular updates.

### Dates for your diary :

**19-22 September: Heritage Weekend & Gift Giving Weekend.** Travel through the centuries with the Potted History of St Mary's, using the Church Guide, the photographs on display and our Stewards. Information will be available regarding the materials used in the construction of the church, and on the monuments inside the church.

**The Church will be open on :**  
**Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st, 1000-1200, 1400-1600**

**Sunday 22 September: Morning Service 10.30 – all welcome. Open during the afternoon.**

The weekend is also the Church Gift Weekend for donations towards the upkeep of our Ancient Church. The Bell Tower will be open and bell ringing may be available, but this will depend on experts being on hand.

**28 September:** People & Stone talk – Broomfield's Princely Saxon Burial – talk will be held in the church - tickets £5 from church

**6 October:** Harvest Festival – 10.30am – suitable for all ages

**13 October:** Sunday Special - 3-4pm – Craft, story, film clip/puppets, and food – fun for all the family – held in the hall

**3 November:** Bereavement Service – 3pm – for anyone who is grieving or suffering loss

**10 November:** Remembrance Sunday - service begins at the War Memorial and moves into the Church at 10.45am

**11 November :** Armistice Day – 11am service at the War Memorial

Contact Rev'd Julie Hardy on **01245 443565** for more information on any of these events and services.

 A colorful poster for 'People & Stone' talks and tours at Broomfield Parish Church. The poster features a central image of the church's spire. The text is arranged in a vertical layout with various colors and fonts.
 

**Broomfield Parish Church**  
**PEOPLE & STONE**  
**The Life of Broomfield Church**  
 A Continuing Series of Talks & Tours to raise funds to restore the Spire

**Saturday 28th Sept Broomfield's Saxon Burial**  
 - a comparison with Pölsdewell  
 Ken Crowe, formerly of Southend Museum.

**Saturday 16th Nov Broomfield Vicars**  
 - Thomas Cox and other incumbents.  
 Michael Leach, Essex Society for Archaeology and History

**2pm** Tickets £5 from the Church or email [truly.stone@outlook.com](mailto:truly.stone@outlook.com)

**Broomfield Church Hall CM1 7BD** More to follow including: Broomfield Artists and Notable Graves

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# Broomfield's German Adventure



*Back Row: ?, John Latham, ?, ?, 'Chalky' White, Bill Berry, Front Row: 'Nosey' Parker, Andrew Findlay, ?, Les Tillbrook, Ron Gay, ?, Allen Sheahan, ?, Don Carver, Keith Cable, Les Orrin (Manager)*

**On a sunny Spring morning in 1957, a company of young men (aged 17 to 19 years old) gathered together at the YMCA in School Lane Broomfield, (an old Quaker School which was made available through the kindness of Mrs Nora Marriage).**

Armed with their kit bags, they were preparing to leave this green and pleasant land. Their transport arrived and they clambered aboard. Their destination was Harwich and from there via ferry to the Hook of Holland.

Having boarded the ferry and stowed their kit they relaxed and settled down with a drink or two. Their excitement could be felt. Arriving at the Hook, they boarded a train to Germany.

As they rattled through the beautiful Dutch countryside their excitement grew. Arriving at Wesel (North Germany), Broomfield YMCA football team had arrived for their tour.

We were met by members of the Friedrichsfeld Sports Club, who supplied transport to the village.

As this was the 'British Zone', a British Army Officer was on hand to help with translation.

We were welcomed, and after being fed on green pea soup, were allocated to various host families for the duration of the tour.

We had a four Club fixture list: Friedrichsfeld, Wesel, and two others (now lost in the mists of time). Our Wesel game was one we remembered.

At the start, it was World War 3, we were playing for our Dads, and they were playing for their Dads, t'was a bit violent! However two German policemen who were watching the game, came into the changing rooms at half time, and gave us all a real telling off.

They told us the whole point of these sort of sporting fixtures is to make sure we never fight another war. The second half was much better.

We were also taken by coach to visit places they thought would interest us, including a completely destroyed factory, which they told us British Bombers had done. We also enjoyed some great social occasions in the Village, which involved drinking vast amounts of Schnapps. There was also fine accommodation, the Ulrich Hotel, where we met the locals including those our own age.

Those of us on the tour weren't all Broomfield lads; we were a mixed bag, one from Great Waltham and two from Galleywood. The whole event was organised by Leslie Orrin (a YMCA member) who lived in Ridley Road, a family name well known in the village.

Overall it was a great success and I for one really enjoyed the experience. Friedrichsfeld visited Broomfield in 1958 – does anyone remember that?

**John Latham** (Captain)



*John Latham (Captain) exchanging Tokens with the Friedrichsfeld Captain*



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## Broomfield Royal British Legion Social Club

**Broomfield Royal British Legion Social Club wanted a way to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings.**



Our social club secretary Sharon Farrow came up with the idea of a mural on the wall on the outside of the HQ and social club building located in Saxon Way.

Sharon found a local artist, Danny Bench who was only too pleased to help. Various proposals were put forward and after lengthy discussions a scene was chosen and Danny offered to paint it in his own time free of charge.

An outside light to illuminate the mural was supplied and fitted by local electrical contractor Mick Tinsley the director of MT Electrical, again at no cost to the club.

The photo shows the mural in our new garden area. In the photo are Branch founder member and oldest veteran Bob Groves, Sharon Farrow and Paul Hayward our Standard Bearer and current serving soldier.

Please come along to try out our new garden area, enjoy a cool drink and admire our new mural whilst supporting our Veterans.

See you there!

**Dougal Clifford**



**We need YOU!**



**BRITISH LEGION**

**SOCIAL CLUB TREASURER**

Due to a change of circumstances our Social Club Treasurer is resigning at the end of September 2019.

We are therefore looking for someone to join our Social Club committee and take over this position, as soon as possible.

This is usually a voluntary role, however we would consider paying reasonable rates for anyone suitable.

This would ideally suit someone who can spare 2-3 hrs a week and is good with figures and book keeping.

A committee cannot continue without a Treasurer, please help.

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Please contact Ron Farrow on 07889 558853 for more information.



**Coffee Morning**

**Broomfield RBL Social Club**

**10am-12pm Tues 17th September 2019**

**10am-12pm Tues 15th October 2019**

**10am-12pm Tues 19th November 2019**

**Come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee  
along with a biscuit, scones or cake**

**Find us at Broomfield RBL Social Club in Saxon Way  
(road beside Apple petrol station).**





## Broomfield's Princely Saxon burial

**Gravel extraction has taken place over the centuries and increased in the latter part of the 19th century, later reaching industrial proportions with the growing demands of road and building construction.**



In 1888, workmen digging gravel at Broomfield (Clobb's Row, behind the commemorated Saxon Way) found an iron sword, in fragments, some smaller iron objects and three small pieces of high-quality gold jewellery. The owner of the land, Mr. David Christie declared

the objects to the British Museum and subsequently excavation took place in 1894. During this excavation the grave was completely exposed and artefacts extracted included a bronze bowl, two blue glass jars, textiles and a wheel thrown pot.

During the first excavation in 1888 part of the gold buckle appears to have been smuggled from the site and it was reported in 1894 to have been in the possession of a young lady, but sadly has not been seen or heard of since.

Hercules Read of the British Museum reported in his diary account of the 1894 excavation that "there was good deal of very dark matter, charcoal, fragments of wood and parts of flat iron bars and angle irons with rivets through them. No traces of bones were met with, either burnt or unburnt." Under the acid conditions found at this site the disappearance of organic matter, such as the body is not unexpected.

It is suggested by the British Museum (1994 interpretation) that the body lay on a wooden platform or crude bed. The bronze bowl and textile pad were placed by the left shoulder and the shield propped up against the east wall. The spear was placed in the north sector and the jewellery, sword and knife beside the right

side of the body. Two buckets and a lamp (an almost identical type of lamp was found at the Royal burial ground at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk) were placed beside the sword and knife and jewellery with a cauldron to the west. The collection of drinking vessels, two glass jars, two wooden cups and probably both horns were assembled in the bronze bowl.

We do not know who was buried at Broomfield, but the archaeological evidence suggests a 7th century burial of a person of wealth and high social standing, possibly linked to the royal house of Kent.

The blue glass jars, pottery and jewellery are related to finds in Kent and the bronze bowl has its probable place of origin in the eastern Mediterranean area.

Recent work at Broomfield has provided some evidence for an early Saxon settlement not far from the rich 7th century burial. In July 1985 the site was threatened by gravel extraction (history repeating its self) and an excavation produced flint work, scattered Saxon pottery and pits containing charcoal, bones, daub and early Saxon pottery.

**A few of the finds from the Broomfield Anglo Saxon burial are currently on display in the British Museum, but .... here is the exciting part . . . several objects have been borrowed from the British Museum and now feature in the new display in the Chelmsford Museum in Oaklands Park, which opened at the end of July.**

**Plus the next People & Stone event at St Mary's Church on Saturday 28th September, will feature a talk by Ken Crowe, formerly of Southend Museum, who has just published the records of the Prittlewell Burial of similar age. His talk will compare the finds there with those from Broomfield, shedding light on their interpretation using more modern methods and understanding.**

Most of this information was originally reported by Ken Searles in issue 2 of Broomfield Times.

*Ros Mercer*





## 1st Chelmsford Guides Summer 2019

**1st Chelmsford Guides have had a very constructive summer term and successfully completed the final parts of the Stage 3 Innovate Badge which they started in the spring term.**

This term's main focus was to complete the Guides Stage 3 Explore Badge from the new Guiding programme. This badge included learning various survival skills; such as building a stretcher out of various materials, learning about different travel methods and the CO<sub>2</sub> impacts they can have, and exploring new cities.

Throughout the term the Girl Guides have thrived completing most activities outdoors. Of course the summer term included the annual water games evening, campfire and the end of term Chip'N'Trek ending up at the chip shop. This year's trek had a slightly different theme to previous years. Over the last few years the girls have learnt how to follow trails and find geocaches. However this summer the girls learnt how to identify trees from the shape of the leaves and important facts about them.

As well as trying to complete another stage badge from the new programme the Guides have learnt the traditions surrounding campfire to gain their Campfire Badge. To gain this Badge the Guides have learnt about different types of fires and which wood works best at each stage of building a campfire.

Our campfire evening was concluded with traditional campfire song.

For the Guides to complete the Campfire Badge they will be visiting Chelmsford Fire Station in September to learn about fire safety.

This summer term brought many new adventures for 1st Chelmsford Guides and we look forward to the winter term for many more badges, challenges and activities.

We would like to encourage any girls aged 10-14 years old to join the unit and take part in the wonderful activities Girl Guiding can offer.

To join 1st Chelmsford Guides in Broomfield please register your interest at:

**[www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/guides-10-14/](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/guides-10-14/)**

**Leah Powell**

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## MP visits Broomfield Primary School

**Kemi Badenoch, the Member of Parliament for Saffron Walden, visited Broomfield Primary School this July, describing it as a 'credit' to the community.**

"It was great to visit Broomfield School and meet with Headteacher Heather Shelley and Chair of Governors Ed Mayo", Mrs Badenoch said.

"I very much enjoyed my tour of the school, given to me by Maybell and Tommy, and for the rigorous interview I had with Alfie and Nieve at the end of the day.

"The school is a lively and happy place which is a credit to the families and community of Broomfield village.

"Also, thank you to Cllr John Aldridge, Chris Hibbitt, Chair of Writtle Parish Council and Cllr Malcolm Watson for joining me at my surgery in Writtle and assisting me answering constituents' concerns."



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## Broomfield Library

**We were pleased to welcome children of all ages to take part in Space Chase, this year's Summer Reading Challenge.**

The children's mission was to help the Rocket family rescue Hubble the Librarian's books from the mischievous aliens.

Children from around the area joined the challenge with enthusiasm and Hubble's books are safe once again!

The council delivered the final strategy regarding the 5-year future of Essex Libraries in July. We at the library are delighted that the service will remain for a few more years at least, and we would now encourage the

community to come and visit us, and borrow a few books when you can!

We will be continuing to run our usual events in the Autumn, including Rhyme time, Board Games and our book groups; and look out for some new events and groups!

**Michelle Davis**

## Channels Residents Community Group

**The Channels Development continues to grow at a pace with the Croudace phase complete, Bellway phases now almost complete and the Home Group phase well underway with first residents beginning to move in.**

Marden Homes have also started construction on dwellings that are to be built around the large lake to the side of Channels Drive with work expected to continue for circa 18 months. Residents of Channels currently sit in both Broomfield and Little Waltham parishes and the the majority of new properties now being built will fall under Little Waltham. Currently the Bellway at Channels phase sits within the Broomfield Parish.

The Channels Residents Community Group is working with the landowner and their agent to develop public open spaces that have to be provided as part of planning conditions and residents have submitted a number of ideas which are being taken into consideration.

These ideas (which still need to be fully worked up and agreed) include outdoor fitness equipment, community growing points, enclosed dog exercise areas and sensory gardens. Construction of the public open spaces is planned to start within the next couple of months. Ultimately there will be some lovely open spaces for use by residents of Channels and those of surrounding areas.

There are a number of ongoing issues including the need for a crossing on Essex Regiment Way to facilitate safe passage off of the Channels Development and consideration of planning submissions which may adversely impact on the area due to the lack of infrastructure. There have also been significant issues with the 51 Bus Service. However with continued pressure from the Channels Residents Community Group, and the support of local councillors, there has been an improvement in the reliability of the bus service. There will also be a revised timetable from September which addresses concerns in relation to frequency and timing at key

periods during the day. It shows that residents do have a voice!

There is now an active Neighbourhood Watch on the Bellway phase of the development and it is hoped that residents from the other phases follow suit as it provides a more formalised way to inform the Police of any suspicious activity. The Watch Groups have frequent contact with their local policing teams meaning that crime alerts can be quickly circulated. The regular flow of information raises awareness, helps make members more aware of local crime problems and provides the opportunity to prevent members from being victims of crime.

Neighbourhood Watch is a free, confidential service and it is up to residents how involved they want to be. However it also assists in establishing a community spirit so that everyone can contribute to the well-being of the neighbourhood by mutual co-operation.

Our website is at **[www.Channels.community](http://www.Channels.community)**

**Channels Residents Community Group**

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