

Bromham Broadsheet

March 23

104th Edition

Public Access Defibrillators in Bromham

Defibrillator Locations:

Bromham Village Hall (Village Road, MK43 8JP)

Parklands Pavillion (Changing Rooms, Chestnut Ave, MK43 8HP)

The Elizabeth Curtis Riding School for the Disabled (Chestnut Ave, MK43 8HP)

The Prince of Wales (Northampton Road, Bromham, MK43 8PE)



When you call 999 the operator will inform you if you need a Defibrillator. The operator will then tell you which Defibrillator to use and the access code to the cabinet.

Free Difibrillator Training Coming Soon

Parish Council Elections 4 May 2023

Local Elections take place this year on Thursday 4 May 2023—this includes Parish Council elections.

If you are passionate about your community and want to help #MakeAChange, stand for election as a councillor! We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for election and #MakeAChange.

For more information contact Julie by email: Julie@bromhamparish.co.uk or call 01234 828851.

Find out more about Parish Council at: www.bromham-pc.gov.uk

Parish Councillors are volunteers who live or work in the community, once elected Councillors serve for a period of 4 years. Bromham has fourteen Parish Councillors representing the village.

You can become a councillor if you:

- **are British, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union**
- **are 18 years of age or over**
- **are registered to vote in the area or if you have lived, worked or owned property in the area for at least 12 months before an election.**

Being a Parish Councillor takes approximately 10 hours per month depending on the amount of time Councillors are willing to give.

Become a Bromham Parish Councillor! If you would like to know more come down to Bromham Mill on Saturday 4 March 2023 at 2—4pm to meet members of our Team.

**MAKE A
CHANGE
BECOME A
COUNCILLOR**

FROM THE CHAIR

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Event at Bromham Mill, and to have the Reindeer at the mill again. We were happy to see so many of you brave the elements for the Carols. Although a shame about the weather conditions and the very soggy carol sheets it was good to sing so many popular carols, and we look forward to seeing everyone next time!



Parish Council Elections take place on 4 May 2023. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor for 2023, pop down to the mill on Saturday 4 March between 2 and 4pm to meet some of our current councillors and get more information on the process — anyone can be a Councillor. The skills you need are a passion for Bromham, be willing to take part in discussions at meetings and form sound judgements and then abide by majority decisions. Being a Councillor can take approx. 10 hours of your time each month.

The Coronation of King Charles III is on 6 May 2023 and we will be providing a large outdoor screen to watch the event at Bromham mill—please watch noticeboards and social media for more information. Save the date, and we do hope you will join us for this historic event.

Finally, I want to wish Councillor Roger Rigby the very best in his retirement. He has been a very hard working Councillor for the Bromham Community, and has given us so much support. So many of our projects would not have been achieved without assistance from his ward funds. We value his contribution to the Village, and he will be missed. Thank you Roger.

Sian Woodfine

Borough Councillors Report

At the forthcoming elections on May 4th the old Bedford Borough ward of Bromham and Biddenham will cease to exist and two new wards will emerge. Biddenham, having gained new housing, will become a ward on its own with one councillor and Bromham will join with the villages of Stevington, Stagsden and Turvey to form a new ward with two councillors.



This is therefore the last report we will give you. Jon has been selected to stand for Biddenham and Roger, after 23 years, will retire. We want to sincerely thank you for your support and we hope you feel we have helped you with the multitude of problems large and small you have brought to us, including initiating a number of road safety projects you have requested.

Every year we have fully spent our ward funds in support of the two villages with a larger share usually going to Bromham. Just three of many such projects over time have been the refurbishment of the Village Hall, supporting Bromham school on its journey to become a Primary and its ongoing improvements, and funding for Bromham Mill where the Parish Council is creating a vibrant community hub.

Over the last two years our joint funds of just under £32,000 have supported the following Bromham projects:

At the Mill, a new Kompan swing and safety fencing between the children's play area and the river.

A contribution of £5,000 towards the Browning Close play area refurbishment.

A contribution to Bromham Allotments Association for a green project to collect and store more rainwater.

At Bromham Primary, a number of projects including contributions to their new Food Technology Room, Wall Art in the library area, the quirky pavement safety signs for the Grange Lane entrance and other safety, repair and redecoration projects.

In recent times we have worked hard with your Parish Council to achieve footpath renewal on Princes Road and the resurfacing of Village Road, Springfield Drive and New Road. We have always been diligent in ensuring potholes and trip hazards are notified and repaired.

Best wishes to you all in future. We are still 'on duty' until 4th May. Contact us if you need our help.

Roger Rigby & Jon Gambold

BROMHAM TODDLERS (& TIDDLERS)

Charity No: 1031617

We meet in the Baptist Church Hall on a Tuesday morning (during term time) from 9.30 - 11.30 am. We have toys/activities suitable for new born up until 4 years. Cost is £2.50 for the first adult/child and 50p per subsequent adult/child (over 6 months). There is tea/coffee for carers and a drink/biscuit for the little ones.

We finish with a song time, when adults and children sit together in a circle and choose their favourite action song. There is a lovely sense of community within the group and we hope to see you there with your little ones...

Bromham Allotments Association

Well after a long, hot, dry Summer, we have experienced some very harsh frosts.

However, because of the warm, dry conditions, tomatoes, squashes and peppers have done really well, with no blight this year! Apples have been produced abundantly, with one of our trees in the community orchard being laden with delicious Laxton Superb apples and enjoyed by many.

Now it's time to get your seed potatoes and draw up a plan for next Spring! And if you haven't yet got an allotment, you can still grow on your windowsill...

Contact: Jan Oliver, 01234 825246 Judy Hammond 0774569044

BROMHAM MILL REGENERATION: UPDATE

Bromham Parish Council has now submitted the planning and listed building consent application in respect of the regeneration proposals for Bromham Mill. The application has been informed by various detailed technical studies and the plans comprises the following key features:

- The Mill Building reverts to gallery and museum space, with improved space for artists to showcase their work and the development of the museum as a first-class educational resource.
- The listed front barn would become the new location for the Mill Coffee Shop with a raised veranda for external seating and compliant ramping. The existing tenant has been fully engaged with the café design that will improve the internal and external space to meet the needs of the operator and for visitors to the Coffee Shop.
- The Hovel would be retained as an external food outlet associated with the Mill Coffee Shop.
- The Mill House would be sympathetically extended and developed into a well-being centre to include therapy space and office accommodation.
- The Mill House Stables would, following change of use, be used as small retail units to add interest and appeal to the location. This could include, for example, a florist, bakery, art and craft supplies, local produce, and zero waste/refill shop.
- The existing Workshop would be converted to two commercial workshops for suitable tenant occupation, with the erection of compliant disabled access ramps. This could include uses such as furniture restoration and upcycling.
- The existing toilet block would be replaced with a new improved facility.
- A new welfare and facilities building would be provided to incorporate further public conveniences and site maintenance workshops/storage.
- New commercial business units (6) would be provided for tenant occupation. These units would provide small local businesses with a place to develop and expand within the Bromham Mill Site, whilst also contributing to Bromham's local economy.
- Improved vehicle and pedestrian movement throughout the site, including provision for over 47 parking spaces, 2 loading bays and 1 coach parking to comply with the outcome from the transport assessments and planning policy requirements.
- Corporate wayfinding features and signage would be installed to aid navigation through the Bromham Mill site.

The submission of the application followed a public exhibition in respect of the development proposals that was held at Bromham Mill from Sunday 23 October 2022, to coincide with the official opening of Apple Day, for a period of two weeks until 6 November 2022. It remained available for viewing at Bromham Mill and on the Parish Council website for the full consultation period, with feedback encouraged.

The exhibition was well attended, produced a very encouraging dialogue and the feedback remained very positive throughout, with overwhelming support for the regeneration proposals and some good suggestions. Over 140 responses were received. A number of amendments were made to the plans as a result of the exhibition feedback, including the provision of electric charging spaces, improved cycle storage provision and enhanced play park.

The proposals have been formulated in a way that complements the historic architecture and materials seen in the original buildings. The proposed new buildings and modest extensions have been designed in a way that they are subservient to the heritage assets and do not detract from their significance. The proposal for the front barn, for example, looks to make minimal external changes to the building, thereby preserving its aesthetic value. Some alterations will be required to ensure that the building is accessible to those with limited mobility, however, these alterations will be undertaken in a way that will preserve the heritage asset. Furthermore, the extension to the Mill House will be done in a way that is architecturally sensitive to the Mill and complements the heritage assets and their setting.

Emphasis throughout has been on the need to ensure that the regeneration is sensitive and sympathetic. It is a fabulous location, and the Parish Council is fully committed to refurbishing the site in a sensitive way in order to enhance the recreational and educational asset, transform Bromham Mill into an exciting community facility and visitor attraction and to create the location as a key, vital and vibrant leisure and cultural destination.

There has unfortunately been so much misinformation on social media about the plans, fuelled by rumour and speculation, rather than facts. Please be reassured that the Mill will not be developed as a commercially minded business venture, intent on profit maximisation. It will not be home to typical retail giants, like Costa Coffee, McDonald's, Tesco Express or Subway. It will not be a fully developed camp site as recently reported on Facebook!

Bromham Mill Regeneration update continued

The intention is to create a recreational hub with the Coffee Shop at the heart of the place. Contrary to some beliefs, the Parish Council has been working fully with the existing tenant to ensure that the business is supported and enhanced. The Coffee Shop has been a real success and is key to the future vision for the location. Small retail units will be art and craft biased, with small workshops and office spaces available to add to the appeal and attraction. Tenants will not be cut and thrust profit dominated enterprises, but small operators and locals keen to provide a valuable service with leisure, culture, heritage and recreation key to the success of the location. Protecting the heritage, conservation and the magnificent meadow has been key in formulating these exciting plans.

The art gallery, museum, and play area will be enhanced. Events will be occasional and carefully managed as with the existing Apple Day, Duck Race, and Christmas Carol service, probably 4 or 5 times a year. It will not be developed into a much more regular schedule of noise intrusive, resource demanding and commercial events as some may fear. Please be assured that your Parish Council cares passionately about the place and is fully committed to protecting its values.

Please take time to study the planning application and the accompanying reports carefully to fully understand the aspirations and intentions. The link is as follows:
<https://edrms.bedford.gov.uk/SearchResults.aspx?appNumber=22/02658/MAF>, or visit Bromham Parish Office to view.

**Trevor Roff, Chair of Bromham Mill Board,
February 2023**



Bromham Apple Juice

available at
Bromham Mill
£3.75 per bottle



Thank you to Borough Councillors Rigby & Gambold for contributing to new fencing to the rear of Bromham Mill from the Councillor Fund.

BROMHAM SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

**Tuesday Evenings
7pm – 9.30pm**

Please come along
and try your hand
at short mat bowling
in Bromham Village Hall



Bowls available and all abilities welcome. Training will be given if you are a beginner. First two sessions are free with a cup of tea/coffee, biscuits and chat at half time.

Tel: Ron Chapman 01234 822755 or Sue Amor
01234 823610 for more information or just come along.

Bromham Village Hall

A perfect venue for

- birthday parties
- family gatherings
- meetings

in the heart of Bromham!

Bar Service Available

Bromham Village Hall
Village Road Bromham
Beds MK43 8JP
Tel: 01234 822600
Email: bromhamvillagehall@gmail.com

For more information or to enquire about booking the hall go to our website at www.bromhamvillagehall.com

Bromham Community Awards

There are many people who work hard for their community and help others under normal circumstances. However, during the recent Pandemic there are even more people doing great things in our community. Bromham Parish Council would like to identify and thank individuals, groups or organisations who have contributed to the village life of Bromham.

Residents are asked to nominate anyone, individual or group who they would like to see recognised for their work.

Bromham Parish Council will also consider recommendations for a Lifetime Achievement Award for someone who has shown an ongoing commitment to Bromham. There will be an Award ceremony at the Annual Parish meeting held on 26 April 2022. This Award is sponsored by Steven Eagell Toyota, we thank them for their contribution.

You can make your nomination by completing the form below and returning it to, Bromham Parish Council, Bromham Village Hall, Village Road, Bromham or by email to julie@bromhamparish.co.uk.

Bromham Parish Council	
Bromham Community Awards	
Nomination Form	
I would like to nominate:	
Contact Details, Email:	
Address:	
Reason for nomination:	
Your Contact Details, Name:	
Email:	
Address:	
Tel:	
Signature:	
Date:	
Applications to be received by 31 st March 2023, return to julie@bromhamparish.co.uk or by post to Bromham Parish Council, Bromham Village Hall, Village Road, Bromham, MK43 8JP.	

Bromham Conservation Group

There are many opportunities to volunteer in Bromham, with a choice of local charities and voluntary groups working for worthy causes. Volunteer groups often work together where co-operation can make a difference. Bromham Conservation Group volunteers have worked for years with Friends of Bromham Mill and the Bromham Nature Club on improving and developing the attractive grounds behind the Mill. We also recently supported the Elisabeth Curtis Centre, Riding for the Disabled, helping to restore a ride overgrown with weeds and brambles.

Our volunteers work with the borough and parish councils to maintain public open spaces in the village. We help maintain and improve the grounds at Bromham Mill, the Bromham Lake Local Nature Reserve in Lower Farm Road, Salem Thrift ancient woodland off Northampton Road, the Community Orchard at Parklands and the wildlife pond at Paddock Green off Oakley Road.

Our volunteers continue to develop the woodland fairy walk at the Mill, creating areas with rustic fencing made from fallen wood from around the site. One will be used for new spring flower planting by the children of Bromham Mill Nature Club, the other will become a pollinators garden near the new volunteers barn. In Salem Thrift, we have completed our first area of traditional hazel coppicing, led by a new member with a background in woodland management. A hazel hedge has been added to help protect the bluebells, which we will reinforce with hawthorn in the coming year.

New volunteers are always welcome to join our conservation work around the village, or to work on joint projects with other voluntary groups. There is a wide variety of activities and something for everyone prepared to donate a little time for the common good. To find out more, sign up for our monthly email newsletter, or visit our Facebook page at [**@BromhamConservationGroup**](#).

Local people have kindly donated spare materials and equipment for our work since the Group was founded in 2008. We would now welcome **hawthorn cuttings** for hedging at Salem Thrift, **dogwood cuttings** to plant in the fairy walk at the Mill, and **heathers** for the new pollinators garden at the Mill. We can also make good use of any spare 18mm and 12mm **plywood** and 50 x 25mm **roofing battens**, which make excellent supports for young trees.

Many thanks if you can donate any of these items. You can either drop them at the Mill during one of our regular Monday afternoon sessions, or contact us to arrange collection.

Contact Peter Argyle on 01234 822698 or email [**bcg@peterargyle.plus.com**](mailto:bcg@peterargyle.plus.com).



Can we help you? - Are you a resident of Bromham and need help?

Whether it is with lifts to hospital, doctors and dentists appointments – or gardening and dog-walking. From shopping and collecting prescriptions- to changing a light bulb, we have a team of volunteers ready to assist. Even if you just want some company over a cuppa we are here to help.

Most of the services we provide are free, but as we are a voluntary organisation, any volunteer drivers will make a small charge for fuel and parking costs.

Call our help line any weekday between 10am and 4pm, we will take your details and details of the help you require. This information will then be passed to an appropriate volunteer. Please give as much notice as you can.

Bromham Good Neighbour Scheme and its team of volunteers look forward to helping you in the very near future.

Contact: Tel: 07475 764322
Email: bgns.committee@gmail.com

Bromham CofE Primary School



Returning from Christmas, the children have all come in to school very enthusiastic and eager to learn. It has been a productive term so far, with much enjoyment and celebration.

For those of you who have children due to start school in September, school admissions are in the process of allocating schools to all families, all of whom will be informed after the Easter break. Having looked at our numbers to date, it is likely that we will not have a full cohort of 90, so spaces are still available for children starting school in September 2023. If you know of anyone outside of Bromham who isn't happy with their allocated school, please point them in our direction and we will be happy to show them around. We now have 451 children who attend Bromham CofE Primary and the school continues to grow each year.

Recently, we have opened our school library at the Grange Lane site, with help from our brilliant PTA team. It is a really valuable resource to have and we are lucky to be able to have this facility for the children. We are in the need for a volunteer to help in our library which would consist of helping to organise the books and general upkeep. If you feel you have the right skills and time to help the school, please contact the school office: office@bromhamprimary.co.uk

Best Wishes to Councillor Roger Rigby on your retirement, we wish you well and thank you for your support!

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St Owen's Parish Church Special Services & Events Spring 2023



- Sun 19th Mar-** Mothering Sunday Family Service
10.30am
- Fri 7th Apr-** Good Friday Children's Crafts and
Trail 10am- 12noon
Good Friday Service 2.00pm
- Sun 9th Apr -** Easter Sunday Family Communion
Service with Easter Egg Hunt
10.30 am
- Mon 10th Apr-** Easter Monday: Church open for
teas and coffees, light lunches,
stalls & a raffle, and viewing of
Easter Flowers. 12 noon—4pm

For more details of any of these events please contact:
Administrator: Sarah Smale 07494
069540
administrator@bromhambenefice.org
Vicar: Rev Catherine Wilson 01234
825665
vicar@bromhambenefice.org
Facebook: CofE Benefice for
Bromham, Oakley & Stagsden
Instagram: bromhambenefice



CHILDREN'S GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP



Good Friday (7th
April) 10am-12noon

Craft & Activities

Come and learn
about Good
Friday & Easter



Arts & Crafts, fun and refreshments
St Owen's Church, Bromham
Entry £2.50 (Children under 2 free)

(Children must be accompanied at all times)
For more info see our Website :
www.bromhambenefice.org



Happy Easter

Palm Sunday, 2nd April
10.30am – Family Service
5.00pm – Family Service

Good Friday, 7th April
10.30am – Family Service

Easter Sunday, 9th April
8.00am – Holy Communion Service
10.30am – Celebration Service

Monday, 17th April
4.00pm – Choc Crepes Café

Wednesday, 19th April
7.30pm – Alpha Course

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Sundays 10.00 – 12.30
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Please bring your own mat

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Beds, MK43 7RX*

Charity Number: 1060283

We provide a fun filled day of activities, games and good old conversation. Day includes refreshments and a two course lunch. As well as full days we now offer afternoon sessions including a two course lunch.

contact Lynne Tues to Thur on 01234 824935 or **Mobile:** 07733 227374

Website: www.oakleyruraldaycentre.weebly.com **Email:** oakleyrural-daycentre@yahoo.com



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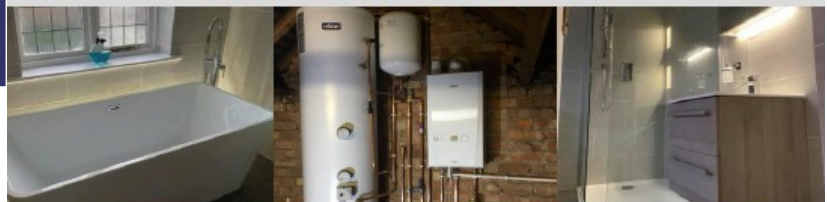


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The Almonds Pre-School
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younger children born
after Sept 2021 -
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place for your young
child, please call 07729 583 331 between the hours
of 9am and 1pm or Mrs Janis Russell on 01234
857196 at any other time



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info@blissplumbing.co.uk



You will need photo ID for the Elections 4 May 2023

The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at some elections. This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023. Anyone who does not have an accepted form of photo ID will be able to apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

You can use any of the following accepted forms of photo ID when voting at a polling station:

Passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country

Driving licence, A Blue Badge, Bus Pass, Identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card), Government issued documents—For the full list visit:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id>

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID -

You can apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

To apply visit:

electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID
or call 08003280280

The
Electoral
Commission

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Find out more at

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BECOME A COUNCILLOR

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT:

julie@bromhamparish.co.uk

You Can Report Highways Issues!

If you see a fault or problem in Bromham please report it direct to highways at :
<https://highwaysreporting.bedford.gov.uk>

You may need to quote the number on the lamp column.