



Your Parish News

from Bradwell Parish Council

Serving the residents of Bradwell Common,
Bradwell Village, Heelands and Rooksley
Spring 2008

Why the delay at Heelands shops?



We admit it! In our edition last November we told you that the regeneration of Heelands Local Centre would start in January 2008. Obviously, it didn't.

The problem is that, in December, Milton Keynes Council found that the balconies to the sixteen flats over the shops were unsafe and will have to be removed. Due to current building regulations the balconies cannot be replaced, and there are legal complications due to the varying tenures of the flats. The scaffolding already there is for safety purposes only. More scaffolding, reaching up to the balconies, will be added before they can be removed.

We now expect that work on the balconies will start in May and take about 12 weeks. The long expected regeneration work is unfortunately not likely to start until early autumn.
The shops will remain open – please support them!

We invite all residents to the

Public Annual Parish Meeting

This year the Annual Parish Meeting will be held at

**BRADWELL MEMORIAL HALL
VICARAGE ROAD
BRADWELL VILLAGE**

**At 7.30pm on
FRIDAY 4th APRIL 2008**

Free light refreshments

Meet Parish and Milton Keynes councillors.

Meet the neighbourhood police, including your PCSOs

Milton Keynes Council officials will be there.

Ask them, for example:

What's happening to Heelands Local Centre?

Are there any landscaping problems you want to report?

What are the Enforcement officers doing?

Cllr Phil Gerrella will talk on the lighter side of being the mayor of Milton Keynes

Hear what the parish council is doing – the chairman, Cllr Brian King will present his annual report. Tell us what you feel they should be doing!

This is your meeting; we look forward to welcoming you!

Police Community Support Officers – How do they make a difference?

This article is supplied by Thames Valley Police, Public Relations Department.

Communities are benefiting from an increase in the uniformed presence on their streets as the number of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) grows across Milton Keynes; yet there is still confusion about their role and powers.

Chief Inspector Andy Standen, Local Area Commander in charge of neighbourhood policing at Milton Keynes police, said: “A common misconception is that PCSOs are being used as a replacement for police officers and I would like to reassure people that this is not the case.

“PCSOs are part of policing teams in this area and they provide crucial support to their police officer colleagues. They also work closely with staff, like neighbourhood wardens, from local councils and housing associations.”

Thames Valley Police employ nearly 500 PCSOs across the Force area. All kinds of people, of different ages and backgrounds, enjoy getting out on the streets of their community; meeting the residents and business people and finding ways to improve their quality of life

The PCSOs' job is designed to allow them to spend around 80 per cent of their time patrolling and, although they cannot arrest people, they have other powers which allow them to deal with lower-level crime, such as vandalism, which affects people's lives but is very time consuming. This, in turn, frees up the police officers they support and enables them to focus on solving crime and tackling priority offenders.

If you haven't met your local PCSO yet, keep an eye on the local press and publications for details of any events they may be organising. Or simply stop them on the street and say hello! You can also find out more about policing in your area at www.thamesvalley.police.uk

- *Continued on the next page: a full list of the powers available to PCSOs, supplied by Thames Valley Police*



We are very pleased to welcome our second of three PCSOs, Bianca James. Bianca joins PCSO Matt Robinson who was photographed last issue.

To contact both Bradwell Parish Council and Bradwell Neighbourhood Action Group please call 01908 321285 (ideally before 1.30pm) or e-mail bradwell.pc@talk21.com

You've spoken....we've listened

Bradwell, Bradwell Common, Heelands and Rooksley now have a Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)

The NAG meets monthly, under the chairmanship of local resident Mr Barry Wadeson. It involves local community representatives working together with the police, Bradwell Parish and Milton Keynes Councils and other agencies to make improvements for everybody living and working in the area.



The Bradwell NAG is focusing on the top three priorities you asked them to:

- **Landscaping** – the NAG has already had several successes with this topic.
- **Anti-social behaviour**
- **Parking / speeding**

If you are interested in finding out more about the NAG please contact Bradwell Parish Council, which provides secretarial services for it - Telephone (01908) 321285 or E-mail: bradwell.pc@talk21.com

This is a full list of the powers available to PCSOs issued by Thames Valley Police HQ:

- Power to issue local authority fixed penalty notices (FPN) for dog fouling, littering, graffiti and fly-posting.
- Power to remove abandoned vehicles.
- Power to issue penalty notices for cycling on pavements.
- Power to carry out road checks.
- Power to direct traffic.
- Power to issue a penalty notice for disorder (PND) for a range of offences including the unlawful sale and consumption of alcohol by people under 18 years of age; fireworks offences; causing harassment, alarm or distress, and trespassing on a railway.
- Power to seize vehicles used to cause alarm.
- Traffic wardens' powers.
- Power to require persons drinking in designated area to surrender alcohol.
- Power to require persons aged under 18 to surrender alcohol.
- Power to search for alcohol and tobacco.
- Power to seize tobacco from a person aged under 16.
- Power to seize drugs and require name and address for possession of drugs.
- Power to require name and address for anti-social behaviour.
- Power to disperse groups and remove young persons to their place of residence (Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
- Power to require a person to wait for 30 minutes.
- Power to enter and search any premises for purposes of saving life and limb or preventing damage to property.
- Power to stop and search in authorised areas and enforce cordoned areas (Terrorism Act).

Enforcement of Zigzag Yellow Lines

The Parish Council has been advised that yellow zigzag “keep clear – school” road markings will start to be enforced in the near future. This will lead to fixed penalty notices being issued for infringements resulting in a fine for those disobeying the markings.

The zigzag markings are in Bradwell Common Boulevard service road (shown right) and Downley Avenue by Summerfield School in Bradwell Common and in Glovers Lane by Heelands School. Roads by other schools will be reviewed in the future to see if they warrant these markings.

The reason for these markings not being enforced in the past was that Milton Keynes Council had not enacted the relevant traffic orders, which they are now doing.

Notices will be displayed showing the hours of operation of the markings which will basically be during Monday to Friday daytimes, but not at night or at weekends.

The enforcement of the regulations will be by NCP traffic wardens, who currently enforce the parking regulations in Central Milton Keynes, – and a new mobile warden is being employed – and not by the police or our PCSOs. However, the police will act to stop obstructions, such as cars parking on the pavement to try to avoid the zigzags lines.



News from the Abbey Field Wildlife Conservation Area

Abbey Field Wildlife Conservation Area off Abbey Road in Bradwell Village is progressing well this spring. A new hedge comprising 735 bushes of six different indigenous species has been planted between Abbey Field and St Lawrence Allotments, and the rural pathway is being completed. Some tit nesting boxes have also been installed, and different nesting boxes will follow. We greatly appreciate the residents who have voluntarily helped on the project, including those who have donated and planted hellebores and other plants.

Construction of the “wet area” at the railway end will start in a few weeks time and this will also include 15 new trees. More details of this will be available at our Public Annual Meeting at the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on 4th April.

We have no further information about the construction of more car parking spaces in Abbey Road as we are still awaiting surveys from highway and road safety engineers, and for the outcome of our grant application. A few residents requested us to take some of the sports ground area for yet more parking, but the area is protected and we cannot do it.



Arson

A car, which had been stolen from the car park of the Suffolk Punch in Heelands, was deliberately crashed into a tree and burnt out in Abbey Field in January. Regrettably, there is some lasting damage from the wheel marks and the fire, but fortunately Nature has restored the worst of it.

The 2E Bus Service



The Parish Council never thought the 'target' logo on this Z&S bus on the 2E was very wise as it probably attracted vandals to aim missiles at it.

As from 21 April 2008, the evening and Sunday bus service 2E will again operate along Langcliffe Drive, Glovers Lane and Gibsons Green within Heelands. The service was withdrawn from Heelands in 2006 due to several attacks on buses in which missiles broke windows and terrified drivers and passengers. The restoration of the bus service, sought by the Parish Council, follows an improved crime situation on Heelands with less anti-social behaviour. However, repetition of vandalism against buses – and a bus on the 6 was hit by a stone in late February – may result in all buses being permanently withdrawn from Heelands. The 2E bus has continued, and will continue, to run through Bradwell Common as, to date, there have been no problems there

Easter School Holiday Play Sessions

The dates and times for the April school holiday play sessions for children aged 4 to 14 are as follows:

At Heelands Sports Grounds Southern Field (near the central play area basketball courts) on Tuesday mornings 8th and 15th April between 10.00am and 12.30pm.

At Summerfield School Field, Bradwell Common on Wednesday afternoons 9th and 16th April between 2.00 and 4.30pm.

At King George's Field, off Loughton Road and Primrose Road, Bradwell Village on Thursday afternoons 10th and 17th April between 2.00 and 4.30pm.

As always, these sessions are funded by Bradwell Parish Council and run by Milton Keynes Play Association.

The Small Print.

The play sessions are open to all children aged 4 – 14 years. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult (who is welcome to join in the fun!). Children may get messy or paint on their clothes, and there may be water activities,



Part of one of last summer's play sessions.

weather and venue permitting, so please be prepared! **Please note:** the sessions are open access and children remain the responsibility of their parents at all times, as children are free to come and go as they wish.

Upgrade of a Heelands Play Area

Work is planned to start in April completely to upgrade the children's play area by Arncliffe Drive (even numbers) and Lothersdale in Heelands by replacing the old items by modern attractive play equipment. This is a joint venture by both Bradwell Parish and

Milton Keynes Councils, worth nearly £50,000. It follows Milton Keynes Council's removal of many old small play areas, including all those on the grassed land between Langcliffe Drive and Arncliffe Drive, and concentrating on fewer high quality play installations.

Bradwell Church Gates

Bradwell Parish Council has made a substantial grant towards the restoration of the churchyard gates at St. Lawrence Church, Bradwell Village.

The mid-19th century gates have been grade II* listed. They represent probably the finest surviving example of the work of E & M Roberts of Deanshanger, the renowned iron founders and agricultural engineers of the period. The gates were skilfully restored and reinstated by Anwick Forge of Lincolnshire, who also restored the gates to the nearby Bradwell Memorial Hall, for which the Parish Council also gave a grant.



The Motte and Bailey*

Bradwell churchyard gates with the Motte and Bailey site to the right

Behind and to the right of the gates in the picture above is the historic *Motte and Bailey*. Milton Keynes Council has agreed to transfer the site to Bradwell Parish Council later this year. On completion of the transfer, the Parish Council will maintain the site to a much enhanced standard.

* The 'motte' was an artificial mound which had a ditch or moat round it, which supported the strongpoint of the motte-and-bailey castle. The bailey was an enclosed courtyard by the motte, which also had an outer moat.

Ever thought about bell ringing?



The ringers of Bradwell Church are looking for new recruits to learn to ring. So, if you are interested and have ever done bellringing in the past, or would like to learn from scratch then come along to the Church on Wednesday evenings between 20.00 & 20.30. Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.

This is what the MKweb site says about the bells in Bradwell Church:

The bells themselves are of interest; two of the six are the oldest in the county and among the oldest in the country.

These bells are two of only five made by Michael de Wymbis

of Fenchurch Street (Wymbush industrial area is named after him) and date from 1310. Another of the four original bells was made by John Walgrave (as in Walgrave Drive, Bradwell) of Aldgate in the City of London between 1420 and 1440. The bell was named Augustine and we know this from the Latin inscription 'Vox Augustine sonet in aura Dei' ('May the voice of Augustine sound in the ear of God') which was cast on it. The bell can no longer be used because it has cracked, but it is still in the church and can be seen hanging in the south aisle. Two bells were added by the Baily family in 1909 to complete the minimum number required to ring changes.

Heelands Rangers Plan More Facilities for Young People

From Dr Lewis Elford, Chairman of the Trustees of Heelands Rangers

Heelands Rangers has, over the last 8 years, always moved to help others. It has formed a special Youth Committee made up of local young people, led by Scott Round. They have applied for a grant from the Youth Bank and other funders to raise funds to build a 5 a-side facility to run local leagues.

This comes from an idea put forward by the Board of Trustees of Heelands Rangers, a Registered Charity, who have carried out a survey in the Parish to try and give young people something to do instead of hanging around the Local Centre and parks at Centre and parks at night and collecting Anti Social Behaviours coupons! (These refer to the lengthy forms that the police have to complete when they stop and question someone, leaving that a person a copy of the form - Ed.)



The entrance to Heelands Rangers' small Astro turf training pitch towards which the young members obtained a grant from the Youth Bank

During the survey, which asked the question what do you want locally to keep you off the streets? The main answer from the boys, 14 to 19 years old was to play football on an Astro in a league and the girls came up with "somewhere to hang out."

Well, we now can answer both questions. When the funds are raised, Heelands Rangers will fund and run local leagues for two age groups U16 and U19 for boys and girls, and the girls will also have someplace to hang out.

Heelands Rangers have a small training astro but the funds will be used to put in a larger one for these leagues which will be open 3 nights a week to start with, from 6 to 9pm. The first weeks will be monitored to see how much and by who uses it, if it is run well, these sessions will be extended. "We know what the problem is and we know how to bring this idea to life" said the Chair of Heelands Rangers, "but it has to be a two way street, we get it done, and they have to use it properly and administer their own leagues. They also have to realise they are not the only ones in the Parish that deserve a break and they will have to realise they can't have it on a plate".

It is going to take a lot of volunteers to get things done and young people should start coming forward now with teams and get up there to help with preparation work.

Any body interested should contact Heelands Rangers or Scott Round for further details. The project will be managed by 2 licensed doormen and a referee and will cost a £1 per player per game per team. It will also be a non-alcoholic area and teams will have to sort out their own colours. No racism or bullying will be tolerated.

"We have worked hard for the younger children and the older ones do need a break and to let loose the energy they have" said the Chairman. "We might even find some budding stars to send to Academies and join our England U16 player. We might even find young players to send on coaching courses to put something back into the Community. But it is time something was done for them, but if they can't follow simple rules, they will be shown the door."

News from the Parish Council

More Parking for Heelands

Five new public parking bays in "the road with no name" by Summergill Court have recently been constructed.



This is a joint project between Bradwell Parish Council and Milton Keynes Council, each contributing 50% of the cost, to help alleviate parking problems in the area

A recent political newsletter reported that the parking spaces in this road were being provided by the Guinness Trust. This is wholly incorrect. The Guinness Trust is providing a welcome 11 extra parking spaces but all within Aldergill for its tenants.

Council Tax

Bradwell Parish Council raises money through the Council Tax to finance its services. In the year commencing 1 April 2008, it will be requesting 28% less than this year, despite carrying out more work for the parish than ever before. Unfortunately, this won't affect your Council Tax bill very much as MK Council, the Police and Fire Authority all raise much more money than the parish, and their bills are all rising.

Your Parish Councillors

Here is a list of your Bradwell Parish councillors:

Brian Barton	representing Heelands
Ivor Bradbury	representing Bradwell Common
John Downard	representing Bradwell Village
Rex Exon	representing Heelands
Satinder Gill	representing Bradwell Village
Ron Hewett	representing Heelands
Brian King (<i>Chairman</i>)	representing Bradwell Common
Sandy McAlear	representing Bradwell Village
Julian Vischer	representing Heelands
Pat Warner (<i>vice-chair</i>)	representing Bradwell Common

MONTHLY JOINT POLICE AND PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES

On the first Wednesday of every month the police and parish councillors hold a joint surgery and all residents are welcome to attend.

The surgeries will be held –

At Summerfield School, Downley Avenue, Bradwell Common between 1.45 and 3.00pm.

At Bradwell Parish Council office, 21 Glovers Lane, Heelands, Between 4.00 and 6.00pm.

There will be facilities to speak confidentially to councillors and the police.

Next dates: 2nd April and 7th May 2008

We hope that monthly surgeries will also soon start at Bellfounder House in Bradwell Village. Please look at our notice boards for details.

Parish Council Elections

Elections to all seats on Bradwell Parish Council, and one ward councillor of Milton Keynes Council, are due to take place on Thursday, 1st May 2008. Notices, giving full details first of the election, then of the candidates standing, will be displayed on all notice boards in the parish nearer the time.

If you are interested in the elections please call the parish clerk / manager, Harold Atkins, on 321285 or e-mail bradwell.pc@talk21.com. He will be happy to supply you with full details.

To contact your Parish Council please call Harold Atkins, parish clerk and manager, at the Parish Council Office 21 Glovers Lane, Heelands, Milton Keynes, MK13 7LW Telephone (01908) 321285 (ideally between 8.30am and 1.30pm weekdays and 9 to 12 on Saturdays) E-mail: bradwell.pc@talk21.com . Web site www.bradwell-pc.gov.uk Pink recycling sacks are available at the times stated or we will gladly deliver them on request.