



# Little Baddow Newsletter

ISSUED BY LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

Winner of 2012 Photographic Competition was Alison Harker with Misty Burrs

**Spring 2013**



**Little Baddow Parish Assembly  
Wednesday 17th April 2013 at 6.30pm**

**Exhibition & Open Parish Forum**

**Come and meet your Councillors, County and City Council**

**Officers and representatives of village organisations**

**Free refreshments - Licensed Bar available**

# LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

## EXHIBITION AND OPEN PARISH FORUM

WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL 2013 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL  
NORTH HILL, LITTLE BADDOW CM3 4TA

**All parishioners are invited to attend this special event which will celebrate the achievements of your Parish Council.**

There will be plenty to see and hear plus your opportunity to ask questions during Public Participation.

Free Refreshments available throughout

### EVENT AGENDA

- 6.30pm Exhibition opened by the Chairman.  
7.30pm - 8pm
1. Apologies for Absence
  2. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting
  3. Matters arising
  4. Report by the Chairman
  5. Parish Council Accounts 2012/13
  6. Presentation of Charity Report
  7. City Councillor Report
  8. County Councillor Report
  9. Public Question Time
- 9pm Chairman to close the event

### Parish, City and County Councillors

#### Parish Councillors

Rod Barrett      [roddbarrett276@aol.com](mailto:roddbarrett276@aol.com)  
226246  
Mary Buckley      [mary.buckley@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.buckley@btinternet.com)  
07818 296957  
Nic Cooper      [redholmenicooper@aol.com](mailto:redholmenicooper@aol.com)  
224436  
Keith Ferguson      [keith.ferguson@kferg.co.uk](mailto:keith.ferguson@kferg.co.uk)  
07941 181992  
Peter Irvine      [peterirvine264@btinternet.com](mailto:peterirvine264@btinternet.com)  
07850610929  
Martyn Richmond      [richardm@philipmorant.essex.sch.uk](mailto:richardm@philipmorant.essex.sch.uk)  
225036  
John Robinson      [johninhollywood@talktalk.net](mailto:johninhollywood@talktalk.net)  
224858  
Bob Shepherd MBE (Chair)      [chasecottage@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chasecottage@yahoo.co.uk)  
223709  
Peter Willington      [pkwillington@hotmail.com](mailto:pkwillington@hotmail.com)  
224060

#### Parish Clerk

Roger Upward      [littlebaddow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:littlebaddow@yahoo.co.uk)  
226740

#### City Councillors

Chris Kingsley      [Christopher.Kingsley@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:Christopher.Kingsley@chelmsford.gov.uk)  
223744  
Bob Shepherd      [chasecottage@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chasecottage@yahoo.co.uk)  
223709  
Ian Wright      [i.wright@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:i.wright@chelmsford.gov.uk)  
226289

#### County Councillor

Peter Martin MBE      [Cllr.Peter.Martin@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Peter.Martin@essex.gov.uk)  
223624

#### Memorial Hall Caretaker

Mrs Jackie Rymill      227816

## Footpath Update

The year saw the setting up of a P3 volunteer group, which is a community based scheme that empowers local people to look after and maintain their footpath network through volunteering.

Earlier this year, three people volunteered to help with our lovely footpaths inspecting, maintaining, protecting, reporting problems and promoting our network. I would like to thank Emma Coulson, Geoff Miles and Richard Renshaw for responding and offering their services.

In July we attended a 'Three Metre Bridge Building' training session organised by Matthew Hodgkinson, Chelmsford City's Parish P3 Coordinator. We spent a couple of hours demolishing an old bridge and building a new one. Matthew supplied all the materials and equipment. It was fun and informative and I have to say we made a good job of the bridge, plus we improved a footpath for all to use. I

would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the land owners in our Parish who keep the footpaths accessible by keeping them clear for people to use.

If anybody would like to join our volunteer group by occasionally giving a little of your time, it would be great to hear from you. I can be contacted on 226246.



*Rod Barrett.*

## Councillor Timothy James Thorogood Chairman of the Council 2001/07

Our longest serving Councillor Tim joined the Parish Council in May 1983 and stood down in July 2012 prior to moving to his new farm in Suffolk

Tim has farmed all his life in Little Baddow and was a Councillor who brought to the Parish Meetings a sense of calmness and openness. His ever smiling face and calm manner did much to enhance the reputation of the Council.

A private thank you to Tim was held on 16<sup>th</sup> October when his fellow Councillors met in Little Baddow to wish him farewell and to thank him for his many years of service to the Parish.

He was presented with a framed certificate outlining his years of service and his wife Thelma was presented with a bouquet of flowers. They will be missed from our Parish and we can only wish them every success in their new life.



*Bob Shepherd*

## Memorial Hall Extension

Users of the Hall will be well aware of the furniture question: moving it around, and finding somewhere to put what you don't actually need! This has always been a problem. And in the past we hid most of it at the back of the stage, a backbreaking task that defeated some and sent others to the doctor! We desperately need a storage area, on a level with the main hall floor and a plan has been hatched to extend the back of the hall for this purpose.

At the time of writing, before you read this, we have over £31,000 in hand, which is fantastic progress! Huge thanks are due to those local organisations and individuals who have contributed over half of this total (the balance being from a successful grant application of £15,000 from the Big Society Fund).

Unfortunately, this will not be enough and we shall need to keep raising funds locally, and submitting further applications for grants, until we have all the money we need. Previous projects—the Wickhay Green Play Area, the hall kitchen and bar area, and the purchase of Holybred Wood—encourage us that we shall achieve our goal. Planning permission has been granted, so as soon as adequate funds are in hand we can give the go ahead. Who knows—by the time you read the next newsletter, the project may have been completed! So do please support fund raising projects: we have a great village hall and this will be a vital improvement.

*Nic Cooper and Keith Ferguson*

## Profile of Peter Irvine– Parish Councillor

Peter was elected to the Parish Council in May 2011 and has lived in the village for twenty two years moving from Danbury in 1991 after spending twelve years there. Born in Brentwood and educated in Billericay, Peter was a member of the Willow Brook rugby club.

After school, further education and a short time in the ship repairing industry Peter joined a company that provided him with internal and external training in business and management studies. After completing this training he took a position in the asbestos industry. After nearly forty years in that industry, his work is now advising and training on asbestos related issues; he is an expert witness on asbestos related litigation and an accredited mediator. Still at full time work, Peter says he will retire one day.

Peter is married to Maxine and they have one daughter and two grandchildren. Maxine is involved in village life delivering the local Little Baddow News, flower arranging at St Mary's Church and is a helper at the Tuesday drop in lunches. Peter is a community governor at the Danbury Park Community Primary School.



## Traffic

### *What is community speed watch?*

It is a partnership between the local community, local authority and Essex Police. Volunteers from the local community are trained to use speed detecting devices for the purposes of gathering data on motorists who are speeding. The Little Baddow team is keen to see more volunteers to assist with this work. Full training is given by the police. For further information please call either Peter Willington or Rod Barrett.



The present team of volunteers continue to monitor traffic passing through Little Baddow to ensure drivers obey the speed limit for the safety of residents. By and large it is found that the vast majority of drivers do stay within the limit. However, there are those who flaunt the law and details are taken and reported to the police. Actions taken by the police are then advised to the speed watch team. Occasionally the police set up their own speed tests and these also are advised to the team.

*Peter Willington*

### *Village parking*

There have been complaints regarding parking on the footpath at all hours and parking the wrong way round at night. Pedestrians, on occasions, have had to walk in the road. The main problem has been at locations along North Hill.

The local PCSO has asked me to point out that it is an offence to:

(1) Obstruct the footpath by parking on it. (2) Park the wrong way round during the hours of darkness. Your vehicle should be parked in the direction of the flow of traffic .

I and the local PCSO would not want to see anybody reported for an offence. So in the interests of safety for us all please could all villagers park correctly.

*Rod Barrett.*

## Village Design Statement

I am pleased to say that our Village Design Statement was upgraded to a Supplementary Planning Document by the City Council in November 2012

What this means is that the Planning Officers and the Planning Inspectorate will consider the wishes of the Parish before adjudicating on any planning application.

Our first Village Design Statement was prepared in 2005 and I am truly grateful to Christopher Rigler and to Peter Willington for pursuing this matter to a successful conclusion.

*Bob Shepherd*

## Forestry and Land

### The National Trust

Dave Williams is the new warden of the local National Trust following Richard Wallace's retirement. David is based at the Armoury on Danbury Common (opposite Horne Row, adjacent to the car park). I have spoken with the local Representatives (shown below) of the National Trust and all are keen to listen to any concerns *that* residents of Little Baddow may have.

Contact points for the National Trust locally are:

Stuart Banks	Dave Williams
Head Ranger	Local Ranger
Essex Coast and Countryside	07801 591 662
01376 562 226, M 07769 674 727	



### Blakes Wood

The National Trust have agreed to undertake some 'cleaning up' due to the untidy state left by previous felling contractors.

Further coppicing will be undertaken, but in a sympathetic manner.

### Scrub 'Wood'

The Parish Council and the Conservation Society has looked at the possibility of purchasing Scrubs Wood which has been on the market for some time. It was decided that the asking price did not reflect current values, and due to the economic climate, the money would be impossible to find without significant private donorship .

*Peter Irvine*

## Jubilee Celebrations

The celebrations started on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June with the Jubilee Quiz/Treasure Hunt organised by John McCrindle aided by a great band of helpers. 165 people took part in good humour and spirits. The walk started at the Memorial Hall and ended at St Andrew's Hall, where they were met with a welcome free drink and biscuits. It was good to see such a wide age range taking part, and family groups of three different generations. Even the weather was kind to us.

In the evening, the Jubilee Ball was organised by Jackie Rymill in the Memorial Hall. This was sold out long before the event and was a fantastic success in a wonderfully decorated Hall.

The next event was a Quiz Evening held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June in the still beautifully decorated Memorial Hall. 79 people took part with questions based on a theme of Queen and 60. The Quizmasters were Brian and Marlene King. Everyone agreed it had been good fun as well as testing our brains.

Our last official event was a Jubilee Barn Dance held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June in the barn at Little Baddow Fruit Farms. 215 tickets were sold and the barn was packed with dancing villagers on a very crowded dance floor. Our thanks to Simon and Margaret Johnson for the use of his barn; Glen and Suzy Opie for running a very busy bar; members of Little Baddow WI for their help serving the very popular hog roast; and Graham Barrett and Julie and Paul Boyden for erecting the stage and getting the barn ready.

A net income of nearly £2000 was split between Farleigh Hospice and the Memorial Hall extension fund. The committee of Mary Buckley, John McCrindle, Simon Johnson and Peter Willington worked well and at times hilariously, together. We were ably helped by a host of volunteers too numerous to single out individually. So, THANK YOU TO THE VILLAGE.

The Best Decorated House was won by Well House in Spring Elms Lane. You may have seen Her Majesty enjoyed afternoon tea outside the house, weather permitting.

The Best Decorated Street was won by the top end of Spring Close which was a riot of red, white and blue. A Special Award was given to Jackie Rymill for her spectacular decorations in the Memorial Hall. She was also very generous in leaving them in place for other Jubilee events that week.

There were numerous street parties organised by village residents. Depending on what day they were held, some were luckier with the weather than others.

*Mary Buckley*

## Chairman's Report 2012/13

This has been a year of changes with a changeover in May 2012 of both Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council.

The Standing Orders of the Council ensure that Councillors only hold such office for a period not exceeding four years. Both John Robinson and Keith Ferguson had done sterling work during their tenures of office and I do know the extremely long hours that they had to put in whilst being officers of the Council. I am sure Pat Robinson and Lynda Ferguson have welcomed the return of their husbands!

Thank you John and Keith for your years of devoted service.

Peter Willington was elected as Vice Chairman.

Claire Hodgson stood down as a Councillor in January 2012 and our thanks go to her for her excellent work at Wickhay Green and for raising funds for the Memorial Hall extension. Claire is still heavily involved in the Parish with Community Care and the Hall Management Group.

We welcomed to the Council Rod Barrett as a Co Opted Member on 3<sup>rd</sup> May and he has undertaken many initiatives' - welcome Rod.

Tim Thorogood who had been a Councillor since 1983 stood down in July prior to his moving to Suffolk.

Martyn Richmond joined us in October 2012 as a Co Opted Member. Welcome Martyn-we look forward to working with you and the skills that you will bring to the Council.

### *City Council*

We were delighted of course to receive the news that Chelmsford became a City in the Queens Jubilee Year and we look forward to the benefits that such a status will bring.

### *Planning*

We continue to be heavily involved in Planning Matters and I would like to offer my special thanks to Keith Ferguson for his expertise in computer skills and his ability to present applications to us in a manner which we can all understand. The rules of planning are changing and the City Council is in the process of consulting on the needs to implement the National Planning Policy Framework brought into being by the Coalition Government.

### *Affordable Housing*

I am pleased to say that we have now appointed a Housing Agency to look at the feasibility of producing a site for five affordable houses in Little Baddow for people who have a close connection with the Parish.

### *Monthly Meetings*

We are delighted when we see residents at our monthly meetings which are held on the first Thursday and are happy to answer their questions.

### *Community Care*

We are indebted to our very caring groups in the village who selflessly do so much to help our senior residents cope with the stresses and strains of a modern day life. I know how very much our residents enjoy the lunches supplied and the chance to talk to each other. We are also very grateful for those who offer their services to transport our parishioners to events and appointments. We are indeed very lucky to have such a caring attitude in our Parish. I also thank those who give their time to the younger members of the village.

### *Memorial Hall-Extension*

Plans are well in hand to raise the necessary funds and we are indebted to the generosity of so many of our residents who have given donations and their time to fund raise.

### *Neighbourhood Watch*

Simon Johnson stood down as the Neighbour Hood Watch Co-ordinator after ten years in post. Thank you Simon for making our village a safer place. Councillor Rod Barrett has now taken on this role.

### *Film Nights*

My thanks to Elizabeth Willington, and Michael Klaber and their team who have done much to ensure that we regularly watch the most recent films in the comfort of our own Hall.

### *Our Thanks*

Thanks to our Parish Clerk Roger Upward, our Caretaker Jackie Rymill and our Parish Correspondent Gill Houghton for their splendid work throughout the year. I also take this opportunity to thank all our Councillors who give their valuable time to help others.



*Bob*

## Mayor of Chelmsford 2011/12

My year finished on 23<sup>rd</sup> May and what an excellent year both for our new City and for our Parish. Thank you all for your fundraising efforts for Farleigh Hospice.

My thanks to Peter and Sue Withey who very kindly sponsored our cricket match and the Little Baddow Cricket Club who kindly organised the teams. What a lovely sunny day at the Sports Field and I was very pleased to see so many of our younger parents with their children enjoying the festivities and the 'Hog Roast' of course.

Thanks also to Felicity Coxhead, Elizabeth Willington and Mary Klaber who organised so many functions. Special thanks to the Rev. Clive Ashley and his wife who were valiant supporters and to my wife Doreen and the ladies who supported me and the Hospice in so many ways.

At the end of the day I was able to raise for the Hospice the magnificent sum of £58,468.29p.

*Bob Shepherd*

## Finance Report for the year 2012/13

The year end results for 2011/12 were in line with the expectations reported at the Annual Parish Assembly in March 2012.

For the current year, we prepared a detailed budget and the main headings are given in the pie charts below. The largest single item of expenditure so far this year has been for the preliminary costs of the storage room extension at the Memorial Hall. This extra room is long overdue and users of the Hall facilities will welcome the cleared stage and uncluttered floor. It will tidy up the Hall and make it more inviting for everyone. We are also mindful of the requirement to maintain adequate reserves.



At the start of this financial year, the cost of hiring the Hall was raised by 5%. This should produce an extra £1000pa and go towards making the Hall self sufficient. However, constant upkeep of the Hall and pavilion is required and with the rising expenses of utilities, insurance, grass cutting and staff costs, we have to be vigilant in maintaining our financial position. Luckily, the improvements to the Hall kitchen and bar over the past two years have led to increased bookings generating much welcome additional income.

No increase in the precept was sought for the current year but we are watching costs carefully. Income and expenditure projections for the full year are shown below: -

### Where our money comes from and our best projection for expenditure in 2012/13

#### *Income*

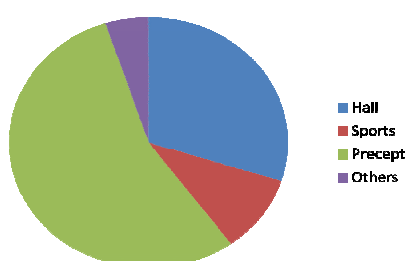
Precept	37,555
Hall	19,750
Sports	6,540
Other	<u>270</u>

#### *Expenditure*

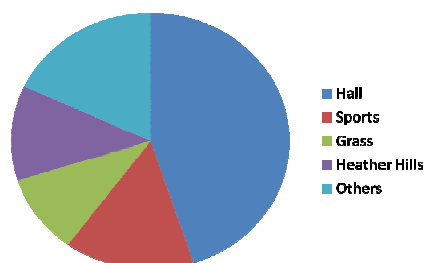
Hall	28,100
Sports	6,860
Public spaces	2,395
Grass-cutting	1,300
Specific provisions	4,000
Other	<u>21,460</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£64,115</u></b>

Total £64,115

Income



Expenditure



## *Little Baddow Newsletter 2013*

### LITTLE BADDOW DIRECTORY

#### **Almshouses**

Clerk to the Trust  
Margaret Martin-223624

#### **Bell Ringers**

Wendy Godden-223873

#### **Bridge Clubs**

Heather Hills  
Monday evenings  
David Belshaw-222762

#### **Brownies**

Contact: Girl Guides Essex  
Tele: 01376-570464  
E-mail: [office@girlguidingessexne.org.uk](mailto:office@girlguidingessexne.org.uk)

#### **Churches**

*St Mary the Virgin*  
Malcolm Breeze-225089  
Lynda Ferguson-222575  
*Roman Catholic Church*  
Fr. Niall Harrington -324138  
*United Reform Church*  
Ryan Sirmons-227723  
Brenda Hooson-222836

#### **Community Bus**

Colin Budgey-225434  
Eddie Wright-225509

#### **Community Care**

Joan Atkinson-226241  
Lunch for the Elderly  
Tuesday 12.15pm  
St. Andrews Rooms

#### **Conservation Society**

Brian Luscombe-222246

#### **Cricket Club**

Martin Higgins-222933

#### **Drama Club**

Sally Lowe-223733

#### **Edward Bear Club & Eden Cafe**

Ann Poulard-224221  
2<sup>nd</sup> Friday 10am  
St. Andrews Room

#### **Essex Wildlife Trust**

01621-862960

#### **Historical Society**

Ann Greenslade-224261

#### **History Centre**

Andy Coppell-224896  
Mary Klaber-222910

#### **Holybred Wood Warden**

Peter Hodgson-226085

#### **Horticultural Society**

Alexandra Archard  
321498

#### **Kick Boxing**

Dave Perry  
07881902647  
Thursdays  
Memorial Hall

#### **Memorial Hall Caretaker**

Jackie Rymill-227816

#### **Monday Club**

Doreen Shepherd-223709

#### **National Trust Warden**

Dave Williams  
07801591662

#### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Rod Barrett-226246

#### **Open Gardens**

Peter Martin-223624

#### **Open Group**

Julie Nisbett-226315

#### **Parish Clerk**

Roger Upward-226740

#### **Prayer Fellowship Ecumenical**

Elizabeth Bourn-223183  
Ann Poulard-224221  
Wednesdays 2pm  
St. Andrews Room

#### **Ridge Runners**

Andrew Ritchings  
01621-828056

#### **Scottish Country Dancing**

Jan Yule-222117

#### **Scouts, Cubs, Beavers**

Clive Pretty-225209

#### **Slimming World**

Emma Chapman  
01621-853889  
Wednesdays 10am  
Memorial Hall

#### **Sunday Lunch Club**

Jan Yule-222117  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday  
Memorial Hall

#### **WEA**

Audrey Saunders-223053

#### **WI**

Susan Sparrow-226892

#### **Walkers**

John McCrindle-225270

#### **Willington/Klaber Film Shows**

Elizabeth Willington-224060  
Memorial Hall

**Little Baddow Open  
Gardens  
11th May 2013**

**Little Baddow  
Conservation Society**  
Visits and talks  
throughout the year  
Brian Luscombe 222264

**Little Baddow Memorial  
Hall  
Jackie Rymill 01245  
227816**