



Braunston News

February 2025



The countdown to the May Fayre has begun

Put the date in your diary, the Braunston May Fayre will be happening this year on Monday May 5th.

The first planning meeting has taken place so the wheels are now in motion for another day of fun and frolics. Details are still being worked on, but we expect that as usual, the village will come alive with music, games on the green, the ever popular dog show and agility programme, duck racing on the Gwash, lots of stalls in Cedar Street, craft stalls inside the Church, and plenty of food opportunities including a host of home-made goodies in the Village Hall as well as street stalls and the usual offerings from the Blue Ball.

As always the success of the day depends on an army of volunteers, both on the day and in the preparations. If you would like to lend a hand in any capacity do get in touch with Simon Phillips by email at sos.simonphillips@gmail.com. Even just an hour of your time will make a difference.

Janet Taylor

Brooke Road planning appeal

Now that we have had the final invoice from our legal team, and the promise of a refund of £14,000 of our legal costs from the Secretary of State, the Parish Council is happy to confirm that the balance of costs will be met from its funds. This means that in February, we will be paying back all your pledges, in full. Look out for the money coming back into your bank account/letterbox.

The appeal now moves back to redetermination by another inspector. Last time around the inspector used a wrong, inflated number for how many houses Rutland must build in a five year period. He had thought that Rutland was providing for only 20% of the requirement, rather than the county having a 50% surplus.

If the appeal were to be rerun using those numbers it would be clear that Rutland doesn't need the Brooke Rd site in order to make its numbers. However, the Secretary of State has summarily doubled Rutland's five year housing land supply target, so the inspector is most likely to adopt this new target, when hearing the appeal.

The PC and the RCC have both been asked to submit evidence for the new appeal by the 3rd Feb. We are, as usual working on evidence which may help the case to be rejected; for reasons that your PC again disagrees with, RCC has decided not to defend the appeal. Please feel free to contact your ward councillor.

Anyone who submitted an objection to the original application will be contacted by the Inspectorate in due course.

Jim Attack

Goodbye Rutland?

Following the publication of the government's white paper on '[English Devolution](#)', Rutland's independence as a unitary authority is again under threat. This time around it seems inevitable that we will join with another local area/s to form a larger authority.

Alicia Kearns has held one meeting to address the options and people's views; another is set for the 3rd February at 6pm in the Victoria Hall, Oakham, and is again fully subscribed.

The options for who we might pair up with are focused on joining either an East/West or North/South split of Leicestershire.

Other options, to join with parts of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire or Northamptonshire are non-starters, given their logical preferences. Leicester city is also not in the mix, having its own ambitions for expansion in other directions, and also not being a desirable partner for us. The question of a Mayoralty, encompassing Rutland is also on the cards, and does not necessarily align with the new unitary authorities.

Discussion and negotiations are moving quickly, with a target completion for the re-organisations this year. Keep your eyes on the RCC and the Alicia Kearns websites to stay abreast of developments. Developments may include the deferral of May's local elections, until the new boundaries are set.

Jim Attack

This month's church services

Sunday 2nd Feb 11am Holy Communion
Sunday 9th Feb 11am Sunday Worship

Sunday 16th Feb 11am Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd Feb 11am Sunday Worship

Get romantic at the Blue Ball

The Blue Ball is offering a special romantic Valentines Day menu on Friday Feb 14th. The set price is £29.95 for a choice of three courses - book your table by calling them on 01572 722135 or email theblueballoakham@gmail.com

Hedges

It may seem a way off yet, but spring is coming and with it, the start of the bird nesting season. If your hedge could do with a spring prune then it's time to get those hedgecutters out, so that everything is tidy before the beginning of March. This is especially important for anyone whose hedge overhangs the pavement.



Oakham's urgent care provision

The NHS are currently reviewing the 'urgent care' facility at Rutland Memorial Hospital and are inviting views from the public. To find out more, and take part in the survey, please visit www.bit.ly/rutlandsurvey

Dog fouling

Once again there have been complaints about dog fouling in the village. Please do clean up after your dog; it is not only deeply unpleasant, it is dangerous. Whilst rare, contact with dog excrement can cause toxocarasis, a potentially serious infection that can lead to blindness. It is also illegal, and can result in fixed penalty notices of £100, or more if the case goes to court. If anyone has any information about owners who are not complying with their responsibilities, please get in touch; any information will be treated as confidential, and maybe borrow a trail camera from Jim Atack.

Braunston's going Passive

Anyone travelling along Knossington Road this week may have noticed that Lynn Cooper's bungalow is no longer there. Work has finally started on Karen and Tony Nagel's eco house project, which will replace the old bungalow with a passive standard house. This will be the first of its kind in the local area and will use the latest design technology to ensure a modern energy-efficient home that will need very little by way of heating. We await progress with interest.

Did you know

All those blister packs that are used for medications have up to now had to be disposed of in our black bins, but there are now some schemes being set up to recycle them. Nothing in Oakham at present but any branch of Superdrug that has a pharmacy will take them - this includes the one in Melton where there is a big container by the pharmacy counter where you can just drop off your empty packs. Maybe we could set up a village drop off point and then anyone going to Melton could take them for disposal. Thoughts?

Regular Events

Village Hall

- Indoor Bowls: Alternate Fridays at 7:30 pm. Contact: Sandra Lickman 722536
- Quilting & Patchwork Group: Weds 09:45 - 15:45. Contact: Elaine 01780 756004
- Table Tennis: Weds at 7:30 pm. Contact:

David Smart 01664 474354

- Pilates: Thursdays 09.00 - 10.00 & 10.15 - 11.15. Contact Alison Sentance on 07496 814825
- Tea Party: last Tuesday of month at 2:30 pm Contact Angela 01572 720351
- Gardening Club: 3rd Thursday of month at 7.30pm. Contact Mary Milner 720387

- The Wool Group: 2nd Weds of the month, 2pm. Contact Jill 07967 650361
- Yoga: Monday 7-8pm. Contact Victoria Louch 07841 019270

Church Events

- Bell ringing practice: Weds eve 7.30pm to 9pm. Contact Richard 07976 622130

Braunston News is published at the end of the month by Braunston Parish Council and does not necessarily represent the views of the Parish Council or any Parish Councillors. Items for inclusion are always welcome - please send items for the March edition to braunston.newsletter@gmail.com by February 22nd. If you currently receive a printed copy and would like to receive an emailed version instead, then please let us know your name, street address, and email address.