



BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Working towards a better Brixworth



Chair's Chat

Looking forward with Councillor Jackie Bird

Community

Grant awarded to Brixworth Northampton Road Allotment Association

Brixworth Railway Benches

Restoring a piece of history

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Growing wild to support the environment

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Funding available for eligible households

Welcome Debs

Introducing our new Administrator

Chair's Chat

The Parish Council is supporting the Brixworth Northampton Road allotment holders with their fight to keep the allotments which are recorded historically as being there since the 17th Century. These allotments play an important part in the lives of the holders with their well-being as well as produce from which many friends and family benefit. The Parish Council has awarded a Community Grant to help the allotment holders with their legal costs and has formed an allotment working group to take the project forward.



Despite the freezing weather and high winds, Spring is on its way and the snowdrops are beginning to finally pop up in the gardens. Thinking of all things 'Spring Like', the Parish Council will once again be supporting 'No Mow May' this year to encourage wildlife into our verges and green spaces.

Another of the village projects for this year is the restoration of the railway benches around the village. Over the next few months the benches will be restored with an ongoing maintenance programme in place.

If you have any comments, queries or questions please contact the Clerk, the admin team or come along to one of the Parish Council surgeries to meet and speak to one of the councillors.



Railway Benches

In a bid to preserve the rich history and heritage of the village, Brixworth Parish Council has started working on an exciting new project to restore three iconic railway benches within the community. The restoration initiative is part of ongoing efforts to maintain and celebrate the village's unique character, paying homage to its railway heritage.

The three railway benches, now situated in prominent locations throughout the village, hold sentimental value for both residents and visitors alike. Dating back to 1859 when Brixworth Railway Station first opened and where they first resided, these benches serve as tangible reminders of the village's history and once-thriving railway connections.

The restoration project will involve reviving these benches to their former glory. Skilled craftsmen and restoration experts will be enlisted to repair, refurbish, and protect the benches, ensuring that they stand as resilient symbols of Brixworth's past for generations to come.

Brixworth Parish Council recognises the importance of preserving local landmarks that contribute to the community's identity. By taking on the restoration of these railway benches, the council aims to create a lasting tribute to the village's history while providing residents with a renewed sense of pride in their heritage.



Community

Brixworth Parish Council has recently awarded a generous grant of £3,100 to the Brixworth Northampton Road Allotment Association. The grant aims to support the allotment holders in their ongoing efforts to secure these valuable plots for future generations to come. Allotments have proven to be essential green spaces that not only provide individuals with an opportunity to grow their own produce but also serve as communal hubs for social interaction and mental well-being. Show your support for the Northampton Road Allotments by signing the online petition at: <https://shorturl.at/fgPZ5>

If you would like to apply for a community grant, visit <https://www.brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/grants/parish-council-community-grants/>



Northampton Road Allotments

DID YOU KNOW?

BINS

Brixworth Parish Council provides general litter bins in our pocket parks, Ashway and St David's playing field. All other bins in the village are owned and maintained by West Northants Council. You can request a bin be emptied, including dog waste bins, by contacting West Northants, or completing the online request form. (Link below).

This information has been brought to you by Brixworth Parish Council.

<https://eforms.northampton.digital/reportItWNC/reportIt.html>

MUGA Private Hire

Brixworth Parish Council is pleased to announce that it is now accepting private hire bookings for the MUGA at St David's Recreational Grounds. We welcome private hire bookings between 9am and 9pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The MUGA remains open for general public use on all other days of the week, including weekends, and on days where no bookings have been received.

For more information or to book the MUGA for your group or club, please visit www.brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/muga-private-hire/



MUGA
Private Hire Bookings



Zero Hour Campaign


Brixworth Parish Council has joined many other organisations and individuals supporting the campaign for the Climate and Ecology Bill - a plan for the UK to do its bit in keeping global warming down to 1.5°C and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.

The Bill is the only proposed legislation before the UK Parliament that ensures a comprehensive and joined-up approach to the emergency.

With your help, we can join our voices together, and demand that the UK Government passes strong, science-led environmental legislation to tackle the climate-nature crisis.


If you would like to find out more information and join the Zero Hour campaign, please visit:

<https://www.zerohour.uk/back-the-bill/>



ACT NOW FOR CLIMATE & NATURE

WE ARE BACKING THE CLIMATE & ECOLOGY BILL FOR A LIVEABLE FUTURE



ZERO HOUR

ECO4 Flex Energy Efficiency Scheme

ECO4 flex is a government energy efficiency scheme designed to help alleviate fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions.

Through this scheme, funding is now available for households in West Northamptonshire on a low income and/or particularly vulnerable to the impacts of living in a cold home. The funding is available for things that can improve the energy efficiency of your home like insulation and heating systems.

If you live in a private home (rented or owned) with an EPC rating of D or below and have a combined household income of £31,000 or less, then you are likely to be eligible for this scheme.

All potentially eligible households should apply through Better Housing Better Health on [0800 107 0044](tel:08001070044) or visit bhbh.org.uk for more information.




Come and play at Brixworth Community Centre!

Monday Evenings

7:30pm - 9:00pm

All equipment provided.

No booking required! Just turn up!

Adults £4
Under 18's (accompanied by an adult) £1









No Mow May


Brixworth Parish Council will once again be celebrating No Mow May and allowing grass and flowers to grow wild in some carefully selected areas of the village. We hope this will create more spaces for bees, plants and insects to thrive.


The movement was started in 2019 by conservation charity Plantlife, which is once again urging people to keep the mower locked up for another month to allow spring plants a chance to set seed before the first cutting, making for healthier, more diverse lawns. There are many other positive effects on the environment, biodiversity and ecosystems too.


 **Biodiversity Promotion** - Allowing grass and wildflowers to grow without mowing provides a diverse range of habitats for insects, birds, and other wildlife. This promotes biodiversity and helps support a healthier ecosystem.


 **Pollinator Habitat** - Many pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, rely on wildflowers for nectar and pollen. Letting these plants grow contributes to the well-being of pollinators, which are crucial for the reproduction of many flowering plants.

 **Wildlife Shelter** - Longer grass and vegetation provide shelter and nesting sites for small mammals, insects, and birds. This can create a more robust and resilient ecosystem by supporting a variety of species.

 **Water Conservation** - Longer grass helps retain moisture in the soil, reducing the need for additional watering.

 **Natural Lawn Health** - Allowing grass to grow naturally without constant mowing can enhance soil health. The roots of longer grass can help prevent soil erosion, and the natural decomposition of plant material adds organic matter to the soil.

 **Reduced Chemical Usage** - Wildflowers and native plants often require fewer fertilisers and pesticides than manicured lawns. Supporting "No Mow May" encourages a more sustainable and environmentally friendly approach to lawn care.

 Our parks and recreational grounds will be maintained as usual to provide safe spaces for children and sport.

We hope that many residents will participate and support this campaign.

For more information, including tips and ideas to prepare your garden for No Mow May, please visit: plantlife.org.uk/nomowmay



WE'RE TAKING PART

Join the movement at plantlife.org.uk/nomowmay



Welcome Debs

Brixworth Parish Council is delighted to extend a warm welcome to Debs, the newest addition to the team, taking on the crucial role of Administrative Support.



Debs will play a vital part in supporting the day-to-day functions of the Parish Council, contributing to the smooth running of various administrative tasks and projects ensuring that the council continues to serve the community with diligence and dedication.

Debs will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Information Point, between 9:30am - 2:30pm.

Contact the Parish Clerk:

To contact the Parish Council please write to:
The Parish Clerk, The Information Point, Brixworth Library and Community Centre, Spratton Road, Brixworth NN6 9DS
Email: parish.clerk@brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Telephone: 01604 347993

Full Council (Thursdays): 28 March, 25 April, 23 May
Planning (Mondays): 11 March, 8 April, 29 April, 20 May
Finance & Personnel (Thursdays): 14 March, 18 April
Annual Parish Meeting: 9 May

Please check website & noticeboard to confirm dates and times.
All meetings are held in the Library and Community Centre.

The Brixworth Parish Council Team

 Chairman Cllr Jackie Bird	 Vice Chairman Cllr Lynne Compton	 Councillor Christine Ware	 Councillor Tony Nixon	 Councillor Elaine Coe	 Councillor Tom Mitchell	 Councillor Ian Barratt	 Councillor Neal Brown	 Groundsman Marc Sugden
 Councillor Barbara Lunnon	 Councillor James Collyer	 Councillor Frances Peacock	 Councillor Gary Spratt	 Councillor Gaurang Mehta	 Councillor Alan Aisbett	 Parish Clerk & RFO Josie Flavell	 Admin Assistant Gavin Kirkup	 Admin Support Deb Frampton