

BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

During the year 2013/14 the Parish Council has:

- Completed the restoration of the village pond
- Arranged for important work to be undertaken on the exterior of the Village Hall, worked with the Hall Management Committee to address problems caused by flooding and initiated work to ensure that the outside of the village hall is better protected against flooding in future years
- Worked with local landowners and businesses to help the water company find alternative arrangements to improve the water supply to the village without needing a lengthy closure of Greenway Lane
- Made representations to the County Council about the importance of the quality and frequency of the bus service
- Undertaken repairs to the bus shelter in the High Street
- Secured the provision of a new bus shelter by Huntley's scrap yard – entirely funded by external sources without any contribution required from the parish precept
- Improved the provision of litter bins on the Recreation Ground
- Organised a number of community litter-picking events during the year – with particular thanks due to the Parish Clerk for making all the arrangements
- Pressed hard for the successful transfer of the Chalk Pits Nature Reserve site from EHDC to HCC / QECP. This should now ensure that the Nature Reserve has a safe future for many years to come – and it should also ensure that Lottery assessors will be happy that all parties have met the conditions of the grant
- Continued to manage the major Lottery Funded 'Chalk Pits' project with developments during 2013/14 including:
 - the completion of 'loan boxes' for teachers and schoolchildren (featured in the Petersfield Museum's Education brochure) with one set presented to Buriton School at its Governors Meeting in September
 - ensuring that resource materials for children and teachers' guides are also available more widely via the Petersfield Museum's website:
<http://www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk/education/teachers-resource.php>
 - a successful 'Open Day' with a wide range of activities and community events during the year
 - welcoming Trevor Partridge as Coordinator of the Chalk Pits Volunteer Group and formally thanking Carolyne Haynes for her continuing role as Project Manager
 - the continuation of regular working parties of local volunteers to help manage and maintain the site
 - noting the commencement of a programme of regular, monthly walks
 - a commitment from the Parish Council to allocate a small part of its budget each year towards a programme of educational activities for children, families and others in the Chalk Pits
 - arranging for new signage and a new seat in the beech woodland area
 - commencing consideration of a small pond in the small quarry bowl at the request of Buriton Nursery School

- Worked with St Mary's church to coordinate a major collection of clothing and equipment, shipped to the Philippines to help with the recovery programme following Typhoon Haiyan
- Commenced investigations into improved playground facilities
- Liaised with the Highways Authority and the Police to explore ways of preventing unauthorised vehicular use of Bolinge Hill Lane
- Continued to explore the provision of high speed broadband into the village by liaison with the County Council
- Liaised with Hampshire County Council about a programme to update street lighting
- Continued to request the County Council to address problems of motorised vehicles using BOATs – including illegal use of BOAT 45 – and helped to identify the potential for an area-wide study of BOATs within the National Park
- Published two 'Geo-Trail' leaflets highlighting the role that our underlying geology makes to the appearance of our countryside and local buildings
- Continued consideration of the idea of 'dark skies' status in conjunction with the South Downs National Park Authority
- Entered into a new licensing agreement with Buriton Tennis Club with increases in rental payments and an emphasis on local membership
- Worked closely with the Weston Residents Association – particularly on a number of Highways and Rights of Way matters
- Studied all the planning applications made in the parish and submitted comments to the District Council, drawing upon the Buriton Village Design Statement and Local Landscape Character Assessment which continues to help deter out-of-character development proposals
- Submitted representations on the Planning Authority's Local Plans for the area
- Made a significant financial contribution to the St Mary's church lighting project
- Continued to provide small grants towards the costs of the Parish Magazine and St Mary's Church
- Agreed an unchanged precept for the sixth consecutive year.