

MAKE OVER FOR BITTELL ROAD PLAYING FIELD



There's a new look to the playing field with the installation of a 500m circular walking route and an extended surface to the basketball square. Tree maintenance ensures that no balls will be snagged on the branches and new signage freshens up the entrance. The makeover also saw the removal of the concrete bollards replaced with a removable drop-down bollard.

Phase two of the project will see the installation of outdoor gym equipment and with tenders due to go out shortly, residents will soon benefit from a free to all fitness experience on their doorstep.

WE DID IT!

70% of Barnt Green Residents have now registered for SmartWater security kits meaning that it is identified as a SmartWater Village. Signs have been installed at entrances into the village and Barnt Green Station to ward off attempted break-ins by criminals, turn to page 4. Special thanks to West Mercia Police who without their help and support this project could not have happened and also to Barnt Green Station and WM Trains in working with the parish council granting permission for signs to be installed.



It's not too late...

If you haven't registered for your free kit yet and you live or have a business in Barnt Green email exec@barntgreen.org.uk with your details and we'll post one out to you.

Barnt Green Parish Council remains open for service but the office is currently closed to the general public. Operating hours are Monday—Thursday 10am—3pm

Please correspond by email wherever possible or use the 'contact us' page at

www.barntgreen.org.uk

**BARNT GREEN
EVENTS...**

Community Walk 2020

It is with regret that the Parish Council has taken the decision not to hold its annual Community Walk Event to minimise the risk and potential spread of Covid-19 that a mass gathering could promote.

Sadly the Parish Council has also taken the decision not to hold a public switch on of the village illuminations due to the risk and potential spread of Covid-19. However it can be reported that the council has signed up to a new 3 year hire agreement for streetlamp motifs and shop frontage lights with the new scheme going live during the first week of December.

Christmas 2020

At the time of going to press it remains undecided if the annual Wassail Walk usually held between Christmas and New Year will go ahead but for updates please refer to the council's website and Facebook page.

Wassail Walk 2020

Having received requests to provide speed awareness wheelie bin stickers. The parish council now has a new stock. To receive your free pack email exec@barntgreen.org.uk and state your preference; 20mph or 30mph with your name and address.



BARNT GREEN GOING GREENER!

A new vehicle electric charging point will soon be installed at the commuter car park at the bottom of Fiery Hill Road. The charger has the capacity of charging two vehicles at any one time with the charging bays having extra width access to accommodate those with disability needs.

GREAT NEWS FOR BARNT GREEN POLLINATORS



The Parish Council has secured a District Council Community Grant to expand the pollinator site generating greater diversity for pollinating wildlife to benefit the community. A new budget for the pollinator patch in 20/21 allowed installation of the attractive rope barrier and interpretation panel, with grant funding enabling the council to focus on a new project introducing new planting to the embankment at the Greenbank site.

‘The aim is to extend the valuable food source for pollinators all year round.’ Executive Officer, Tracy Bodley reports. ‘A small working party will help to plant out during autumn and spring, we have already enlisted local volunteers and would welcome others to join the group.’

For information on the project or if you would like to volunteer please email - exec@barntgreen.org.uk

Installation of foot pedal operated outdoor hand sanitisers

In these unprecedented times it is important to carry out daily activities feeling safe, adhering to any measures and changes that are imposed upon us. The Parish Council feel strongly about encouraging safe outdoor life and to this end have installed four foot pedal operated hand sanitisers for your use around the village. One is located on Hewell Road near to

the bus shelter, the second in Millennium Park children’s play area with the third and fourth at the main gate to Bittell Road Playing Field and by the wooden activity area. It is hoped that this additional protection will give residents a feeling of a covid-safe environment for which to continue with daily life.



MEET THE COUNCILLORS OF BARNT GREEN



Cllr Robert Cholmondeley
Chairman



Cllr Charlie Hotham
Vice-Chairman



Cllr Judith Jagger



Cllr Joe Nilsson



Cllr Philip Perry



Cllr Susan Whitehand



Continued from page 1. West Mercia Policing team installing 'We Don't Buy Crime' Signs at Bittell Road Railway Bridge and Barnt Green Station.



Cllr Olivia Polton

If you have any community news to share, please let us know. This newsletter is issued each year in spring and autumn.

THERE IS ONE VACANCY ON BART GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



This is what we do:

- ◆ we meet monthly to discuss and act on local council issues that affect Barnt Green community. Currently meetings are held in an online format, you can attend using any mobile device, laptop, PC or telephone. There is no need to leave the comfort of your own home and with guidelines under review, this may possibly extend beyond May 2021 to give everyone an opportunity in becoming a local councillor for those restricted by public attendance.
- ◆ we represent the community
- ◆ we look after Millennium Park, Bittell Road playing field, benches, the bus shelter, footpath lighting and planters
- ◆ we are consulted on planning applications
- ◆ we can provide support to voluntary bodies
- ◆ we operate the Lengthsman's scheme
- ◆ we liaise with partner organisations such as County and District Councils and other statutory bodies
- ◆ we issue a bi-annual newsletter... among other things

INTERESTED?

Contact us via -

The parish council office at 80 Hewell Road

Email: exec@barntgreen.org.uk

or view the procedure, eligibility criteria and application form by using the following link

<https://www.barntgreen.org.uk/news/casual-vacancy-for-barnt-green-parish-councillor>

THERE IS NO CO-OPTION DATE AND INTERESTED APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED WHEN A CO-OPTION WILL TAKE PLACE

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

PUBLIC INFORMATION MESSAGE FROM BARNT GREEN SURGERY—FLU VACCINATION CLINICS

As a resident of Barnt Green you may well already be aware that Barnt Green Surgery is holding flu vaccination clinics during the autumn. Clinics are available to book for those aged 65 or over and those who fall in to the at risk categories, details can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/who-should-have-flu-vaccine/>.

Different from previous years', these clinics will have a very unique look due to the impact of Covid-19 and how the practice can see patients face to face. Prior to attendance patients need to be made aware of the new procedure for vaccinations.

- You **must** have a booked appointment.
- Attend on your own unless you need help in mobilising. If you have trouble accessing the surgery for a clinic please contact reception on 0121 445 1704.
- Walk to the practice if you are able to. Cars **will not** be able to enter the surgery car park and parking **will not** be available on site during this clinic.
- **Do not** arrive early or late for your appointment time: A strict allocation system ensures that patients are queueing for a minimum time to ensure social distancing is maintained.
- Please **do not** enter the building through the main reception doors.
- Queuing and entering the practice will be from the car park, should it be raining on clinic day, be prepared with suitable apparel and weather protection.
- Please **wear a face covering**. If you are exempt from wearing a mask, please be prepared to provide evidence of this.
- There will be **no access** to any toilets on the premises.

- We encourage you **not to touch** anything in the practice. Bring your own hand sanitiser should you wish to.
- Please follow the instructions for queuing. The queue will be controlled to ensure social distancing. If you are a wheelchair user or have very limited mobility, please make yourself known to the queue marshal.
- There will be **no** chairs available to sit while waiting, and you **will not** be able to sit whilst having the vaccination (for infection control). If you think you will struggle with this, please speak to the queue marshal on arrival.
- Wear clothing which makes it easy to expose your upper arm. This will make it easier for both you and the practice staff to comply with infection control.
- A one-way system will operate for each clinic. Once vaccinated your exit route will direct you from the building separately to the entry point. Please leave the building straight away. Reception **will not** be available for you to answer any queries you may have.
- **Do not** attend if you or any members of your household have symptoms of coronavirus, or if you have been told to isolate. Contact the surgery the following week and your appointment will be rebooked you when you are able to leave isolation.
- Please heed staff instructions who will supervise patient flow – **they are there for your safety.**
- If you do not attend for your appointment this may result in a delay in your vaccination until later in the season.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

<https://barntgreen.gpsurgery.net/services/services/>

Dear Resident

The Parish Council has been able to continue to function, even though the office remains closed. In this respect, it's not quite business as normal, but if you need or wish to contact us, please use the alternative communication channels given in this publication.

The Government's announcement of proposed changes to the planning process will change how land for housing development becomes available. It will inevitably lead to aspects that affect Barnt Green, the extent of which will become clear over time.

It seems that there may be an impact on the status of Neighbourhood Development Plans and most likely impact on the Green Belt Review being conducted by Bromsgrove District Council. The Parish Council will be in close liaison with Bromsgrove District Council as the implications evolve.

Robert Cholmondeley, Chair, Barnt Green Parish Council

MP and Councillors' contacts:

MP	Sajid Javid - sajid.javid.mp@parliament.uk	
County Councillor	Peter McDonald - pmcdonald2@worcestershire.gov.uk	
District Councillor	Charles Hotham - c.hotham@bromsgrove.gov.uk	
Parish Councillors	Robert Cholmondeley, Charles Hotham, Judith Jagger, Joakim Nilsson, Philip Perry, Olivia Polton, Susan Whitehand and 1 Vacancy	
	Councillor contact details available via: www.barntgreen.org.uk	
Chairman	Cllr Robert Cholmondeley - robert.cholmondeley@btinternet.com	
Executive Officer	Tracy Bodley - exec@barntgreen.org.uk	
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All information is correct at the time of printing. Views expressed in the newsletter are those of the contributors and may not be those of the Parish Council.

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