



# CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE VOICE

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## The newsletter and "What's On" for residents and friends of Chelsfield

### Carols around the Village Christmas Tree - December 18th

The village carol singing around the Christmas tree outside Cross Hall (opposite the Five Bells) was so successful in 2007 that it would

be madness not to make it an annual event!

So, that is exactly what is happening - come along and join in on Thursday 18th

December at 9.00pm. Then after the carols, take some refreshment and join in the Christmas celebrations in the 5 Bells.

December 2008

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Carol Singing in the village, Thursday 18th December*
- *Public Meeting at the Civic Centre in Bromley - Tell the councilors what you think!*

### Chelsfield Village Society Minutes of the 2008 AGM

Meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November in St Martins Brass Crosby room at 7:30.

The meeting was attended by 38 persons.

Apologies of absence had been received from: Philip Lane, Jenny Leach, David and Helen Griffiths, Alan Blake, Phyllis Hudson, Dan Sloan, Alan Blake and Julius Banister.

#### Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave a quick resume of what had been happening over the past year. The previous AGM had been cancelled. A Special General Meeting had been called by 12 members in July, resulting in a steering group being voted in to look at what the members wanted from their village society and the way forward. The steering group had initiated:

Review of the constitution, tidying up the original text, keeping the original aims. This would be discussed later.

A village website had been setup with thanks to Anne Patterson and Chris Mead for hosting this on the

Chelsfield Events website.

Reinstatement of the CVS newsletter, with thanks to Dan Sloan. This would hopefully be a bimonthly event.

Rejoining the Bromley Residents Federation

Compiling a questionnaire that was sent to the 139 households in the vicinity. Replies were received from 10% of these and reported in the newsletter. Many residents had shown concern on traffic problems. (There had been 4 crashes along Court Road in the last month alone, and these are now being recorded on the village website).

The village show had taken place in September, and for once this had actually made a profit! A contribution had been made to the Village Hall.

#### Treasurer's Report

Catherine Gandolfi said that there was little to report this year, but picked points out from the accounts already been circulated at this meeting.

£1500 had been donated to

Chelsfield Village Hall: £500 for the installation of a handrail up the steep drive and £1000 towards refurbishment costs, the Village Hall was an asset that we all enjoy, and we are pleased to be able to support it.

The bottle stall at the Summer Fair run by Alan Johnson continued to be a great money raiser for the Village Society, and we need to take a more active role in fund raising at local events to support the Village Society's running costs

There appeared to be some confusion that has arisen over the Village Society's association with the Summer Fair. This event is now run by a separate organisation with no links with the Village Society. Local groups requiring financial support should approach the Summer Fair committee (treasurer Peter Lamond).

Catherine said that she was pleased to answer any questions on the accounts.

Pam Ames asked if these accounts had been audited. Catherine said they had. The copies

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## Chelsfield Village Society AGM 2008 continued from front page

circulated did not include the auditor's signature but the original was available for viewing.

The account balance as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 - Current Account: £261.96

Catherine thanked Chris Parsons for auditing the accounts, and proposed his appointment as auditor for next year.

### Appointment of Auditor

Proposed by CG and unanimously approved by a show of hands

### Approval of Treasurers report

Proposed by Alan Johnson, seconded by Janet Parsons and unanimously by a show of hands.

### Proposed changes to the constitution

Catherine Gandolfi said that the relevant changes had already been discussed and agreed within the steering group. These kept the original aims of the CVS and included minor changes to bring them up to date. The changes were gone through individually with those attending following on paper copies provided with the changes highlighted.

With respect to those who could join the CVS, it was wondered if church members could join. The consensus of opinion was that if they had the aims of the CVS at heart, there was no reason why they could not be members.

The acceptance of these changes were proposed by Jim Leach and seconded by Jeremy Binns.

### Nominations and election of committee members

The chairman stated that the steering group had been a temporary committee until the AGM. Committee members now needed to be elected.

Those members still willing to stand were:

Dave Lambert, Terry Sparkes, Catherine Gandolfi, Bridget O'Donnell, James Hummerson, Dan Sloan, Alan Johnson and Joy Allard.

Pam Ames had also been nominated.

As the committee could consist of up to 11 members, election of all the above were proposed by Chris Miller, and seconded by Denis Graham

### Any other business

Traffic and parking problems became a hot topic for discussion. This included the possibility of the Village Society contributing towards the cost of a portable seed camera for use in the area. Not all were in favour of this as we did know what proportion of the use, if any would be used in our area. Chris Parsons said that he thought speed cameras should be financed by the police, and it was not up to us to subsidise the local police force.

While traffic and parking problems were being discussed by the audience, Julian Grainger, one of councillors, who was in the audience, introduced himself, and mentioned that certain simple traffic calming conditions were more likely to be accepted by the coun-

cil than others. Julian used examples such as the use of contrasting colour surfaces at the entry points of Otford village, and the use of advisory speed limit signs used at the end of Worlds End Lane. He said he would be happy to attend a future CVS meeting to discuss traffic calming solutions in the village in more detail if required, inviting suggestions from residents.

This closed the official meeting, and was followed by a break for refreshments and a chat.

Alan Ames from Eagle Heights then gave a talk assisted by Alaska – a magnificent American bald eagle, with a two metre wingspan. He pointed out that this bird was the official emblem of America, although Benjamin Franklin had disagreed with this choice, considering it 'a bird of bad moral character' (it steals food from others). Franklin would have preferred a Turkey as the American emblem! The birds had been heavily persecuted in the past, but now their numbers were increasing. They were closely related to the sea eagle that has now been introduced into the Scottish islands.

He followed this with a most interesting talk on his experiences and answered many questions from the attentive audience. Alaska then showed her flying, and other abilities! in the limited space of the Brass Crosby room. Alan Ames was thanked warmly by all.

The meeting closed at 9:50.

## Feedback from London Borough of Bromley Residents Federation meeting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

**Biggin Hill:** At the recent question time event in Bromley, Mayor Boris Johnson stated that there would be no expansion of Biggin Hill Airport.

**Seat belts:** Eight out of ten accident fatalities were not wearing seat belts and of those, five would have been prevented if seat belts had been worn.

**Number plates:** The most common item to be stolen from cars is not the Sat Nav but number plates. These

are used in "drive aways" from petrol stations to avoid payment. Make sure your plates are screwed on. Report any loss to the police straight away.

There are two borough projects which you may like to comment on.

**The Area Action Plan (AAP) for Bromley town centre** can be viewed at libraries and the Civic Centre. A leaflet has been circulated (but not to Chelsfield Village). Alternatively you can go to [www.bromley.gov.uk/](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/)

BromleyTownCentreAAP.

**The future of Crystal Palace Park** will be discussed at a public meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 at Bromley Civic Centre. Visit [www.cPCA.org.uk](http://www.cPCA.org.uk) for more information.

**Bromley Hospitals:** Read the report and find out about the £87million debt and what the hospital management plan to do about it.

[www.bromleyhospitals.nhs.uk/trust/news/governance-and-financial-management/](http://www.bromleyhospitals.nhs.uk/trust/news/governance-and-financial-management/)

## Information for Bromley residents

### Public meeting

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January from 7.00pm at the Civic Centre there is a public meeting where you can

tell the leading councillors what matters most to you and your local community. No need to book.

Disabled access and a hearing loop available. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

## Do you have something to say to the village? Tell us your story

The Village has had various newsletter and magazines over the years, some more regular than others, there is also a very active Chelsfield Village website.

This latest venture is a revival of the Village Voice which ran for many years.

The purpose is to keep the residents of the village in touch with what is going on, as well as to give local groups and organisations a means to communicate with others outside their immediate circles. It will also offer

an opportunity for residents new and old to generally reminisce and convey to others their memories or thoughts, likes and dislikes about local issues.

The newsletter will only continue, and succeed, if we receive information to publish. So send in your thoughts, ideas, musings and articles, and lets make it work!

If have an event, or know of an event coming up - let us know so we can publicize it for you, and more locals

people can enjoy the benefits.

Any contributions should be emailed to:

***villagevoice@chelsfield.org***

or posted to:

Dan Sloan

2 Bucks Cross Cottages

Chelsfield Village

Orpington

Kent

BR6 7RN

We look forward to receiving your contributions – *get yourself in print!*

## Why not visit BEECHE?

(Bromley Education Centre at High Elms)? It is a community facility with a nature and information centre open to the public on weekends and during the school holi-

days. It includes The Green Room Café, open to the public throughout the week. For more information go to [www.bromley.gov.uk/beeche](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/beeche) Combine this visit with a

walk around High Elms for a most enjoyable Autumn, Winter or Spring day out (Remember to take a pair of wellies)

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Village Voice  
 2 Bucks Cross Cottages  
 Chelsfield Village  
 Orpington  
 Kent  
 BR6 7RN

Phone: 01689 838819  
 or 07957 354703  
 E-mail: [villagevoice@chelsfield.org](mailto:villagevoice@chelsfield.org)

**Chelsfield on the Web**  
**go to:**  
**[chelsfield events.co.uk](http://chelsfield events.co.uk)**

## Useful Contacts

### Bromley Council Details

Main switchboard Telephone:  
 020 8464 3333  
 E-mail: [csc@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:csc@bromley.gov.uk)  
 Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm  
 Address: Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley, BR1 3UH

### Reporting Problems to the Council

Can be reported via the CVS website, or if urgent by phone out of hours Emergency Duty Team 020 8464 4848.

### Mobile Library

The mobile library stops outside Chelsfield Village School on Tuesdays between 11:15 and 11:45. Books can be reserved from here, or over the Internet via the Bromley library website for later picking up from the mobile library.

### Councillors

Julian Grainger 01689 889392  
[julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk)  
 Samaris Huntington-Thresher 020 8464 3333  
[Samaris.Huntington-Thresher@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Samaris.Huntington-Thresher@bromley.gov.uk)  
 Bob Evans 01689 853002  
[bob.evans@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:bob.evans@bromley.gov.uk)

## Why should you join Chelsfield Village Society?

Chelsfield Village Society acts as the voice of Chelsfield Village. We receive and disseminate local information. We are consulted on various local, council, borough and Greater London matters. We have the opportunity to represent the Village on several local bodies. Without the Village Society our voices would not be heard and we would not be informed of local information. As a member you can elect the committee, serve on the committee and take part in decision making about the future of your village.

**It only costs £3 a year to be a member of Chelsfield Village Society, or £30 for life membership. If you would like to join please fill in the form using capitals and send to Catherine Gandolfi,**

**3 Orlestone Gardens, Chelsfield Village. BR6 6HB**

**I enclose £3 for annual membership, or £30 for life membership of Chelsfield Village Society.**

**(cheques payable to Chelsfield Village Society)**

Name.....  
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 Address.....  
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BT Line Faults	0800 800151
Electrical Power Failure (EDF)	08007838866
Thames Water Emergencies	0845 9200800
Transco Gas Emergency Service	0800 111999
Orpington Police Station 1000-1800 Monday-Saturday	0300 1231212
Samaritans	01689 933000
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Safer Neighbourhood Team	020 8721 2605