

Bestwood Village Council News

March 2024



Here's what has happened in the last year and what's to come!

Well, a somewhat belated Happy New Year to all our residents, let's all hope for good things in our village during 2024!

Apologies for taking so long to get a further Parish Council Newsletter out to you, we've had quite a busy time as a council with 4 new members and a new clerk since our last edition around 12 months ago.

However, we are now starting to establish ourselves, with individual Councillors having particular areas of responsibility for on-going projects.

Perhaps the most exiting of these are plans to carry out a very thorough consultation project with everyone being invited to contribute – the aim being to get closer to you as a village resident so we know your concerns and your aspirations for the village. More of this later.

Most recently, everyone's focus has been on the flooding of Moor Road with the result that access through the 'dip' was not possible for nearly two weeks.

We had County Councillor Chris Barnfather attend our January meeting to explain as far as he was able, the nature of the problem, what was being done to address the issues and field questions from those residents who attended the meeting. Cllr. Barnfather assured us that everything was being done which could be to get the road open and that thorough investigations would be carried out to see what work was necessary to ensure minimal chance of repeat of flooding at this point. As a council, we will be monitoring the situation carefully to see that these promises are fulfilled.

Please be assured that all Councillors want to do everything in our power to ensure that life in Bestwood Village is as good as it can be and to this end I urge you to engage with the forthcoming consultation so we can learn just what your priorities are.

Jack Ashworth

Chair of the Council

About your Council;

A parish council is a local government body responsible for managing the affairs of a parish or village. Comprised of elected representatives called Councillors, a Parish Council functions as the closest tier of government to the community it serves.

Councillors are elected every 4 years and anyone, (with certain exceptions) can stand for election. You can find out more about your current Councillors on our website.

Bestwood Village Parish Council meet on the second Tuesday of most months, currently in St Mark's church at 7pm. Residents are welcome to observe our meetings or ask questions during the public question time at the start of each meeting. If you would like to know what is being discussed at the next meeting, you can view the agenda on our website or notice boards 3 days before the meeting date.

If you need more information or to contact us, email Louise on clerk@bestwoodvillagepc.org.

Meet your local Councillors;



Jack Ashworth

Been on the council since it's start in 2018 and Chair since 2020. Have lived here since 1986 and very much consider the village my adopted home place. Since retiring just 10 years ago, I seem to be busier than ever and when I'm not working on council matters, spend my time supporting St Mark's church, the school and running the Baby & Toddler group with my wife, Susan



Jon Noone

I have worked in the textile wholesale trade for past 38 years . Have 4 kids , 1 still at home , and 3 dogs so I come a close 7th in the pecking order. I joined the PC after moving here in 2021 and have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the team that tries to make a difference and aid the village's needs as we grow and strive to improve village life



Rob White

My name is Robert White and I have lived in the village for 3 1/2 years. I have children that attend the local village school and enjoy the amenities the village has to offer. I look forward to meeting many residents over the next few years and hope to improve our community further.



Claire Brown

I moved to the village last year and joined the Parish Council to meet new people and get involved in community life. I'm happy to live in a place with such rich history, and with the beautiful country park on our doorstep.



Rob Davidson

Born and bred in Penrith, I came to Nottingham at 15. I did an apprenticeship at Radio Rentals and rose to the top, running the technical side of the business. I've been married to Pat 55 years and am now an active BVPC member



Ian Hart

I have been resident in the village since 1986 and a member of the PC for several years. I am involved with the defibrillator, village planters and the Dynamo House Cafe as a Friend of Bestwood Country Park.

What have we been doing?

- We were happy to provide financial support to a variety of good causes, including to the Friends of Bestwood Country Park, Miners Welfare for a community garden and to Bestwood Colliery FC to provide affordable local football training.
- We gifted selection boxes and mince pies for the Christmas Fair event.
- Brand new festive displays were installed along Moor Road purchased by the Parish Council. After a few hiccups, these looked beautiful all season long. We hope that these displays will bring festive cheer for many years to come.
- Our consultation asking for your priorities will soon be available. Please keep an eye out!



Laura Newcombe

Laura joined the Council in 2023

Moor Road Flooding

As we all know, our beloved village is facing a recurring challenge with rain and surface runoff causing flooding at our entry/exit roads.

We hear your concerns and want to assure you that Bestwood Village Parish Council is actively supporting you.

We are in ongoing discussions with the County Council to address this issue and find sustainable measures to alleviate the flooding problem. Your safety and peace of mind are our top priorities.

As always though, your support matters! Share your concerns, experiences and photographs with us directly by emailing Clerk@bestwoodvillagepc.org. Together, we can make a stronger case and ensure that our voices are heard.

Stay tuned for updates and thank you for being part such a supportive community during these flood events.



See us in Action

At the start of the meeting (usually item 7 after some formalities) we have a 'parishioners questions' item during which you are invited to ask any questions, give any statements, or raise any issues etc. Following that item, parishioners are welcome to stay and observe but can no longer take part in the discussion.

Borough and County Councillors are also invited to our meetings, and are often available to receive questions.

If you have quite a lot you'd like to say or specific questions you'd like answering, you can send them to the Clerk, Louise, via email or post prior to the meeting and Councillors can then make sure that they are equipped to answer you or support you in finding answers

Community Consultation

We want to find out what you think could improve life in Bestwood Village so we're launching a community consultation. We hope to hear the views of every single villager!

This consultation is important because it will help us to **access funding** for new projects in the village, so the more responses we have the better.

Money has been allocated to our village as a result of new housing developments over the past few years. Gedling Borough Council is responsible for how the money is spent and we need to present evidence of what people want to see in the village before they agree to release it to us.

So in April, a paper questionnaire will be distributed to every home and an online version will also be available.

We're looking for volunteers to:

- Distribute the questionnaires over the weekend on the 20th/21st April
- Support people to complete their questionnaire who might struggle to do it alone
- Help to enter data from paper questionnaires

We'll also be consulting with groups and organisations based in the village and we'll be reaching out to them directly.

Plus, there will be a special community event on 11th May (see page 4) where you'll be able to take part in the consultation process and chat to Councillors.

If you'd like to volunteer to support with the consultation, or you'd like your group to be included, please get in touch with Claire at cllr.brown@bestwoodvillage.pc.org

What is Bestwood Village Parish Council responsible for?

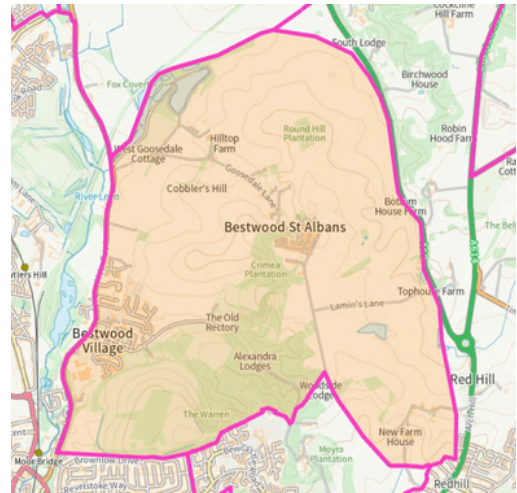
Nestled in the heart of Nottinghamshire, Bestwood Village thrives as a close-knit community with a unique charm. At the core of its governance lies the Bestwood Village Parish Council, but what exactly do we do?

We own and care for the recreation space in The Square, the football pitch, children's playground and exercise equipment. We are also responsible for the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and BMX track at the side entrance to Bestwood Country Park. We maintain the flower troughs around the village and the displays around the signs at the entrance to the village.

Whilst the Parish Council has a very limited scope and our powers may seem small, we are present, accessible and always welcome hearing from our residents

Our top 5 tasks include;

- **Local Governance and Representation:** Acting as a liaison between residents and higher authorities.
- **Caring for Community Services and Facilities:** Maintaining public spaces for the benefit of all.
- **Local Initiatives and Events:** Organizing events and supporting community initiatives.
- **Community Engagement and Support:** Welcoming input from residents and addressing concerns.
- **Financial Management:** Managing resources to fund essential services, projects and community organised events.



Helpful Contacts

For any queries relating to bins, planning or council tax, please contact your borough/district council. You can find out which you need by checking your council tax demand.

Gedling Borough Council
0115 901 3901

or

Ashfield District Council
01623 450000

For any queries regarding roads, potholes, flooding or environmental matters, including the Bestwood Country Park Rangers contact

Nottinghamshire County Council
0300 500 8080



11 May 2024

Event News

Mark your calendars! We have been working closely with local venues and organisers to arrange a family fun day on the 11th May 2024. More information will be available soon!

How to contact us

Web; bestwoodvillagepc.org

Email; clerk@bestwoodvillagepc.org

Phone or WhatsApp; 07480 513386

Post; Bestwood Village PC

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