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*Village website  
[www.brafieldonthegreen.org.uk](http://www.brafieldonthegreen.org.uk)*

**Local Elections : Your representatives**

**Parish Councillors**

The local Council elections on 5<sup>th</sup> May were uncontested for the Parish of Brafield. Your representatives on the Parish Council were confirmed at the A.G.M. on 16<sup>th</sup> May as follows:-

Chair : Gill Morgan 10 Grove Rd NN7 1BW Tel: 891934 email [GillMorgan121@aol.com](mailto:GillMorgan121@aol.com)  
 Vice Chair : Helen Barnell 8 St.Thomas Rd NN7 1BZ Tel: 890373 email [helen@barnell.globalnet.co.uk](mailto:helen@barnell.globalnet.co.uk)  
 Gill Ager : Mildmay 12 Bridle Path NN7 1BP Tel: 891488  
 Dawn Aston : 28 Bridle Path NN7 1BP Tel: 899083 email [dawn2710@hotmail.com](mailto:dawn2710@hotmail.com)  
 Ruth Kentigern-Fox : 9 Church Lane NN7 1BA Tel: 890223 email [ruth@kentigern-fox.com](mailto:ruth@kentigern-fox.com)  
 Kevin Ward : 54a Billing Rd NN7 1BL Tel: 891339 email [kevinward@monkspark.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:kevinward@monkspark.fsnet.co.uk)

David Clayson's retirement from the Council still leaves a vacancy. If you are interested in volunteering to stand as a Parish Councillor for Brafield on the Green, please contact the Chair, Gill Morgan, for further information. Although most areas of the village are represented on the Council, it would be helpful to have a parishioner from the Green Rd / Horton Rd area to ensure a full and balanced coverage of the village.

**District Councillors**

The District Council election for our local Yardley Hastings and Brafield Ward was also uncontested, so the two District Councillors representing your interests at South Northants Council remain as:-

Carole Clarke (Conservative) 21 Northampton Rd Denton Tel: 890170  
 Steven Hollowell (Independent) 6 Nene Rise Cogenhoe Tel: 890346

**County Councillor**

Michael Clarke (Conservative) Tel: 890832 email [michaelclarke225@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelclarke225@hotmail.com) remains our local County Councillor and represents your interests at Northants County Council

**Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)  
Village Spring Clean Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Thank you to everyone who helped to clear the litter at the beginning of April! We had a wonderful turnout of 19 people who were able to cover the whole village.  
 The general consensus was that there was less litter than last year – certainly far fewer of the larger, more 'unusual', items - but it was surprising how much rubbish there was for just twelve months.  
 Again there were comments about the way that people clear up after their dogs but then throw the poo-bags into the hedge or ditch for someone else to deal with – really not very pleasant! If this is you – please take your dog poo-bag home for disposal.

Photographs were taken of litter pickers and their bags of rubbish – some of these will be submitted for the competition to see if we can win some cash for the village. Thank you again to everyone who helped.

Photographs are available on the Village website [www.brafieldonthegreen.org.uk](http://www.brafieldonthegreen.org.uk)

**David Clayson's Presentation**

At the start of the Parish Council meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May a presentation was made to mark David's outstanding contribution of over forty years service as a Parish Councillor for our community. As a token of our appreciation David was presented with a clock and Rita (his wife) with a bouquet of flowers. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chair, Gill Morgan, thanked David for his dedication and the quiet, unassuming manner in which he carried out his duties, and wished him well in his retirement.

A few photographs of the presentation will be available on the Village website shortly.

**Local Road Closures**

Part of Church Lane Brafield for the Flower Festival and Fete 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 1.30 – 4.30 p.m.

Part of Horton Rd (no through traffic) for the Northamptonshire (formerly Castle Ashby) Country Fair 3<sup>rd</sup> July 6a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Summary Annual Report of the Parish Council for 2010/11 (April 2010 - March 2011)**

As in past years individual volunteer Parish Councillors took responsibility for particular parts of the Council's work.

Vice-Chair Helen Barnell edited, produced and oversaw distribution (with a team of volunteers) of the 6 issues of the Newsletter which went to every household and included over 60 news items. She also managed the contract work undertaken on the Pond and Village Green by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and on the Billing Road bus shelter area by the Northamptonshire Probation Service Community Payback Scheme.

Kevin Ward and Helen Barnell took charge of the Council's busy and lengthy involvement in the continued development of the Joint Core Planning Strategy which had previously threatened our village and community with massive new housing development and a dual-carriageway on our doorstep. This culminated in a community 'representation' response to the second major consultation following many hours of attending meetings (especially the Nene Ridge Parishes Group and involving Senior Planners and our MP), research and writing.

Gill Ager was our Highways Representative surveying, reporting and monitoring the work of the County Council in dealing with road issues including potholes. Gill and Dawn Allingham managed the Village Spring Clean which involved 19 volunteers from the village and the collection of 30 large bin bags of litter and other waste. Dawn also completed a very thorough risk assessment for the Council and was involved, too, with the Play Area, taken over the by Parish Council in the year, and now regularly inspected by Ruth Kentigern-Fox who also served on the Safer Community Team Panel.

Many people helped the Council and community as volunteers. Terry Barnell continued his excellent work as village webmaster making 240 changes to the site in the last year alone, including the creation and maintenance of an information diary on the development of the Planning Strategy which has been widely used and praised. In the four years since the setting up of the site there have been over 32,000 accesses through the home page not only by local residents but from across the UK and overseas.

Keith Crompton, Chair of the Village Action Group, worked in partnership with the Council on the response to the Planning Strategy. Jean and Richard Sheward and John Campion were Parish Path Wardens and we owe thanks, too, to our farmers for keeping the path network open and accessible for public use throughout the year.

The Council spent £10,750 on its work which, in addition to those things already mentioned, included the maintenance of 54 streetlights (monitored by Councillor David Clayson), 3 bus shelters and the children's play area, grass cutting in the village, and maintenance of the Village Green and Pond. No Councillors claimed any expenses for their time, travel costs and administrative expenses in carrying out their work, and extensive use of free volunteer support was made. The Sargeant Memorial Hall Committee was supported in its successful application for a £1500 grant from the NCC Councillors' Empowerment Scheme, towards the renovation and improvement works at the Hall.

This is a brief summary of the much fuller account of the work of the Council in the past year which will be available on the Brafield Village website shortly.

**Play Area Repairs**

The damage to the wooden climbing frame in the Play Area caused by vandalism has now been repaired at a cost to the village of £210

The Parish Council would like to remind all users of the Play Area that NO BALL GAMES are allowed there because of the potential risk to young people crossing the Bedford Rd to retrieve lost balls, as well as the risk of stray balls causing accidents to traffic along that road.

**Further reminder  
Reporting Faulty Street Lights**

Following David Clayson's retirement from the Parish Council will residents now please report faulty streetlights to Dawn Allingham giving both the number of the streetlight and its location.  
 Tel: 899083 or email [dawn2710@hotmail.com](mailto:dawn2710@hotmail.com)

**Police Matters**

Car crime continues to be a problem in and around this area notably break-ins to cars to steal valuables (predominantly Sat Navs and mobile 'phones), number plate thefts (see below), and catalytic converters stolen mainly from 4 x 4 vehicles for their valuable metal content. Please do all you can to protect your vehicles.  
 The Police have provided the Council with a small number of sets of tamper proof screws to safeguard your number plates. Contact Ruth Kentigern Fox on 890223 if you are interested.

**Next Parish Council Meeting:  
Monday 18th July at 7.30 p.m. in the Sargeant Memorial Hall Brafield**

**Members of the public are most welcome to attend any meeting  
At the start of the Parish Council meeting, time is set aside for public enquiries**