

VIEW FROM THE PAVILION - PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER CHRISTMAS 2025



Headline news...

The project at the Jack Verrall Memorial Gardens in Brenchley has entered the second phase – planting. As part of this long overdue plan led by Tim Sykes as a volunteer, the Council have purchased a large number of new plants and bulbs. We have been lucky to receive a large sandstone planter, very kindly donated by Chilstone, which sets up a magnificent view from the entrance. A longer article on the project is available in Roundabout and on the PC website/Facebook.



STOP PRESS...

- The Council is now at full capacity of nine members with the Co-Option of Cllr Nicky Race.
- The sale of the land at Cooksfield on Sophurst Lane in Matfield has now completed
- Councillors and the Clerk have met with Kent County Council to scrutinise progress on the various highways improvements requested in the parish
- The roadside hedge at the Allotments has been lowered and narrowed and a mirror will be installed to assist sight lines when exiting the allotment
- The entrance to Porters Wood has been completely dug out and drainage works completed to reduce the difficulty of access in bad weather
- An enquiry has been raised with KCC concerning ownership of the triangle with the Brenchley Oak
- Bollards have been added to the verge approaching Standings Cross to prevent dangerous kerb parking
- New templates for Council documents such as Agendas, Minutes and Policies are being produced to increase accessibility for the visually impaired
- The Council's budget for 2026-27 is nearing completion. The Council continues to be financially sound
- The Council is working with Mike Martin MP to tackle inappropriate use of rural lanes by local HGVs

Something you might like to know about the Parish:

Children at All Saints Sunday School in Brenchley used to be given a plum pudding if they went a whole year without absence. If anyone was a recipient please let us know!.

...and finally

Make Do and Mend:

Up to a dozen children use the bus stop at the top of Petteridge Lane daily, with others using it throughout the day. It looks a little sad, rather letting the side down in that attractive location. The Council have identified a grant funding opportunity, for half the cost of a refurbishment and have taken the opportunity to apply. This is another small thing that will enhance the parish and keep the shelter sturdy for a few more years.



The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Jonathan Buttery, and all Councillors and staff send Season's Greetings to all. Next year looks like being another bumper year of activities.

Next issue Spring 2026

Minutes of Parish Council Meetings can be found on the website: www.brenchleyandmatfield-pc.gov.uk

Don't forget the Parish Council Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/brenchleyandmatfieldpc/>

Where you will find information such as road closures, crime/fraud warnings and other important community notices