



SPRING 2025

Your Newsletter

For residents of Braysdown, Carlingcott,
Peasedown St John and Woodborough

Published by Peasedown St John Parish Council

Beacon Hall, French Close, Peasedown St. John, BA2 8SN ~ 01761 433686 ~ clerk@peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk

Solar Panels for Beacon Hall

The Parish Council is delighted to see the completion of the solar panel installation at Beacon Hall. Through a grant from West of England Combined Authority (WECA) the Parish Council has been able to join the green revolution and is now a producer of green electricity. The outcomes will be far reaching as the system more than covers the Parish Council's use of electricity and will enable us to feed back power into the National Grid. This will give the Parish Council a source of revenue which can be used to support more new technology and further reduce the overheads of the running of the Hall.

From an environmental perspective the panels are producing a source of green energy for the grid which allows more of us to choose a green energy supply in our own homes. We believe that locally we are now one of the largest producers of electricity being fed back into the main grid. CO₂ savings - ie not being put into the environment - we estimate that this is equivalent to the CO₂ output of three two-person homes. Financially this system is helping the Parish Council to reduce overheads now and in the future, allowing for the upkeep of this village asset at minimal cost to our residents.

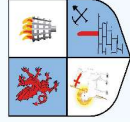


Could you lend a hand?



Could you spare some time to make your village more beautiful? Our friendly group of gardening volunteers is looking for new members. The group meets weekly, on a Thursday, at Ashgrove Cemetery, Eckweek Lane. They meet from 10am to 1pm (with a break for coffee and biscuits), but people are welcome to stay for all or part of that time. No prior gardening experience is needed, just enthusiasm and willingness to have a go. If you would like to join them, please come along – all equipment is provided and they would be happy to see you!

If you would prefer not to have a regular commitment, we also need help with our twice-yearly planting days at various locations around the village - please phone or email us if you would like to know more.



PEASEDOWN ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

The Beacon Hall, French Close, Peasedown St John, BA2 8SN

Tel: 01761 433686 E-mail: clerk@peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk

Statement of Proposed Financial Activities 2025-26

**An accessible version of this leaflet is available on our website:
www.peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk**



The Parish Council of Peasedown St John was formed in 1955 and represents the interests of the communities of Peasedown St John, Braysdown, Carlingcott & Woodborough. The Council consists of seventeen Parish Councillors who are local residents and give their time voluntarily.

The Parish Council's main role is to ensure that the delivery of services to meet local needs is maintained and that the quality of life in the community and the environment of the Parish are improved. To operate effectively, the Parish Council requires an annual income and the majority of this is obtained through a levy on each household - this levy is known as the "Precept" and forms a small percentage of the Council Tax that each household pays.

The Parish Council ensures that its finances are well managed, by scrutinising the accounts at every meeting of the Finance & Governance Committee and quarterly at Full Council meetings (all of which are open to the public). Detailed spending plans for the coming year must be provided to Council Tax payers when the precept requirement reaches a certain level.

What has been achieved in 2024/25?

Some major achievements for 2024/25 have been:

- Completed transfer of land from Persimmon Homes to the Parish Council
- Appointment of a new Responsible Finance Officer and Grounds and Maintenance Manager
- Insulation and solar panels installed at Beacon Hall (with the aid of WECA grant funding)
- Installed new pathways at Ashgrove Cemetery
- Repairs to play surface and play equipment on Beacon Field
- Continued maintenance of our open green spaces
- Installation of Hive boiler programmer at Beacon Hall

Organised events, including:

- Beacon Lighting Event for 80th anniversary of D-Day
- Christmas Tea Party for older residents
- Wildlife events in association with the Natural History Consortium
- Allotments BBQ

How is your money spent?

Peasedown St John Parish Council provides, manages and maintains a number of facilities and services in the village, including:

- Public open spaces (the Village Green, the Carlingcott Tump and Ecewiche Green)
- Beacon Field and Beacon Field play areas
- Ashgrove Cemetery
- The Recreation Field, including:
 - football changing rooms, canteen, toilet, play areas, BMX track and skate park
 - Braysdown Lane Allotments
- Beacon Hall including the Parish Council Office
- Street lighting (126 lights are owned and funded by the Parish Council)
- Maintenance of footpaths
- Maintenance of roundabouts, flower beds and floral displays in baskets and planters
- Festive lights and decorations
- Maintaining the Parish Council website and Facebook page
- Publishing a quarterly parish newsletter
- Staff and Councillor training
- Administering a Community grant scheme for local organisations
- Funding for the School Crossing Patrol
- Organising civic events
- Litter picking around the village
- Winter support for all residents - supplying and refilling grit bins



Council Staff

The Parish Council employs a mixture of full-time and part-time staff. Staff work closely with the Councillors to deliver:

- Day to day running of all the Parish Council facilities and services (see above list)
 - Attending all Council meetings to provide administrative support and to ensure that all legislation and policies are complied with
 - Updating financial records and preparation of financial reports
 - Providing the first point of contact for enquiries from residents of the village
 - Maintaining and filing all parish administrative records
 - Beacon Hall bookings, invoicing, caretaking and cleaning
 - Implementation of projects agreed by the Parish Council
 - Co-ordinating with contractors to assist with delivering the Council's objectives
- Councillors:

Our Parish Councillors all work for free, in a variety of capacities, supporting the council staff.

www.peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk



Thoughts from the Chair



As we look forward to some warmer weather with spring just around the corner, we are very pleased to welcome our Grounds & Maintenance Manager, Simon Freear, who started working for us in early February. You may well see him around the village in the Parish Council truck during the coming months.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Tom Clifford in January. Tom served as a Parish Councillor for five years from 2014 - 2019 including chairing the Planning & Environment Committee for several years, where his expertise in planning matters was greatly valued. We are grateful to him for all his hard work on behalf of the village and our thoughts are with his family.

We were also very sad to say goodbye to Tanya, our Parish Clerk and RFO for the last thirteen years, as she moves to pastures new. We hope you will join us in thanking her for her hard work and dedication and for the many things she has achieved for the village throughout this time, and for being such a friendly and helpful member of the team in the Parish Office. She will be greatly missed.

Lastly, we have plans to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE-Day on 8th May 2025, and will be lighting the beacon at Beacon Hall. Please mark the date in your diaries and we will circulate further details of the event in due course.

Best wishes, Jonathan.

New Bereavement Help Point Service for Peasedown St John

We have been asked to share details of the Bereavement Help Point, a community based drop-in service run as a collaboration between Dorothy House Hospice Care, Carer's Centre and We Hear You.

All people who are bereaved are welcome to attend. It's a space to meet and talk with others who may be experiencing similar thoughts and feelings, in an informal and supportive setting. The sessions are free of charge, no appointment needed, just come along.

The Bereavement Help Point, will take place on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month starting February 2025, from 6:30-8:30pm, at the Hive Community Centre, Bath Road, Peasedown St John, BA2 8DH.



ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING

Find out what's been going on in your village!



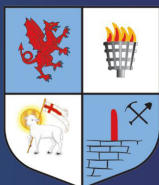
TUESDAY 25TH MARCH 2025



Beacon Hall, BA2 8SN



7:00 PM to 9:00 PM



Your chance to raise any queries with your councillors



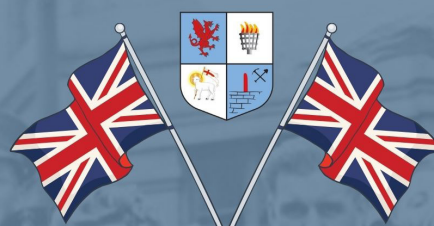
Share your ideas and suggestions



Please submit your questions in advance:

clerk@
Peasedownstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk

01761 433686



Please keep the Date for
A celebration of the
80th Anniversary of VE Day

THURSDAY 8TH MAY 2025

Beacon Hall, BA2 8SN

Including Beacon Lighting
and Lamps of Peace

Further details
to follow

