

*Clerk to the Council: Mrs.V.Hartley
Beech House Dean's Row Gayton Northants NN73HA
(01604) 858360 email viv.hartley@lineone.net*

*Chairman: Gill Morgan
10 Grove Road Brafield on the Green NN7 1BW
(01604) 891934 email brafieldpc@aol.com*

*Village website
www.brafieldonthegreen.org.uk*

'The Bus'

11-19 years old? Nothing to do locally? Then read on:

'The Bus' has been set up this year in conjunction with South Northants Council (S.N.C.) to support the young people of the district. The double decker ex band coach is believed to have been used by pop stars such as Shania Twain and Kanye West and has travelled all over Europe and Russia.

'The Bus' has been modified to contain six mobile broadband laptops, games consoles, TV's, CD and DVD players, radios, and can also come with a supply of books and magazines. A Wii console and a Playstation 2 are provided alongside traditional games. It also features a fully fitted kitchen area, office, toilet facilities, and quiet lounge, making the vehicle multifunctional. 'The Bus' can provide great opportunities for young people to meet for both social and leisure activities in a safe environment. It is staffed by Youth Workers and volunteers, all of whom are CRB checked.

Funding for the project has been provided by Northants County Council in partnership with S.N.C. and the operation will be run by the new Bus Company set up by the Towcester Partnership. This is an initiative for the whole of South Northants and 'The Bus' can be made available to all young people in the 11-19 age group. It is supported by key organizations e.g. the South Northants Youth Council, Northants Youth Volunteer Action, the Police, Health organizations, YMCA, Connexions, Time to Talk etc.

'The Bus' will promote the benefits of young people becoming active and healthy through a wide range of physical activities and can be linked with the existing mobile skate park available to hire from S.N.C. (This may be more suitable for the summer months.)

Although the costs of hiring and running 'The Bus' are subsidised, there are still fees to be paid for booking the bus for our local young people. These fees cover costs such as a driver, fuel, and maintenance of the vehicle and equipment, as well as Youth Workers to supervise and support the young people.

Brafield Parish Council has been exploring ways of providing activities for this age group, and is keen to book 'The Bus' to come to the village if young people in Brafield are interested. We need to have a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 30 to make this a worthwhile venture.

If **YOU** are interested please contact Gill Morgan by email: brafieldpc@aol.com or text 07736 009 769 giving your name and contact details. If sufficient young people show an interest, then we will pursue this further.

Police Matters

In Billing Road, Brafield - around 11.27 on Tuesday 10 November a vehicle was broken into. Whilst the owner was emptying the vehicle of tools, two men were witnessed entering the rear of the vehicle and removing items. They then drove off in a black Vauxhall Vectra.

Another vehicle parked in Church Lane, Brafield was broken in to at around 18:00 Thursday 12 November. The offenders smashed the driver's side door window, reached in and removed a purse and its contents.

If you have any information in relation to either incident please report it using the dedicated NHW line 01604 432 436 or the Police on 03000 111 222. The Police ask residents to remember to secure all vehicles when not in use, even for the shortest periods of time, and remove all valuables from vehicles and activate alarm systems where fitted. Always try to park in well-lit, visible areas if you cannot park in a secure garage.

Calling all householders
Sargeant Memorial Hall Brafield Thursday 3rd December 2 – 5 p.m.
Free information, help and advice for villagers

'Safe n Sound' is co-ordinated by South Northants Volunteer Bureau and provides a range of services to householders in South Northants in order to promote a safer, healthier and more eco-friendly home environment. They work closely with several partners (see below), co-ordinating their activities and recruiting volunteers to support their work.

- **South Northants Council** provides free impartial advice on energy efficiency in order to reduce health risks, fuel bills and carbon emissions. It also advises on environmental improvement and recycling.
- **Northants Fire and Rescue Service** provides fire safety advice and installs home smoke alarms, where needed, FREE OF CHARGE.
- **Northants Police** provide sound and impartial advice on crime prevention and security in the home.
- **Care and Repair** provides advice and practical help to elderly and disabled homeowners about repairs and improvements to their homes to enable them to continue living independently.
- **Northants NHS** provides information on health matters such as falls prevention and medicines management

To find out more about any of these services you are invited to come along to the **Sargeant Memorial Hall Brafield on Thursday 3rd December** between 2 - 5 p.m. **Free teas & coffees will be available + free gifts.** Alternatively visit their website at www.snvb.org.uk

Village Tidy Up

We had a disappointing turnout for the Autumn Tidy Up on 31.10.09 – however we are very grateful to the couple of volunteers who did attend and gathered a worthwhile amount of rubbish. Every little helps to make our village a more pleasant place to live in. We hope to repeat the Tidy Up in the spring.

Dog Fouling

We have received a letter from one of the contractors who cut the verges in the village letting us know that the incidence of dog fouling is on the increase especially along the Bridle Path, and saying how unpleasant it is for them in their work – especially as they have to clean their machinery after use. The majority of owners do take responsibility for clearing up after their dogs so that they are not upsetting other people. There are just a small number of people who are not thinking of the effect their actions (or lack of them) have on the wider community. Please think of your neighbours and clean up after your dog.

Village Enhancement Gang

The team from NCC contractors, MGWSP, have visited the village recently and cleaned road signs and cut back some of the vegetation on the village verges. As soon as we have some dry weather they will be back to put wood preservative on all the village benches and the timber bus shelters. We have also booked them to come and cut back the verges on the footpath across Church Field and the Bridle Path – to continue the work started by workers from the Unpaid Work Scheme – although we do not have a date for this yet.

Billing Aquadrome

The Parish Council has been contacted by Andrew Cressey, the new general manager at the Aquadrome, who is well aware that tourist attractions such as his can raise issues (e.g. additional traffic and visitors) for surrounding villages. He is keen to work with the local community in addressing any such problems, and requests that you contact him directly on 01604 408181 if you have any concerns.

Next Parish Council Meeting:
Monday 18th January 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