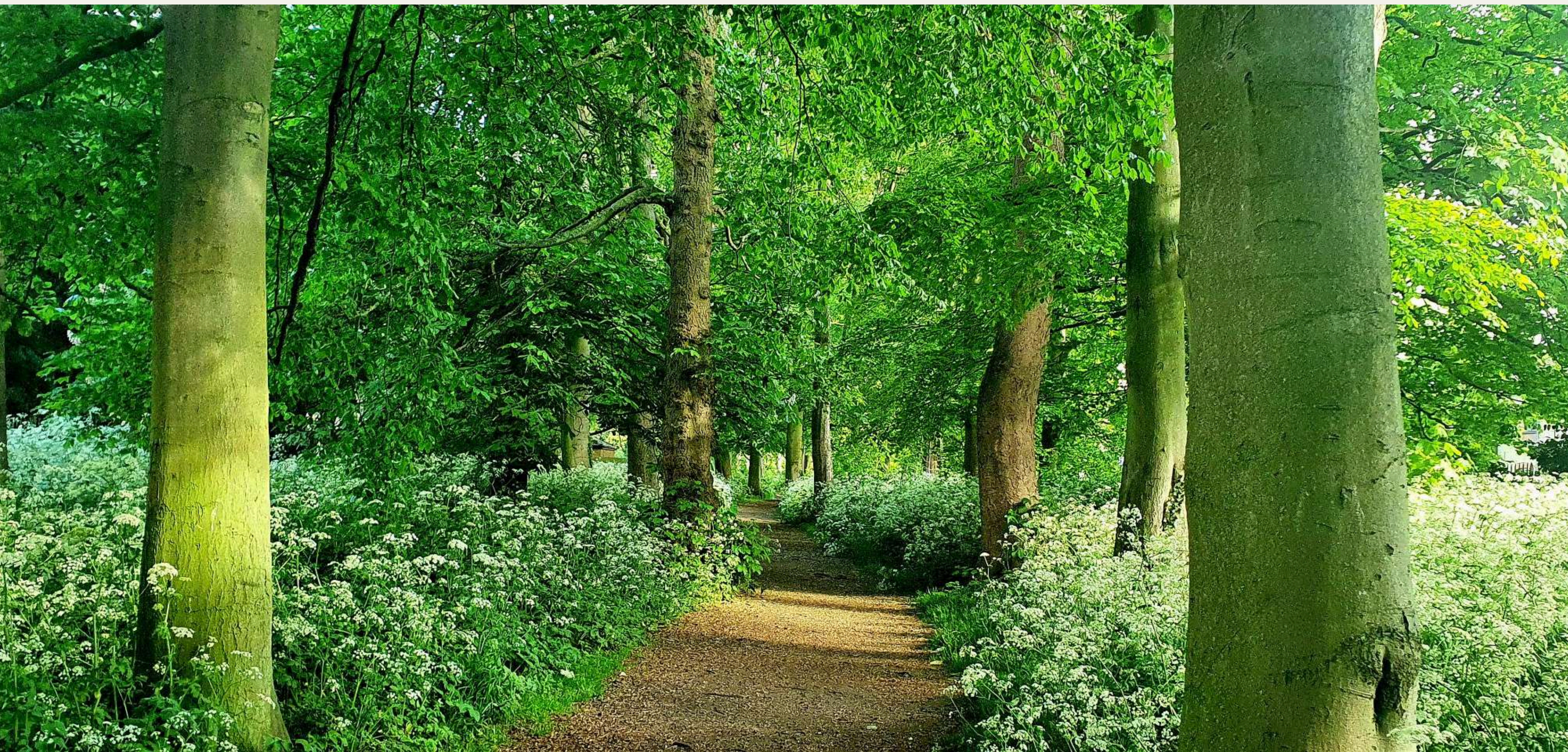


# Bracebridge Heath Parish Council

## ACTION PLAN





# INTRODUCTION

This is Bracebridge Heath Parish Council's action plan. The aim of the action plan is to give residents a clear understanding of what the Parish Council does and what it is trying to achieve, either directly or indirectly by trying to increase its influence on the relevant delivery body, such as the other tiers of local government.

The plan is a live document that will be reviewed annually, used to support the budget process, plan activities for the coming year and enable the Parish Council to monitor its progress against key priorities.

## ABOUT US

As a parish council, we are the lowest tier of local government and as such are uniquely positioned to understand the needs of the local people. The council comprises of 13 elected members and 4 members of staff.

Elected members meet every month to discuss council business, make decisions and set the strategic direction of the council. The council has just one committee, the Personnel committee which meets as needed.

Our employees operate the day to day functions of the council such as running our community buildings, allotments, overseeing the library and managing contractors who work for the council.

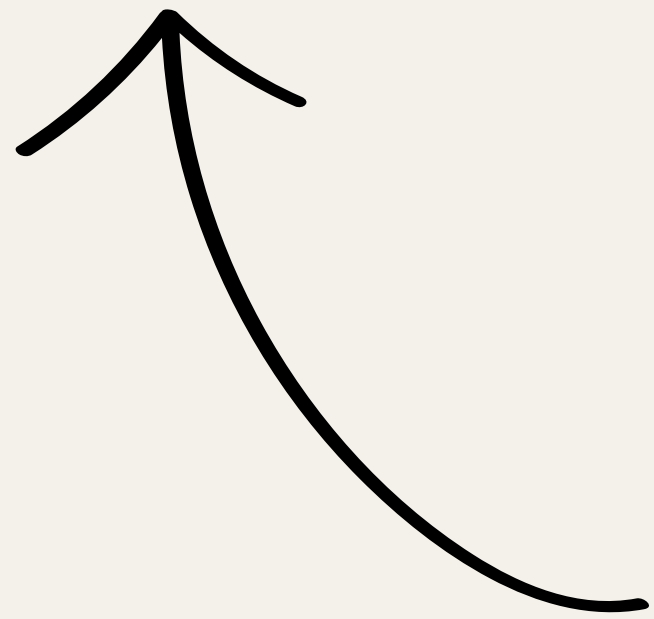
The Council has many policies governing its activities including its overarching policies - Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. These policies lay down the rules by which the council operates and conducts its business.

Parish Councillors and staff also operate within the adopted Code of Conduct which sets out the behaviours that are expected from individuals elected and working within local government.

# WHERE DO WE FIT?



- Highest tier of local government
- Highways
- Education
- Social care and services



- Second tier of local government
- Housing and planning
- Environmental services
- Refuse collection
- Strategic planning policy via the Local Plan



**Bracebridge Heath**  
Parish Council

- Most local tier of local government
- 13 Parish Councillors, 4 year term
- Planning consultee
- Represent & support local people
- Manage local assets - green spaces, allotments, football facilities recreation and play parks, defibrillators, litter bins & benches
- Provide a community library
- Support volunteering opportunities through the library and the Bracebridge Heath Wombles



# PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

As the lowest tier of local government, parish councils provide services at a very local level. For Bracebridge Heath Parish Council this includes but is not limited to:

## **Play parks**

Stane Drive  
Grantham Road  
Grace's park

## **Green spaces**

Recreation Ground  
St John's Square  
Allotments  
Woodland Walk  
St John's Hospital  
Cemetery

## **Street Furniture**

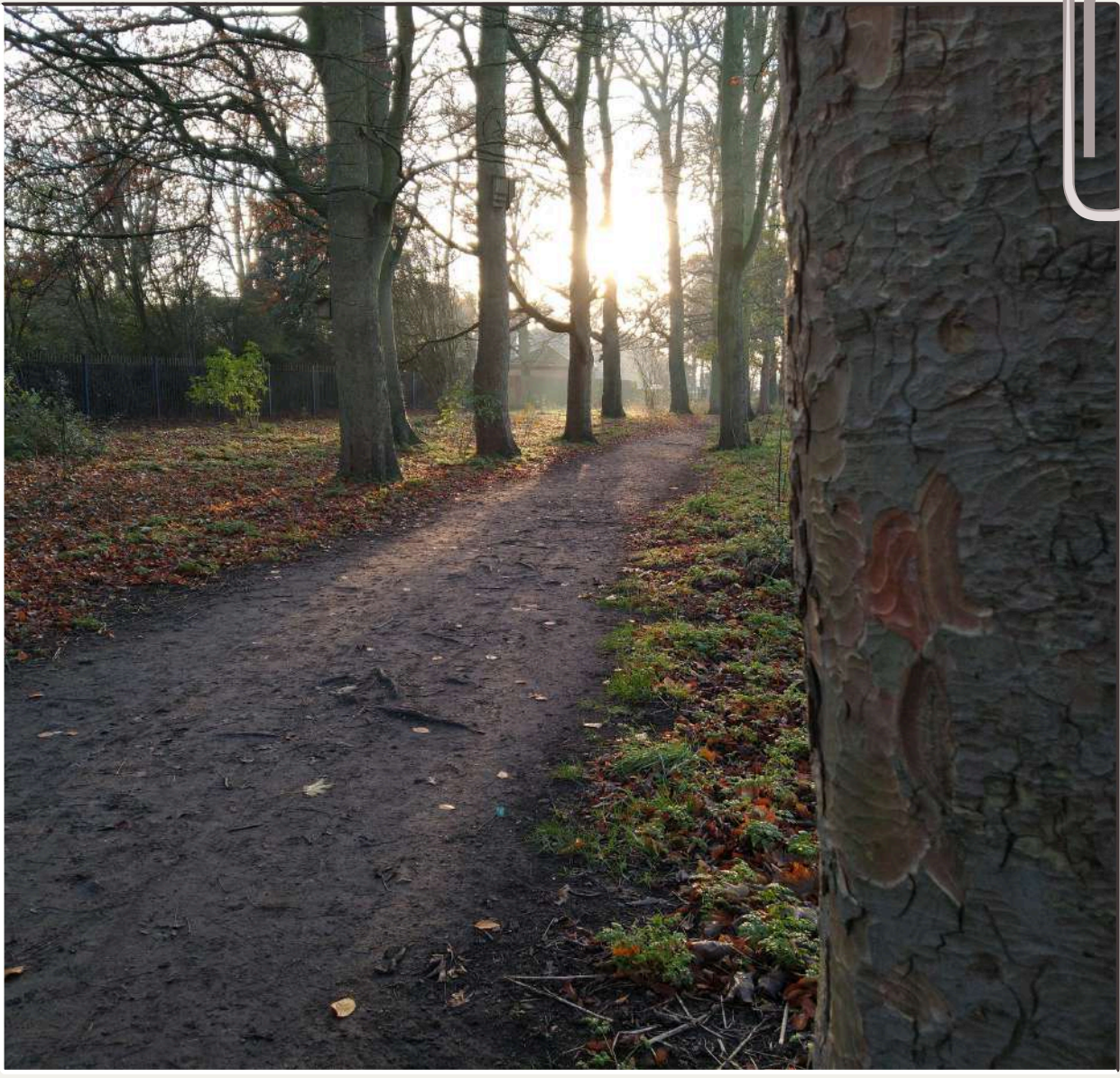
Bus shelters  
Defibrillators  
Noticeboards  
Litter & dog waste  
bins  
Benches

## **Buildings**

Pavilion  
The Heath: Village  
Hall & Library









# CORE VALUES

## STRONG

### A STRONG council

- operates with robust financial controls
- regularly reviews its governance & internal processes
- effectively manages its assets & services
- demonstrates clear and consistent leadership
- demonstrates civility & respect and the standards of public life

## PROGRESSIVE

### A PROGRESSIVE council

- is open to ideas and challenge
- uses technology to enhance its services
- supports professional development & relevant training for all role-holders within the organisation
- plans for the future, identifying and delivering on the future needs of the community

## ACTIVE

### An ACTIVE council

- maintains strong working relationships with other public bodies
- takes action to improve the parish & acts on the concerns of residents
- creates opportunities for volunteering which support the council objectives.
- engages with local businesses & residents

# CORE OBJECTIVES

## Community

- Encourage residents to take an active role within the parish and support council objectives through volunteering
- Provide and support community focused events
- Celebrate our history and promote awareness of local heritage

## Community Buildings

- Provide modern accessible buildings that meet current and future local requirements
- Strive to use environmentally sustainable practices
- Continue to identify and secure funding to invest in our buildings

## Environment

- Maintain play areas and provide high quality equipment with inclusivity integrated into the design
- Maintain accessible green spaces and recreation to support an active community
- Promote and support wildlife and biodiversity
- Promote sustainable travel through the provision of good quality street furniture
- Maintain a village centre to be proud of

## Governance

- Provide strong and clear leadership at all levels of the council
- Ensure that the council operates within legislation, regulations and best practice

# WHAT NEXT?

## OUR ACTIONS

### Community Buildings

#### **Review condition of buildings for general repair and plan for repair programmes**

- Review lighting and other energy use at the pavilion and recreation ground
- Determine if grants are available and obtain quotes to replace all lighting or some lighting and any other energy efficiency improvements such as insulation in the pavilion building

### Events

#### **Review events carried out by the council and seek opportunities to support village events provided by other organisations and businesses**

- Consider new events for the council – based on season or specific subject areas. E.g. a cinema or film evening
- Take a more active role in advertising community events in the village – for example a ‘what’s on at Christmas in Bracebridge Heath’ poster. This could support local businesses but also provided a single point of reference for seasonal events.



# Recreation and sport

## **Review existing facilities and carry out improvements where necessary**

- MUGA – repaint lines
- Tennis courts – check condition of surface and repaint lines if necessary
- Review lighting at the recreation ground and specifically MUGA lighting for efficiency and effectiveness. Good lighting will increase access to sporting facilities in the winter and evenings.

## **Investigate provision of a youth club**

The desire for a youth club is something that has been raised repeatedly by residents.

- Explore options available to outsource the provision of a youth club. Seek advice from other local councils to understand their provision (Pinchbeck – YMCA outreach programme)
- Determine costs of programme and details of how often it could be delivered.

## **Prepare and adopt a masterplan for the Recreation Ground at Bath Road**

This area of work is heavily connected to the forthcoming residential developments in the SEQ and the Stonebridge Homes development off Sleaford Road. A masterplan for the site will need to complement the provision in the new residential areas while enhancing the existing recreational facilities. The council will need to work alongside colleagues at North Kesteven District Council to understand the timescales and CIL funding that will be available to support this.

The masterplan should be underpinned by the themes from a recent public consultation which showed the overall desire to create recreation space centred around accessibility, inclusivity and safety



# Traffic calming and safety

## **Support and introduced measures which improve highway safety**

- Install bollards to prevent car parking on some of the verges of Red Hall Lane to enable safe pedestrian access to St John's Primary Academy.
- Using the earmarked reserves obtained from the release of land at the Recreation Ground, purchase one or two speed indicator devices for use in Bracebridge Heath

## Street furniture

### **Review condition bus shelters and plan for repair programmes**

- Using the condition survey completed by the caretaker in December 24, plan for any urgent repairs to bus shelters, prioritising as necessary
- Apply for funding for repairing the shelters from Lincolnshire County Council.

### **Review condition of bins and determine locations where additional bins might be required**

- Carry out a condition survey of bins and prioritise bins that may need to be replaced urgently or in the near future due to poor repair
- Aim to install dual purpose, closed top bins where replacements are required to support litter and dog waste.
- Determine whether additional bins are needed
- Communicate with the public about the location of bins and that they are dual purpose.



# Heritage

## **Promoting local history**

- Printing leaflets with heritage trails to support local knowledge of the village history.
- Offer a local history talk/presentation.

## **Improving heritage assets at the cemetery and woodland walk**

- Repaint and repair railings in the woodland walk and cemetery
- Determine if grants are available and obtain quotes

## **Maintain the war memorial**

- Complete a condition survey of the war memorial
- Determine any repairs
- Seek funding if necessary
- Obtain quotes from specialist contractors for any repairs required

# Residential development and the parish boundary

## **Community Governance Review**

Seek to an initiate a Community Governance Review with North Kesteven District Council to effect a strong, clearly defined parish boundary which is tied to firm ground features, and which removes irregularities.