



CRANLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2013

Cranleigh Parish Council is responsible for core services associated with the Village Hall, Recreation, Cemetery, Planning, the Youth Centre and Youth Café, Public Conveniences and the co-ordination of events in Cranleigh. In addition the Council represents local views and promotes the Cranleigh community wherever possible to ensure that Cranleigh is, and remains a vibrant place in which to live, work and play.

One of the major roles of the Council is to set a precept and ensure sound financial control. This is achieved by carefully monitored budgeting. The precept comes from taxes levied by the Borough Council. This money is supplemented by income from hiring out our facilities, burial charges, reserves, interest and grants. The Statement that is delivered to every household with their Council Tax invoice shows that Surrey County Council, Surrey Police and Waverley Borough Council also levy taxes but that the Parish Council's is by far the smallest proportion (around 3%).

Changes to the Council Tax Benefit System impacted on the precept for 2013/14 and despite reducing our actual precept by 3.6% (to £245,808) there has been an increase of 1.98% for those whose Council Tax payment is at Band D.

The Parish Council were in receipt of several grants during 2012, including £11,355 to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, £20,000 towards running the public conveniences in Cranleigh and £5,000 towards the Youth Café revenue costs from the Betty Riseley Trust.

The Council achieved the Power of General Competence in 2012 which means that the Council will experience fewer restrictions in meeting the needs of the community.

Unfortunately the Village Hall roof tiles and some of the joists will require replacement during 2013. The cost of the repair is estimated to be in the region of £100,000 and it may be necessary to cover part of the cost by a Public Works Loan Board loan.

Cranleigh has a well loved cemetery where burials still take place, however, burial space is reducing year on year, therefore ways to manage this effectively are constantly being sought.

We have positive working partnerships with many organisations within Cranleigh, but of note in 2012 was the organisation of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee celebrations in conjunction with the Cranleigh and District Rotary Club and Cranleigh Football Club and work undertaken with a group of local volunteers to produce a list of Buildings of Local Merit. The list has been approved by Waverley Borough Council and the property owners will be contacted in the near future to explain further details.

Looking forward, initial exploration has taken place with various organisations to try to provide a Multi Use Games Area at Snoxhall Fields and to provide accessible Automatic External Defibrillators within Cranleigh. These projects will continue.

We have started the process to produce a Neighbourhood Plan which aims to shape how the community looks over the next 15 to 20 years. The Council has already agreed to designate the whole parish as a neighbourhood area in order to pursue the Neighbourhood Development Plan and looks forward to working with the community.

Cranleigh has taken advantage of new legislation within the 2011 Localism Act to list Cranleigh Village Hospital as an Asset of Community Value. This process will conclude later in 2013.

The Cranleigh Village Website became the responsibility of the Parish Council when we took over the employment of the Cranleigh Event Co-ordinator in 2012. The website is being updated and we

would like to encourage more people to post their events and use the website. It can be accessed at www.cranleighvillage.net.

If you would like to learn more about the work undertaken by the Parish Council, get involved or leave us your feedback, please visit our website on www.cranleighpc.org



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