



**CRANLEIGH PARISH
COUNCIL**

NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of Cranleigh Parish Council.

MARCH 2009

Issue 11

SETTING THE PARISH PRECEPT

Cranleigh Parish Council has agreed the 2009/10 parish precept against a background of the current harsh economic climate and falling revenues.

The exceptionally low interest rates have severely reduced the Council's forecasts of interest income for both the current year and 2009/10. In addition, Waverley Borough Council has cut the Compensatory Grant it pays the Council by £4,035 (8.6%). This grant has been in place for some years to an agreed formula. Unlike other towns and parishes in Waverley, Cranleigh provides and maintains its own recreation facilities at Snoxhall. The grant is intended to compensate Cranleigh council tax payers against double taxation by reimbursing that part of what they pay in Council Tax to Waverley Borough Council for provision of recreation facilities. The grant formula was capped some years ago and the grant itself has now been cut.

The Council has carried out a thorough review of its revenues and expenditure. It has identified savings in its budgets while protecting its important commitments in the coming year. These include significant funding towards its Play Area project above that provided by the Big Lottery grant and necessary improvements and renovations at Snoxhall Pavilion. Following this review the Council has set a precept of £226,774 for 2009/10.

For a council tax payer, at Band D the precept is equivalent to £43.17 pa and represents an increase of 7.76% on 2008/9; or 6 pence per week. Excluding the effects of the low interest rates and the reduced grant, the underlying increase in the precept is 1.39%.

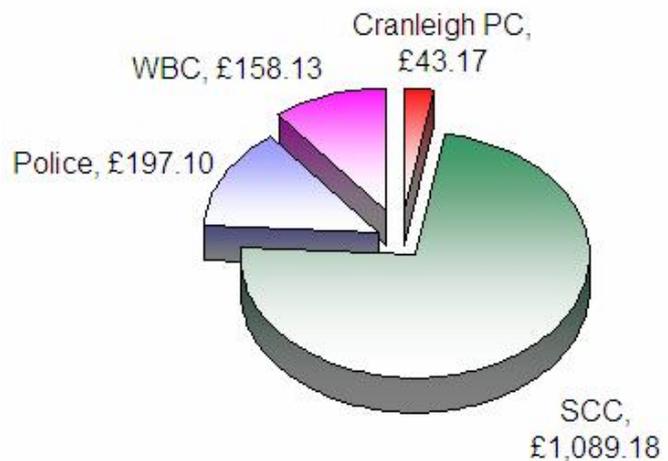
The Parish Council has a record of strong budgetary control which in recent years has enabled it to maintain increases in the precept at a low level. For the four years 2004/5 to 2008/9 the annualised compound growth in the precept was 1.2% pa. For the five years to 2009/10 this growth is 2.5%.

Cllr J Bainbridge, the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee commented.

“While the amounts involved are relatively small, it is of course disappointing that the effects of the current recession have required the Parish Council to agree a significant increase in percentage terms. There is some encouragement for the Council in that without these effects the underlying increase is only 1.39%, reflecting our continuing good housekeeping of council tax payers money”.

If you are a band D council tax payer your payment is made up as above.

Cranleigh Precept 2009/10



PLAY PARK NEWS

Work on the new Play Park at Snoxhall Fields is well ahead of schedule, although extreme weather conditions have resulted in the contractor experiencing difficulties in completing the final resin and gravel layer onto the pathways.

The Parish Council agreed, at its January meeting to purchase additional equipment for the Teen Zone of the Play Park from the Big Lottery Fund. Savings made by undertaking work 'in house' has allowed a meeting point and various trim trail type equipment to be purchased. When the Play Park reopens, hopefully in time for the Easter break there should be two completed zones.



New Rock & Cross equipment in the Play Park

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Parish Council is pleased to have made the following grants and donations to the organisations listed below:-

Cranleigh Youth Centre was given **£500** towards their kitchen refurbishment.

Cranleigh Sub Aqua Club was awarded **£100** towards refurbishing equipment.

Cranleigh School was given **£100** towards bags for their Christmas hamper appeal.

Surrey Hills, **£50** donation to become a founder member and to assist the work undertaken by the group.

Crimestoppers, **£40** donation in continued support of their work.

Surrey County Playing Fields Association was given a donation of **£10**.

The Parish Council is also pleased to be working with the following groups to gain funding for projects:-

Cranleigh Football Club has been awarded £3,877 towards replacing the fencing around the senior pitch from Surrey Community Foundation.

Cranleigh St Andrews Cricket Club is working with the Parish Council to gain funding for two practice cricket nets at Snoxhall.

Greenways nursery is working with the Parish Council to gain a Sure Start grant for improvements to the front of Snoxhall pavilion including additional storage and an area of hard standing.

The Parish Council is working with Waverley Borough Council to explore funding to implement the Cranleigh Code.

VILLAGE HALL

Cranleigh Village Hall is in an ideal position on the High Street. We have our own caretaker who can assist with your event.

There is ample car parking in the nearby Waverley Borough Council car park.

The Village hall is extremely popular for whole range of functions, bookings can be made up to three years in advance.

To book or to enquire about rates or availability please call 01483 272311.

CEMETERY

The Parish Council has recently undertaken work to improve the flowerbeds at the Cemetery, especially around the Children's section.

There is also work being undertaken on one of the hedgerows near the Ashes section.

The existing hedge is being taken out as it has become unmanageable.

A new hedge will be planted in its place.

ALLOTMENT NEWS

In response to the demand for allotments, the Parish Council has decided that in future, any allotment which becomes vacant on the right hand side of the Elmbridge Allotments site will be divided in two and the resulting plots offered to the next two people on the waiting list. The policy of dividing plots will enable more people to hire allotments. Currently there are eighteen people on the waiting list.

The upsurge in interest in growing produce is in contrast to previous years when the amount of allotments available far outweighed demand.

NEW FACES IN CRANLEIGH

Cranleigh Parish Council would like to pass their best wishes to PCSO Simon Mitchell when he moves on to Bramley and Womersley in a few weeks time. The new PCSO for Cranleigh, Dave Sherwin has been working closely with PCSO Mitchell and PCSO Baldwin over the past few weeks. The Parish Council welcomes him to Cranleigh.

The new Cranleigh co-ordinator of the Healthcheck – Emma Treeby has some events planned for Cranleigh during the spring time. The Parish Council wishes her well in her new post.

NEW CRANLEIGH GUIDE

The Parish Council recently took delivery of the new Cranleigh Guide. These are free from the Parish Council Offices, Locality Office and Library. The guide contains a fold out street map of Cranleigh as well as contact numbers and interesting facts about Cranleigh and the surrounding villages.

VANDALISM

We are very fortunate to live in an area that is safe and relatively free from crime; but that does not seem to stop some people committing acts of mindless vandalism. There is an ongoing problem associated with alcohol consumption at Snoxhall Fields, this includes broken bottles and damage to property including the lampposts. **ELECTRICITY IS DANGEROUS AND CAUSES DEATH** and the Parish Council takes damage to these facilities very seriously. The Parish Council will be extending CCTV coverage in order to reduce this.

Should the identity of the perpetrators become known, the Parish Council will have no hesitation in reporting them to the Police and would encourage residents to do the same.

SNOXHALL FIELDS

Many of you will be familiar with seeing Nick Barnett, the Parish Council's Grounds Manager at Snoxhall. Nick joined the Parish Council 20 years ago and has become an extremely experienced practitioner during his time with the Council. Nick was born in Cranleigh and so has a wealth of local knowledge, which combined with the qualifications and valuable experience he has gained, has enabled Cranleigh to make the most of their unique position as being the only place in Waverley Borough with their own ground staff.

Nick oversees two other staff at Snoxhall, Derek Heselwood, who will shortly be leaving the Parish Council after ten years service, and Joe Nicholson Cully who has recently joined the Council after leaving school. Joe has the opportunity to train with the Parish Council to become a qualified and experienced grounds man.



Joe Nicholson-Cully – trainee groundsman



Nick Barnett – Grounds Manager

Whilst he is based at Snoxhall Nick is responsible for all of the Parish Council grounds and when he is not at Snoxhall he may be found at the Village Hall, Cemetery, Allotments, High Street flowerbeds or any of the other sites owned by the Parish Council. In addition to this Nick works with Pauline Whitehead, the Clerk to gain information and produce reports for the Council.

Nick had a huge input into the design of Snoxhall Play Park and is now working in partnership with the Clerk to project manage the scheme. He will embark on a new project to upgrade the facilities at Snoxhall pavilion in April. Nick has strong connections with professionals in all aspects of his work and local Grounds Managers. He works in partnership with Waverley Borough Council, the Police and other local bodies to ensure that the Council's grounds are kept in the best possible condition with the resources that we have.

YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT

Contact any of the Parish Councillors below with your views on items in this edition of the newsletter or on local issues bothering you, or write to The Clerk, Cranleigh Parish Council, Village Way, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8AF. For more information please visit www.cranleighpc.org which is linked to the Cranleigh Village website.

| <u>Contacts</u> | <u>Cranleigh Parish Councillors</u> | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| <p>The Clerk – Pauline Whitehead. Parish Council Offices, Village Way, Cranleigh GU6 8AF Telephone - 01483 272311 Website: - www.cranleighpc.org e-mail adminclerk@cranleighpc.org</p> <p>Waverley Borough Council The Burys, Godalming, GU7 1HR Telephone - 01483 5233 Website:- www.waverley.gov.uk</p> <p>Surrey Police Telephone - 08451 252222 Website: www.surrey.police.uk</p> <p>Waverley Borough Council Locality Office Leisure Centre, Village Way, Cranleigh Telephone - 01483 277399</p> <p>Surrey County Council – General Enquiries Telephone - 08456 009009 Website:- www.surreycc.gov.uk</p> <p>Graffiti Hotline Telephone 01483 523425 Website:- GraffitiHotline.co.uk</p> | NAME | TELEPHONE WARD | |
| | Clr Brian Arendell | 01483 273204 | Rural |
| | Clr Cyril Baily | 01483 278471 | Elmbridge |
| | Clr John Bainbridge | 01483 275949 | West |
| | Clr Brian Cheesman VICE CHAIRMAN | 01483 273293 | East |
| | Clr Mrs Jean Dodd | 01483 278184 | East |
| | Clr Brian Ellis CHAIRMAN | 01483 272929 | West |
| | Clr Mrs Patricia Ellis | 01483 272929 | West |
| | Clr Mary Foryszewski | 01483 273020 | North |
| | Clr David Gallacher | 01483 280835 | East |
| | Clr Mrs Rosemary Hurtley | 01483 272052 | East |
| | Clr Ken Reed | 01483 271896 | East |

Parish Council Meetings are held in the Council Offices, in Village Way on the third Thursday of every month with the exception of August. Meetings start promptly at 7.00pm with the first fifteen minutes available for members of the public with a legitimate interest in the Parish to pose questions about the work of the Council to the councillors.

The next Parish Council meetings are scheduled for
The next Planning meetings are scheduled for

Thu 16th April 2009, Thursday 16th May 2009
Monday 30th March 2009, Monday 20th April 2009 and
Monday 11th May 2009

Agendas and minutes are available at

www.cranleighpc.org

For Advanced notice of all meetings check the Parish Notice Board behind the Village Hall or contact the Parish Council office on 01483 272311.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME AT ALL PARISH COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For more information please visit www.cranleighpc.org which is linked to the Cranleigh Village website.

Editor – Pauline Whitehead MILCM, Clerk to the Council.

Available from, the Parish Council Offices, Locality Office, Library, Village Hall, Arts Centre and downloadable from the website www.cranleighpc.org. A copy is displayed on the Parish Notice Board