



The official newsletter for Cranleigh Parish Council

April 2010

Issue: 13

Edited by Mrs P Whitehead – Clerk to the Parish Council

The 2010/11 precept has been set at 88 pence per week*

The Council AGREED to set a precept for the 2010/2011 financial period of 88 pence per week for Council tax payers at Band D*. The request to Waverley Borough Council for a Precept of £240,364 was agreed at the December Parish Council Meeting.

The precept represents an increase on the 2009/10 funding of just below 6% and increases the Band D tax payment from £43.17 per annum, to £45.76 per annum. Reductions in bank interest on reserves, the necessity of putting £10,000 aside over the next five years to replace the Village Hall roof and the freezing of the compensatory grant from Waverley Borough Council have all contributed to the increase.

The precept for 2010/11 will allow the Parish Council to make investigations into a composting system, give greater support to the Cranleigh co-ordinator and create six more plots at Elmbridge allotments, in addition to maintaining current services and making provision for the replacement of existing assets.

The Parish Council provides the Village Hall, Snoxhall recreation facilities including the pavilion, Play Park and Tennis Courts, allotments, High Street flowerbeds and cemetery.



Cranleigh has become the first Parish Council in Surrey to adopt the Power of Well-Being

Cranleigh Parish Council became the first Parish Council in Surrey to adopt the Power of Well-Being in March 2010. This Power of Well-Being enables a local council to serve its community more effectively by giving them greater powers than afforded under previous Acts. It enables local councils to promote and make improvements to the economic, and/or the social, and/or environmental, well-being of their areas.

For example, Cranleigh Parish Council can now enter into a partnership with a commercial organisation to promote the local economy and improve the environment or to sponsor an individual. Councils without the Power of Well-Being do not have this opportunity.

To achieve Well-Being status, the Councillors attended training, the Clerk achieved the relevant qualification, the number of members elected at the last ordinary elections was greater than 66.6% and the Parish Council had a published statement of intent on community engagement.

With more opportunities to provide local services, the Parish Council is now equipped to embrace the challenges that cuts in public spending may bring.

If you would like to know more about the Power of Well-Being, please contact the Parish Council Office.

In this issue.....

WH Smith assists with flowerbeds makeover

Bond of friendship with Royal Regiment

Play park revival

Allotment gardens

Cranleigh faces major challenges

Spring litter pick

Contacts, Your Councillors



Flowers are blooming on the High Street courtesy of WH SMITH

The flowerbeds that run along the eastern end of the High Street have been refurbished due to the generosity of the latest addition to the High Street; WH Smith.

The new store opened its doors on 18th March with Cllr Brian Ellis, the Chairman of the Council, cutting a ribbon to declare the store officially open.



WH Smith stores manager Kevin Hall, Parish Clerk Pauline Whitehead, Area Manager Debbie Lansdown, Cllr Brian Cheesman, Manager Sebastian Brown, Manager Liz Vine and Parish Chairman Brian Ellis at the newly refurbished flower beds on the High Street.

The Council's ground staff worked early in the mornings to get the project completed in time for the opening.

Three of the beds have been landscaped with railway sleepers and Horsham stone.

The Parish Council is very grateful to **Notcutts** for giving advice on plants which would best suit the conditions within the flowerbeds, and is delighted to be able to work in partnership with WH Smith for the benefit of the community.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to set up a Speedwatch initiative in Cranleigh, as part of the SMART campaign to combat anti-social driving. If you are interested, or for more details please contact the Parish Council Office on 01483 272311 or by e-mail, clerk@cranleighpc.org.



The long and close association between the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment and Cranleigh is sealed with a bond of friendship



Over the last few years, Waverley's Mayors have recognized the contributions that members of the armed forces who live in the Borough have made to national security.

The Mayor of Waverley, Cllr Mrs P Frost, invited the three Town Councils and Cranleigh Parish Council to support recognition of the contribution made by the local army regiment, the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires) which, following various amalgamations, incorporates the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. This is effectively the successor to the traditional County Regiment which recruited from Waverley and the whole of Surrey, and the new regiment which now covers most of the South-Eastern Counties of England.

Discussions between representatives of the Regiment and the Mayor of Waverley have resulted in a Bond of Friendship being signed at a Special Council meeting on April 12th followed by a reception for the Regiment.

The Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Brian Ellis will sign the Bond of Friendship on behalf of Cranleigh.

Snoxhall Play Park Revival

by Cllr B Arendell

In June 2007 a Playground Steering Group met to consider the possible development of the existing Snoxhall Playground, together with information returned via a playground questionnaire, which was submitted to all local schools identified during the Cranleigh Health Check process.

It was established that an opportunity existed to apply for some funding via Waverley's Big Lottery Fund bid which was due to be submitted in the September.



In September plans for a new and extended Play Park were unveiled. The Clerk, Pauline Whitehead, and Grounds Manager, Nick Barnett, having worked in consultation with potential user groups like Play England, Waverley Borough Council and playground equipment providers along with other agencies.

December brought excellent news with confirmation that the Parish Council's application for £50,000 from the Lottery Fund had been successful. At this time the project was forecast to cost £124,000 and with so much funding to raise would take 5 years to complete. Any additional help with fund raising would obviously be a great help in reducing this time-line and to this end, the Action for Cranleigh Park Association was formed; they along with the Baptist Church and the Cranleigh Rotary Club have made contributions towards necessary equipment. The initial work involving perimeter fencing provided an opportunity to reduce some costs. This came about as the Parish Council along with the Surrey Probation Service were able to secure the services of the Young Offenders Team to install the fencing free of charge.

During the ensuing months the existing Play Park was dismantled and one year on from commencement groundworks, drainage and paths were constructed and so by the end of 2008 initial orders were placed for Play Park furniture, picnic tables and benches and the Rock and Cross and the very popular Nest Swing which is always in constant use!

With the first phase of the Play Park completed it was officially opened by the Mayor of Waverley on 6th April 2009. On 4th July the toddler area was opened and work continued towards completion of the project.

The next substantive and costly piece of equipment to acquire was the Bloqx which was a piece of equipment identified by young people as fulfilling the outcomes they wanted in the survey they took part in during the Waverley Consultation back in 2007. An application for grant funding to the Surrey County Council Youth Opportunities Fund working with Waverley Borough Council was successful and the Bloqx were acquired in the Autumn of 2009 and installed a few months later.

In October 2009 we were informed the Snoxhall Play Park had come runner up in the Waverley Borough Council Design Awards 2009 in the Environmental Enhancement Category – not bad for what was only a partially completed project!

The one remaining substantial piece of equipment required to complete the Play Park was the 360 Multiplay, designed for children aged 6 to 12 which, including installation and safety surfacing, would cost over £25,000. This looked like a daunting and possibly unrealisable task in the short term but incredibly in December we received the wonderful news that we had been awarded £25,500 from the Betty Riseley Trust to fund the purchase of this item in its entirety.

In spite of the appalling winter weather our groundsmen worked with great enthusiasm to install the landscaping around the Bloqx and within the Park so that by the end of February installation of all the originally envisaged Play Park equipment was completed.

Snoxhall Play Park Revival *continued.....*

The only work outstanding at this time relates to finishing touches and ancillary items, including landscaping and the replacement of trees which had been kindly donated by Glebelands School but fell foul to mindless vandalism.

The revival of the Play Park is a superb success story when one considers that the renewal and extension of the Play Park was originally thought to be a 5 year project but was actually completed in less than 2 years! Our thanks and appreciation go to all those many supporters of this project who must surely feel more than satisfied with the obvious pleasure these new facilities are providing.

The Betty Riseley Trust is a charity which issues grants to organisations and other charities which work directly with young people aged 18 and below in Surrey and which aim to improve the standard of life of young people by providing recreational & leisure activities and / or education & training. Betty Riseley was herself a local resident who lived in Elmbridge Village, and she died in 2007. The Parish Council is very grateful to the Betty Riseley Trust and acknowledges that this generous donation will give long term benefits to Snoxhall Play Park and to Cranleigh. In accordance with the wishes of the Trustees, the Parish Council will install a bench with a commemorative plaque near to the new equipment.

Paul Tobias, partner of Hart Brown solicitors, who acted for Mrs Riseley during her lifetime and who is now one of the trustees of the Betty Riseley Trust, said "Mrs Riseley lived at Elmbridge Village during her latter years and I'm sure she would be delighted that her charity has contributed so usefully to Snoxhall Play Park, which is exactly the sort of local good cause she wanted to help."

*More information on the Betty Riseley Trust, including how to apply for a grant, may be obtained from Luke Taylor at Hart Brown's Cranleigh office (direct line **01483 204713**).*

Allotment Gardens in Cranleigh by Cllr V Dawes

Would you like to grow your own fruit, vegetables and flowers but do not have a garden?

Cranleigh residents may apply for the allotment gardens provided by Cranleigh Parish Council for these purposes. There are two allotment sites – one on the Elmbridge Road near the canal bridge and the other at the Beryl Harvey Field off Knowle Lane.

At present there is a total of 63 allotments provided but this is being increased by the provision of new allotments at Elmbridge and by a new policy of dividing the full sized allotment plots at Elmbridge Road as they become vacant. This is in an effort to provide allotments for more of the community. Allotment holders pay an annual fee and are asked to sign an agreement regarding the conditions of allotment use e.g. what you may and may not do with the land.

The demand for allotments has waxed and waned. In Cranleigh, some years ago, supply exceeded demand but now there is increased interest in 'growing your own' and the waiting list for allotments has grown.

If you have any questions about allotments or if you would like to have your name added to the waiting list please contact the Parish Council office.



Allotment gardens have a long history in England, dating back perhaps 1000 years. Through the centuries, before the introduction of the social security system, many families depended for their survival on the food they could produce from allotments. During the two World Wars there were food shortages in England due to food imports being blocked. At these times of crisis, many small parcels of vacant land, public parks etc were used for food production. Land adjacent to railways was allotted to railway workers and many of these allotment gardens persist today.

Major challenges facing Cranleigh today

There have been many significant challenges facing Cranleigh over the last few months including the new hospital, proposed development of housing and the possible return of the railway to Cranleigh.

The challenges continue with the proposal for increased clay extractions at the old Swallows' Tiles site on Bookhurst Road and issues surrounding Cranleigh Brick and Tile and Dunsfold Park among others. We live in a changing world and the Parish Council is proactive in representing the views of our local residents in all of the debates on these significant changes which face Cranleigh, and we are always interested to hear your views.

The Parish Council hosted an evening at the Village Hall in March in response to a consultation from Waverley Borough Council entitled 'Building for our Borough: Where should Waverley's new housing go?' Two senior members of Waverley's Planning team explained what this could mean for Cranleigh in the future.

The Parish Council responded to the consultation and acknowledged that there is a need for new housing in Cranleigh, not only in support of the South East Plan, but to maintain the vibrancy and sustainability of our community, and stressed the urgent need for subsidised, affordable housing for our young people to ensure that they can afford to remain in the area. Members were gravely concerned that Cranleigh's infrastructure is close to capacity, with electricity supplies often affected in extremely cold weather, and a sewerage system that barely copes during heavy rainfall. We also highlighted that our secondary schools and health facilities are now close to capacity, with the latter now showing signs of reduction rather than improvement. Finally we pointed out that Cranleigh, being some distance from the A281, would have extreme difficulty in coping with the consequences of a major surge in house building, given the impact of the population increase that would follow. We wanted to see a considerable investment in infrastructure before accepting any planned increase in house building, and were not happy with the volume implied in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment recently carried out by Waverley Borough Council.

We felt that a new settlement would probably be the best solution to fulfilling the housing requirements demanded by the South East Plan but, in order to be sustainable, it would need to be sited closer to the A3, rather than on Dunsfold Aerodrome as previously proposed, and investment in infrastructure would still be required.

The Parish Council was disappointed and very concerned to hear the announcement from NHS Surrey earlier in March that they were not prepared to sponsor rehabilitation beds in a new Village Hospital in Cranleigh. Instead NHS Surrey had chosen to keep Milford hospital open and to invest in a new Health Centre and Day Hospital on the existing hospital site in Cranleigh High Street. Whilst this will undoubtedly improve the quality of the limited health services available to local residents, it will not give the range of facilities that Cranleigh has previously enjoyed. More people than ever will need to travel to the Royal Surrey County Hospital for their treatment and this in itself can cause distress and difficulties in terms of expense, time and travel. The Parish Council has reaffirmed our support for Cranleigh Village Hospital Trust and the League of Friends and agreed to work with those organisations and NHS Surrey to develop positive solutions for the future health needs of the community.

The Parish Council recognized the fact that neither we nor Waverley Borough Council were able to provide funding to investigate the feasibility of the reopening of the Guildford to Cranleigh rail link following a proposal put forward in the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) report 'Connecting Communities - Expanding Access to the Rail network' report but fully supported a detailed feasibility study of the ATOC proposals should any group or organisation wish to carry it out.

The Parish Council would like to hear your views on these and any other topics which give concern.

SUPPORTING LOCAL SERVICES - LOCALLY

The Parish Council has started exploring the possibility of taking over responsibility for some local services that we feel we could provide but that are currently being run by Waverley Borough Council.

The toilets on the Common in Cranleigh (the responsibility of Waverley Borough Council) are only going to be open during the summer months in the future, and this is of great concern to us. We are therefore working with Waverley to get a greater understanding of what is involved and what financial commitment would be needed by the Parish Council to enable them to be run locally to provide a better and more reliable service.

Do you feel that local services should be run by your Parish Council or are you happy with things as they are? Please let us know.

Cranleigh Parish Council – at the heart of the local community

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 Thursday 15th April 2010, Thursday 20th May 2010 (Annual Parish Council Meeting) and Thursday 17th June 2010.

The next Planning meetings are scheduled for Monday 19th April 2010, Monday 10th May 2010 and Tuesday 1st June 2010.

The next Village Hall, Cemetery and Finance meetings will be scheduled at the Annual Parish Council meeting on 20th May 2010.

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 or copies of agendas and minutes please visit www.cranleighpc.org which is linked to the Cranleigh Village website.

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 26th May 2010 in the Village Hall.

Spring litter pick

THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HOLDING OUR SPRING LITTER PICK ON SATURDAY APRIL 17th.

MEET AT 9.30am IN THE CAR PARK AT SNOXHALL FIELDS. LITTER PICKERS AND BAGS ARE PROVIDED BUT YOU MAY LIKE TO BRING YOUR OWN GLOVES.



REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES AFTER 10.45am.....WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE.

Larger text versions are available on request - contact 01483 272311

Editor – Pauline Whitehead Cert. HE Local Policy MILCM, Clerk to the Council.

Photographic credit – Pauline Whitehead Cert. HE Local Policy MILCM Clerk to the Council.

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

List of useful Contacts

Cranleigh Initiative Co-ordinator -
Post vacant

Cranleigh Parish Council
Telephone 01483 272311
Website:- www.cranleighpc.org

Graffiti Hotline
Telephone 01483 523425
Website:- GraffitiHotline.co.uk

Surrey Police
Telephone - 08451 252222
Website: www.surrey.police.uk

Surrey County Council – General Enquiries
Telephone - 08456 009009
Website:- www.surreycc.gov.uk

Waverley Borough Council
The Burys, Godalming, GU7 1HR
Telephone - 01483 523333
Website:- www.waverley.gov.uk

Waverley Borough Council Locality Office
Leisure Centre, Village Way, Cranleigh
Telephone - 01483 277399

Your Councillors

CRANLEIGH EAST

Cllr Brian Cheesman <i>VICE CHAIRMAN</i>	01483 273293
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Cllr Mrs Jean Dodd	01483 278184
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Cllr David Gallacher	01483 280835
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Cllr Mrs Rosemary Hurtley	01483 272052
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Cllr Ken Reed	01483 271896
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CRANLEIGH WEST

Cllr John Bainbridge	01483 275949
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Cllr Dr Vivienne Dawes	01483 272017
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Cllr Brian Ellis <i>CHAIRMAN</i>	01483 272929
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Cllr Mrs Patricia Ellis	01483 272929
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CRANLEIGH NORTH

Cllr Mary Forszewski	01483 273020
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ELMBRIDGE

Vacant	
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CRANLEIGH RURAL

Cllr Brian Arendell	01483 273204
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Who does what in Cranleigh?

.....the most frequently asked questions

Cranleigh Parish Council

- Allotments at Elmbridge Road and Beryl Harvey Field
- Annual Parish Meeting
- Conservation Area
- Cranleigh Official Guide
- Dewlands Lane Cemetery
- Grants – local and capital grants only
- High Street Flowerbeds
- Notice Boards
- Parish Council Offices
- Snoxhall Fields
- Snoxhall Play Park
- Snoxhall Pavilion
- Tennis Courts
- Village Hall
- War Memorial
- The Cranleigh Initiative (sponsored by Cranleigh Parish Council and Waverley Borough Council) is responsible for Christmas Lights and associated events.

Waverley Borough Council

- Abandoned Vehicles
- Building Control
- Bus Permits
- Car Parks and Fines
- Council Tax Enquiries
- Electoral Registration
- Gypsies and Travellers
- Housing/ Homelessness
- Leisure Centres
- Licensing
- Noise Pollution
- Pest Control
- Planning
- Queensway and Lashmere Playgrounds
- Recycling/ Refuse/Special Collections
- Skate Park
- Street Cleaning/ Litter
- Taxi/Private Hire Licensing

Surrey County Council

- Education
- Environment
- Footways
- Highways
- Libraries
- Minerals
- Street Lighting
- Social Services
- Transport
- Trading Standards
- Waste Disposal