

# News Letter Cranleigh Parish Council



The official newsletter for Cranleigh Parish Council

August 2010

Issue: 14

Edited by Mrs P Whitehead – Clerk to the Parish Council

## Annual Report

Cllr Brian Ellis, the Chairman of Cranleigh Parish Council, welcomed local residents to the Village Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010 for the Annual Parish Meeting. In his report Cllr Ellis explained that Cranleigh Parish Council has core responsibilities for the Village Hall, Recreation grounds at Snoxhall, the Cemetery, for commenting on Planning applications, managing Finance, Community Support and the Henry Smith Charity for Cranleigh. The Parish Council's income consists of fees and charges, reserves, interest, the Compensatory Grant for Recreation, the Parish Precept and other income and grants. A detailed breakdown of income and expenditure showed that the precept had increased 5.7% for 2010/11 to a cost of £45.63 for Band D Council Tax payers and that this represented 3% of the Council Tax payment overall. The increase in the precept was necessary as the interest received from reserves had plummeted due to the general economic decline and the Compensatory Grant for recreation awarded by Waverley Borough Council had been frozen, which equates to a reduction in real terms. The figures displayed confirmed that the Parish Council assets do not run at a profit.

The Parish Council had spent a total of £112,979 on capital projects for Recreation during the 2010/11 period, however over half of this was money received from grant funding which went towards equipment in the Play Park, fitness equipment and necessary compliance work at Snoxhall pavilion. The Parish Council had very gratefully received support for the Play Park from the Betty Riseley Trust, the Surrey County Council Youth Fund, Surrey County Council Leader Fund, Cranleigh and District Rotary Club, the Action for Cranleigh Play Park Association and other local donors.

The Parish Council has forged positive partnerships with other organisations during the year and has contributed in providing important improvements within the community and raising the profile of Cranleigh, strengthening its position within Waverley and raising awareness of local needs. The Parish Council had worked with WH Smiths on improvements to the High Street flowerbeds.

Cranleigh Parish Council is the first Parish Council in Surrey to achieve the Power of Wellbeing which benchmarks the Council and enables it to have increased power, including spending power, to support and promote its community.

The Parish Council organised for structural repairs to be made to the War Memorial, especially the surrounding wall and gates. This was achieved with significant funding from the Surrey County Council Local Committee in Waverley, the War Memorial Trust and local donations. The Parish Council had stepped in to do this in the absence of any other organisation accepting responsibility for it.

Finally the Chairman reported that £4,620 had been received from the Henry Smith's Charity to the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 and that £4,700 had been transferred to the Cranleigh Community Fund.

### In this issue.....

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### Did you know.....

That agendas and minutes of the Parish Council's public meetings are available at [www.cranleighpc.org](http://www.cranleighpc.org)?

## Spotlight on the Parish Council land and buildings

The Parish Council is responsible for around 25 acres of land at Snoxhall Fields and the cemetery at Dewlands Lane, as well as the Play Park at Snoxhall, the Tennis Courts at the rear of the Leisure Centre, allotments at the Beryl Harvey Field, the conservation area off Knowle Lane, allotments at Elmbridge Road, and the High Street Flowerbeds. We are also responsible for the Village Hall, Snoxhall pavilion and our own Parish Offices and the surrounding land on Village Way.

We have a team of four people who work in these areas under the supervision of our Grounds Manager, Mr Nick Barnett.

Snoxhall Fields, off Knowle Lane provides a great open space for recreation, an opportunity to visit Snoxhall Play Park with equipment for all ages from tots to teens and a place to access the Down's Link. In addition to this we provide facilities for local sports teams to play football and cricket.

During the summer months Cranleigh St Andrews Cricket Club's senior teams and Colts play on the ten wicket cricket square and enjoy the facilities provided within Snoxhall pavilion.

During the winter months Snoxhall Fields plays host to three senior football teams on Saturday afternoons and the very popular and vibrant Cranleigh Youth Football Club on Saturday mornings when it is not unusual to see six or eight matches taking place as well as large amounts of training. Cranleigh Football Club Veterans are not left out and have the opportunity to play on occasional Sunday mornings.

Mr Barnett is responsible for managing the grounds at Snoxhall and has a great deal of experience of both the grounds and the industry. Providing facilities that are for public use and for sports users can be a challenge from both resources and outside factors such as the weather, overuse or just plain abuse. Changing seasons bring variable work practices and whilst grass cutting and strimming account for a great deal of time during the summer months, it is during the winter that longer term projects and maintenance can be tackled.

Sport is very high profile throughout the year and Cranleigh boasts one of the few floodlit senior pitches in this area. Work is being currently undertaken in readiness for the start of the football season on 21st August 2010. At the same time work continues on the cricket square until the wickets are 'put to bed' after the season ends at the end of September.

Whilst the sports users pay for the hire of Snoxhall Fields and the pavilion, this does not cover the full cost of providing the sporting facilities so the shortfall is made up from the Parish Council precept.



We work in partnership with the sports users to try to improve the facilities as much as possible with no financial impact on our community. The probation services have been very supportive of Cranleigh and have formed a strong association with us at Snoxhall Fields. The service has helped us to install fencing, construct hard landscaping and pathways in addition to general clearance and cutting work.

This partnership is set to continue in the future and we have donated a strimmer to the Probation services for use at Snoxhall and other local sites.

## Cranleigh Cemetery, Dewlands Lane, Cranleigh.



### Unsafe Memorials

At a recent Health & Safety inspection, the memorial headstones on the graves listed below were found to be unsteady. Cranleigh Parish Council has been unable to contact the owners. As a safety precaution, each headstone has been laid flat.  
283, 349, C71

For further information please contact: Vivien Edwards, Assistant Clerk. Tel: 01483 272311

### Planned Improvements to the Cemetery

The Parish Council frequently receives favourable comments about how well the Cemetery is maintained. In the coming months we hope to carry out various improvements to make it an even more peaceful and pleasant environment where visitors can remember their loved ones.

#### *Proposals include:*

Removing the existing old field hedge which separates the old part of the Cemetery from the new part where Ashes are buried. Due to the size of the hedge it is difficult to maintain and so the Parish Council has agreed to replace it with Leylandi to match the existing boundary hedge.

Other plans include improving the turf in the Garden of Remembrance and replacing some of the plants in the flowerbeds. Landscaping the Children's Section using boulders, kerbing, gravel chippings and new plants to create a more harmonious and tranquil setting.

We will remove the compost heap at the back of the Cemetery and replace it with compost pens. This will enable us to 'recycle' the green waste from the Cemetery and use the compostable material in other sites owned by the Parish Council. Eventually, this will significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. We want to ensure that local residents and visitors to the Cemetery have an opportunity to comment on the planned improvements so please do let us know what you think of the proposals – contact details are on the back page of the Newsletter. Owners of graves in close proximity to any of the proposed works will, of course be consulted individually.

## Cranleigh Village Hospital

The Parish Council fully supports bringing improved services to Cranleigh and has been pleased to work in partnership with Cranleigh Village Hospital Trust (CVHT) on the proposed new health facility for Cranleigh. We extend our congratulations to CVHT on their success in securing this significant opportunity for our community.

In light of the good news that NHS Surrey has agreed to develop the business case for the redevelopment of the Health centre on the existing health centre site; that the existing Cranleigh Village Hospital will be retained to provide the location for the GP's for the duration of the work on the Health Centre development and that CVHT will be allowed, in its absolute discretion, to build a new health facility on its Knowle Lane site, we revisited the land exchange agreement at an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council on 8th July when the exchange was agreed in principle subject to additional conditions being put into the agreement indicating that should the development not take place within five years, the land should revert back to the Parish Council. The Council also hopes that a minimum of 6 to 8 beds will be commissioned for local people exclusive of any requirement that may arise from the Royal Surrey County Hospital.



## Emergency Plan

Have you ever thought what might happen in Cranleigh if there were a major flood or a similar large scale emergency? Whilst such emergencies are exceedingly uncommon, they could be devastating and so many Government agencies are obliged to be prepared to respond.

We recently reviewed our Emergency Plan, launched originally in 2008. Parish Councils do not have a duty to plan or advise on Contingency planning for Civil Protection, however, the aim of our

Emergency Plan is to give guidance on an initial response should Cranleigh ever have to deal with an emergency incident. In essence we want to be in a position to support our community until the relevant emergency services and statutory bodies arrive to help. Initially, we worked with Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council to provide a document which contained basic information relevant to Cranleigh. This may be useful to anyone who may be involved in an emergency situation. For example there is a list of local resources, human skills, materials and useful premises. Along with the list of resources is a simple cascade system whereby the Emergency co-ordinators can pass information to all of the councillors or to any members of the community who wish to be included and receive information back so that there is a known and understood method of communicating between the Parish Council and other bodies. Both Waverley and Surrey hold this information and a copy has been lodged with the local Police. Waverley Borough Council are currently promoting an Emergency Plan for every council in the borough.

In May we received a telephone call from Waverley Borough Council informing us that it was likely that there would be severe, heavy rain overnight that may cause Cranleigh to flood. We put our Emergency Plan into action and alerted those who may be called upon to provide assistance with sandbags. Whilst we did have heavy rain, precautionary clearance of the trash screens undertaken by Waverley and the Environment Agency on the culverts along Ewhurst Road ensured that the additional water flowed safely out to the river Wey, and so the following morning all was well, however, should there have been a problem we would have been able to respond quickly and given the best assistance we could to the people who were most in need.

If you are interested in the Emergency Plan a copy is available on our website [www.cranleighpc.org](http://www.cranleighpc.org).

If you wish to volunteer to help in an emergency or wish to have your name added to a skills list please contact us and let us know. We need you to help us to make this work.

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## Does Cranleigh want local services – provided locally?

We have been continuing our discussions with Waverley Borough Council about the possibility of taking over responsibility for some of our local services in the hope that with continuing financial restraints being put on Borough Councils, we may be able to continue to deliver some of the services that our local community currently enjoy or even improve on the services for the same financial outlay.

The main topic of the discussions so far has been the public toilets in Cranleigh. There are two sets of public toilets, one on Village Way and the other on the Common. Currently both sets open from 8am to 8pm daily, but due to financial restraints, Waverley will close the toilets on the Common completely during the six autumn/winter months. Of course as finances are continually squeezed there is no guarantee that Waverley will not reduce the service further.

Although discussions are in the early stages and there have been no decisions made, it is already clear that in order to provide the existing level of service locally (including the closure of the toilets on the Common for six months of the year), there would need to be a significant increase made to the annual precept over the next two to three years to cover this, possibly up to £5 per annum ultimately. This would be before any other likely increases that may have to be levied as Waverley have already indicated that it is likely to reduce the compensatory grant for Recreation and we have already taken a hard financial hit because of this during the last two years.

We need to understand what our community feels about this. If anyone has any constructive thoughts or ideas about this please let us know.

**CRANLEIGH VILLAGE HALL**  
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE



**Weddings - Fayres - Dances**  
**Private Parties - Concerts**  
**Jumble Sales - Exhibitions**  
**Plays - Commercial Sales**  
**Meetings - Indoor Sports**

For further information / bookings  
please telephone  
**01483 272311**

## Cranleigh Village Hall

Traditionally, Cranleigh Village Hall has closed for public use for the month of August. This enables us to undertake any routine maintenance work and any special projects that are planned. This year, the area behind the stage (including the dressing rooms) will be decorated and some of the rooms deep cleaned.

There is increasing interest in using the Hall for stage and choral productions but it also makes an ideal venue for wedding receptions, private parties, meetings and exhibitions.

If you are interested in hiring the Hall please contact the Parish Council office for rates and to arrange viewing the facilities on offer at the Village Hall.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER** 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](mailto:clerk@cranleighpc.org).



## Parking at Snoxhall Fields



The small car park at Snoxhall Fields is intended for those who use the recreation fields and the Play Park only. Those using the car park should do so safely and considerately.

We have had several incidents over the past few months of people parking in the car park exit, parking on the Down's Link and of two cars even ending up in the ditch!



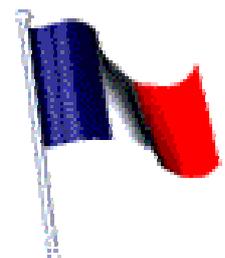
## Twinning news



In May, Cllr Brian Cheesman represented the Parish Council at the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vallendar Town Twinning celebrations in Germany. Cranleigh has been presented with a signed and framed twinning document which will be displayed in the Council Chamber at the Parish Council Offices on Village Way and an engraved, commemorative glass vase.



In July Members of the Cranleigh, Semur en Auxois Twinning Association welcomed around twenty five people, including several children from our French twinned town Semur en Auxois.



## Parish Councillor vacancy

### Do you feel you could make a difference to your community?

Cranleigh Parish Council currently has a vacant post and is looking for a suitable candidate to co-opt.

Parish Councils get involved in all aspects of life within the parish and represent the needs of the whole electorate. Cranleigh Parish Council is a proactive Quality Council which aims to ensure that **Cranleigh is and will continue to be, a vibrant place in which to live, work and play.**

If you are interested contact the Clerk to the Parish Council for more details or write in giving details of what you can bring to the role.

## Litter news

The spring litter pick held on 17th April proved very successful and we are very grateful to the willing and enthusiastic volunteers who helped us collect the more litter than ever before.



We would also like to thank the members of the community who quietly collect litter throughout the year, especially members of the Cranfold Job Seekers Club and the students from Cranleigh School.

Litter continues to be one of the plagues of modern society and we recognise that we must continue our quest. The date for the autumn litter pick will be announced soon so keep an eye out for it on our notice board at the rear of the Village Hall.

## Public Council meetings – come and see how your local council works

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 16th September 2010,  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 and  
Thursday 18th November 2010.

The next Planning meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday 31st August 2010,  
Monday 20th September 2010 and  
Monday 11th October 2010.

The next Village Hall Committee meeting is on Thursday 14th October. The next Cemetery Committee meeting is on Thursday 7th October and the next Finance meeting is on Tuesday 26th October 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](http://www.cranleighpc.org) which is linked to the Cranleigh Village website.

Larger text versions are available on request - contact 01483 272311

Editor – Pauline Whitehead FdA Community Engagement and Governance MILCM, Clerk to the Council.  
Photographic credit – Pauline Whitehead FdA Community Engagement and Governance 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](http://www.cranleighpc.org). A copy is displayed on the Parish Notice Board.



## List of useful Contacts

Cranleigh Initiative Co-ordinator -  
Emma Dawson 01483 548624

Cranleigh Parish Council  
Telephone 01483 272311  
Website:- [www.cranleighpc.org](http://www.cranleighpc.org)

Graffiti Hotline  
Telephone 01483 523425  
Website:- [GraffitiHotline.co.uk](http://GraffitiHotline.co.uk)

Surrey Police  
Telephone - 08451 252222 (Emergencies 999)  
Website: [www.surrey.police.uk](http://www.surrey.police.uk)

Surrey County Council – General Enquiries  
Telephone - 08456 009009  
Website:- [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

Waverley Borough Council  
The Burys, Godalming, GU7 1HR  
Telephone - 01483 523333  
Website:- [www.waverley.gov.uk](http://www.waverley.gov.uk)

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

| Your Parish Councillors                     |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>CRANLEIGH EAST</b>                       |              |
| Cllr Brian Cheesman<br><i>VICE CHAIRMAN</i> | 01483 273293 |
| Cllr Mrs Jean Dodd                          | 01483 278184 |
| Cllr David Gallacher                        | 01483 280835 |
| Cllr Mrs Rosemary Hurtley                   | 01483 272052 |
| Cllr Ken Reed                               | 01483 271896 |
| <b>CRANLEIGH WEST</b>                       |              |
| Cllr John Bainbridge                        | 01483 275949 |
| Cllr Dr Vivienne Dawes                      | 01483 272017 |
| Cllr Brian Ellis<br><i>CHAIRMAN</i>         | 01483 272929 |
| Cllr Mrs Patricia Ellis                     | 01483 272929 |
| <b>CRANLEIGH NORTH</b>                      |              |
| Cllr Mary Forszewski                        | 01483 273020 |
| <b>ELMBRIDGE</b>                            |              |
| Vacant                                      |              |
| <b>CRANLEIGH RURAL</b>                      |              |
| Cllr Brian Arendell                         | 01483 273204 |

## 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 at Snoxhall
- Cranleigh Official Guide
- Dewlands Lane Cemetery
- Grants – local and capital grants only
- High Street Flowerbeds
- Notice Boards in Cranleigh
- 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
- Commons
- Council Tax Enquiries
- Electoral Registration
- Gypsies and Travellers
- Housing/ Homelessness
- Leisure Centres
- Licensing
- Noise Pollution
- Pest Control
- Planning
- Queensway and Lashmere Playgrounds/ Skate Park
- Recycling/ Refuse/Special Collections
- Street Cleaning/ Litter/ Public Toilets
- Taxi/Private Hire Licensing

### Surrey County Council

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