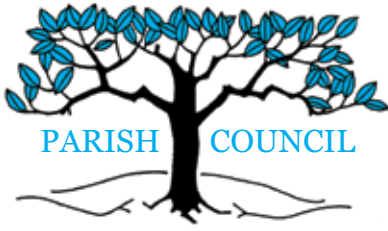


WOLDINGHAM



NEWSLETTER

www.woldingham.com

MAY 2007

Parish Councillors:

Jill Meekings, *Chairman*
(email: jill@meekings.co.uk)

Bobby Johnson, *Vice chairman*

Michael Batterbury
Rodney Fuller
Jeff Jeffery
Sally Marks
Julie Moylan
Colin Packington
Bill Williams

Parish Clerk: Karen Newman
(email: parish.clerk@woldingham.com)

See *Woldingham Directory* for full contact details.

Other Useful Contacts:

Local District Councillor:
Richard Butcher (tel:652275)

Local County Councillor:
Sally Marks
(email: sally.marks@surreycc.gov.uk)

Police Community Support Officer: Clive Harris-Ross
(voicemail: 01483 482111 + 10595)
(email: harris-ross@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

CHAIRMAN'S GREETINGS

Spring is here and reminds us what a beautiful place Woldingham is. However, it is not only the countryside that makes me appreciate how lucky we are to live here but it is our fellow neighbours. We are a village generous in spirit. Look at the volunteer efforts that go to maintaining our local woods and arranging events such as the eagerly awaited Village Day. Also, we have enthusiastic supporters for all our village events.

Thank you to everyone – you are what makes Woldingham different!

J. Meekings

WOLDINGHAM DAY APPROACHES!

Saturday 14 July is going to be a day to remember - filled with activities and displays to show just what a village and its residents can put together!

This is a Parish Council initiative put to the village to organise and what a response! Using the Green, the Club, Village Hall, Scout Hut, St. Paul's, the Tennis Club, the Crescent and any other spots we can find, the Village will be a hive of activity from mid morning onwards.

Joining our Horticultural Society Summer Show, we have a Fun Run for all ages, a Tea Cup ride, History exhibition, Craft Fair, Flower Festival, Classic cars, Birds of Prey, Dog show, Balloon Race, Paragliding experience, Tug of War etc. etc. Entertainment includes a Big Band, Jazz dancers, Martial Arts, a Magic show, and ...more! Refreshments include a BBQ and Spit roast plus a beer and Pimms tent.

To make this day as safe as

possible, some roads through the village centre will be closed to THROUGH TRAFFIC only (i.e. access to homes, Crescent shops as usual). Contact me for more details (334677).

J. Moylan

SAT. NAV. PROBLEMS

Are you frustrated when Sat Nav sends you, and others, down totally unsuitable village roads? Did you know you can do something about it?

Two of the main software producers allow you to report problems. The Parish Council has reported what it thinks are the major problems but the more residents who do likewise should ensure that more urgency will be put into future software updates.

Contact Navteq www.navteq.com (go to map reader) and Teleatlas www.teleatlas.com (go to support then map feedback) to advise of problems and suggest solutions.

B. Williams



PLANNING NEWS

In 2006 the Parish Council Planning Group examined in detail 96 applications submitted for projects ranging from simple conservatories to major extensions and complete rebuilds. 5 major public appeals were also held with Councillors representing Village interests at each. A new feature in 2006 was the effect of the Licensing Laws coming under TDC's remit resulting in our representation at one major public appeal affecting the village.

The impact of our 2005 Village Design statement (VDS) can be seen in some of the applications received, though sadly not yet in all. It was very gratifying, therefore, to see that at one of the Public Enquires the Inspector referred to our VDS in his determination, stating 'I have placed significant weight upon it in my findings'. At a recent local meeting a Tandridge District Councillor for another parish referred to it as 'The Gold Standard of Design Statements'. We are pleased that the VDS has been adopted as supplementary planning guidance.

We are committed to continue reviewing all planning applications and ensure our VDS standards are implemented whenever possible.

R Johnson

VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS

A number of years ago, many residents supported the public purchase of Marden Woods (including Great Church Wood) which was then dedicated into the ownership of the Woodlands Trust. The woods are now managed professionally under a twenty year plan with an annual review. Out of this initiative, there is a small working party of some fifteen volunteers who assist the Woodland Trust in maintaining the existing and creating new paths within the woods. The volunteers meet monthly and during the past winter months have extended the hazel coppicing in Great Church Wood which hopefully will promote a good crop of blue bells in late April and early May. The group has also cut a new path through the Chaldon Farm common land and completed a hedge laying programme along this - consequently affording a

Lumberjacks



magnificent view northwards down Marden Park valley and all the way to City Docklands. It is now possible to walk from St. Agatha's Church to South Lodge, Marden Park through the interweaving paths without having to use a metalled road and thus connecting the North Downs Way with the bridleways going west.

C Packington

WHY ARE WE POOR AT RECYCLING?

Your Parish Council supports and facilitates recycling efforts in the village. We offer Compost bins for sale regularly and extra Green Boxes and Blue Bags are freely available. It is therefore disappointing to hear in a public meeting that our village is poor at



recycling relative to other areas. We are told that Woldingham residents are noted for placing more glass, paper and tins in the normal weekly refuse collection rather than recycling. This is not only detrimental to our recycling targets but it can be dangerous to refuse collectors who have been injured by inappropriate items in bin bags.

The long drives of many houses do make it difficult for residents to put out their recycling boxes but unless we do try to improve our recycling, we are told that we may have to find other ways to do this e.g. with more large recycling bins around the village which will not be popular with many residents (and still may not change our habits).

We urge you to recycle everything you can. Also, what about starting a campaign to leave all that unnecessary food packaging at the shops? What do you think? Would you support a 'Wrapping-Free Day'? Let me know!

S. Marks

ROAD MAINTENANCE (OR LACK OF)

Our roads suffer from increasing traffic levels and lack of money from Surrey Highways for repairs. We continue to fight for road improvements in the village. However, all residents can bring pressure to get pot holes and other repairs carried out by calling 08456 009 009.

CLOTHING COLLECTIONS

You may have received junk mail, pushed through your letter box, asking for unwanted clothes to be placed outside for collection implying this is for charitable purposes. Please be aware, this is a scam operated by a private company looking to profit from your unwanted goods.

Most residents object to receiving unsolicited mail and do not want our village cluttered

with bags which are often uncollected. Please ignore these requests – if we don't respond, then efforts will go elsewhere.

If you wish to help the needy, please think of your local charity shops.

VILLAGE IN BLOOM

We strive to maintain the general upkeep and beauty of the village. Current initiatives that spring to mind are bulb planting and maintenance of the Crescent rose beds and station flowerbed, both by the Horticultural Society, and the litter pick days organised by the Parish Council.

It is now suggested we expand our efforts and join the 'Britain in Bloom' schemes with the ultimate aim of making Woldingham even better. This requires planning and involving a wider section of the community. Do you think it a good idea? Would you like to be involved? Let us know.

FINANCES

This year, 2006/07, the Parish Council was pleased to support the following with grants totalling £2,250:

St. Agatha's Churchyard	£1,000
Craigmyle Glebe	£500
Garden Village	£200
Horticultural Society	£300
Woldingham 123 Club	£250

We welcome 2007/08 grant applications from any village organisation which should be made in writing to the Parish Clerk.

The full accounts for 2006/07 will be available, and open for discussion, at the annual Parish meeting on Thursday 24 May 2007. The precept for 2007/08 has been set at £20,115 - a 42.1% decrease on last year's figure of £34,750.



YOUR INVITATION TO OUR

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

7.30 P.M. THURSDAY 24th MAY 2007
WOLDINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Report
2. Parish Councillors' Reports - Residents' questions
3. Report from Surrey County Councillor Sally Marks
4. **Guest Speaker:**
PCSO Clive Harris Ross - 'Opportunist Crime in the Village'
5. **Guest Speaker:**
Dr June Wakefield - 'Local Landscapes'
6. Vote of thanks and close

Refreshments will be served from 7 p.m.

NEWCOMERS' GET TOGETHER 2007

Have you moved to the village and not been to a Newcomers' Welcome Gathering? Invitations are now being prepared for the next get-together. To make sure you are on the list, please call Margaret (653014) or Rosemary (653218). We look forward to welcoming you!

COLD CALLING

Surrey seems to be a magnet for 'uninvited workmen' and the elderly are particularly vulnerable and targeted by smooth talking rogue traders, whose work is frequently of poor quality and extortionately priced.

We remind residents - Always say 'No' to cold callers and never

let anyone start immediate work so you can get other quotations first. Surrey Trading Standards operate a "Rapid Action Team" that responds immediately when householders get into difficulties with cold calling traders. Call 08454 04 05 06 for help and advice.

BIGGIN HILL

Proposals to expand Biggin Hill continue, covering additional flights and associated activities. The last application in February was for a 100 bedroom hotel which was rejected after very strong local representation.

Many residents are concerned by the potential adverse impact on Woldingham by such expansion. The Parish Council

continues therefore to support Flightpath, the action group, representing local interests.

Ring 01959 578580 to report low-flying aircraft.

M. Batterbury

Dates for your Diary:

Thurs May 24 Annual Parish Meeting 7.30 village hall

Sat 14 July Woldingham Day

Sat October 27 Autumn Litter Pick Village Green

Parish Council Meetings:

Village Hall 7.30 except July, Oct (Garden Village Peace Hut)

May 31 *

June 28

July 26 *

August 30

Sept 27 *

Oct 25

*preceded by Community Police Action Group (7pm)