

WOLDINGHAM



NEWSLETTER

www.woldingham.com

NOVEMBER 2006

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)
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CHAIRMAN'S GREETINGS

As we get to the end of the year, my thoughts turn to what the Parish Council (PC) has achieved over the year and what we can do in 2007. This is important as we have to finalise our 2007/08 budget. Much of our work is routine but we also believe we have an important role in helping to bring our community together. We are therefore initiating 2 events which we hope will be welcomed and supported by the village – lighting of our Christmas lights including some carol singing on 15th December and a Village Day planned for 14th July 2007. Put the dates in your diary now!

Hopefully you are aware that we continually strive to reflect your opinions in all we do and informal consultation takes place whenever we meet up with residents. However, we would appreciate more feedback on any village matter particularly from new residents.

Finally, on behalf of all councillors, I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy, successful and peaceful 2007.

J. Meekings

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT THE CRESCENT ON FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 6PM

Our Woldingham Christmas lights will be turned on followed by carol singing. The shops will be open and there will be mulled wine, mince pies and hot chocolate available. Our thanks go to the Crescent traders for kindly sponsoring this event.

COME AND ENJOY!





POST OFFICE RE-OPENING

By the time you read this, our post office will have reopened. Kirit Desai has been a Postmaster for many years and will be able to answer any of your queries about the services offered. I did ask him for a list of services but under Post Office regulations, he is not allowed to advertise. So from me, the key products are:-

- Postal services of any kind;
- Card account for pensions and benefits;
- Car and driver licensing services;
- Passport and other forms;
- Travel insurance and Foreign Currency;
- Other Financial services including National Savings and investment products;
- Bill payments and other Banking services plus phone services

Don't forget, an important, indispensable service is that the post office is a cash point for most major banks.

We are lucky to see a post office re-opening against the national trend. So please support it, save petrol, go green and use The Crescent.

J. Jeffery

IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERS

It was a former resident of the village who informed me on one occasion that he believed we possessed more than thirty separate organisations run voluntarily within our community. They range from personal help, such as 'car transportation from home to hospital' to those of an international flavour e.g. Action Aid lunches and others. I did not see the full list of these organisations, but a casual thought might immediately raise the name of 'The Glebe' with its many separate sports interests for the very young through to the quite mature. Dare I name just a few more, Scouts, Guides, Players, Village Hall, Village Club, Parochial Church Council, the Woldingham Association and Woldingham Parish Council etc. etc. The litter pick carried

out twice a year depends on volunteers. My point is that it is clear that a great many residents of this village take part and offer their time freely to promote an active community which serves our village so well. It is also quite inspirational that so many individuals take part from one week to the next throughout the year. Thank you all for your contributions – we appreciate every effort made and to those of you hovering on the fringe – come and join us, you will be very welcome!

C Packington

WOLDINGHAM VILLAGE DAY

With winter approaching it is difficult to think ahead to next summer, but plans are afoot to organise a great event for our Village. Something that could become an annual event! The date for your diary is Saturday



14th July and good weather is being booked! We are hoping to bring together many different village groups and organisations to ensure the day will have something for everyone. Our priority is plan a FUN day and ideas include games, a village fete, music, picnic, maybe an exhibition or two??? This is an event for the whole village so if you have any ideas or would like to be involved in the organising/running then please contact any of your parish councillors.

J. Moylan



NEW ROAD SPEEDS ARE COMING!!

After years of campaigning we are delighted to report that there are to be major speed reductions in the village. Following the hard work by the village 'Roads Group', comprised of residents ably lead by Jeff Jeffery, the suggested revised speed limits were accepted by Surrey Police. Now Surrey Highways have formally decided to change the current limits. The proposed changes have to be formally advertised, adjacent Parish Councils have to be consulted (some of the roads extend into other Parishes) and then the work actually done. We are pushing for these new, lower speed limits to be implemented as fast as possible



but are doubtful that this will happen before next summer. However, at long last the village WILL get speed limits more appropriate to our area.

Our thanks go to all residents who willingly participated in the Roads Group.

Details can be found on the SCC website – a link is provided on www.woldingham.com

S. Marks /J. Jeffery

VILLAGE PROJECTS

The PC has some specific responsibilities particularly on planning and highways (including footpaths) but we like to focus our work on projects that benefit the community. In this respect, we would like your help as we receive little feedback on what these projects should be. The 2002 Woldingham Appraisal highlighted some areas of concern which we have focused on over the years. Now, we would like to update our list. Do you have a wish list of things

that would improve Woldingham life and you would like the PC to take forward over the next year or so? Then let us know.

This is your chance to influence the future of our village and the way it could change, hopefully for the better. So don't be shy, contact our clerk with your proposals and get others to also write in. Remember the more people who support a proposal the more likely it is to be accepted as something worthwhile to progress. We intend to publish a wish list based on your suggestions in due course.

B. Williams

CRESCENT SECURITY

The police advise that criminal activity is moving into those areas considered less secure. The PC is therefore considering the merits of installing a CCTV system in the Crescent to improve the overall security of the village. Please let us know what you think.

J. Meekings

VILLAGE PARKING PROBLEMS

Many residents have been complaining about the parking situation around Woodlea and in the Crescent. With the former, we are afraid that there is an accident waiting to happen. Parking now extends on both sides of the road presenting real dangers for children and parents crossing and for other cars passing through the village. We have had discussions with the school and Surrey police has sent a letter to all parents. Please, if you drive to school think of your child's safety and park appropriately.

We carried out a parking survey in the Crescent in September, followed by a meeting with residents and businesses. We are pleased that the outcome was that long term parkers would avoid parking in 3 specific spaces to help customers for our shops and post office. We hope this will avoid us having to consider further parking restrictions.

Do you have a view on these parking issues? If so, please let us know.

J. Meekings





PLANNING

The Parish Council deals with planning applications on a weekly basis and monitors infringements monthly. Councillors look at the application submitted and if an in depth site visit is required approach the householder to make a deeper study. We are lucky to have on the PC two professional surveyors who are able, when necessary, to compute the increase in the overall extension of any application. The Village Design Statement (VDS) now plays a vital part in helping us to make our decisions. Our written comments are passed to TDC who are the ultimate planning authority.

Many applications push at the boundaries of established planning for our village and we continue to strive to stop attempts both to diminish the Green Belt and the beauty of our village.

The PC was represented at the recent informal hearing for Graylings (Camp Road) and will be represented at a further Public Enquiry for Park Mews, Marden Park which, we are advised, will start on 27th February 2007. Further information about all applications and appeals can be found on the TDC website: www.e-access.tandridge.gov.uk

R. Johnson

LITTER PICK



Typical rubbish collected on our litter picks. To all volunteers - thank you so much, your efforts are much appreciated.

MINOR INJURIES UNIT

Did you know that there is a better alternative than visiting A&E if you suffer a minor injury (e.g. cuts & sprains)? Avoid lengthy queues by going to our nearest minor injuries unit at Parkways Health Centre, New Addington.

No appointment is necessary and it is open weekdays from 2 -10 p.m. and weekends from

12 noon to 10 p.m. A good recommendation from residents who have used the service.

THREATENED CLOSURE

Many of you will know that there are ongoing discussions about the provision of adequate civic amenity sites - or 'household dumps'.

The two sites that we have now (Bond Road in Warlingham and Chaldon Road in Caterham on the Hill) are really not large enough to cope with demand especially as we are going to have to hugely increase our recycling rates to comply with challenging targets set by Government and the EU.

Currently a couple of alternative sites are being considered BUT neither of the existing sites will be closed until or unless alternative and acceptable sites are found and 'up and running'.

S. Marks

ROAD CLOSURES

Chalkpit Lane will be closed for 18 weeks from 27th November for water mains work. Also the A22 from **Wapses Lodge** to the M25 will be closed from 20:00 Friday 19th Jan to 05:00 Monday 22nd Jan and again from 20:00 Friday 16th Feb to 05:00 Saturday 17th Feb - traffic will be diverted via the A23 and A25.

Dates for your Diary:

Friday December 15th (6 p.m.)
Christmas celebrations

2007

April 28th Litter Pick, Village Green 10.00 am

July 14th Village Day

Parish Council meetings:

Jan 25th*

Feb 22nd

Mar 29th*

Apr 26th

*preceded by Community Police Action Group (7pm)