

WOLDINGHAM



NEWSLETTER

www.woldingham.com

APRIL 2008

Parish Councillors:

Bobby Johnson, *Chairman*
(email: pandbjohnson
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Michael Batterbury
Rodney Fuller
Jeff Jeffery
Sally Marks
Julie Moylan
Colin Packington
Bill Williams

Parish Clerk: Karen Newman
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*See Woldingham Directory for
full contact details.*

Other Useful Contacts:

Local District Councillor:
Richard Butcher (tel:652275)

Local County Councillor:
Sally Marks
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*Police Community Support
Officer:* Clive Harris-Ross
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A TRIBUTE TO JILL MEEKINGS

The re-introduction of the Parish Council occurred in Millennium Year when nine councillors were elected to sit on the Council. Jill was one of the 'newly elected' and has served on the Council for almost eight years, being re-elected uncontested in 2004.

During these years Jill has worked tirelessly for the good of the Village. She became Vice Chairman from 2001 until May 2005 when she was elected Chairman, a position she held for three years.

As well as her work for the Village she has supported Breakthrough, the breast cancer research charity, and has helped raise considerable sums of money. Her last fund raising venture, last December, was to promote an evening's entertainment given by a look-alike Rod Stewart!!

Jill has bravely fought her illness during these past two years, greatly supported by her husband Greg and children Kiran and James. She has been an inspiration to us all and she will be much missed in many aspects of Village life.

Bobby Johnson, Chairman



photo courtesy of Woldingham Magazine

The Newly Elected Parish Council

will hold the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

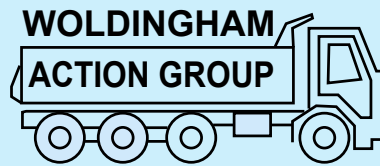
in

**The Village Hall on Thursday May 8th
7.00 pm for 7.30 pm**

All residents are invited to attend to meet your new Councillors and to take part in the meeting.

The Guest Speaker is Ray Watson of Flight Path who will talk on the threats to our village from potential development at Biggin Hill Airport

REFRESHMENTS & WINE WILL BE SERVED



JOIN THE PETITION!

In December last year a joint meeting between the Parish Council and the Woldingham Association was convened to discuss the Quarry in Chalk Pit Lane. As many of you know the outcome was a meeting planned in the Village Hall to get a consensus of opinion and backing to set up a fighting fund. The fund is to be used to employ professional people, if necessary. Unanimously it was agreed that Woldingham Village would fight to stop 30 ton lorries coming onto the Ridge either by means of a haul road or a one way system.

Advice has already been sought from Indigo Planning Ltd. when it was recommended that the Group commence preparing a full documentation library regarding the quarry. Further recommendations were to appoint both transport and landscape consultants when (if) an application by the quarry owners is lodged with Surrey.

Recently the focus has shifted to pressure being brought to bear on establishing a one way system up Chalkpit Lane. This in no way helps the residents of Woldingham and also results in the loss of our 'convenient' route to Oxted. A petition of protest against this idea has therefore been actioned involving not only ourselves but we hope neighbouring Parishes who could also be affected by this initiative. The petition is to be lodged with a member of the Surrey County Council's Tandridge Local Committee before the extraordinary meeting of this Committee on May 7th.

Have you signed?? It's available for you at Woldingham Post Office Counter.

Bobby Johnson

SUMMER PICNIC ON THE GLEBE

This year it has been decided to hold a Village Picnic on the Glebe, on Sunday July 20th from 12.30.

Unlike the Woldingham Day held last year, the plan for this summer is very simple but expected to be most enjoyable!

Bring a Picnic (Posh or not). Family, friends and neighbours can come together to enjoy a summers day, with the music of the Oxted Band drifting through the air (sponsored by the Parish Council).

More details will follow in the coming months, but in the meantime, save the date in your Diary!

Julie Moylan

HOUSEHOLD DEBRIS - YOU HAVE A DUTY OF CARE

Did you know that as householders we all have a Duty of Care to ensure that debris arising from our domestic building works is taken away either by us, as the "producer", or by a Registered Waste Carrier?

Well, the Environmental Protection Act states that we do! The primary responsibility lies with the "producer" of the waste, so if we have a DIY job in hand, then it is our responsibility -but if we engage a contractor he may remove waste if a Registered Waste Carrier but if not, then both he (and probably you as well) will be committing an offence. Better to use a skip!

photo courtesy of Woldingham Magazine



A Registered Waste Carrier will not only show you his Registration card and give his Registration number but will also give you a signed Transfer Note indicating the nature of the material he has collected and where it will be taken. For further help and advice ring 08708 506506 and ask for a Waste Carrier Validation check. You can also check on line at www.Environment-Agency.Gov.UK

Michael Batterbury



HELP FREE UP OUR LANES & BYWAYS

LORD (Lorries off Rural Detours) action group has recently had meetings with Surrey CC and will be represented on the county Traffic Management Board which amongst other things will "research and find best practice employed by a county for enforcing and reporting HGV's that infringe weight and width restrictions on rural/minor roads which can lead to police prosecution and reporting to VOSA (Vehicle and Operator Standards Agency)". If you have any evidence therefore of any particular HGV or haulage company regularly ignoring weight or width restriction limits on roads within our Parish then you can report the detail of the incident to Mr. P. JELFFS at the LORD action group via forms enclosed with this Newsletter. Further copies may be obtained at Fine & Country.

Bill Williams

RESIDENTS CAR PARK FOR WOLDINGHAM STATION?

At the Community Action Forum held on 28th February there was considerable concern expressed over the difficulties of parking at Woldingham Station and a general wish that illegal parking be prevented with a solution found for the future. The Parish Council promised to examine the position on several fronts.

One particular initiative which gained general approval would be to obtain a new Residents car park. With this in mind a way forward has been commenced by the Parish Council who carried out and produced a sketch survey of a one acre plot adjacent to the current TDC car park. Such a plot might accommodate 100 parked cars when properly designed with a new tree barrier along the northern boundary, a new road entry formed with

proper sight lines and ground contours evened out with earth filling. The Landowner has been contacted and has requested a written proposal. We have been in discussion with an independent Land Agent who will advise us of the value of such a piece of land for car parking for Woldingham residents possibly with a Covenant on the land to restrict its use. The land is currently situated within the Green Belt and will require a very persuasive argument to be presented, possibly with assistance from Consultants, after research, to obtain a positive Planning Agreement for very special circumstances to obtain such a consent.

Our Member of Parliament, Peter Ainsworth has been contacted and has promised to follow up our interests in the matter. All these separate processes will require to be continued in the coming months.

Colin Packington

ROADS AND HEDGES

The Parish Council has had many complaints about the overgrowing hedges in the Village causing damage to vehicles when passing. We are making a survey to record the extension of the growth from the original property boundaries and the width restriction that has resulted. In many instances the remedial work has got beyond DIY and will require professional help but unfortunately the longer it is delayed the more difficult and expensive it will become. However if your own boundary hedge is still within your ability to cut it well back – go to it!

Rodney Fuller



photo courtesy of Woldingham Magazine



WOLDINGHAM POST OFFICE

In this current round of Post Office branch closures several in this area face being shut. We have been lucky and our's will not be closed.

We must not be complacent, our branch is not being used as much as it could be and the level of turn over is below that calculated for an area the size of Woldingham. When in the future any further Post Office branch closures are contemplated I am afraid that ours could be vulnerable.

All household bills can be paid there, Gas, Electricity, Telephone and even Income tax. Forget the web and pop along to the Crescent, have security of payment and perhaps meet a friend whom you may not have spoken to for a while.

Don't travel to withdraw money from your bank account, the following banks have facilities at the Post Office: - Barclay, Lloyds, Co-op, Cahoots, Smile and Clydesdale with Barclay, Lloyds and Co-op having paying in facilities.

Foreign currency for travel can be ordered and received the following day.

Insurance is also available

To keep the facility for parcels, postal orders, postage of non-standard letters that most people want close by, please consider other services supplied by the post office.

Jeff Jeffrey

WOODLEA & OXTED SCHOOLS

Children who both go to Woodlea School AND who live in the Woodlea catchment area WILL be eligible for a place at Oxted School for September 2009. This is as a result of lots of background work and not a little lobbying on my behalf at Surrey County Council to ensure that Woodlea remains a 'feeder' school for Oxted.

In Tandridge there is a real pressure on secondary school places and Oxted remains a very popular and oversubscribed school. Warlingham and de Stafford schools are also full this coming year ie: 2008 and are both over-subscribed. Thus it is important that parents understand all the admission criteria and process. There is

particular pressure on Oxted from children in the south of the District thus I am very pleased to have secured Woodlea as a 'feeder' school for another year.

For further information go to www.surrey.gov.uk and follow the links for learning and schools.

Sally Marks

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT

The recent disaster at the Airport gives renewed focus to the problems that may well arise from any increase in flights , and not just from the aspect of noise pollution . The Parish Council continues to support 'Flightpath', whose views were widely reported following the crash. Their Chairman, Ray Watson will be speaking at the Council APM on May 8th.

Bobby Johnson

Dates for your Diary:

- April 26th Litter Pick, Village Green 9.45 a.m.
- May 1st Parish & District Elections
- May 8th Annual Parish Meeting Viillage Hall 7.00 for 7.30p.m.
- July 20th Parish Picnic 12.30 p.m. The Glebe
- Oct 25th Litterpick, Village Green, 9.45 a.m.

Parish Council meetings:

- May 29th* Village Hall
- June 26th Garden Village
- July 31st* Village Hall
- Aug 28th Village Hall
- Sept 25th* Village Hall
- Oct 30th Garden Village
- Nov 27th* Village Hall

*preceded by Community Police Action Group (7pm)