

Witley

Parish Council

January
2006

Issue
Five

U P D A T E

From the Chairman

A new year for your Parish Council begins with preparing budgets for the year ahead.

Last year we focussed on trying to protect Milford Heath and the Burton Pavilion from a never ending stream of vandalism and unacceptable behaviour. The new wooden posts caused quite a stir when they were installed but have proved to be worthwhile in keeping vehicles off the football and cricket pitches. CCTV Cameras installed in December have also been worth every penny and we would like to thank Burton Pavilion Management Committee and Waverley Borough Council for their contributions towards this exercise.

Blackhill Pond is on the agenda — the treatment of invasive weeds has begun. Similarly, we will be clearing out the pond at Robertsons Green and hope to plant a wild flower area alongside

with the help of local residents.

We were approached by Waverley BC to take on the land at Sunnyhill. We have limited budgets for open spaces and always maintain our areas to the highest standards. We therefore needed to look very carefully at this offer before proceeding and hope we can make this a safe and interesting place to be enjoyed by all.

Full Council meets on the last Thursday of every month except August and December. These are open public meetings and we would be very pleased if you would like to attend. If you have a couple of hours to spare each week you may even be tempted to join us!

We hope you have a safe and happy 2006.

*Maxine Gale, Chairman,
Witley Parish Council*

Planning News

Parish Councillors attended

a seminar presented by John Anderson, Development Control and Policy Manager for Waverley Borough Council, aimed at explaining the role of Parish and Town Councils in the new planning system.

In line with Government Policy and Guidance Notes, Waverley is promoting a system of greater community involvement in the Town Planning process and appear keen to be informed of local knowledge and views in respect of individual planning applications.

Parish and Town Councils are also being encouraged to take a more active role in major planning applications by meeting with the developers and providing local input in the pre-application planning process. Waverley is holding a series of training workshops to prepare Councillors to take on this role of greater community involvement.

The Parish Council will be inviting volunteers to help prepare a

Design Statement for the Parish from data compiled from the Parish Plan. This must be prepared by parishioners, not Councillors, in consultation with the Parish, Waverley and Surrey Councils.



It will promote local policies which will form the benchmark against which future planning decisions will be taken and will sit alongside the policies contained in the Waverley Local Plan and Surrey Structure

Plan. It will also reinforce the role of the Parish Council in the new planning system.

It is envisaged that work on the Design Statement will begin in 2006 and last for up to two years, allowing for the very detailed consultation process.

If you are interested in being involved in this exciting new challenge, please contact George Vellam or Brian Groves, Parish Clerk.

*George Vellam,
Chairman of Planning*

Introducing PC Kal Graham

PC 2197 Kal Graham will be taking over Sam Barnett's role while she is on maternity leave. Kal joined Surrey Police in 1997 and has worked in the area since then in a variety of roles, including locally at Haslemere for three years, as a response officer based at Guildford for three years and as a tutor, recently transferring from the Divisional Crime Investigation Team to the present post.

Before joining the police he worked for 10 years in engineering related positions both in the UK and the Far East and is co-founder of the Surrey Police Skydive Team.

Kal has a pragmatic approach to policing issues and expects to deal with residents in a way he would like to be treated, being open, honest and realistic.

During the last few months Kal has been meeting residents and key people in the area, gauging the concerns of the community as well as working on reporting youths for public order offences, inconsiderate riding of motorcycles, removal of dumped vehicles and passing information between agencies to assist with youth disorder, graffiti, minor firestarting and neighbourhood disputes.

Please report any local issues to Kal on:

Graham2197@surrey.pnn.police.uk or call 0845 1252222 to report an incident or crime.

Emergencies should always be reported on 999.

Witley Parish Plan

Thank you for filling in the Questionnaire in July. The Steering Group have been very busy analysing the results and many thanks indeed to them. They all live

in the parish and have volunteered to help. The preliminary Report should be with you now. Steve Dale, Chairman, Witley Plan Steering Group

Spare a thought for the Groundsman

During the winter, equipment has to be serviced, play areas and sports fields need to be weeded and fed, hedges trimmed, noticeboards cleaned and repainted if necessary and the Cemeteries at both Milford and St John's Church have to be looked after. ROSPA inspects our play areas to ensure they comply with safety laws and all the resulting small jobs which they have identified are normally undertaken by the groundsman.

So on a spring morning if you see the groundsman cutting the grass at the sports fields, remember those times during the freezing winter when he was out there, keeping the parish 'up to scratch'.



Dates for your diary

Thursday, 19th April 2006

Annual Parish Meeting
8pm at Burton Pavilion,
Milford Heath

Fri 5th-Sunday 8th May 2006

Funfair
Jubilee Field, Milford

Sunday, 14th May 2006

Annual Spring Walk

Monday, 29th May 2006

Brook Fete
Brook Cricket Ground

Saturday, 10th June 2006

Milford and Villages Family Fete
Jubilee Field,
Milford

Where to find us

Council Office, Milford Village Hall, Portsmouth Road
Milford, GU8 5DS

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am-12.30pm.

Tel: 01483 422044 Fax: 01483 411957

Email: Clerk@Witley-pc.gov.uk **Web: www.witley-pc.gov.uk**

