



**WITLEY
PARISH
COUNCIL**

U P D A T E

May 2009

Issue Twelve

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the May Update from Witley Parish Council.

As many of you know, Witley Parish Council is an elected body in this community serving the villages and hamlets of Witley, Milford, Brook, Enton, Sandhills and Wormley. WPC not only owns and manages many areas of public land within the area but is also a

statutory consultee on planning applications and any development consultations within the Borough. We are not a political body and feel that this is an advantage as we are able to give responses to issues which may affect our parishioners without being tied to party policy. Nor are we a religious body.

The reason for the brief explanation is that there can sometimes be confusion because of the term 'Parish' as this is also a term used by local churches on their newsletters and magazines.



New planting of daffodils at Brook

We could change our name to the Civil Parish of Witley or Witley and Milford Community Council, and there are other alternatives we

could use to avoid further confusion but this would be a costly exercise – new logos, stationery, signs etc., and one which I think inappropriate at this time as your money is better spent looking after and improving the facilities we provide. I will be

continued on page 2 . . .

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putting this to our Full Council for consideration in the near future. Perhaps you would like to let us know if you think 'Parish' causes confusion. I hope you will enjoy reading this issue of Update and find some interesting information about your local community. We

will be at the two local fetes this year in Brook and Milford, so please drop by to meet your Councillors. We look forward to meeting you in person, or you can find details on what we are doing at <http://www.witley-pc.gov.uk>

*Maxine Gale, Chairman,
Witley Parish Council*

HIGHWAYS ISSUES

As the local 'eyes and ears', the Parish Council tries to co-ordinate between County and District Councils on highway related issues.

It may seem long ago, now we are into spring and summer, but few could have avoided the problems we incurred with the snow this winter. The County Council adopted a policy of keeping the main arterial routes open and broadly succeeded in doing this. There were a number of other areas that we noticed became problems and the Parish Council has decided to prepare a co-ordinated emergency travel strategy that we could offer



to the County Council to identify strategic locations that should be targeted for treatment, namely stations, places of employment and schools. If you have any particular areas that you think we should include, please let us know.

You may also have noticed that Witley and Milford Stations have had improvements made to increase the number of car parking spaces available. On-street parking to avoid charges is a continuing problem for which there is now no excuse. The Parish Council is now investigating the possibility of imposing parking restrictions on these roads and our message to

those drivers who continue to avoid parking in the spaces provided is that you are causing local congestion and risking damage to your cars by parking on heavily trafficked roads.

Your views are welcomed on any

similar issues at any time – the feedback we can provide to other Councils is only as good as our communication with parishioners.

*Steve Dale, Chairman,
Planning Committee, WPC*

MILFORD AND WITLEY VILLAGE CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Some 17 years ago the local community nurses asked our local churches for their support in forming a good neighbour scheme to assist those in the area who needed help with small tasks that the statutory services could not provide. As a result, Milford and Witley Village Care was formed, and its volunteers have since provided assistance with errands such as prescription collection, form filling, and local transport for residents in the parish of Witley. The scheme has been very successful and deals with about 150 requests a year at present, with the majority being for transport. Prior to the advent of the Hospital Hoppa Bus, that number was nearer 250. In order to continue to provide this

service, Village Care urgently requires more volunteer helpers who would be prepared to provide transport in their own vehicles once or twice a month. Most trips

are to local health facilities —

doctors, dentists,
chiropractors etc.

Volunteers give their time freely but mileage expenses can be claimed. The commitment to Village Care is a very flexible one and

volunteers are free to decline any request that is

inconvenient.

If you think you could help or you want more information please contact the Village Care help line on 01483 424393 and leave a message, or ring

**Barbara Hewett on
01483 417495 or
Katie Wells on 01483 860969.**

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LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS

Many of you will remember the two small books that were published by the Parish Council almost ten years ago – ‘Witley and Milford in Living Memory’ and ‘The History of Witley, Milford and Surrounding Area’.

These books are now difficult to obtain. The Parish Council no longer has any available, which is a pity because people are always moving into the area and curious about Witley’s fascinating history.

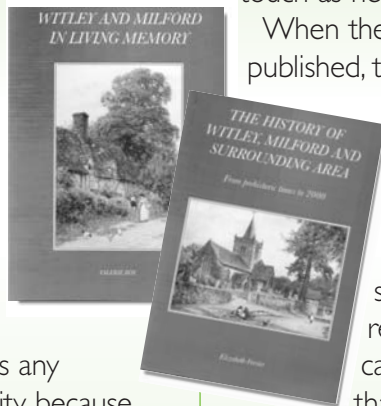
For this reason, with the agreement of the two authors, Valerie Box and Elizabeth Forster, Witley Parish Council has decided to reprint the books with the idea of making them available in good time for Christmas this year. Valerie and Elizabeth are planning to use this opportunity to amend, update and add to the original text – but not to undertake substantial rewrites. They would be very grateful if anyone who has any comments or suggestions for amendment would pass them on as

soon as possible via the Clerk at Witley Parish Council by email or letter (addresses on the back of the newsletter) and they will get in touch as necessary.

When the books were first published, the Parish Council offered charities and some other local groups the opportunity to bulk purchase copies at a significant discount and resell in aid of good causes. Records show that considerable funds were raised in this way.

We plan to repeat the practice this time. Any charities or groups who think they may have a suitable fund raising occasion, for example in the run up to Christmas, can contact the Council now and order copies to be available by a certain date. Similarly, anyone or any group who think they may want copies of either or both books can reserve a copy now and have them delivered hot off the press. The full retail price is likely to be around £7.50 per copy.

Tony Longrigg, Council Lead Member



NEW ALLOTMENTS

The Milford allotments project is moving apace. They will be called Redgate Farm Allotments, after the farm that is still marked on old maps, on the corner of Sandy Lane and Haslemere Road. We are currently clearing the debris, marking them out and deciding how to stop the deer and rabbits eating all the produce! We hope to have the first few available by October.

Julie Grist, Chairman, Amenities and Environment Committee

ST JOHN'S CHURCHYARD

Part of the remit of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is the care and maintenance of the

cemetery on the Haslemere Road and the closed graveyard at St John's in Milford village centre. Witley Parish Council became responsible

for this churchyard in June 1977 when councils were given the responsibility for closed churchyards unless they opted out. The Council at that time did not, so the care and maintenance fell to the council.

If you have looked into St John's as you have passed by you may have noticed that for some time there has been a programme of work to reclaim the beauty of this Victorian churchyard. Work started in late summer with some health and

safety tree work on the oak at the rear, the lifting of the crowns and the removal of ivy from the yew trees.



Over the winter we have been fortunate to have the services of the Community Payback Team from the Probation Service

and on weekends a team has worked on the Webb mausoleum. This Victorian memorial had been covered in ivy and brambles for some time but now this has been cleared and all the inscriptions can be read. We hope the team will clean and paint the railings surrounding this in the near future.

*Catherine Maxwell-Miles,
Chairman, Finance and General
Purposes Committee*

Witley Parish Councillors

Milford Ward

Mrs Joy Hicks	01483 427488
Mrs Rosie Lander	01428 683765
Mrs Catherine Maxwell-Miles	01483 429311
<i>(Chairman, Finance and General Purposes Committee)</i>	
Mrs Myra Newnes-Smith	01483 423001
Mrs Joy Nye	01483 414618
Mrs Cynthia Perkins	01428 683066
<i>(Lead member for Enton)</i>	
Mr Patrick Stewart	01428 681586

Witley Ward East

Mrs Christy Crouch	01428 682181
Mr Claudio Del Giudice	01428 682888
<i>(Lead member for Wormley)</i>	
Miss Maxine Gale	01428 683055
<i>(Chairman)</i>	
Mrs Julie Grist	01428 683448
<i>(Chairman, Amenities and Environment Committee)</i>	
Mr Nick Holder	01428 682402
<i>(Lead member for Brook)</i>	
Mr Jack Lee	01428 684853
Mr Tony Longrigg	01428 684925
Mr Nas Kuchimanchi	01483 527956

Witley Ward West

Mr Stephen Dale	01428 681356
<i>(Vice-Chairman; Chairman, Planning Committee)</i>	

Your County and Borough Councillors

Surrey

Cllr Peter Martin **01483 426064**

(Godalming South, Milford and Witley)

Cllr David Harmer **01483 609792**

(Waverley Western Villages)

Waverley

Cllr John Sandy *(Milford)* **01483 429910**

Cllr Keith Webster *(Milford)* **01428 644332**

Cllr Elizabeth Cable *(Witley and Hambledon)* **01428 682640**

Cllr Adam Taylor-Smith *(Witley and Hambledon)* . **01428 681783**

Cllr Nick Holder *(Elstead, Thursley and Brook)* . . . **01428 682402**

Cllr Bryn Morgan *(Elstead, Thursley and Brook)* . . . **01252 790048**

SUNNYHILL PLAY AREA

In my last report from the Sunnyhill Working Party, I said that we were continuing to work with potential donors to raise money for new play equipment for the Sunnyhill Play Area. Exciting news – we have successfully completed our fund-raising, and installation of the new equipment will be finished by the end of May! All the existing equipment will be replaced with the latest designs – this time including items designed for older children as well.

If you want to see the new layout and pictures of the equipment, you can visit the Parish Council website at <http://www.witley-pc@gov.uk>

The major proportion of the funding was provided by the SITA Trust, with contributions from Thames Valley Housing Association, Surrey County Council, Surrey Playing Fields Association and the Rotary Club of Godalming Woolsack. We are very grateful to them all. The firm SMP will be providing and installing the new play area. In installing the equipment we will be taking the greatest care to ensure that appropriate guidelines are observed regarding distance between the play area and neighbouring houses and gardens.

*Tony Longrigg, Chairman,
Sunnyhill Working Party.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



SPRING WALK

We'll meet at the Burton Pavilion car park at 2 p.m. on Sunday May 31st for a walk of about 2½ hours, led by Tree Warden Peter Herring.



We shall start with a look at Blackhill pond and then continue to Milford

Common and back through Oxted Green. The walk will focus on local wildlife, with the emphasis on trees, fungi and the heathland habitat.

Brook Fair
25th May 2009

Milford Fete
13th June 2009

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings of the Full Council are held in the Burton Pavilion, Milford Heath Road, Milford at 8pm on the last Thursday of each month except August and December.

Meetings are open to the public. The building is accessible for people with mobility problems.

Residents wishing to raise any matter with the Council are asked to notify the Council office at least 5 days prior to the meeting.

Circus days
at Jubilee
Field,
Milford

21st May –
25th May 2009



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 Email: clerk@Witley-pc.gov.uk

asst.clerk@Witley-pc.gov.uk **Web: <http://www.witley-pc.gov.uk>**

