

# SHERE PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the villages of Gomshall, Holmbury St Mary, Peaslake, Shere  
and a large part of Abinger Hammer



## ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010

### Chairman's Report

Parish Councils are the first tier of Local Government. Geographically we are the largest Parish in Guildford Borough with a population of 3,500 plus many visitors and school groups.

#### Routine services provided by the Parish Council

- Maintenance and safety management of land and buildings in the Parish which the Council owns or leases (including 4 village centres, 5 play areas, 5 recreational areas and 4 car parks).
- Upkeep of bus shelters, seats, notice boards and village signs.
- Operation of the public toilets in Shere.
- Residents' helpline and tourist information.
- Statutory consultee on planning applications in the Parish.
- Liaison with other authorities e.g. Police, Guildford Borough Council and Surrey County Council.
- Consultee on a whole range of policy documents from other authorities.

In addition various projects are carried out as and when required.

#### Car Park

I am honoured to be the Chairman who can say work on the long awaited car park has now commenced. The project should be completed in June/July when the Parish Council will take

over the management of the free car park. The Police have said that they will take firm action against drivers who continue to park illegally, dangerously or inconsiderately. Our very sincere thanks go to Hon. Alderman Keith Childs for many years of unwavering determination in seeing the car park built.

#### Speed Watch

The Community Speedwatch scheme is successfully operating in Holmbury St. Mary and Peaslake. The Parish Council has purchased a second set of equipment so that the scheme can be extended to Shere and Gomshall and volunteers will be trained over the next couple of months. The Speedwatch scheme will hopefully result in reduced speeds and a safer environment in our villages. If anyone is interested in training as a volunteer please contact the Parish Clerk.

#### Shere War Memorial

Work was completed on the War Memorial surrounds in Shere using local expertise and funding from film money and grant aid.



## Potholes

There is little improvement from last year, despite the Parish Council having made representations to Surrey County Council. The ongoing problems with the state of Surrey's roads are a constant cause for concern, but there seems to be little hope of major improvement due to lack of funding.

## Rights of Way

The Parish Council's claim for a modification to the public rights of way map to include a path that had been closed off in Holmbury St Mary was finally successful. In Shere, the Parish Council is still continuing the battle to persuade Surrey County Council to close London Lane to traffic, as this is a major contributor to flooding in the village.

## Playgrounds

The phasing out of bark and replacement with rubberised safety surface has continued. The Millennium Play Area on Goose Green in Gomshall was completed in 2009 and has been very well received. This year the Shere play area has recently been reopened and new safety surfacing is planned for Peaslake and Holmbury St Mary.

Shere Playground



## School Admissions

With the deciding criterion now based on straight-line distance, rural children face a major disadvantage. In an attempt to understand the problem in a wider context, the Parish Council circulated a questionnaire to other rural parishes and will review the results in due course.

## Land Ownership Issues – Holmbury St Mary

Due to complications in other areas of the County, legal agreements are still awaited to enable the Parish Council to take over ownership of various parcels of land from Surrey County Council. In addition the transfer of Felday Chapel to the Parish Council has been delayed due to Land Registry problems.

## Upper Street Shere

Upper Street is a narrow road and there are frequent accidents due to excess speed. For many years the Parish Council has been pressing Surrey County Council for traffic calming measures, including trialling build-outs. During last Summer we trialled two temporary build-outs at the lower end of Upper Street, one of which was a condition of the car park planning permission. The results of a speed survey showed a reduction of only **1mph**. The Parish Council then decided that the higher chicane would not be built, but the build-out adjacent to the car park would have to go ahead as it was a planning requirement for the car park. The Parish Council will continue to consider other ways to reduce speed.

## Thanks to:-

- Councillors and the Parish Clerk for their hard work and dedication
- Borough Councillors Roy Hogben and David Wright and Surrey County Councillor Keith Taylor for their regular attendance at meetings
- David Colebrook for ongoing repairs to the playing field in Peaslake
- Judy Colebrook for maintaining the flower tubs in Peaslake
- Christine Gorsuch (and team) and Graham Eusden for caring for the Shere ducks
- Kenny Madgwick, Old Fire Station caretaker
- Malcolm Foster, internal auditor
- Brian Hilsdon and Graham Rapley, the Council contractors.

## Finance 2009/10 and Plans for 2010/2011

The Precept for 2009/10 was £111,618 equivalent to £58.23 per annum for a band D property. Most of this is allocated for all the regular maintenance and services that the Parish Council carried out which are mentioned earlier plus staffing, legal, professional and insurance costs. However, the Council's total income for the year was actually £191,950.96 which included approximately £55,000 in grant aid from Guildford Borough Council together with small amounts from other sources. Our expenditure during the year has therefore been £198,706 as many projects have been completed.

### Donations were awarded to

Gomshall Veterans' Club	250.00
Surrey Air Ambulance	250.00
Mobile Physiotherapy	600.00
Holmbury Emergency Help	150.00
Wasp Bus	1,000.00
Crimestoppers	35.00
Hurtwood Control	800.00
Sita (for Shere Rec)	1,000.00
Shere Museum	646.00
Shere Village Hall	1,000.00
Holmbury Village Hall	1,000.00
Shere Surgery (use of car park at weekends)	400.00

Shere, Peaslake & Holmbury St. Mary Churches – 50% of the cost of maintaining the churchyards & burial grounds.

The Precept for 2010/11 is £115,919 (£59.75 per Band D property). The extra amount this year is entirely due to the loss of bank interest – just over £1.50 a year increase for a Band D property. Projects for the coming year include

improving the drainage in the field adjacent to Shere Swimming Pool and continuing to upgrade the safety surfaces in the play areas. Also £2,000 towards the long term maintenance of Tanyard Hall.

### Tanyard Hall

**Wonderful venue for parties, meetings, functions, classes.**



Residents are reminded that Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall, is a beautifully beamed 15<sup>th</sup> Century building. It is owned by the Parish Council and is available for hire for functions, meetings, classes etc. It is especially ideal for children's parties or gatherings of friends or family. Please contact the Parish Council office (01483 203431) to book or view the building.

Candace Brooke - Chairman up to 31.3.2010

(Chairman from 31.3.2010: Roger Newman)

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## Shere Parish Council

At least 9 full Council Meetings are held each year. In addition to the Council meetings many other meetings are held during the year for the Council's Finance, Health & Safety, Parish Maintenance, Planning, Playgrounds and Tanyard Hall Committees.

All Council/Committee meetings are open to the public and there is an adjournment during each meeting to enable members of the public to ask questions or to address the Council. Meetings are held in the Council offices at Tanyard Hall. Dates and times of these meetings are published on the village notice boards and on the Council website. A short report of each Council meeting is published in the Parish magazines and the full Minutes of all recent Council and Committee meetings are available on the Council website together with the contact details of individual councillors.

## How to contact Shere Parish Council for assistance or information:

Council Office: Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall, GU5 9LF  
Telephone 01483 203431  
Email – [clerk2009@ShereParishCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk2009@ShereParishCouncil.gov.uk) [www.ShereParishCouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ShereParishCouncil.gov.uk)  
Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Lesley Childs

Please note that all correspondence for the Council should be sent to the Clerk, Mrs. Lesley Childs, at Tanyard Hall.

## Councillors

### North Ward (Shere & Gomshall)

#### **Roger Newman, (Chairman)**

18 Leather Lane, Gomshall GU5 9NB  
(01483 205429, [roger.newman45@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:roger.newman45@yahoo.co.uk))

#### **Candace Brooke, (Vice Chairman)**

The Old Netley Mill, Shere Road, Gomshall, GU5 9HA  
(01483 203267, [Candace@sonofthebear.com](mailto:Candace@sonofthebear.com))

#### **Roy Davey,**

Fernside, Upper Street, Shere, GU5 9JE  
(01483 202443, [roymdavey@rmplc.co.uk](mailto:roymdavey@rmplc.co.uk))

#### **David Hall,**

Pantrys, The Square, Shere GU5 9HE  
(01483 229122, [Davidhall@culpanandhallconsulting.com](mailto:Davidhall@culpanandhallconsulting.com))

#### **James Hutton,**

Netley House, Shere Road, Gomshall, GU5 9QA (01483 203800, [ei@handr.co.uk](mailto:ei@handr.co.uk))

#### **Sally Nielson,**

21 Station Road, Gomshall, GU5 9LQ  
(01483 209526, [simonandsally@gmail.com](mailto:simonandsally@gmail.com))

### South East Ward (Holmbury St. Mary & a large part of Abinger Hammer)

#### **Bob Andrews,**

Ansells Cottage, Pitland Street, Holmbury St. Mary, RH5 6NP  
(01306 730693, [bobaandrews@btinternet.com](mailto:bobaandrews@btinternet.com))

#### **Christopher Carlisle,**

Upfolds house, Holmbury Lane, Holmbury St. Mary, RH5 6ND  
(01306 621209) [CCarlisle@savills.com](mailto:CCarlisle@savills.com)

#### **Raymond Smith,**

7 Felday Houses, Holmbury St. Mary, RH5 6NJ  
([Raysmith.Holmbury@envirohistory.waitrose.com](mailto:Raysmith.Holmbury@envirohistory.waitrose.com))

### South West Ward (Peaslake)

#### **Marion Taylor-Cotter,**

9 Fulvens Cottages, Peaslake, GU5 9PG ([marionptc@yahoo.com](mailto:marionptc@yahoo.com))

#### **John Tenner,**

Oak Hill, Hoe Lane, Peaslake, GU5 9SW  
(01306 731783, [JohnLTenner@aol.com](mailto:JohnLTenner@aol.com))

#### **Michael Urban,**

Woodhouse Farm, Rad Lane, Peaslake, GU5 9PB  
(01306 731760 [michael@woodhousefarm.net](mailto:michael@woodhousefarm.net))

#### **Jane Williams,**

Bracken Lodge, Rad Lane, Peaslake, GU5 9PB  
(01306 730484, [knowdough.peaslake@virgin.net](mailto:knowdough.peaslake@virgin.net))