

Parish Magazine – July issue

Sale of part of The Hurtwood

Shere Parish Council has offered to buy the car park at Walking Bottom, Peaslake. (This forms part of one of the various Lots of land that are on the market.) The Parish Council wishes to acquire the car park for the benefit of local residents who have expressed a strong desire and demonstrated need to have additional parking in their village. Access to and egress from the adjoining woodland would be retained for any future owner and users.

Well in Middle Street, Shere

The well and Listed wall that borders Manor Cottage, in Middle Street, Shere, are in need of urgent repair. Part of the problem is that the corner of the wall to the left of the well, as you look at it, has been struck on numerous occasions by lorries and this has caused the well to become very unstable. The whole of the well is now in need of major restoration. The Parish Council would wish to see this important village feature preserved and is looking into what can be done. In the meantime, Surrey Highways have agreed to install cast iron bollards in front of the wall to prevent further damage from lorries.

Parking at Shere Surgery, Gomshall Lane

Users of the surgery will have noticed that the condition of the stretch of road outside the surgery has become very poor indeed. The Parish Council raised this matter with the Practice Manager and one suggestion that came forward was to have parking bays put in along that stretch of the lane. Another was to extend the current inadequate parking area which, like the surgery, was only built to provide services to 4,500 patients, not the 8,000 that are currently on their list. The Parish Council is supportive of extending the car park and is investigating tidying up the road and verge outside the surgery.

Riparian ownership: maintenance of watercourses and associated structures

Although summer is here, it is worth taking a moment to think ahead to the cold and wet winter months. Throughout the parish there is a network of ditches and watercourses which work to prevent flooding. Unfortunately some of these are inadvertently abandoned or forgotten. When this occurs water cannot flow unobstructed and this can lead to flooding.

Many people are unaware that the routine maintenance and upkeep of watercourses is the actual responsibility of the riparian owner. You are a riparian owner if your property or land is on, or very near, a ditch or watercourse. Riparian owners have a duty to keep the ditch or watercourse clear of any obstruction to flow and legal notices can be served on riparian owners to deal with obstructions or lack of maintenance. Common law precedents and statutory provisions have established that individual property owners are not only responsible for the drainage of their own land but for also accepting and dealing with the natural flows from adjoining land. They must also not create or permit an obstruction to that natural flow to occur.

So during the summer, while you are tending your gardens, please check and keep clear any ditches and watercourses, to protect your neighbors from flooding.

Police advice on avoiding shed burglaries

Following reports of more shed burglaries, the police have advised local residents to secure their sheds with padlocks and that shed alarms with a Kitemark can also be used.

Reporting local problems - contact details

- **roads**, including drainage issues, potholes, overhanging trees, uncut verges, lighting, footpaths and bridleways issues - **Surrey County Council** tel: 03456 009009 or www.surreycc.gov.uk, click on **roads and highways**.
- **leaking pipes** - **Thames Water** tel: 0845 920 0888 (free) or www.Thameswater.co.uk.
- **planning** - **Guildford Borough Council** tel: 01483 505050 or www.guildford.gov.uk or email enforcement@guildford.gov.uk.
- **flooding** – refer to the **Environment Agency** website www.environment-agency.gov.uk
- **crime** – ring 999 for real emergencies and 101 to report a crime or look for information on www.surrey.police.uk.

Talk to us

We can help you to have the Parish that you want to live, work and play in. Our meetings are open to the public and there is an opportunity at them for the public to have their say. You can talk to me on 01483 203431 or e-mail me on clerk2009@shereparishcouncil.gov.uk - or speak to your Ward Councillors; details are on web-site: www.shereparishcouncil.gov.uk
The Parish Council's office is at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF. It is open to the public from 10.30am to 12.30pm, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays or at other times, by appointment.

Joy Millett