

Parish Magazine – June 2022 Issue

New Councillor, Penny Tompkins – Councillors and staff would like to welcome Penny Tompkins as the new North Ward Councillor, representing Gomshall and Shere. Penny has lived in Gomshall for over 30 years and her family have lived in the wider parish for over 100 years. As a solicitor, Penny has extensive legal and financial experience and was also a Company Secretary for many years. Recently, in her spare time, Penny has been a trustee of Dorking Society, which runs Dorking Museum, local history group and participates in the discussions regarding planning and other issues in Dorking and the surrounding areas. At the Shere Parish Annual Council Meeting, Penny agreed to also stand on the Planning Committee, General Purposes Committee and to be the council representative for Shere Recreation Ground Association.



The Square, Shere, possible experimental part road closure - An experimental closure of the part of The Square in Shere (narrow side near Hilly's) is being investigated by Surrey County Council (SCC) at a cost to themselves. SCC Councillor B Hughes has requested a plan to show the extent of an experimental closure. Shere Parish Council (SPC) Councillors expressed surprise at the last council meeting when informed, as they were not aware that this was being considered by SCC. SPC's Shere village consultation questionnaire included this idea and although it did have a majority in support, the parish council deferred further consideration, as the cost involved was substantial and could not be currently funded. SPC Councillors stressed that if it went ahead, it would be for community use, was not diverting money from projects elsewhere and did not prevent parking for No.2 The Square. The council awaits to see the plans when produced by SCC.

Charging in Shere Recreation Car Park - The initial response to the council's request to charge visitors in the car park, has been refused by the trustees of the freehold of Shere Recreation Ground and Car Park. Despite the support for charging from the residents of Shere (demonstrated in the recent Shere village public consultation) and approval from Guildford Borough Council, the trustees have had their reservations and would like to investigate financing repairs in an alternative way. The council has asked for another meeting to discuss the issue further and if there is no agreement, the council will carry out a further parish wide consultation, as a prelude to arbitration. The council strongly believes that it is necessary to charge visitors to use the car park, to help pay for the costs that are incurred by the large numbers of people coming to Shere. The council is aware there are some concerns from residents and workers in the village over car park charging and has tried to answer some of those worries, in a FAQ section on the council website.

Jubilee trees – the last tree has been planted in Holmbury St Mary by longstanding Councillor Bob Andrews and former Councillor Elizabeth Andrews. Alan Walters assisted and Councillor Raymond Smith kindly took the photo. The tree has been planted in the field between the play area and Felbury House on Horsham Road. The location of the tree will be uploaded to the Queen's Green Canopy Map <https://queensgreencanopy.org/map-education-hub/qgc-map/#/> later in the year when the site reopens for entries.



Acoustic Cameras – Surrey County Councillor B Hughes is recommending the A25 between Abinger Hammer and Shere, as a pilot of acoustic cameras. These cameras will measure noise and issue tickets to offending vehicles.

Next Council meeting – Thursday 9th June 2022 at Tanyard Hall 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LFAI meetings are open to the public and there is an opportunity at every council meeting for members of the public to address the councillors.

Dates for the meetings can be found on our website - <https://www.shereparishcouncil.gov.uk/meeting-date-diary/>

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