



## Blackheath – Shamley Green – Wonersh Newsletter

Quarterly Civil Parish Council Update – Summer 2014

### PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY – 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2014

The Council was very glad to welcome 45 residents from our three villages to this year's Annual Assembly, held at the Wonersh Memorial Hall. In addition to receiving annual reports from the Parish Council, Wonersh United Charities, the Wonersh community shop and our local Neighbourhood Police team, we also got a first annual update from the Wonersh Woodland Group about their successful, ongoing restoration of Gerald's Wood as a public amenity. This was also the opportunity for electors to raise topical issues of concern with our Councillors from the parish, borough and county who were present. Participants also enjoyed two interesting presentations by representatives of the Surrey Hills Society and Surrey Wildlife Trust about the much-valued and protected sites within our own parish boundaries, followed by refreshments and meeting representatives from many of the local voluntary groups who do so much to enhance the quality of life in our parish. You will find the full minutes and reports on our website at [http://www.wonershparish.org/council\\_archive.html](http://www.wonershparish.org/council_archive.html)

We look forward to next year's meeting being hosted by Shamley Green at the Arbuthnot Hall. And it will be Blackheath's turn again in 2016. We do hope you can attend.

### WONERSH GARDEN ALLOTMENTS



The Council is proud of its allotments site and the opportunity for local residents to grow more of their own fruit and vegetables. There is presently only a short waiting list so please contact the Clerk if you are interested in taking up this healthy pastime.

### ADDITIONAL PARKING AT SHAMLEY GREEN

Waverley Borough Council is taking forward the proposal to create a number of additional parking spaces at the edge of The Green, west of the electricity sub-station station. We are distributing a separate information sheet to Shamley Green residents but everyone is welcome to view the document on our website notice-board. Please do let the Parish Council have your views ahead of our meeting on 12 July.

### WONERSH LITTER PICK

The Council would like to thank all those residents who participated in the latest biennial litter pick in the village. Sadly this remains a necessary task - especially along the B2128 – as may be seen from the number of black bags filled in just 1½ hours. Look out for notices about the next session sometime in the autumn.



## FLOODING OF THE B2128 NEAR BISNEY COTTAGE, SHAMLEY GREEN

Many of you will have experienced the flooding that occurred over the Christmas and New Year period when half of the road near the Bisney Cottage track was impassable to cars. The other lane was also badly affected and during heavy rain water poured down Grist Hill. The previous year was not much better. Driving on this road during rainy periods has become increasingly dangerous and safety a serious concern. However, flooding should now be a thing of the past.

Cllr Bruce Holtom has spent the last sixteen months trying to get the situation improved. It took time to establish which landowners were involved and who they were. In addition, the various highway agencies had to be consulted. Finally, with the help of Surrey County Cllr. Victoria Young, everyone was brought together for a site visit and a solution agreed upon.

The result is that Waverley Borough Council ( represented by Ed Baker), Apexborders (Robin Oliphant), Hullbrook Farm (Mark Harrison) and SCC Highways (Stuart Copping) have had new ditches dug, cleaned out old ditches and felled trees to improve the drainage and make future maintenance easier. The improved network of ditches should ensure a flood free road for years to come.

## HEATH MANAGEMENT ON BLACKHEATH COMMON

During 2013 Waverley Borough Council (WBC), who manage the common on behalf of the Landowner, had developed in conjunction with Natural England a plan to clear fell a number of defined areas of Blackheath Common and to thin the trees in some other areas. There was concern in the village that there had been insufficient information and consultation on these proposals before applying for a Felling Licence from the Forestry Commission, and Parish Council involvement was requested.

The Parish Council held a number of meetings with WBC and a borough representative attended the January Parish Council meeting to present the proposals, as did a large number of Blackheath residents who made their views known.

A further and larger meeting for Blackheath residents was held mid-February in the new Blackheath cricket pavilion, the Forestry Commission having agreed to postpone their decision on whether to approve the Felling Licence until after that meeting had been held, allowing time for residents to inform the Commission of their views having heard the proposals and the reasons for them.

The licence has since been granted but with some provisos about the main areas of contention which had been raised by residents.

Following on from this, WBC are to be congratulated in attracting a grant for the long term management of the Common and are currently preparing a 10 year Management Plan to guide this process. The Parish Council will be working to ensure a good consultation process takes place before implementation begins.

## PROTECTING THE AONB

The sunken and narrow lanes in the Surrey Hills are a particular feature in our area of outstanding natural beauty. Sadly these lanes are deteriorating because large lorries are carving up the banks and sides of the lanes. The Parish Council receives requests for width restrictions to limit this damage, but householders can help as well by asking for deliveries to be undertaken by smaller vehicles, particularly when building works are being undertaken.

**The Parish Office at the Sports Pavilion, Wonersh Common, is open every Thursday between 11.30 & 1330. Or contact the Clerk, Kevin Garvey, on 01483 892601 or at [clerk@wonershparish.org](mailto:clerk@wonershparish.org). Please check the village noticeboards for details of meetings. And take a look at our electronic noticeboard on our website [www.wonershparish.org](http://www.wonershparish.org) and let us know what you think. especially if you have ideas for improvements.**