

## Parish Footpaths

The Council is receiving complaints from residents concerned about cycling on parish footpaths, which is of course illegal. We are reluctant to erect more 'no cycling' signs as this adds to a steady drift towards 'suburbanisation' but hope that villagers can be persuaded to respect the law on this matter.

## Guildford Borough Polling District and Polling Places Review 2014

Guildford are asking for feedback on any aspect of polling places currently used or suggestions for alternative polling places. More information has been placed on the Council's website including maps of the current polling places.

They are interested in any comments you may have – good or bad - about the polling places within the parish. They are particularly interested in their accessibility, not just for disabled people, but how they are also perceived by the majority of the electorate. Alternative venues can also be suggested within the polling district. Comments to the Electoral Services Office by Friday 4 April 2014. See <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/pollingdistrictreview>

## Guildford Publishes Strategic Housing Market Assessment

Guildford residents can give their views on Guildford's house building plans with the publication of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). The SHMA looks at the level and type of homes needed in the borough up to 2031. It provides important up-to-date information for the new Local Plan.

Local people can give their feedback on the assessment until 5pm on Friday 21 February. The Borough will focus on four key questions:

- Should we be seeking to maximise housing delivery to meet the need for housing that has been identified?
- Should we be trying to reduce the cost of housing by boosting housebuilding?
- Should we try to deliver more affordable housing?
- What are the implications of not building enough homes?

Cllr Monika Juneja, Lead Councillor for Planning and Governance says: "These questions highlight four important influences on future housing in our borough. How can we help provide the homes local people will need? What can we do to address high housing costs and the need for affordable homes? We must also consider the impact of not building enough homes – for example, how this could affect our local economy and employers."

The SHMA does not set a housing target for the borough. It looks at the housing need up to 2031, but does not consider the constraints that may prevent us meeting that need. Through the Local Plan process, we will consider the evidence base to assess the level of housing we can sustainably accommodate.

Cllr Juneja adds: "We want to take account of everyone's views on the SHMA. We welcome feedback on our four questions and any additional comments on the assessment. We will consider all views and challenge the document thoroughly to help achieve the right housing number in our new Local Plan.

"We will hold a number of briefing sessions for stakeholders including parish councils, resident associations, housing providers and interest groups. You can view the assessment on our website, at our Millmead offices and at local libraries. Alternatively call into 25 Swan Lane from tomorrow to find out more."

To view the SHMA and submit your views, visit [www.guildford.gov.uk/shma](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/shma) You can also submit your comments at <https://getinvolved.guildford.gov.uk>, by email to [planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Policy, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead, Guildford, GU2 4BB.

Alternatively, call in to 25 Swan Lane between 10am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday from Tuesday 28 January to Friday 7 February.

## Speed Cameras

The issue of speeding through the village continues to attract attention with 'speed camera' signs now erected at either end of the 30mpg limit. These, we understand, are no idle threat as they are to be backed up by police speed checks with action being taken against those clocked over the limit. The Chairman, Terence Patrick, will be keeping up the pressure on the Casualty Reduction Officer to try and ensure that West Clandon remains firmly on the Police radar.

The Council has been successful in attracting grant funding for Variable Message Signs in the Village but would have to meet 50% of the costs itself, a significant call on our modest budget. The impact of the police initiative will be kept under review before any final decision is made.

## Village Hall Car Park

Vehicles continue to cause difficulties in the Village Hall Car Park where unauthorised commuter parking is squeezing out legitimate users of the Hall, the Royal British Legion and the Recreation Ground. Here new signage has been commissioned which leaves open the option of levying a significant charge for long stayers.

## Supporting Village Organisations

One of the key roles for the Parish Council is to support village life and organisations. We are able to make a number of small grants to assist in this but in view of the need to keep expenses under strict control in these austere times the Council has focussed this year on village based organisations with grants to a project at the Village School, the repair of the Church spire and the Parish Magazine. Sometimes our intervention is non-financial as is the case in the support we seek to give the West Clandon Royal British Legion Club in its discussions with the National Organisation over the renewal of its current lease.

The funding for the Parish Council is largely drawn from the Parish Precept, which is levied on residents through Council Tax. Councillors have voted for continuing restraint in 2014/15 with an average charge (on a Band D household) of £27.82p

## Surrey Superfast Broadband

The Surrey Superfast Broadband programme is on track and now live in West Clandon where enhanced broadband speeds are now available. Those interested in upgrading should contact their Internet Service Provider direct. Further information on the programme is available from [www.superfastsurrey.org.uk](http://www.superfastsurrey.org.uk)

## West Clandon and the Local Plan

The public meeting in the Village Hall on 13th November attracted 150 residents, who overwhelmingly opposed suggestions of any significant development in the Parish.

The responses from the Parish Council and the Clandon Society can be seen here: Parish Council Response-Clandon Society Response

The meeting was addressed by Parish Council Chairman, Terence Patrick and by Parish Councillor and Clandon Society Chairman, Chris Dean. Local Borough Councillors, Jenny Wicks, Jen Powell and Andrew French with Surrey County Councillor, Keith Taylor were also on hand to help answer questions.

The consultation on the draft plan closed on the 29th November but there will be another opportunity to comment on the plan itself when it is published around May next year.

Interest in West Clandon has centred on possible proposals for developments in the village on land adjacent to Lime Grove, Cuckoo Farm and behind 'Summers'. Residents were told that these were very unlikely and had not made it into the consultation document. Much more likely to see the light of day however were the proposals for the Gosden Hill Farm site which although not in the village lay within the Parish Boundary.

Those attending heard some of the background to the proposals which included a 7% increase in Borough population. There is a big explosion in birth-rate, people are living longer and there is an increase in household formation. All these are increasing pressure in housing and the Plan will have to address this. The Plan and housing numbers will have to be based on a reasonable evidence base to get past the inspectors and if the Borough does not get an acceptable Plan agreed the National Planning Development Framework will make development much easier.

There were also significant concerns expressed on the scale of development proposed in the surrounding areas including Send, Wisley Airfield and, East Horsley. Arguments put against included the lack of any serious plans for infrastructure, particularly the A3 which was already over-capacitated, the effect on Traffic generally and the precedent set by the advance of the urban area towards West Clandon.

Residents predominantly expressed a view that no significant development should take place within the Parish with 80% of those attending declaring themselves opposed and only 20% indicating they might consider some development if the necessary infrastructure was put in place. A suggestion that some development in the village might be preferable to the Gosden Hill option if it led to improvement in village facilities was not supported.

All were urged to make their views known by responding to the consultation and the Parish Council undertook to place information on its website which might be helpful in putting responses together. The Council also undertook to put in its own response in line with the views expressed to them in the meeting and in other correspondence received.

A full transcript of proceedings can be seen here. Public Meeting 13th Nov 13

Clandons' New Rector takes up his seat

The Revd Barnaby Perkins, the new Rector for both East and West Clandon, was formally 'instituted' at a special service held at West Clandon Church on Tuesday 3rd Dec. The Church was packed for the service which was led by the Bishop of Dorking, the RtRevd Ian Brackley assisted by the Archdeacon of Surrey and Clandon resident, the Venerable Stuart Beake. As well as parishioners from both villages Barnaby was supported by many other priests from the Diocese and members of the congregation from his former parish, St Nicholas Guildford who turned out to wish him well. During the service Barnaby was presented to the Parish by the patron, Lord Onslow and members of both communities came forward to welcome him to his new role. Later there was a reception at the Village School at which Helen Shanks, who has led the Church in Clandon during the 'interregnum' related how pleased she was by the appointment. In response Barnaby thanked everyone for their support and making him feel so welcome.

Barnaby's first service will be on Sunday 8th December at 10.30am in East Clandon.

Police promise increased use of radar to excessive speeding through the village

Following speed checks on the Street in West Clandon, Surrey Police have confirmed that the problem of speeding through the village is sufficiently serious to include the village in the county's speed management plan implying an increased use of police radar in the village. The Parish Council have been in contact with Surrey County Council Highway's Department who have agreed in principle to erect warning signs in the village in an attempt to keep the speed of traffic passing through the village to an acceptable level. While these initiatives are being evaluated the Parish Council will put discussion on variable message signs (VMS) on hold.

The speeding problem has been a long standing concern to residents but the Police checks have confirmed the extent of the problem. Detectors were positioned near the Bull and at the railway bridge. At the Bull travelling towards Ripley the highest speed recorded one evening was a

staggering 71mph. Travelling towards Clandon crossroads the record again in the evening was even higher at 78mph. The equivalent figures near the station were 62 and 60mph this time in the early morning. Combined with other data on average speeds the police have recognised that we have a problem and added the Street to their speed management plan with speed enforcement action now in prospect.