

BLETCHINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

MAY 2009 to JULY 2009

VANDALISM – It appears that there is still an element in the village who are determined to undermine the good work of the rest of the village. The large planters outside Lawrences were pushed over and broken. The Vigar Bench by the village sign was damaged and a pane of glass in the bus shelter was also damaged. These have been repaired. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activities.

Allotments and Old Allotment Field: Judging of the allotments has been started with 7 entrants this year. Further investigation in relation to costs and other issues such as planning requirements are being investigated prior to any decision being made in relation to the provision of an additional 10 plots being made available in the Old Allotment Field at Stychens Lane. Consideration is being given to the creation of a parking area within the field for up to 4 vehicles at any one time. This will only be for allotment holders and the field tenant and will only be accessible by with an issued key. This is likely to be on the September agenda for discussion.

Annual Parish Meeting: The new format of the Annual Parish Meeting was well received and the Annual Reports were published in advance of this and available from Longhursts and located in a couple of other shops within the village. The report is also available on the Bletchingley website. The speaker from Surrey Community Action gave a good presentation on Community Led Planning for Parish Councils and interested parties are invited to register your interest in being part of the Steering Group. A more detailed report was given in the last issue of the Parish Magazine. Bletchingley Playground Friends also gave an update on the progress of the playground. An update on this was also given in the July issue of the magazine.

Bletchingley in Bloom: Judging took place on the 8th July 2009 with a very good display of the Bletchingley in Bloom projects over the last year. There was also available a very good array of refreshments for those who came in to see the display at the Adult Education Centre. All parties have been hard at work over the last few months in preparation for this. A decision will not be known until some time in September.

BT Kiosk – Brewer Street: This has now been formally adopted by the Parish Council and is no longer a working telephone.

CCTV: The CCTV system is now being maintained by Vistec Systems Ltd on behalf of the Parish Council. The system is there for the benefit of the parish and should the need arise where its footage needs to be reviewed, narrow time limits assist in keeping the costs down. Early notification is necessary to ensure that footage required is within the time limits.

Co-Option of New Councillors – We now have a full compliment of 9 councillors with 2 new councillors being co-opted at the May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, following the resignation of Beryl Tatnell from the Council. We wish Beryl Tatnell well with her new found freedom to join other projects and wish the two new councillors, Sally-anne Ray and Patricia Ann Glenn all the best in their new roles.

Dog Fouling: This is an ongoing plea to all residents with dogs to ensure that they clean up after their animals.

Hevers Pond: This is still under discussion with the licence offered by the owners being discussed by the Parish Council.

Parking: All residents are asked to park considerately when leaving vehicles on the roadside. When parking on pavements, sufficient space should be left for pedestrians and those

pedestrians with buggies and young children. There have been several complaints raised about parking in Barfields and this issue has been passed on to the PC and PCSO to follow up.

Litter picking: The Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK joined a small band of Bletchingley litter pickers on Saturday 4th July to try to blitz the village of litter in preparation for Bletchingley in Bloom judging on the 8th July. Not as many bags of rubbish were collected as last year. This could be down to a few factors, like people being more responsible with the rubbish; more people collecting the rubbish or the fact that TDC had recently sent their litter pickers around the village. In any event, the operation was a success and refreshments were provided afterwards in Church House by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK. They also presented Annabel Smith, on behalf of the Church House Fundraising appeal with a donation. A big thank you to those who turned out to help.

North Park Farm and Sibelco UK Ltd: The North Park Farm Community Liaison Committee are once again meeting and the Terms of Reference have now been signed by all parties. Sibelco recently held an Exhibition over two days with an opportunity to take guided tours of the North Park Quarry. The Exhibition was to discuss the proposed extension of operations at North Park Quarry. Staff from Sibelco were on hand to talk about their proposals and answer any questions. There were a series of display boards providing details of the application and other aspects of the company operations.

Website: Please contact the Clerk if you have any comments or wish to include any village events or news on the website.

Bletchingley Golf Club – Land Regeneration for New Practice Facilities – The Bletchingley Golf Club have been refused planning permission from TDC/SCC Highways for the creation of an access on the A25. Therefore at present their proposed land regeneration project for improving the golf club practice ground is now on hold pending a review of other possible access routes.

Robin Gater – Chairman