

Parish Magazine – March 2015 issue

Grant Aid for local projects from Guildford Borough Council – resurfacing of the car parks outside Peaslake and Holmbury St Mary Village Halls; creating an adventure playground out of the existing scrub area at Goose Green, Gomshall, and provision of tourist directional signs in Shere are some of the exciting projects for which Guildford Borough Council has agreed grant aid, this year.

Annual Parish Meeting in May: ‘Living Landscapes’ speaker – the Parish Council’s annual meeting is a chance for local residents to have an informal chat about issues that concern them, with their local Parish Councillors, over a glass of wine and nibbles. As usual, there will be a keynote speaker, talking about a local issue of interest. This year, the Director of Education and People and Wildlife at Surrey Wildlife Trust, Aimee Clarke, has been invited to give a presentation on Living Landscapes. Living Landscapes is a strategy to re-connect nature reserves and other green spaces – including gardens and parks - across the county, so that populations of plants and animals can interact, expand, adapt and overcome the barriers we have created. So do make a note in your diary – the meeting will be at Tanyard Hall, Gomshall, on Wednesday 27th May 2015 and will start at 7.30pm. Everyone’s welcome.

Prudential RideLondon cycling event – sports grants available - London Marathon Limited’s role in the Prudential RideLondon festival of cycling means that projects in Surrey are now eligible for London Marathon Charitable sports grants. These grants are available to communities for projects that enable more people to take part in physical activities. In particular, the Trust supports projects that encourage participation by groups in which there are currently low rates of activity. To date, the Trust has awarded over £54 million to more than 1,000 projects in London and beyond, and some of the grants are quite substantial. Last year, grants ranged from £5,000 to £100,000.

The Parish Council would like to take advantage of this amazing funding opportunity and has suggested various possible projects, such as public toilets at The Hurtwood; drainage at Goose Green; a new pavilion for Goose Green, a multi-use games area or a new pavilion on Shere Recreation Ground and re-surfacing some of the tracks on The Hurtwood for the many horse riders and walkers who use this beautiful area. If you have any other suggestions for consideration, please let the Parish Council know within the next couple of months in order that a suitable application can be put together within the timescale. The dead-line for applications is this August.

Defibrillators - as reported previously, the Parish Council is buying four defibrillators for each of the villages of Shere, Gomshall, Peaslake and Holmbury St Mary. There will be a training event in their use by Shere and Local Villages Health Trust on Thursday, 23rd April, starting at 8pm in Albury Village Hall. In addition, the defibrillators will also have an integral, easy to use facility to talk people through the machines’ operation.

Parish Council Election process 2015 – do you want to be a Parish Councillor? Parish Council elections are on 7th May this year, alongside the General and the Borough Council elections. The nomination packs for prospective Parish Councillors will become available

from the Electoral Registration office at Guildford Borough Council on 2nd March. The closure for accepting nominations is 4pm on Thursday 10 April. A nomination paper has to be signed by a Proposer and Seconder. Candidates must complete the forms and qualify to stand in the parish (see www.electoralcommission.org.uk for qualifications and other information). Shere Parish Council is split into three wards: Shere and Gomshall (North Ward), Holmbury St Mary (South East Ward) and Peaslake (South West Ward). An election will be called for each ward of the Parish if there are more valid nominations than vacancies (i.e. if there are 5 vacancies and 6 valid nominations are received for the appropriate ward). If not enough valid nominations for an election are received, then the valid candidates would automatically be elected.

For voters, the last date for applications for residents to register to vote is Monday 20 April. The deadline for application to vote by post or change your postal vote is 5pm on Tuesday 21 April and closure for applications to vote by proxy is 5pm on Tuesday 28 April. All these applications have to be in Guildford Borough Council's Electoral Registration Office by the deadline to be accepted.

Peaslake Farm Task Group - the Peaslake Farm Project Group has had its first meeting and has set out an agenda for its work – it will be examining a range of options for the use of Peaslake Farm, which were identified at the public meeting in Peaslake, at the end of last year. The Task Group's discussions are open to the public and their next meeting will be on Monday, 9th March, starting at 7pm, at Tanyard Hall, Gomshall.

Cheques will soon be winging their way to lucky winners of the prize draw (an incentive to residents to complete the Housing and Community Needs Survey). First, second and third prizes are £100, £50 and £25, respectively to lucky winners in each of the Parish's Villages.

Appointment of Assistant to the Parish Clerk – a warm welcome to Suzanne Hoyland, a Shere resident, who has started to help out in the Parish Office. Suzanne has been appointed to the post on an initial contract of one year, subject to the receipt of the usual satisfactory references.

Date of next meeting: Council Meeting - Wednesday 4th March 2015, starting at 7.30pm, at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall.

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