

Stay alert, control the virus and save lives

As we continue through this difficult pandemic, the community rises to the new challenges associated with the easing of the lockdown. The barriers in Shere to aid social distancing have been well received and residents whose parking has been displaced have been wonderfully accommodating; the parish council thanks you for your understanding. Businesses have been re-opening around the parish, with their staff trying hard to manage queues and keeping customers and residents safe.

The council is reviewing the situation regarding the closed play areas around the parish and the toilets in Shere. Opening either is proving to be difficult. We are working hard on the risk assessments and trying to find a way to safely open them; please bear with us.

As I reported last month, the increase in visitors has led to significant amounts of more rubbish - more collections are taking place by Guildford Borough Council (GBC) and we encourage businesses to have additional bins outside their properties and ask customers to return the rubbish to them, for disposal.

A25 – two major problems have been reported to the council in recent weeks:

- firstly, Silent Pool and the dangerous parking. This has been reported to Surrey County Council (SCC); they are aware of the situation and confirmed that there are signs up saying wild swimming is dangerous and not allowed. Bollards have also been put out to prevent dangerous parking on this accident hotspot. Please continue to report problems to SCC and the police.
- Secondly, noisy motorbikes on the A25; Guildford Borough Council Councillor D Jones is investigating the possibility of having some noise monitoring, on the stretch of road from Gomshall to Silent Pool.

Parking in Shere – the extra visitors to Shere since the easing of lockdown, has further exacerbated the problems of parking in the centre of Shere for residents. Two residents joined our zoom council meeting in July, to ask the council to support a residents parking scheme. Applications for such a scheme are handled on behalf of SCC by GBC and currently there are no schemes outside an urban area. Shere Parish Council agreed to research a proposal and will contact residents living in the suggested area and the residents living in the surrounding areas where parking may be pushed to. For the application to GBC to go ahead 70% of those consulted would have to be in support of the scheme, it would have to be approved by the Guildford Joint Committee and a public consultation would take place. So, this is something for residents in Shere to consider.

Drop-in Centre – many of our residents are missing the newly established drop-in centre at Tanyard Hall and so are we. Again, risk assessments are being carried out and extra precautions are being put in place. Excitingly, renovations to Tanyard Hall garden are taking place with new paving, grass and access from the ramp. This will allow us to use the garden when we re-open the drop-in centre, which will be safer for all. When we open, places will be booked and we will probably split each session into two smaller sessions. Melody and volunteers will be there to greet you and chat. We will be in touch with all our attendees when we have a date for re-opening.

The Parish Council serves the local community - If you have a project or think you have an idea to support or enhance the community please get in touch. The Parish Council is able to apply for Grant Aid from Guildford Borough Council, to help pay for suitable projects, so please don't hesitate if you have a suggestion. Email clerk@shereparishcouncil.gov.uk or talk to your ward councillor. Find their details on our website or the notice boards in the villages.

Next Council meeting – Tuesday 8th September 2020 at Tanyard Hall, 30 station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF or remotely using Zoom – confirmation of location will be on the website, parish magazine and Facebook etc. closer to the date.