

**Wash Hands, Cover Face, Make Space – HANDS, FACE, SPACE**

**Stay alert, control the virus and save lives**

For information on restrictions please see <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

**Drop-in Centre Co-ordinator and Administrative Assistant Vacancy** – the council agreed the position at the November council meeting and applications have been received for the position. These will be reviewed and interviews will take place over the coming weeks. Hopefully our new co-ordinator will be in place for the New Year and this coupled with the potential roll out of the covid-19 vaccine, will mean the Drop-in Centre can fully restart.

**Peaslake surface water** – discussions have taken place with Surrey County Council (SCC) regarding the management of surface water through the village. Surrey County Council Councillor K Taylor explained that it was unlikely that funds would be available for a village wide investigation but agreed to consult further with the Flood Resilience team. In the meantime, the council (on behalf of Peaslake Village Hall) has forwarded proof to SCC regarding the responsibility for clearing the silt trap under the village hall car park and would encourage all residents in Peaslake to be aware of the drains near their properties and clear the entrances, if they see them block or after a storm. At this time of year in particular, surface water drains are blocked by leaves and debris and can be cleared easily with your boot, umbrella or spade with ease, allowing the water to quickly resume flowing into the stream. The council is also attempting to get sight of a surface water report, commissioned by a potential local developer.

**Visitors to the Parish** – another lockdown has brought more visitors to our villages. Once again, we see large groups of cyclists and tourists congregating in large groups and not social distancing. The council is just as concerned as you but unfortunately has no power or ability to control the number of visitors. Please call the police on 101 immediately if you see large groups of people not social distancing. Additional signs will also be placed at the entrances of villages.

**Play Areas** – the council has agreed the repairs to the swings and springy in the Shere play area and repair investigations are still taking place with regards to the large play tower in Peaslake.

**Parish Council's budget** - funding for 2021/22 – Shere Parish Council gets its annual funding by receiving a small amount of local Council Tax from Guildford Borough Council. This funding is called the parish precept and that figure translates to the parish 'levy' on your council tax bill. The parish council has approved an increase of the precept of 10p a week for a Band D property, for the next financial year 2021/22, to cover the basic ongoing running costs of the parish. The rise reflected the new budgeted expense of the Drop-in Centre (supported and considered by the council to be vital support for the community), the ongoing additional coronavirus related expenses, the increasing costs of maintaining the Council's existing services and the possible loss of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme.

**Christmas** - the parish council office will be closed over Christmas from Wednesday 23rd December 2020 to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Christmas Tree Collection points** – after Christmas, you can leave your Christmas tree at the usual collection points of:

Holmbury St Mary Village Hall, Felday Glade, Holmbury St Mary  
Shere Recreation Ground car park  
Pond Lane car park, Peaslake

**Next Council meeting** – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 either at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF or held remotely using Zoom – confirmation will be on the website closer to the date.

**Finally, the Chairman, Councillors and all the parish staff send their very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.**