



Reports for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council - 16 May 2019

Fairwood Helpers (Cllr S Morgan MBE)

Fairwood Helpers are doing well. Two new lady drivers have joined the team of volunteers. Their AGM is being held on 8th June at the Normandy Gardens to include lunch. I shall be attending this as I have all the other committee meetings. New drivers are always needed and very welcome.

FLGCA (Fairlands, Liddington Hall and Gravetts Lane Community Association) (Cllr N Mitchell)

The local resident group have a number of issues that they are concentrating on:

1. Increasing the membership of the group
2. Arranging discounts for the members with Budgens and other shops
3. Concerned about the structural integrity of the community building due to its age (60 years' life expectancy)
4. Removing the Leylandii trees to the front boundary of the site and replacing with more manageable trees
5. Installing gates at the entrance to the estate similar to those at Wood Street Village (FLGCA to be fully responsible for maintenance of the gates and signs in perpetuity)
6. Looking for grants to pay for works (WPC have advised that there are no grant monies left in the precept for this year)
7. Wanting to plant bulbs in the planters outside the shops.

JWRA (Jacobs Well Residents Association) (Cllr S Fisk)

The Jacobs Well Residents Association (JWRA) is a local association set up for the residents of Jacobs Well. The Jacobs Well Residents Association organises the monthly newsletter for the village, various events throughout the year; such as the May Fayre that looks to bring the community together. It maintains a dialogue with the Parish Council and Guildford Borough Council bringing to their attention local issues raised by the residents that affect the village. The residents' association also works alongside the Jacobs Well Village Hall Trust and Jacobs Well Social Club in supporting the local community. Over the last year, it has seen David Andrews officially take over the role as Chairman and Lisa Stephens, also a JWRA member, becoming the new Treasurer. The JWRA are also taking steps to communicate with the broader community through social media and the implementation of a new website.

SALC (Surrey Association of Local Councils) (Cllr N Mitchell)

The autumn conference in Dorking was well attended. Presentations by Surrey Police, Surrey Hills and Surrey County Council were given with varying levels of interest by the audience.

There was no Spring conference this year due to the elections.

A new Chairman was elected and requested by the Clerk to visit the Parish Council. However due to the revision of our meeting schedule the visit was not achievable.

Stoke Hospital (Mrs Sue Harris)

The past year at Stoke has been quite busy with three new residents, one from Worplesdon. All new residents are interviewed prior to being accepted as certain criteria has to be met. I have been involved with that process as a member of the 'House' Committee.

Once again, the hospital entered the Guildford in Bloom competition and were invited to attend the awards ceremony. They were delighted to win the major prize of the evening and have entered again this year.

Also, the hospital is having an open afternoon again this year on July 13th. All are welcome.

The committee has been busy updating procedures recommended by the Charity Commission and these will be implemented this year.

A coffee morning at Christmas was organised for residents and local dignitaries.

The building is maintained very well, and all safety aspects attended to.

WSVA (Wood Street Village Association) (Cllr P Cragg)

The Wood Street Village Association continues to meet regularly, and members are appreciative of the contributions made to the village environment and facilities provided by the Parish Council.

The Association assists the Wood Street Horticultural Society with staging the annual village show in July.

The Association runs the Carol Concert held annually on the village green in December and was well attended in 2018. (This will take place again on 21st December 2019). The Association also runs an annual Quiz Night.

Interest in planning applications continues and submissions to GBC are made where noticeable resident interest is demonstrated.

Considerable interest and concern has been expressed over the massive development, now adopted in the Local Plan, at Blackwell Farm. Thanks have been extended to the Parish Council for its efforts in modifying this Plan.

The telephone box, adopted by the Parish Council, continues to be of interest and suggestions of a local information point and a directory of local walks are being considered.

Appreciation was expressed over the deployment of the SDR equipment in the village, by the Parish Council.

Although not within the Wood Street area considerable appreciation was expressed at the Parish Council's project providing a pedestrian refuge in the Aldershot Road in the environs of Hunt's Farm.

The Association has sensibly decided to display the black steel "Remembrance Soldier" for an appropriate period of time around Remembrance Day. It will be stored safely for the rest of the year thus minimising its susceptibility to being turned into "scrap".

Worplesdon Charities (Cllr B Nagle)

I visited the households on my list in early November 2018 and attended the Charities' meeting on 22 November 2018 where we agreed to award 27 households a gift of £100, and to those

households with children an added £50 per child. In total we gave £3,200 as gifts. These were presented as cheques to the household in time for Christmas.

Worplesdon Flood Forum (Cllr N Mitchell)

A visit to the Sewage Treatment Works at Hockford has been arranged for 5th July. There is a limited number of attendees due to safety and access restrictions.

The walkaround in July 2018 has resulted in the false pond on Littlefield Common being drained and the watercourse being correctly diverted.

Pressure is still being applied to Surrey University to ensure that the flow of water onto Whitmoor Common is not compromised by the proposed development at Blackwell Farm.

Worplesdon Memorial Trustees (Cllr J Messinger)

The Trustees of the Worplesdon Memorial Hall recreational grounds and Sime Gallery met 11 times between 20-3-2018 and 30-4-2019.

The Trust has seen a number of changes this year: the resignation of donor trustee and treasurer Roger Forder who has been replaced as the treasurer by local resident Suresh Pillai. Terry Cater, originally a Parish Council trustee and then a donor trustee retired. He had served as Chairman of the Memorial Trustees for 15 years and had given 63 years of involvement to the cricket and football clubs, as well as many years on the Council and as a Trustee. A farewell party was held in the pavilion for 50+ guests. His chairmanship is now in the hands of local resident Chris Ewbank, donor trustee, elected in January 2019. Chris has had association with the hall and gallery in recent years. Adrian Binfield (Binny) also a local resident is a new donor trustee. In February 2018 Chris Venables (Parish Council trustee) stepped down due to moving away from Worplesdon. In May his position was briefly taken over by Eric Marks Oldham, Parish councillor who also stepped down from the trust and council. A Parish Council nominated trustee is still required. The trustees meet regularly with the sports clubs as part of the Pavilion Management Committee.

Trustees who have continued for a number of years are donor trustee Mary Broughton, Parish council trustees Jan Messinger and Gordon Adam. The minutes secretary to the Trustees is Marjory Stewart.

The Trust has been very grateful for community grants received from Worplesdon Parish Council in the past year (£500 for hedge cutting and £500 for disabled toilet). Also, to Cllr Keith Witham SCC for a grant towards the Sime gallery website and GBC for their grant towards a disabled toilet.

The Trust's major news is the National Lottery Heritage funding of £42,000 granted for the Sime Gallery to help secure the future of Sidney Herbert Sime's artwork. The Project, "A Gallery Resurrected," will support a review and updating of the Governance structure by a firm of lawyers, and also professional advice from specialist consultants, providing a full options appraisal to secure the future of the gallery to ensure its continuing success and sustainability.

Two regular events are now held. The now annual children's Sime's workshop on 21.2.2019 for 4-10-year olds and the Heritage Open Weekend in September. Last year we introduced a café scheme for visitors; we are now preparing for September 2019. We now link with St Mary's Church for Heritage Weekend planning.

An oil painting, "Figures and Fountains" was loaned for 3 months for a prestigious exhibition in Rovigo, in conjunction with Padua Conservatoire in Northern Italy. The first time we are aware of that any Sime painting has been exhibited abroad.

The year has seen:

- The kitchen extension finished and paid for.
- Field drainage work to the cricket pitch funded via a Landfill Community grant.
- Fence work around the Caretaker's Cottage has secured the garden.
- The main hall floor and staging were refurbished August 2018.
- The walls have also been painted.
- Essential tree work (the removal of diseased trees)
- Hedge cutting
- The disabled toilet refurbished.
- Installation of a handrail at the front entrance to assist with disabled access.

Worplesdon Parish Council installed a metal height barrier and metal posts to the front entrance of the Memorial Hall and grounds. In 2018 a management policy for the height barrier was instituted by the Trustees, as custodians of the hall and grounds. On 23rd April 2019 the Parish Council also replaced a large piece of playground equipment further enhancing the facilities of the Worplesdon Memorial Hall, grounds and gallery.

Volunteer work was carried out by Denis Stewart who re-pointed the entrance pillars, renovated the war memorial plaque and iron works and repainted the Sime bench. Donations were received from Dave Jenkins of Perry Hill Antiques and Lyndon Weeks of Holly Lane Landscapes to enhance this restoration.

Chairman Chris Ewbank spoke at the Annual Parish Meeting on 29.3.2019 and has had discussions with the Clerk to the Parish Council.

The Trustees held an event "History of Perry Hill, Worplesdon" on Sunday 3rd March 2019. Talks were given by local residents Geoff Burch, David Rose and Stephen Cranstone which was well attended - (160 local people).

The regular hall hirer, Worplesdon Pre-school, was awarded "Outstanding" by Ofsted. This continued the success of the two previous outstanding awards in preceding inspections by Ofsted.

The Trust continues to regularly liaise with the sports clubs and pavilion management including day to day work in relation to all aspects of hall management and staffing. The Trust is working towards becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) as spoken about at the Annual Parish Meeting in March 2019.

It is proposed to refurbish the kitchen annex flooring in August 2019.

The Trustees are grateful to the Parish Council for their continued support and it is proposed to set up regular meetings with both parties in the future.