



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 67th edition of our parish newsletter designed to keep you up to date with that is happening in Broadacres, Fairlands, Jacobs Well, Perry Hill, and Wood Street Village.

Autumn 2023

## REPORTING ISSUES

If you notice any issues, such as **potholes, flooding or leaks, don't leave it to someone else ... please report it!**

Potholes, pavements, blocked and broken drains, flooding, fallen trees and overgrown vegetation, can be reported **directly** to **Surrey County Council** ([www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)).

This can be done **online**, or if you consider a problem to be an immediate threat to life or limb, or do not have internet access, call their Contact Centre on **0300 200 1003**.

The same applies to **crimes** or **anti-social behaviour**. Please report incidents **directly** to **Surrey Police** on **101** or via their **website** (if non-urgent) and **999** (if urgent).

## ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

**9 September 2023 - Wildflower Meadow Sowing - Community Event** - 10am Harry's Meadow, Jacobs Well

**11 November 2023 - Armistice Day Events Jacobs Well** - 10.50am at Harry's Meadow and also the junction of Queenhythe Road/Clay Lane.

**7 November 2023 - Worplesdon Flood Forum Meeting** - 10am to 12noon - Parish Office, Parklands, Railton Road, GU2 9JX

## New Councillor

We are very pleased to welcome another new Parish Councillor to the Parish Council! Saffina Ellahi is a resident of Perry Hill and is looking forward to learning lots more about the area!



We do still have one vacancy. Please contact Gaynor White, **Clerk to the Council**, for more information if you would like to join the Council. As a parish councillor you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support. You have the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the 9,000

people you would serve.

Our website can tell you more about the role, including some informative short videos. This QR code links to the website content:



Whether you are interested in joining as a councillor or are just interested in local matters, residents are welcome to attend any one of our formal meetings to allow you to find out more, and see how meetings are conducted.

The meetings take place at the **Parish Office (Unit 2 - Saxton, Parklands, Railton Road, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, GU2 9JX), commencing at 7.30pm**. The dates are published on both our website and parish noticeboards.

## Groundsperson Vacancy - 16 hrs per week

*We are recruiting a part-time Groundsperson to join our busy team!*

**Local Council Salary Scale (SCP 7 – 12) - Starting salary £11.84ph (initially 16 hours per week with the potential for increased hours in time)**

**23 days annual leave (pro-rata), plus bank holidays & two statutory days, and membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme**

We require a team member to join us to carry out repairs and maintenance to council property and facilities, supporting the Head Groundsman with the day-to-day maintenance of Parish Council play areas and public open spaces, ensuring we provide a high standard of maintenance across all Parish Council assets. In this role, you will carry out a wide range of repairs and maintenance to council property and facilities, minor repairs to play area equipment, various open spaces fixtures, fittings, and furniture. Working outside in all weather is a key part of this role. You will also carry out grounds' maintenance works on open spaces managed by the Parish Council, including grass cutting, litter picking, and other types of general grounds and property maintenance.

Ideally you will have experience in carrying out DIY maintenance work to a high standard, knowledge of power tools, the ability to solve basic maintenance issues, and the ability to undertake heavy manual work. Training will be provided, as well as appropriate PPE.

Reporting to the Head Groundsman, the position is available for 16 hours a week (8:30 until 16:30 on Wednesday and Friday).

If you wish to join a small friendly team, are enthusiastic, with good interpersonal skills, and are able to work with minimal supervision, please download the application pack available at: <https://worplesdon-pc.gov.uk/staff-vacancies/> where further information is available. Please contact Gaynor White - Clerk to the Council on 01483 300094 for additional information. Closing date is Friday, 15 September 2023 at 18:00.



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Challengers

The Parish Council are very pleased to be able to support Challengers through the use of Wood Street Village Green for their incredibly successful jazz festival held annually in July the day after Wood Street Village Show. This year's event raised an astonishing £22,853.

The work of Challengers is greatly appreciated, particularly through their provision of truly inclusive, fun and safe places where disabled children and young people can spend time with their friends, and offering a positive impact for families and the wider community.

This year, Challengers have been able to build a new playground featuring special equipment including: a Brooklands-inspired circuit to run around, sloping hills for rolling, and a large sandpit to provide endless fun and games. This play space, when not in use by Challengers, will be open for Family Fun Days for local families to enjoy together:

<https://disability-challengers.org/playground/>

## Play Area Vandalism

Sadly the play area in Jacobs Well was vandalised just a few days into the Summer holidays. The damage, which was most likely caused by a bladed article, was discovered on three different decks on the wooden multi-play unit. The replacement decks will cost over £1,000 to supply and fit.

Please can we ask local residents and visitors to the play area to report any anti-social behaviour or vandalism directly to Surrey Police.

## Meeting with MECA

The Parish Council were very pleased to be invited to meet the committee of the Guildford Central Mosque at Rickford Hill. It was really interesting to hear how the mosque committee have been doing everything reasonably possible to keep local neighbours happy whilst welcoming worshippers to the premises. The committee are happy to answer any questions locals may have.



## Play Area Consultation

The Parish Council will shortly be consulting on the play equipment located at the at Worplesdon Memorial Hall and Grounds. We would like to replace the current swing frames, and both install new and replace some of the bow top fencing. At the same time, we would also like to upgrade the thermoplastic surface marking in the ball games area, replace the basket swing seat, and try to replace the whizzers. To complete all of these works, we would need to secure grant funding. A condition of the grant funding is to be able to evidence that we have community support for the project. Without community support we would not be able to access certain grant funds.

A QR code will be displayed on posters at the play area to gauge usage, how far people come to use the play area, and which of the facilities they like the most, together with the opportunity to feedback any additional comments about the play facilities.

## Speeding Traffic

Community SpeedWatch (CSW) and the Speed Data Recorder (SDR) continue to be deployed around the parish. The SDR can be deployed to directly respond to the concerns of residents relating to not just the speed of vehicles but also the size of vehicles using particular roads.

The data accumulated from a number of locations will be used to lobby Surrey Police and Surrey County Council.

## Tree Surgery

Sadly, due to a combination of age and disease, together with the impact of the weather extremes we've experienced, a significant amount of tree works need to be undertaken across the majority of council maintained sites.

Oak Processionary Moth nests have been spotted at two locations during our annual tree inspection survey and a specialist contractor has been engaged to remove them.

To offset the ongoing deterioration of trees the parish council intends to plant a significant number of additional trees in the form of succession planting starting in Autumn 2023.



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Poisonous Plants

Since Covid people have been spending more time out and about in the parish, and in their gardens too!

It might be that there's a plant you've spotted which you think that you can positively identify... but there's a possibility that you might have been mistaken and misidentified the plant.

A number of potentially poisonous plants look very similar to harmless plants, such as cow parsley (harmless) and hemlock (poisonous).

Hemlock has purple spots on the stem (although young hemlock's spots are quite faint), and the stems are hairless. When snapped the stems have an unpleasant chemical-type smell.

Cow parsley stems are hairy (and sometime ribbed) and rigid. Cow parsley has a mild parsley smell.



Cow parsley

Young hemlock

[pictures from [www.totallywilduk.co.uk](http://www.totallywilduk.co.uk)]

## Work Parties

The Parish Council have reinstated work parties across the parish. These work parties have allowed us to target specific issues at a number of locations. The first was at Worplesdon Memorial Hall and Grounds play area and involved a comprehensive clean of the play equipment, edging of the wetpour to allow long-awaited wetpour repairs to take place, and a few dirty road signs were also cleaned at the same time!

The second work party was at Jacobs Well Recreation Ground. This was to top-dress some significant trip hazards that had formed in an area near the football goals which was now being used by the newly formed

Jacobs Well Walking Football group. Our next work party will be held at Fairlands to tidy up planters and clean road signs.



## Community Grants

The Parish Council continues to be pleased to receive applications for community grants from a number of local community groups and voluntary organisations. Amongst others, we have received applications from Stella Hancock Riding for the Disabled and from the FLGCA.

If you would be interested in making an application for a financial grant of up to **£500** from the Council, please have a look at our website for further information: <https://worplesdon-pc.gov.uk/transparency/grants-to-voluntary-community-and-social-enterprise-organisations/>

## Grant Aid from GBC

The Parish Council would like to thank Guildford Borough Council for their financial support through the Concurrent Functions Grant Aid Scheme (2023/24).

Their contribution of 50% of the cost of replacing three ageing noticeboards at Fairlands, Wood Street Village Green, and Pitch Place Green is greatly appreciated.





# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Parish Personnel Contact Details

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Helen Lawrence (Finance Officer)	01483 300094	<a href="mailto:finance@worplesdon-pc.gov.uk">finance@worplesdon-pc.gov.uk</a>
Peter Trevena (Head Groundsman)	07308 658882	<a href="mailto:groundsman@worplesdon-pc.gov.uk">groundsman@worplesdon-pc.gov.uk</a>



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### Worplesdon Parish Council

Unit 2 - Saxton, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2

## No 17 Bus Service

Surrey County Council (SCC) has agreed to expand the electric minibus service, which it will run directly (paid for by SCC from Surrey Council Tax to support rural areas). The SCC replacement for the 17 bus service (serving Wood Street Village and Fairlands) will be the new "Surrey Connect" service with electric minibuses, starting on 2nd September 2023. This is a change of concept, as there is no "route" and no timetable for a direct response bus service. Residents can book journeys when they wish to travel.

The Surrey Connect service will operate Monday to Friday 7am to 7pm, and Saturday 8am to 6pm.

Details will be publicised shortly, so please keep an eye out on social media, our website, and our noticeboards. You will catch the bus, from bus stops, to go to destinations throughout the Central Guildford area.

This change does **NOT** affect any other current local bus services such as the Route 20 bus (previously called KITE) or the 520 bus, both run by Stagecoach.

## United Reformed Church

The recently installed bench at Perry Hill Green was installed following the URC Diocese's decision to close the Worplesdon United Reformed Church premises.

The bench has a plaque, generously paid for by a local resident whose family have longstanding links to the immediate locality and the United Reformed Church. A disc has been commissioned which contains a QR code linking to the Parish Council's website and specifically lists the historical links between the Green and the United Reformed Church. The disc will shortly be fixed to the bench.

