

Welcome to the latest edition of the Parish Council Newsletter. Back in May a new Parish Council was formed and we have been working hard to prepare for the next 4 years, We have very few statutory duties, but there is a huge amount we can do with the support of the community. Help us to help you by keeping in touch and making sure we know what you're thinking. Read on!

**Councillor Alison Pannett**

## PUTTING PEDESTRIANS FIRST

**Councillor Celia Rudland** is promoting a package of measures to make paths more accessible for Whyteleafe's residents. She writes:

We need action at every level.

- Residents should keep their own hedges under control, especially where they tend to grow over pathways. The Parish Council is drafting a standard letter to deliver to those whose hedges are a nuisance. We do hope residents will appreciate that we are doing this to help maintain safe pathways in the interest of the whole community and we hope that they will respond positively.
- Our Surrey County Council funded "community gang" can deal with smaller instances of sprawling vegetation on public land. I will see to it that we use them to clear whatever they can.
- The Surrey County Highways Department has a statutory duty to ensure that pathways are clear of obstruction where this causes a hazard. I will liaise with them to ensure that they are aware of problems and that they are carrying out their duties.
- I will also keep in touch with County over their regular grass and vegetation cutting schedules to see if these need to be updated or modified.
- County can't always respond to concerns about grass, hedges and other vegetation. They tell us that, whilst they have a duty to ensure safety, they can't be responsible for making our village look nice. We might think they should do more, but we should also consider whether we – as a Parish Council – could do more. We have made a beneficial impact by taking control of the Jubilee Garden opposite Whyteleafe School. Should we take on more sites like this and make them more attractive and useful for the community? This would cost money, of course. Let us know!

Jubilee Garden



## PARISH COUNCILLORS

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## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

*District Councillors*

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details as above

*County Councillor*

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**More useful  
numbers overleaf**

## PARKING

We are aware that parking is a major concern for many residents. One of the issues is commuter parking. We have to make sensible provision for commuters, but are residents in places like Westhall Road and Hornchurch Hill putting up with too much?

Southern Railways have considered building an extra layer at Upper Warlingham, but plans have always stalled. Should we – as a Parish Council - be doing what we can to promote this option? And, if we could get some more parking space for commuters, shouldn't we really lobby for beefed up restrictions and enforcement? Perhaps it's about time we had a decent residents' permit system in Whyteleafe.

Let us have your views and help us to fight for what you want!

*Councillors Michael Langman & John Shannon*

## KEEPING WHYTELEAFE TIDY

*Councillor Rod Nash writes:*

The recent litter pick organised by one of the local political parties was a good idea. I am looking into having regular days involving the whole community. I would like to combine this with a refuse disposal day. Wouldn't it be good to have a refuse lorry available from time to time, perhaps in the recreation ground, for the disposal of residents' waste? I am in touch with the District Council about this. We need a well-monitored scheme for smallish domestic items. We don't want commercial outfits taking advantage of it! If you have any other ideas for waste disposal and keeping our village tidy, please let me know.

## ACTION TO KEEP LORRIES OFF D ROADS

*Councillor Alison Pannett writes:*

The campaigning group Lorries off Rural Detours (LORDS) is collecting evidence about HGV's using minor roads and specifically D roads. Their main aim is get nominated D roads from being used as alternative routes and detours on satellite navigation systems. As a Parish Council we have identified a number of D roads in Whyteleafe and have passed these on to LORDS as potential problem roads. We need residents to help make the case for action by reporting specific cases of HGV's using these roads and highlighting any resulting problems. Please use the report form on the LORDS website [www.lorryproblems.org.uk](http://www.lorryproblems.org.uk) or let the Parish Council know.

Tithepit Shaw Lane - D1382  
Hornchurch Hill - D1384  
Church Road - D1384  
St Luke's Road - D1385  
Station Road - D 1385  
Salmons Lane - D 1388

## HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

*Councillor Jeffrey Gray writes:* We don't want to be a nuisance to residents who want to make small improvements to their own houses and we certainly don't want to get involved in neighbours' private disputes, but where there are matters that effect the wider community we are ready to hear your views and to represent them vigorously. Please continue to talk to us.

Tandridge District Council has just implemented a new **Core Strategy** following approval from central government. This will be used as one of the principle means for determining planning applications from now on. Inevitably there are things in the strategy that are welcome and things that are not so welcome, but – overall – I am very pleased with it. In particular, there is quite a powerful new policy that could have the effect of limiting “back garden” development in our district.

But, however much we try to get policy right, the plain fact is that the economic situation is having a much bigger effect on development. One danger is that sites where permission has already been received (like 15-23 Hillbury Road and Gadoline House) and sites earmarked for development (like the long-empty building opposite Maple Road) could now be left in limbo for months or even years, becoming more and more derelict. I am in discussions with the district's Planning Enforcement department to insist that these sites are monitored, primarily with a view to keeping them safe, but also to try to prevent them becoming too much of an eyesore.

## MORE USEFUL NUMBERS

*Surrey County Council*

**SWITCHBOARD**

03456 009 009

**LIBRARIES**

0300 200 1001

**REGISTRATION**

0300 200 1002

**ROADS & TRANSPORT**

0300 200 1003

**SCHOOLS**

0300 200 1004

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

0300 200 1005

**CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE**

0300 200 1006

**JOBS**

0300 200 1007

*Police General Enquiries*

**TO REPORT AN INCIDENT**

0845 125 2222

**WHYTELEAFE PARISH COUNCIL**

**meets at 8pm on the second  
Monday of each month at  
St Luke's Church**

[www.whyteleafepc.org.uk](http://www.whyteleafepc.org.uk)