

## Parish Council November Headlines

The Parish Council is considering whether we should draw up a Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood planning encompasses a series of powers introduced by the [Localism Act 2011](#). It gives communities the opportunity to plan their local area by deciding how it should grow, where development should go and what it should look like. It can be used to:

- choose where new homes, shops and offices should be built
- have a say on what those new buildings should look like
- influence the design and functionality of open spaces and grant planning permission for new developments the community wants to see go ahead.

A Neighbourhood Plan would allow the Parish to access a greater share of the Levy developers have to pay to support local projects but it couldn't be used to prevent developments promoted by Guildford to meet current and future needs or to override the Local Plan. However communities can use neighbourhood planning to influence the design, location and mix of new development and to address any issues that are purely local.

Any decision to move forward would depend on the availability volunteers able to support the significant amount of work required. If a plan was produced it would need to be approved in a local referendum. We will be returning to this theme in the months to come with presentations planned from neighbouring parishes before any decision is taken. Meanwhile if you are interested, have a view either way or would be willing to help please get in touch.

Other significant items discussed this month included possible grant support for Village organisations. We will also be repeating our support for a senior citizens' Christmas Lunch at the Royal British Legion.

The Council also considered estimates for the second electronic speed sign at the Clandon Park end of the village and the proposed car park extension at the Village Hall. In the latter case we are now developing bids for grant support.

On the planning front, despite objections, Guildford planners have given permission for two houses to be built on the Low Cottage site near Lime Grove. News from the Wisley Airfield enquiry however suggests that Highways England remain firmly opposed to the opening up of the north facing slip roads at Burnt Common. The Planning Inspectorate decision is not expected until next year.

Finally the Council has been reviewing the calls on its budget for 2018/19. Inflation has of course ticked up a touch and with the Borough and the County increasingly cash strapped there are likely to be additional calls on our budget next year. Decisions on the Parish precept will be made in December.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 8.00pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in the Village Hall.

John Stone  
Clerk