



OXTED PARISH COUNCIL

March 2018

A Message from the Chairman

2017/2018 has been a very challenging year for Oxted Parish Council. Meetings to consider and give responses on local developments have been sought by and given to Tandridge District Council.

As a Council we have financially been able to support the new kerbing in Hurst Green Road, works in the Burial Ground owned by Oxted Parish Council as well as donations in respect of applications under Grant Aid. We continue with our support to Master Park and repairs to the War Memorial in Oxted are due to commence in the Spring of this year.

CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money is trickling in and we have been able to pledge money to Holland Sports & Athletics Club for the provision of a path from the proposed Trim Trail to the outside Gym, the refurbishment of a room for the new doctor at the Health Centre. We have also contributed £8,000 to St. Mary's School Oxted in respect of their newly constructed MUGA.

I am very proud to be Chairman of Oxted Parish Council during this challenging year and hope to see as many of you as possible at our Annual Parish Assembly on Tuesday 17th April 2018.

Check in on your Elderly Neighbours

May we remind you to consider any elderly neighbours you may have. Perhaps an offer to collect that prescription or do some shopping - or just to check in on them from time

Oxted Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Maureen Gibbins:
Salmons, Salmons Lane, Whyteleafe, Surrey CR3 0HB
Tel: 07510 226989
Email: oxtedpc@btconnect.com www.oxted-pc.org.uk

Grant Aid

Oxted Parish Council considered in May 2017 all applications received in respect of Grant Aid. A total of thirteen applications were received from local organisations totalling a request for funding of £7,200.00. Oxted Parish Council awarded £5,000.00 in total, and these Grants were made to:

Oxted Young Persons Theatre	£250
East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services	£500
The Breck Foundation	£500
St. Mary's Oxted Parochial Church Council	£400
St. Catherine's Hospice	£600
Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance	£250
Age Concern Oxted, Limpsfield & District	£500
The Woodhouse Centre	£250
Oxted Citizens Advice Bureau	£400
St John's Church, Hurst Green	£700
Sight for Surrey	£400
East Surrey Museum	£ 50
East Surrey Rural transport Partnership	£200

The closing date for applications in the current year is 1st May 2018

Cllr Karen Weightman

Line your food waste bin with plastic bags

Residents can now line food waste caddies with plastic bags or liners, making it easier, cleaner and cheaper to recycle food waste. You can use anything from old shopping bags to bread or salad bags, but not black bin bags or plastic food packaging. Visit www.recycleforsurrey.org.uk for more information.



FINANCE REPORT

Once again we are pleased to report that Oxted Parish Council has the lowest parish rates of all parish councils in Tandridge. The total precept is £50,000 which means the cost to the band D tax payer in 2018/19 will fall to £9.90p.a.

This year the Council has supported the Oxted Health Centre refitting with £13,500 and St Mary's School MUGA with £8,000 both from the Community Infrastructure Fund. In addition a further £10,000 has been set aside for proposed Trim trail in the King George V playing fields at Mill Lane in Hurst Green. More recently £6,000 has been invested in a new drop curb in Hurst Green.

We are aware that Tandridge District Council and the Oxted Business Improvement District have some exciting plans for our Town centre and we look forward to working with them this year as they develop their proposals in more detail.

In spite of this low level of charge on the local taxpayer the Parish Council was able, and will continue to do so, maintain its support to Master Park, and many other local organisations through Grant Aid, and maintain the Oxted Parish Burial Ground as a pleasant and peaceful environment.

Cllr Martin Fisher

Oxted Gasholder

"St William received planning permission in January 2018 for the redevelopment of the Gasholder site and have recently contracted with Tandridge District Council to acquire the Johnsdale Car Park.

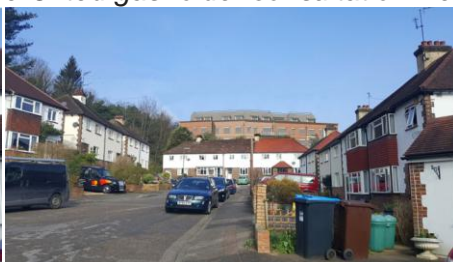
The planning permission is to demolish the gasholder and redevelop the site for 77 apartments which are accessed from Station Road East. The scheme has a central landscaped courtyard and 105 car parking spaces. The buildings step up to 5 storeys over the podium parking level.

St William intend to submit a new planning application in Spring 2018 for a comprehensive masterplan of both sites. The vision for the revised scheme is to build on the principles established by the approved scheme and to maximise the size and usability of the central gardens and to improve the relationship with the neighbouring properties. The proposals include circa 110 apartments, with a mix of 1, 2 and 3 beds. The revised scheme remains within the height of the consented scheme and includes 143 car parking spaces, which equates to 1.3 spaces per home.

Further information can be found on the Oxted gasholder consultation website www.oxtedgasholder.co.uk."



View from Johnsdale of existing gasholder



View from Johnsdale of approved scheme



View from Johnsdale of the proposed scheme

Musical Memories - Musical Memories sessions are running in Oxted. Formerly known as 'singing for the brain', Musical Memories is now only £2 per person, including a cuppa, and the carer goes free. A music tutor leads the group for an hour of songs and music, in an engaging, relaxed and friendly setting. It is run by the Good Care Group. Any residents needing transport to the session, are invited to call East Surrey Dial a Ride on 01883 349001.



Message in a bottle - Message in a Bottle helps older and vulnerable people keep their personal and medical information somewhere it can easily be found in an emergency. An information sheet with vital contact and medication details is completed and stored in a special bottle which is kept in the fridge. A large green sticker is put on the bottle, the fridge door and the inside of the front door to let the emergency services know that the system is being used and gives the emergency services and medical staff easy access to vital information, allowing quicker and more accurate decisions about what action may be needed to be taken immediately. This could save a life in an emergency at home. For details of the scheme or to find where you can pick up a bottle phone Caterham, Oxted or Godstone Lions on 0845 8334993



Here in Oxted South I am delighted to report that Oxted Parish Council was able to fund some kerbing on Hurst Green Road. Prior to the installation, no kerb existed on a stretch bordering the eastern side of Hurst Green common. Unfortunately, the grass at the edge of the common was becoming very 'chewed up' by vehicles parking. The same thing was happening on the western side and a dropped kerb was installed there, funded by the Parish Council. The Council would like to express our grateful thanks to Surrey County Councillor Cameron McIntosh for his help and advice.

I am also pleased to report that we as a Council have given support to Holland Sports & Athletics Club with their plans for a trim trail around the running track in King George V Playing Field, Mill Lane.

We have set aside £10,000 for the creation of a footpath from the trim trail to the outdoor gym.

The outdoor gym was installed by Tandridge District Council a few years back. Whilst the gym is very popular and well used in dry weather, it can be hazardous during the wet as people have to walk across muddy grass to use it.

The £10k is sourced from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). This is money developers are required to pay to TDC, who in turn consider projects from Parish Councils which would enhance life to residents. Oxted Parish Council are delighted that our bid for funding was successful.

Councillor Liz Parker

£8,000 towards St. Marys MUGA

Oxted Parish Councillors, Karen Weightman (Chairman), Liz Parker (Vice Chairman) and David Weightman, on behalf of Oxted Parish Council, handed over a cheque for £8,000 to the Head Teacher of St Mary's School, Mrs Sarah Lewis, to go towards the outstanding cost of the school's Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). The school now has a safe and dry place for the children to play whilst the school is being extended.

Councillor David Weightman said, "Oxted Parish Council has been unanimous in supporting my proposal to give almost all the balance of our uncommitted funds it has received to date from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to this worthy cause."

Oxted Parish Council meets on the second Tuesday bi monthly at 7.30pm in Oxted Community Centre, Church Lane, Oxted. The agenda is posted on Parish Notice boards in Oxted North and South as well as on the Parish Council website. Residents may participate for a period of up to, but no longer than 15 minutes, where the Parish council will hear questions or statements from members of the public. Individuals are allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to speak at any of the meetings



New booking and advice line for community transport - A new community transport booking and advice line was launched by East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership (ESRTP) on Tuesday 6 March. This single phone number (01883 732937) for residents who need community transport services in the Tandridge district will be open every weekday from 8.30am to 5pm to provide advice on the most appropriate form of transport available. Staff will be able to directly book residents on the services currently managed by the ESRTP or signpost residents to alternative providers if appropriate. Residents can also visit www.tandridgecommunitytransport.org for more information.

Annual Parish Assembly 2018

*This year's Annual Parish Assembly is being held on
Tuesday 17th April at The United Reformed Church, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted RH8
Starting at 7:30pm for 8pm.*

An update on projects funded by Oxted Parish Council and proposed projects. Beneficiary organisations will also be in attendance for residents to speak to

Councillors will be happy to answer your questions.

Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting.

Burial Ground

As I write, everything is blanketed with snow. Fortunately, the Parish Council does not often have this as one of the challenges we face.

As the sun has been out too and it seemed to be somewhat spring-like – see what careless thoughts bring – and I was beginning to wonder if we were going to see our first tenants in the bird boxes – made by the Mighty Oaks Youth Club youngsters with kits provided by Men-in- Sheds, Caterham – now with its own Oxted branch. We will be keeping our eyes open. If anyone sees any signs do let us know.

New notices have gone up on the gate posts to remind people that the gates may be closed overnight. The installation of a pedestrian gate is planned so that when the main gates are closed access is still available on foot. A planned ramp from the parking area up on to the Garden of Remembrance area and an adjacent disabled parking bay will soon be marked-out.

The Parish Council is also looking at putting up a notice board on the grass area to the right hand side of the gate just to remind people it is a burial ground and a quiet place of contemplation and remembrance. Stray cars parked on and rutting the grass and around the entrance tend to detract from this and it not very respectful.

We do hope that the Burial Ground is still all you want it to be but if there are any concerns do let us know.

Cllr David Weightman

PLANNING

The area covered by Oxted Parish Council seemingly has the most applications for development in the Tandridge District Area. The Planning Committee meet every three weeks to consider all applications and report back to Tandridge District Council. Members of the public are most welcome to attend, we only ask if you wish to talk on a particular application you contact the Clerk no later than 17.00 the night before the meeting.

In addition to the above, we have been attending presentations of applications with regard to the Gas Holder Site and Ellice Road Car Park site. As a result of these consultations coupled with the acquisition of Johnsdale Car Park in respect of the Gas Holder Site, amended applications will be brought forward for consideration and comments prior to another application being submitted.

2017/2018 has been the usual busy year with regard to applications received but has been made very interesting by the encouragement of participation and ability to comment on proposals for our town.

Cllr Karen Weightman

Witness appeals, crime updates, crime prevention advice and news – sign up at

www.intheknow.community

www.oxted-c.org.uk