



OXTED PARISH COUNCIL

March 2019

A Message from the Chairman

Welcome to the 2019 edition of Oxted Parish Council's Newsletter. 2018 was, I am extremely proud to announce, 'A year of giving from Oxted Parish Council'.

We purchased 4 'Silent Soldiers' to commemorate the ending of the First World War. These are sited at Oxted War Memorial, at the bottom of Old Oxted High Street, outside St. Agatha's Hall, Hurst Green and at the junction of Meadowlands and Holland Road, Hurst Green.

Oxted Parish Council has used CIL money (Community Infrastructure Levy) to help fund the following:

A donation of £8,000 was made to St. Mary's School, Oxted towards the construction of the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), which will enable the children to take part in a variety of sports throughout the year, due to its durable and weather resistant surface.

Problems had been highlighted to us regarding damage to Hurst Green Common caused by vehicles parking on the green. We worked with Surrey County Council and we were able to contribute funds to install kerbing as a preventative measure.

Similar problems occurred outside Hurst Green Infant School and Nursery whereby damage had been caused by parked cars. Oxted Parish Council, together with Surrey County Council, funded the provision of raised kerbing outside the school and we look forward to planting trees on the verge outside the school in March. We will work with the children on this project, which will both enhance the appearance to the entrance of the school and give a sense of pride to pupils and families alike.

Holland Sports and Athletics Club approached Oxted Parish Council for support for their proposed Trim Trail at King George V Playing Field, Mill Lane, Hurst Green. We agreed to support this project in the sum of £10,000, which kick started an appeal for the completion of the project, and I am pleased to report the Trim Trail was opened on 24th November 2018. A path now runs from the Trim Trail to the outdoor gym which Tandridge District Council installed a few years ago, thereby allowing greater use during the Winter months.

In November we were delighted to be able to present Oxted Health Centre with the sum of £15,000 for the refurbishment of their toilets. This work is in hand and will benefit the users of the Health Centre.

CIL money is received by Oxted Parish Council in respect of developments which have taken place in the local area and paid to OPC by the developers concerned.

Cllr Liz Parker

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

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

FINANCE REPORT

Oxted Parish Council is pleased to announce that it has frozen the council tax rate to residents which, due to the additional houses in the area the band D tax payer will be paying £9.81p.a in 2019/20 as against £9.90 in 2018/19.

Hurst Green Infant School and Nursery: new entrance door funding approved

The Parish Council was approached with a request for funding during 2018 by Sarah George, Headteacher of Hurst Green Infant School and Nursery in Wolfs Wood. We were asked to consider supporting the conversion of a window in the school corridor into a door, so that Year 1 and Reception (Navigators and Explorers) no longer need to come in and out of the school playground via the boys' and girls' toilet block. We are happy to support this project. A suitable estimate has been obtained, and planning permissions need to be sought. Subject to these going through successfully, we hope that the building work can take place in the Easter holiday, when it will minimise disruption. It's anticipated that there may be some funds available to contribute to improve the toilet block too, but this work is at an early stage.

Cllr Katherine Saunders

Our County Councillor

It has been a pleasure to work so closely with Oxted Parish Council, since being elected as a Surrey County Councillor for the Oxted Division. Working in close

partnership, we have managed to focus on a variety of Highways issues, in Oxted South and more recently the Oxted North area. One example, has been the verge works outside Hurst Green School, and in Wolfs Wood . Here the verge was cut back to extend the carriageway making it easier for residents, and during the school pick up and drop off hours. Parking is still an issue in this area, and we have been able to manage this by tarmacking some of the verges on Wolfs Wood. This has enabled those to still park here without damaging the environment and surrounding green spaces. A good example of where the Parish and Surrey Highways have worked together. We are continuing to look at where joint partnership in certain areas can work. Which is why, I am pleased the Parish have supported efforts to have trees planted on this verge, to stop inconsiderate parking and by also engaging pupils from the school.

Further work is also being considered in Oxted North, with verges in Silkham Road and Barnetts Shaw. Residents have also inquired about safety aspects, where the Parish have been only too keen to help out. We have installed a VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) sign on Barrow Green road, to deal with those that may speed along here.. Furthermore, the issue of the Chalkpit Quarry site has been a real concern for residents. While Surrey have agreed to a restriction on the amount of movements, which I have pushed for since being elected , the Parish are supporting the monitoring of this. I have been speaking with those in our Transport Survey Team, about the installation of a Counter along here, to keep track on the amount of HGV movements. The Parish Council have agreed to fund this, and by joint working again, we will be able to monitor this closely.

I enjoy getting issues resolved in and around the area, and have been greatly helped by Oxted Parish Council on a number of these. Residents will see that by working across different levels, we can make the area an even better place to live. I hope this work continues.

County Cllr Cameron McIntosh

Grant Aid

Oxted Parish Council considered in May 2018 all applications received in respect of Grant Aid. A total of thirteen applications were received from local organisations totalling a request for funding of £6,125. Oxted Parish Council awarded £5000 in total, and these Grants were made to:

Oxted Young Persons Theatre	£500
Tandridge Family Service Children's Centre	£600
Bloomin 'Arts	£300
St. Mary's Oxted Parochial Church Council	£300
St. Catherine's Hospice	£600
Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance	£200
Age Concern Oxted, Limpsfield & District	£400
Tandridge Neighbourhood Watch	£100
The Woodhouse Centre	£300
Oxted Citizens Advice Bureau	£390
St John's Church, Hurst Green	£584
East Surrey Carers Support	£200
The Bluehouse Festival	£ 50
Safe Drive Stay Alive	£475

The closing date for applications in the current year is 1st May 2019

Cllr Karen Weightman

St Catherine's Hospice Launches Two Charity Treks!

St Catherine's Hospice is thrilled to launch two brand new treks this year!

If you are an adventure lover who enjoys breathtaking landscapes, then St Catherine's Hospice 5 Peaks Challenge is for you! Running from Friday 21 June to Sunday 23 June 2019, trekkers will tackle five of the Lake Districts most demanding mountain peaks, including the highest - Scafell Pike.

Or, if you are an intrepid explorer looking for the adventure of a lifetime, join us as we hike across the Sahara desert! You'll spend three days trekking through the Moroccan Sahara across ancient dried up river beds, sand dunes and vast sun-baked plains. This dazzling trip runs from 26 - 31 March 2020.

Ready to take on one of these challenges? To find out more or to sign up, please contact Michaela Clements on 01293 583063 or email: events@stch.org.uk

With your support, St Catherine's will be able to care for more local people, and their families, so no one has to face death and loss alone.

Would you like to be a Councillor? Contact the Parish Clerk for more information 07510 226989

Projects fully or partially funded by Oxted Parish Council in 2018/19



MUGA at St Mary's School



Silent Soldiers purchased to commemorate the end of WW1



Replacement kerbs in Hurst Green



The newly cleaned war memorial



Trim trail constructed by local company Eezeegrip and photo supplied by Ben McIlwraith



The new Vehicle Activated Sign on Barrow Green Road



Cheque presentation to Dr Hill for the toilet refurbishments at Oxted Health Centre

New car park at St John's church Hurst Green.
Photo provided by Rev'd Professor Mary Seller





When I became the Leader of Tandridge District Council almost three years ago, one of my aims was to achieve the removal of the Oxted gasholder. This is something the community has wanted for such a long time and we have finally made it happen. This has been the result of a lot of hard work by councillors and officers and the many great partners involved in the project.

Not only will the new homes be a great visual addition to the town, they will bring new customers to support our local shops and ensure economic prosperity. The project will bring in £2.39 million from developer St William which we will use to improve our local infrastructure.”

The crane which arrived on site last month will be used to help dismantle the gasholder. It will hold a basket from which two workmen will cut the gasholder into pieces, which will be dropped inside the gasholder before being removed from the site. Most of the materials removed will be recycled.

Demolition of the gasholder is due to be complete around May 2019. Following this some groundworks will take place before work begins to build the 111 one, two and three bedroom apartments, with car parking and landscaped courtyard gardens.

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.



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

Surrey County Council are inviting local businesses, Adult Social Care, voluntary organisations, health professionals and the public to take part in making Oxted a Dementia Friendly Community.

What is a Dementia Friendly Community?

A city, town or village where people with dementia are understood, respected and supported, and confident they can contribute to community life. In a dementia friendly community people will be aware of and understand dementia, and people with dementia will feel included and involved, and have choice and control over their day-to-day lives.

How everyone can get involved:

- Members of the public and Businesses can attend short Dementia Friends Awareness Sessions to see how they can play a part. Just being more patient in a checkout queue is a valuable action.

For more information or to book an Dementia Friends Awareness Session contact:

Lesley Thomas
 Social Care Development Coordinator
 Tandridge Locality
 Tandridge District Council
 Station Rd East, Oxted
 RH8 0BT
 Tel: 01737 737500
 Email: lesley.thomas@surreycc.gov.uk