

Report of the Outwood Parish Council Meeting ~

November 2005

As usual we started with our County Councillor, Ken Rimington, who explained that police forces with less than 4,000 in the workforce (which includes Surrey) need to amalgamate with another to make it more efficient. The government has decided to re-evaluate property values in the future. This may well include garages, greenhouses etc. as part of the property but this has been delayed.

The District councillors attended in force! Diana Brown had had a query from a Smallfield resident about the Post Bus and thus had a contact number. Peter Brown told us that all planning is now on the Tandridge website and objections can be registered via this medium as well as through the usual channels and that the East Surrey Hospital has a huge deficit and a single Primary Care Trust for the whole area has been mooted for 2007-8. The Tandridge District Council has installed photovoltaic cells to supply its electricity and it is hoped that enough will be generated to sell some to the National Grid. He apologised for the lack of rubbish collection in the area and hoped that this would be remedied in the near future. Alan Jones told us that there are 4 outstanding licensing appeals which were to be heard soon.

We were delighted to welcome to our meeting a number of village mums with their children (of around 10 years of age and who behaved impeccably). They had come for the discussion on "Activities for Young People" which took place next. According to the 2001 census 22% of the inhabitants of this village is under 16 years of age. There is a definite lack of any sort of facilities for those of 9 years and upwards. All we have in Outwood is a Beaver group (6-8 yr olds). Cubs takes place in Salfords and Nutfield, and Brownies in Betchingley, all requiring "ferrying".

A group of dads, mums and children plays football on the Common opposite the windmill on Sunday evenings and the request for portable goalposts was granted (not least to keep the ball off the roads). A hard court of some description on which children could play basketball/ netball etc. would be ideal. The siting of the same is a problem as the Parish Council doesn't own any land. Somewhere for children "just to hang around in" was also suggested and the Council is looking into a site for a vandal-proof shelter (which exists!). The successes of the cricket evening for youngsters and the village hall tuck shop in the school holidays shows that our village children need to be able to get together.

We then went on to hear from Chris Stembridge that there had been a number of incidents involving catapult damage from a van and a car had been burnt out on the cricket ground. There was then a lengthy discussion on the issue of speeding through the village and the council has put aside £600 for the possible joint purchase of a speed gun and other equipment with Horne village.

A pile of tyres in Gayhouse Lane was speedily removed by T.D.C. but there is still an inordinate amount of litter appearing on the roadsides and in the ditches.

The normal metre strip cut along the verge on Dayseys Hill did not take place as the police had requested it not to be done due to an enquiry into an incident there.

The rash of potholes in Scotts Hill up by the common was noted and will be reported to T.D.C.

Please remember that it is possible to update the village website through any member of the website team (Ian Green, Patrick Jenn and Anne Morle). Please ensure that all clubs and societies do this to keep our village website relevant to today.

There are a number of issues concerning the Lloyd Hall which has incurred a large number of costs this year. The insurance has risen due to a number of necessary claims and bookings are

down. The installation of an aural loop has been requested and we would like feedback on this. The hall has a finite life and its future is constantly under discussion.

The handyman, whom we share with Burstow, has not been in Outwood for some time and the Parish Council is in negotiation with Burstow about his re-employment.

Paula Marsh - November 2005