

Report of the Outwood Parish Council Meeting ~ February 2006

Despite the lack of heating and of chairs the meeting got off to a start with County Councillor Ken Rimington beginning with the bad news - our Council Tax will be going up by 5%.

There was also some good news - S.C.C. has been given a four star rating, there will be 5% recycling within the next ten years (which unfortunately will still leave 300,000 tonnes of rubbish to be disposed of each year) - and the new fire engine now based in Reigate holds 8 men rather than the 4-6 in the previous model, with up-to-date equipment, and should therefore be more efficient.

In the absence of any of the District Councillors (who were at a T.D.C. meeting) and in view of the fact that there was a delegation of parents to talk about Youth Activities, this item was brought forward. It seems that some sort of hard-standing such as a tennis court with netball and basketball markings would be most desirable and would be put to good use by the young and also older members of the village. The most obvious site to date is the field next to the Lloyd Hall (where the Show is held) or the area immediately next to the hall itself (if it is large enough). Letters from the parents and the Parish Council to the National Trust and to Peter Ainsworth pleading the cause are to be sent as a start.

We were pleased to welcome P.C. Baker who reported the recent theft of a trailer from a residence in Scotts Hill. He also explained the presence of the police helicopter recently. It was out searching for a vulnerable missing person.

Councillors reported that the B.T. phonebox in Millers Lane had been repaired. The Lloyd Hall is still lacking regular bookings which is not helping the finances. The Parish Council is to take on the research into the induction loop as it is felt that there is a need for one.

These roads are due for a litter pick next month -

Week beginning 13th March - Part of Prince of Wales Road (Green Lane to Brickfield Road), Brickfield Road, Green Lane (part of), Dayseys Hill.

Week beginning 20th March - Scotts Hill, Wasp Green Lane, Little Collins, Millers Lane.

Week beginning 27th March - Outwood Lane and Rookery Hill.

(N.B. the pick could take place on any day in those designated weeks)

We are renewing our membership of the Aviation Environment Federation as it is a very useful tool if the question of Redhill Aerodrome arises again.

A request for a wooden signpost at the bottom of Green Lane in Dayseys Hill had been mooted. This would be in keeping with the ethos of the Dayseys Hill Project and will be investigated.

The handyman will be returning to the village on a monthly basis and will be set to work on the never-ending task of litter picking (starting on the areas that won't be done by T.D.C. in March).

Villagers are reminded to keep the 20th April free for the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm in the Lloyd Hall when Jane Wilson, Youth Liaison Officer for T.D.C. will be the main speaker.

Paula Marsh - February 2006