

HELP OUT

JOIN IN WITH A PROJECT THAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

The Parish Council has lots of projects on going, with more to come. If you have an idea for a project, please let us know – either by contacting the clerk or coming to our monthly full Council Meetings.

We always welcome help, even if it is for just a couple of hours here and there. Upcoming projects include Renewing the hedges in Charlwood (ivy removal and hedge replanting), Community Speedwatch, Hedge and verge cutting for residents unable to manage their highways-edging hedges. Ditch clearing to protect our homes from flooding

GRAND OPENING OF HOOKWOOD PLAYGROUND

Hookwood residents may have noticed the childrens playground works are almost complete! We hope our families and younger residents enjoy the new features! There will be more to come across the Parish!

CHALLENGING TIMES

We are living in uncertain and sometimes difficult times. There are many options for help if you need. These come from many sides including housing, financial and health & welfare from Surrey County Council

CHARITIES

Did you know we have 2 charities able to help with good causes? JB&TMT and the. More details can be found on their web sites.

FOOTPATH PROJECT – KISSING GATES

The coronation walk team spent many hours this summer funding and installing the replacement of old wooden styles. Changing them to gates allows our less firm residents and those with large dogs to use our public footpath. Huge thanks for farmer Paul Knight and resident Penny Tyson Davis for making this happen!

If you would like to see this project expanded, perhaps sponsor another gate, please get in touch.

ACCESSIBLE PAVEMENTS

If people are to be enabled to leave the car behind, we need to have accessible and good standard pavements & paths. If there is a location near you needs cleaning off or pavement added to create a proper link, help us make these improvements happen.

HEDGE CUTTING

Keeping pavements clear of overhanging hedges is householder responsibility. Please help pavement users by ensuring your hedge is well but back each autumn. Get in touch if you need help doing it

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Meeting monthly:

Services and Amenities committee oversees care of recreation grounds and several projects:

The car park project has been submitted to MVDC for planning approval. If approved, the Parish will start fund raising ahead of installation **Traffic calming** proposal has been reviewed by Surrey Highways. We plan to meet in the coming month to agree on what would be the most effective and implementable measures.

Speedwatch locations have been approved by the police, volunteers have been trained will soon be out again, helping to reduce the speed of traffic through the villages. If you have a spare hour or so a month, why not join?

Planning, Highways and environment committee reviews all planning applications in and near the Parish to ensure our community is represented. Also works on highways and environmental matters

The resilience, and the Emergency sub-committees meet as needed and enable us to respond quickly to emergencies. If you have skills of equipment that could be usable in an emergency, please contact us.



Spotlight

Your Parish Council Newsletter

Join us! We currently have a vacancy for Parish councillor, or join in one of our projects as a volunteer.

The Parish Council comprises of nine councillors, from both Charlwood and Hookwood. The Parish Council has responsibility for maintaining the leisure & recreational areas in the community - The Recreation Ground, The Millennium Field and the Withey as well as management of the Glebe Field. There is currently a vacancy for councillor, so if you think you may like to become a part, do get in touch with our clerk, Janette at clerk@charlwoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

HOOKWOOD HOUSING APPLICATION MO/2023/1125

A planning application for 446 houses has been lodged for Green Belt land in Hookwood.

To keep up to date, email

hookwood.greenbelt@gmail.com

Please urgently send in your comments.

Add an attachment here

<https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/mole/search-applications/>

Or email here planning@molevalley.gov.uk

State if you OBJECT, include the reference number and your address

You may wish to consider:

This is Greenbelt and there are no exceptional circumstances to recategorize it

The application is a major diversion for our existing Local Plan

Gatwick Airport will not provide sufficiently well paid jobs that would enable people to buy these houses. Residents would instead need to commute, mostly by car.

Insufficient infrastructure: doctors, schools, hospitals, sewerage capacity

Highways issues, Reigate Road is unsuitable for the induced additional daily car journeys. It is already very dangerous with a high number of accidents

No need, there are 10 000 newly built or planning approved buildings within 5 miles, and a further 10 000 proposed 3 miles away by Horsham Council

Inadequate walking / cycling provision allocated, which will compel residents to travel by car

The land is priority habitat for lapwing and brown hairstreak plus protected species such as shrew, bats, slow worm, spotted flycatcher, greenfinch, and hoopoes has been heard as it rested here while passing through.

The proposal would remove the benefits of the public footpath that provides the only reasonable distance circular walk for Hookwood residents.

Flood risk elevated for surrounding homes

IFLELD HOUSING PROPOSALS

Horsham District Council are preparing this own Local Plan but have previously proposed allocating land reaching up to our doorstep. 10 000 houses are planned, with the initial phase of 3 500 anticipating traffic primarily exiting on to Bonnets Lane. Clearly, the potential impact of our community would be huge and would impact roads, infrastructure, and pollution. You can find out more here:

<https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/>

GATWICK EXPANSION

Gatwick Airport has submitted a Development Consent Order – a planning application submitted directly to Government, not the local council, with the intention to move the emergency 12 meter closer to Gatwick Airport has submitted a Development Consent Order

– a planning application submitted directly to Government, not the local council, with the intention to move the emergency 12 meter closer to Hookwood and use it as a full time take-off runway, generating an estimated increase in number of flights of 40%. The accompanying congestion and air & noise pollution would impact our community like no other:

<https://www.gacc.org.uk/> &

<https://cagne.org/>

WHAT IS AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

We are familiar with the term 'affordable housing', but what exactly does that mean?

Affordable housing is housing sold at 20% less than full market rate.

That means if full market rate house is priced at £500,000, the equivalent affordable house would be £400,000. Still rather a lot of money!

Social housing is housing provided the council, in our Parish this is via Clarion Housing. Social housing is akin to what we used to know as Council Housing.

LOCAL PLAN

A **Local Plan** is a document that guides development under the oversight of Mole Valley District Council. We have an existing version, however, MVDC are in the process of drawing up a new ('emerging') Local Plan, but progress has been 'paused' while we await clarification over Government housing number 'targets', our current Plan remains in place. The revised Government guidance is expected to lessen the pressure on councils and reinforce Greenbelt protections. While we await a revised 'NPPF', the legal guidance that councils need to follow, developers are using this 'pause' window as an opportunity to submit plans for housing developments across the district. This is a national issue, with around 20 LPs currently 'paused'.

NEIGHBOURED PLAN & HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY YOUR INPUT NEEDED

A **Neighbourhood Plan** is a way for communities to have their say on what housing and development should look like in their location. Requirements can include density of housing, design and things like playgrounds and allotments. The Parish Council has voted to create a Neighbourhood Plan so that our community has a voice over what any new development would look like. Please fill in and return the survey

Housing Needs Survey

You will soon be receiving a survey through the post asking if you have a need for affordable housing and has been arranged due to an application to build less than 4 houses on Ifield Road and is not related to the proposals described in this newsletter.

