



## SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL



# Annual Parish Report 2009/10

### Parish Councillors for the Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

Ivan Gosden	Parish Council Chairman
Sandy Johnston	Parish Council Vice-Chairman and chairman of Leisure Facilities Committee
Alan Ball	
Bruce Batting	Chairman of Planning committee and responsible for allotments
Ken Clark	Chairman of Burial Ground Committee
Sally Hennessey	
Bruce Jones	
David Leivesley	
Lucy Marshall	Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee
Lorraine Smith	

Brian Archer resigned as Parish Councillor during the year. Alan Ball was co-opted onto the Parish Council. Fiona Craig resigned as Parish Clerk and Jayne Hawkins took over the role in July 2009.

All Parish Councillors are trustees of the Village Hall.

### **Meetings**

Between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2010, we held 44 meetings:

Parish Council	11
Finance and General Purposes Committee	6
Leisure Facilities Committee	5
Planning Committee	14
Fete Committee	3
Burial Ground Committee	1
Allotment holders meeting	1
Annual Parish Meeting	1
Traffic Calming meeting – HCC	1
Football Pavilion working Parties	1

### **During the year, the Parish Council has ...**

- Received reports from Police and Neighbourhood Watch.
- Monitored safety on the Village Green, via monthly reports from the litter warden and an annual safety inspection
- Paid for a litter warden
- Carried out weekly checks of the play ground/BMX track.
- Rented a Speed Limit Reminder Device (SLR) to be moved around the village to reduce speed of traffic
- Arranged for a traffic survey in the village and liaised with Hampshire County Council on traffic calming Schemes

- Continued with a rolling programme of ditch clearance to try to reduce flooding
- Put in a new drainage pipe behind the Playground to prevent water running from the concrete path down to Poplar Close.
- Added safety tyres to the zip wire in the playground to improve safety, arranged for Scout-a-bout to be fixed
- Arranged for graffiti to be removed from playground and bus shelters
- Managed the allotments, carried out 3 inspections
- Worked with landowners to clear blocked footpaths
- Arranged for a drain behind the football pavilion to be cleared.
- Consulted on a maintenance programme for the Horse Chestnut Avenue, organised leaf clearance and minor pruning, including the removal of ivy.
- Organised grass cutting on the Green and more regular grass cutting of sports grounds and pitches
- Organised general maintenance of hedges and verges around the Village
- Reviewed the need for grit bins in the village and the priority of gritting for school bus routes following the heavy snow last winter.
- Arranged for the felling and removal of dead trees
- Liaised with Police about nuisance parking in the Village
- Organised pest control treatments to ensure Loddon Sports FC have been able to play their matches.
- Approved a memorial tree to be placed on The Green
- Organised steam cleaning of the Tennis court surface
- Organised removal of fir trees at the far side of Tennis courts to prevent root damage to surface
- Repaired broken benches on the Green.
- Repaired damaged roof of bus shelter on Bramley Road.
- Received approximately 12 County and Borough documents for consultation.
- Produced draft regulations for new burial ground and prepared a planning application for a new entrance
- Produced a draft emergency plan to include revised flood plan information
- Maintained the Parish Council website and produced a newsletter that was delivered to every house in the Parish and provided Parish Council updates in the Loddon Link
- Nominated two residents for the Place to be Proud of awards.
- Liaised with Sentinel Housing to arrange removal of rubbish and soil from the garages off Bow Drive
- Liaised with planning enforcement officers regarding the old oil tanker in Poplar Close.
- Applied for a BT phone box at Church End to be listed. This was unsuccessful.

## **Ongoing / outstanding projects**

- Protection and renovation of the Village Hall. The exterior has been decorated, two replacement windows have been fitted in the Liddell Hall
- Continue discussions with Hampshire County Council Roads regarding traffic calming measures
- Replacement football pavilion – a grant application to Big Lottery was unsuccessful, a grant application will be made to the Football Foundation – Sustainable communities fund
- Continue to evaluate the need for a trim trail in the village, consulting widely with the public
- Consider whether to adopt the telephone kiosk at Church End
- Continue to look for volunteers to help prepare a Parish Plan.

**Annual allotment holders meeting:** Bruce Batting is the contact for issues regarding the allotments. 3 skips were provided last year. Two new water troughs have been installed and two new compost bins will be installed this spring.

**14 Planning Committee Meetings:** Chairman – Bruce Batting

27 applications were considered during the year and 5 objections were lodged by the Parish Council:

- Objection to realignment of Cufaude Lane and associated landscaping
- Objection to an extension at Premier Court involving an exterior staircase

- Objection to overdevelopment of a site at Hams Corner with insufficient parking
- Objection to amended plans for site at Hams Corner for same reasons given above
- Objection to extensions to a pair of cottages on Reading Road with large exterior garage. Over development and excessive height of carport.

**6 Finance and General Purposes Committee Meetings:** Chairman – Lucy Marshall

The committees remit includes the consideration of quotations, budgetary control and drafting the precept. The precept in 2010/2011 will remain the same as in the previous year 2009/2010 at £44,250, this is £39.18 for a band D household. It should be noted that in addition to any Council Tax resulting from the Parish precept there will also be Council Tax levied in respect of the Borough and County Councils and the Police and Fire Authorities. A number of large projects planned to take place in 2009/2010 were delayed due to poor weather over the winter: New Compost bins at the allotments, exterior painting of the village hall. Both these projects will be completed in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010/2011. Expenditure is planned to increase in the next year to utilise under spend last year the budget includes provision for work on the cottages of the village hall, new play ground equipment if we are not successful in applying for grants and an entrance to the new burial ground off A33.

**5 Leisure Facilities Committee Meetings:** Chairman – Sandy Johnston

The Committee discusses issues relating to the play area, BMX track, tennis courts, football and cricket grounds/pavilions and allotments. The committee meets approximately every 2 months.

**1 Burial Ground Committee Meeting:** Chairman – Ken Clark

The burial ground committee looks after the burial ground, the first meeting took place in February 2010. The main issues being considered are the layout of the new burial ground and access off the A33. A set of draft regulations have been produced. This committee meets every 2 months

**3 Village Fete Committee Meetings:** Chairman – Bruce Batting

The Village Fete Committee meets monthly from January to July to plan and organise the village Fete which takes place in June each year.

**Thank You**

The Parish Council are most grateful to our local beat office WPC Mandy Jewell, the Village Green Volunteers, the Friends of the Village Hall, to Phil Cole, our litter warden, who does an excellent job at keeping our village clean and tidy and also to Geraldine House-Barklie, our tree warden who advises on tree work within the Parish, particularly within the Conservation Area. We would also like to thank Brian Archer for his many years of service to the Parish Council and to Fiona Craig for her excellent work as Clerk. Members of the WI continue to tend our planters along the Reading Road for which we are very grateful. Thanks, too, must go to our local contractors who we use on a regular basis: Barry and Roy Bulpitt, Mike Barnes, Ben Stoopman, Peter Elliott and Mark Stewart.