

## General update

In May, Councillor Bruce Batting stood down as Chairman of Sherfield-on-Loddon Parish Council having completed twelve years of dedicated and valuable service in that position. Bruce continues to serve the Council and we are grateful for the experience and background on village matters that he brings to council business. Ivan Gosden took over as

the new Chairman with assistance from Councillor Sandy Johnston as Vice-Chairman. Jayne Hawkins took over from Fiona Craig as Parish Clerk in July.

As many of you will have noticed the ditch running across the centre of the Green behind the Cricket Pitch has been cleared. Thirty-eight willows were removed from the east side of the ditch and the ditch dug out, all other

trees will remain. This was a major project which should result in improved drainage of the Green. Other more minor ditch clearance work has taken place across the Green. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused to users of the Green. However, this maintenance work is essential.

## Housing Threat - Loddon Valley

Basingstoke and Deane Planning Department is asking the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to endorse a plan that could result in up to 10,000 homes being built in the Loddon Valley adjacent to Old Basing, Chineham and Newnham. Proposed changes to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) would result in removing Manydown and a large site at Kempshott to the West of the Town from consideration for future housing despite planning arguments suggesting that they should be considered. As a result the majority of Greenfield development would be in the Loddon/Lyde Valleys.

Taylor Wimpey have produced plans to build 10,000 plus houses in the Loddon/Lyde Valleys between the A.33 and A.30 including a distributor road cutting through Pyotts Hill to link with Great Binfields Road and then under the railway bridge along Basing Road to join the Black Dam Roundabout.

The Parish Council believes that this is an unsustainable proposal as the plan as it stands:

\* ignores advice from The Environment Agency which specifically advises against building homes here, \* takes no account of the very significant risk of flooding caused by development in

this location, \* ignores the threat to the unique natural benefits of the river valleys with their complex biodiversity and world famous chalk stream, \* has no credible plan to finance or manage the impact on the local infrastructure (roads, sewers, water, power) that cannot cope with existing demand, let alone a significant increase in population. The final version of the SHLAA will not be produced until March/April 2010 but please show your concern by writing to: Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4AH.

## Traffic Calming

Hampshire County Council carried out a traffic survey in the village in October with speeds being measured on the Bramley Road and the Old Reading Road. Average speeds recorded were surprisingly slow. On both Roads the average speed was around 30mph although it was slightly above 30mph on the Old Reading Road where it seems people sometimes speed up to get through the chicanes. Al-

though the majority of people driving through the village are sticking to the speed limit the council is still concerned about the few that persist in speeding. The Council has requested a meeting with Hampshire County Council and Basingstoke and Deane to discuss all the available traffic calming options and will report back on progress in later issues of the Link.

“Although the national speed limit applies on the majority of rural roads, most drivers do not exceed it on them - the major problem is driving too fast for the conditions.”

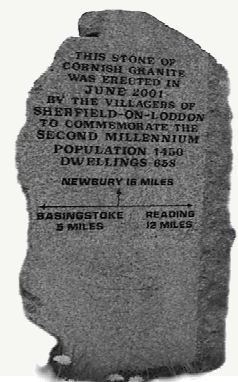
### Special interest articles

- ◆ Greening Campaign
- ◆ Parish Plan
- ◆ Flood Plan Review



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Every month the Sherfield-on-Loddon Parish Council meeting Agendas are placed on the notice boards prior to the meeting as well as uploaded along with the minutes of the meetings to our website. However, if you do not have access to the internet and would like a copy of the minutes then please contact the Clerk who will be able to supply you with a hard copy via the post. A small fee will be charged to cover costs, in line with our Freedom of Information Act policy.

## Parish Plan

Parish Plans are a Government-supported initiative which gives people living in villages a way of deciding for themselves how they would like their village to develop.

A Parish Plan would provide a detailed description of the desires of the people of Sherfield-on-Loddon. However, it is not simply a wish list. It also contains a detailed, prioritised action plan, stating what is to be done, by when and by whom, with examples of funding sources available

to achieve these desires. Although the Parish Council can initiate the process of developing a Parish Plan it is a community project and must be supported by and include input from all members of the community. It would be initiated by a questionnaire that would be sent to all residents to discover your general issues, an open event would then be held to gather support for the plan and then a steering group established with wide representation from

the community. Funding is available from the Borough Council for developing the plan. The Parish Council would be very interested in hearing from residents who would like to be actively involved in developing a Plan for Sherfield-on-Loddon. Please indicate your interest by emailing the Clerk at [clerk@sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk) or by mail to: Jayne Hawkins, 17 Hollytrees, Fleet, Hampshire, GU51 5NL

## Leisure Equipment for the Village Green

### TRIM TRAIL

The Parish Council is hoping to install a trim trail around the periphery of middle green, the area of village green between Goddards Lane and the concrete pathway, and will be seeking grant aid to achieve this. The PC is mindful that the area forms part of our SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation) and so we will ensure that the units are as unobtrusive as possible.

Having seen the superb trail installed by Fawns Ltd at Kings Somborne we feel

sure that this will be a welcome fitness facility for all ages within our community.

### CHILDREN'S PLAY UNIT

Additionally, we are looking towards applying for other grant money to purchase a new piece of play equipment to be installed close to the existing play area, suitable for 8 - 12 year olds. We would welcome comments (particularly from within this age range!) on the following proposals. Please let us know your first, second and third choices:

PLEASE RESPOND BY EMAIL  
(INCLUDE YOUR AGE WHERE APPLICABLE) TO:

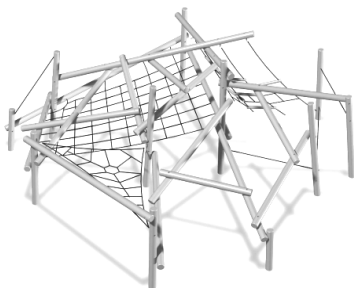
[clerk@sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk)

OR IN WRITING TO:  
17 HOLLYTREES, HANTS, GU51 5NL  
**BY 1 MARCH 2010**

### OPTION 1

#### Amazon Jungle Climber

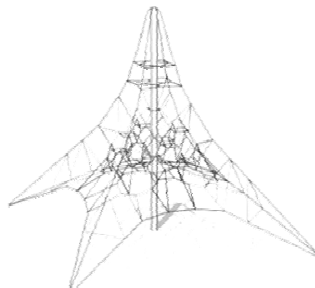
Full details: [www.playdale.co.uk](http://www.playdale.co.uk) Search "Jungle Climber"



### OPTION 2

#### High Activity Net

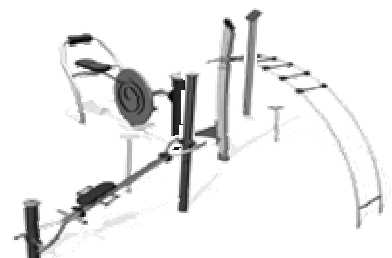
Full details: [www.wicksteed.co.uk](http://www.wicksteed.co.uk) Search "Activity Net 4m"



### OPTION 3

#### 3-way Cardio Unit (suitable for 10yrs up)

Full details: [www.proludic.co.uk](http://www.proludic.co.uk) Search Products for "vitality areas and vitality trails".



## Greening Campaign

It takes just one person in a community to raise their hand and say they want to reduce the effects of climate change. That one hand will be joined by other hands and together those hands will (re)build a community that is more sustainable, will reduce its effect on climate change and will create a plan

for adapting to a future with a changed climate.

The person with that one hand raised can be you! The Greening Campaign now has over 140 active communities (including Alton, Alresford and Basingstoke) with more joining every week.

### Contact

If you would like to know more about any aspect of the Greening Campaign please either see the website, [www.greening-campaign.co.uk](http://www.greening-campaign.co.uk) or contact Terena Plowright: [info@greening-campaign.co.uk](mailto:info@greening-campaign.co.uk) (supported by the Hampshire Association of Local Councils).



## THE GREENING CAMPAIGN

Greening the country community by community

## Burial Ground

Land for a new burial ground has been purchased by the Parish Council next to the existing church yard. Work is underway to prepare the land for burials when the existing church yard becomes full. Plans have been submitted for a new entrance off the A33 to provide access for maintenance vehicles.

## Drainage

The main drain that runs behind Loddon Sports football pavilion recently blocked again and had to be cleared by Thames Water. This is a main drain which serves all of the Bow Drive estate. When this drain blocks water and sewage back up onto the Green which

is obviously unpleasant and unhealthy for everyone using this part of the Green. The blockage was caused by fat, nappies, cotton buds, wipes etc. Please remember that the sewage system is only designed to take away water, toilet tissue and human waste. A blocked

culvert along the Bramley Road has been causing havoc for householders and road users in the recent wet and snowy weather. The county council has cleared some of the blockage, further work is scheduled to remove tree roots and repair the damaged drain.

## Plans

A new councillor will be co-opted onto the Parish Council in 2010 following the resignation of Councillor Brian Archer. The Parish Council will actively be investigating further traffic calming measures to slow traffic in the village. Towards the end of 2009 members of the Parish Council met with an arborist to review the health of the Horse Chestnut trees along the Bramley Road. A few of the trees have died in recent years and been removed

and many of the remaining trees have some bleeding canker. This is a bacterial disease that can lead to the death of the Horse Chestnut. The council was advised that the best way to support the trees is to ensure that they are as healthy as possible. A program to replace the missing trees and to treat the infected trees is being looked at. Simple measures such as removing any Ivy from the trees and clearing up all the dead leaves have been taken. A

program of regular maintenance work on the green, ditches and leisure facilities will continue to be actioned. Grants for leisure and play equipment will be applied for. Councillors are currently reviewing the emergency Flood Plan for the village with the assistance of Julie James who works in Emergency Planning at Hampshire County Council. (See overleaf for flood plan questionnaire/contact list.)

## DOG FOULING

Many people enjoy walking and playing football on the Green but this experience is being marred by the blight of dog fouling. If you are a dog owner please ensure that you pick up your dog's mess and take it home for disposal or use one of the many bins on the Green.

The Green is a place for everyone, including four legged companions. With a little foresight and planning, everyone can continue to enjoy a walk or a game of football with little impact on the place that you love so well.



If anyone would like to go on the waiting list for an allotment please contact the Parish Clerk - 07833098752

## Parish Council Meetings 2010

Parish Council meetings take place in the Liddell Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and members of the public are very welcome to attend.

13 January	14 July
10 February	August - no meeting
10 March	8 September
14 April	13 October
12 May	10 November
9 June	8 December

## Parish Councillors - Contact List

**Ivan Gosden (Chairman) 01256 881007 (H)**

**Sandy Johnston (V Chair) 01256 882507 (H)**

**Bruce Batting 01256 882605 (H)**

**Bruce Jones 01256 882881 (H)**

**David Leivesley 01256 882939 (H)**

**Lorraine Smith 01256 881498 (H)**

**Lucy Marshall 01256 881742 (H)**

**Sally Hennessey 01256 880224 (H)**

**Ken Clark 01256 882846 (H)**

**Vacancy**

### Parish Clerk:

**Jayne Hawkins**  
**17 Hollytrees, Fleet, GU51 5NL**  
**Tel: 01252 673172 / 0783 3098752**  
**clerk@sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk**  
**www.sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk**

## Flood Info - Useful Contacts:

Hampshire County Council	01962 841841
<a href="http://www3.hants.gov.uk/emergency_flooding">www3.hants.gov.uk/emergency_flooding</a>	
Emergency Planning Unit	01962 846846
<a href="mailto:epoffice@hants.gov.uk">epoffice@hants.gov.uk</a>	
Police HQ	0845 045 45 45
<a href="http://www.hampshire.police.uk">www.hampshire.police.uk</a>	
Fire Service HQ	02380 644000
<a href="http://www.hantsfire.gov.uk">www.hantsfire.gov.uk</a>	
NHS direct	0845 4647
<a href="http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk">www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk</a>	
EA Floodline	0845 988 1188
<a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk">www.environment-agency.gov.uk</a>	
Hampshire Highways	0845 8504422
<a href="http://www.hants.gov.uk">www.hants.gov.uk</a>	
Flood Forum	01299 403055
<a href="http://www.floodforum.org.uk">www.floodforum.org.uk</a>	
Basingstoke & Deane BC	01256 844844
<a href="http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/regeneration/rad/flooding.htm">www.basingstoke.gov.uk/regeneration/rad/flooding.htm</a>	

## Flood Plan Review

### FLOOD PLAN

The Parish Flood Plan is under review and we welcome feedback from residents to assist with the process. Has your property flooded from watercourses or drains in the past? We would like to have a clearer picture of susceptible areas and would be pleased if you could take the time to complete and return the following form to the Clerk, either by post or email. Please note, this information will be regarded as confidential and only used for the purpose of this survey.

NAME		
ADDRESS		
1. What got flooded?		
	The inside of a house(s)?	TICK
	The underdrawings of a house(s)?	
	A garage/shed?	
	A garden/drive/private footpath?	
	A highway?	
	Fields/open land?	
2. How deep was the flood?		
3. How often does flooding occur?		
4. Do you know specific dates?		
5. Where was the water coming from?		
	Out of your drains?	TICK
	Out of drains (gullies) in the road?	
	From a stream or ditch?	
	From a land drain?	
	Don't know?	
6. Was it raining at the time of the flooding?		
7. Did it have foul sewage in it?		
8. Please provide any information which you feel may be helpful to the PC		
We would be pleased to hear from tradesmen or individuals with trade skills who are willing to be called upon to assist in the event of an emergency. If you feel you are able to offer this or any other assistance in the event of an emergency (eg; transportation, first aider/medic) please contact the Clerk.		