



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2006

From the Chairman:

As this is the first newsletter of 2006, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy New Year – it certainly promises to be an interesting one for your Parish Council. Firstly there is the issue of the East Grinstead Relief Road and then there is the development of a Village Plan. Both of these matters are subject of updates in this Newsletter. I would like to thank Brian Phillips for the enormous amount of work he is putting into the Village Plan.

The computer minded will be interested to know that the Parish Council is developing its own website and hopefully it will be up and running within the next year. Information on this and other Parish Council matters can be obtained from our clerk Susan Wellerd, who I am happy to report has made an excellent recovery from her accident late last year.

However, there are still the problems of vehicles moving too fast within the village (please note I have not used the word "speeding" as I suspect it is more a matter of an inappropriate speed rather than actually exceeding the speed limit), the continuing problems of cars parking on pavements, and inconsiderate parking at the junction of Hammerwood Road and School Lane at the beginning and end of the school day. The Parish Council was also aware of the considerable difficulties that were caused by the relaying of the Gas Main in Maypole Road. We were quite unaware that this was about to happen and understand that the Public Utilities are under no obligation to consult or even advise either the Parish Council or even the Highways Authority whenever they wish to dig up the road. We appreciate the patience of all those affected.

Finally I would like to thank those who have volunteered to be involved with either the Village Plan or the East Grinstead Strategic Development Area Action Plan committees. Your help is appreciated, and should anyone have any other ideas which they feel the Parish Council should be aware of in these or any other matters then please, please come along to our meetings and talk to us.

Alan Del Mar

STOP PRESS PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE WWW.ashurstwoodparishcouncil.GOV.UK going live

East Grinstead Relief Road – An Update

The second meeting of the Parish Council Steering Committee was held on 24 January 2006 at which the objectives of the committee and what the next steps should be were agreed.

The revised Area Action Plan is due to be re-issued for public consul-

tation by Mid Sussex Wood and in that regard, irrespective what one might think of the environmental and infrastructure problems of building 2500 houses to the south west of East Grinstead, the main impact on Ashurst Wood of the MSDC's proposals will be the effect that the associated relief road will have upon traffic through the village. A relief road for East Grinstead will **not** give relief for Ashurst Wood in-

The Parish Council's sole responsibility is to the residents of Ashurst

SHOPPING BUS DRIVERS URGENTLY REQUIRED TO ENABLE THIS POPULAR SERVICE TO CONTINUE.

Please contact Susan in the Parish Office if you are able to spare one morning a month helping the older residents of the village.

Collection of Household and Garden Waste

The Parish Council, with the cooperation of the Village Centre Management Committee have organised and funded a collection of rubbish to take place outside the Village Centre on **:Sunday 26th March 2006 between 10.30am and Mid-day.** It is important that this service is used, if the Parish Council is to

Speedwatch Campaign

Last autumn the Speedwatch volunteers chose the three sites in the village that they considered to be the worst affected by speeding vehicles. Following feedback from other Speedwatch groups, the Parish Council decided to undertake a survey of traffic at the chosen sites for a period of seven days during school term time in order to determine the percentage of vehicles actually exceeding the 30mph speed limit.

We want to avoid the trouble of getting the volunteers trained, to find that after several

hours of standing out in all weathers only one or two cars are identified as exceeding the limit. However should the survey reveal that speeding is a major problem then Speedwatch will be set up.

Anti Social Behaviour: Smashed Windows

Vandals have been using a catapult or similar to break vehicle and property windows in Maypole Road and the glass in bus shelter by the Three Crowns. The police are aware of the problem but they do need your help so that they can prosecute the offender/s. It is important that you report the matter to the police if you are a victim of this type of crime on **0845 60 70 999** or dial **999** if you witness an attack in progress.

ASHURST WOOD VILLAGE PLAN

What is the "Village Plan"?

What residents want for Ashurst Wood

Who decides what is in the plan?

Residents of Ashurst Wood and outlying areas (plus businesses & schools)

How do we know what is wanted?

Consult as many of residents - all age groups (plus businesses & schools)

How do we consult residents (businesses & schools)?

Personal contacts, via clubs & organisations, open days, events, questionnaire.

How do we implement your ideas?

Through the Parish Council and other public agencies.

Steering Committee:

Formed in July 05 and active on developing the strategy for the consultation:

Chairman : Brian Phillips
Secretary : Keith Stacey
Publicity : Keith and Kate Bryant

Timetable:

| | |
|------------|---|
| 16 Feb.06 | 2nd Volunteer evening with clubs and organisations |
| 25 Mar.06 | Stand at the Historians exhibition (Village Centre) |
| 17 Apr.06 | Start Consultation period |
| 23 May 06 | Parish Council Annual Meeting (Village Centre) |
| 17 Jun.06 | Village Plan Open day (Village Centre) |
| Summer 06 | Youth Bar-B-Q (in planning) |
| 30 Jul.06 | End Consultation period |
| Early 2007 | Publication of plan (delivered to all residents, businesses, schools) |

Publicity

We are asking shops, businesses, and clubs to display a poster to publicise the Village Plan. Reminders of the key events will be published on the posters, on the Parish Council notice boards and in the newspapers.

How to help?

If you would like to help by displaying a poster, delivering and collecting questionnaires, or assisting in event organisation, then please contact:

Brian Phillips Telephone: 01342 824154
E-mail: brian@briandandsylvia.com

Remember

This is your chance to say what you want for Ashurst Wood

Come to the meetings

Give your views

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS ARE:

Chairman: Cllr. Alan Del Mar. 01342 823196

Vice Chairman: Cllr. Don Sinclair. 01342 824317

Councillors: Cllr. Andrew Bass. 07970 841819

Cllr. Ann Duncan. . 01342 822337

Cllr. Jenny Forbes 01342 822769

Cllr. Annie Pearce. 01342 823825

Cllr. Jan Pollard. . 01342 823220

Cllr. Gwen Shuttleworth. 01342 823401

Cllr Karel Stockley 01342 822606

Clerk :Susan Wellerd. Parish Office. St. Dunstan's Church. Chapel Lane. Ashurst Wood. 01342 823770

Email: parishof@supanet.com Mon. Wed. Thurs. 9am- 12.30pm. (most weeks)