

WINTER



Blackheath • Shamley Green • Wonersh Newsletter • 2018/19

PARISH COUNCIL ENTERS INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

As consequence of reduced financial support from both central government & the county council, Waverley Borough Council are in turn having to look at ways of reducing expenditure. Some of the areas which they are examining, could have an impact on our Parish, in particularly, the proposals to dispose of Community Rooms & the reduction of Green Spaces maintenance standards.

As an alternative Waverley are inviting Town & Parish Councils to consider taking over such facilities in their area.

Your Parish Council believe that the Garden Close Community Room in Shamley Green, is an important community asset and that the proper maintenance of our green spaces is absolutely necessary to ensure the beauty of our villages.

As result, Wonersh Parish Council have agreed in principle to take-over the running of the Garden Close Community Room and the grounds maintenance of some of the green spaces in Shamley Green & Lords Hill (we already maintain green spaces in Wonersh).

Although the Parish Council will receive initial financial support from Waverley to do this, it will mean that the Wonersh Parish Precept will have to increase over the next few years to enable us to manage these new responsibilities but we hope that having these under our control will enable you to have more say as how these facilities are used and maintained.



A NEW CLERK JOINS THE COUNCIL

The Council recently appointed Lisa Davison as the new Parish Clerk.

Councillor Anne Powell-Evans who oversaw the recruitment process said “ *We are delighted to welcome Lisa to our team of dedicated councillors and are sure that she is going to be a great asset in helping us serve our local community.*”

Here Lisa introduces herself “ *I am pleased to have recently taken up the role of Clerk to Wonersh Parish Council, supporting the council as it makes decisions on behalf of everyone living in Blackheath, Wonersh and Shamley Green. I recently moved into the parish with my family and already enjoy many of the local assets the council provides or supports.*”



I am a geographer with an academic background focused on sustainable transport and travel behaviour. My voluntary experience best illustrates my interest in supporting local communities and individuals within them; over the years this has included: being a baby-wearing peer supporter; an after-school club leader; a health walk leader; and a 'books on wheels' volunteer, amongst other things.

Outside work, I enjoy yoga and arguing with two smaller versions of myself and, yes, my one year old already knows how to argue.”

DRAINAGE – WONERSH COMMON.

You may have noticed some works taking place on the common adjacent to the cottages just before the Sports Field. There has been a considerable amount of flooding in this area following heavy rain.

As with all these sort of problems, it has been a lengthy process to resolve. Drainage is notoriously complicated! Firstly, we had to ascertain the source and the consequent responsibility. This involved meeting with SCC Highways and residents so that we could pinpoint the cause and, this in turn, was a matter of trial and error to eliminate the possibilities. We are indebted to Mr Maybrey, Mr Walton and Cllr Payne for their knowledge and help with this.

It eventually appeared that the drain under the common was the culprit and that is the responsibility of the Parish Council. A drainage company was engaged who found that the drain was very close to the surface, was blocked and has cracked in several places. The investigation is on-going and, needless to say, the repair is going to be a costly exercise

We do not know how many of our other drains are near the surface or coming to the end of their life. We would therefore ask our residents to treat our common land with respect and **not park on it** as this may cause drain damage. Even if you have an easement across common land this is for **access only, not for parking.**

At the end of the day, it is you, the residents, who are paying for the repairs.

The **Annual Parish Assembly** will be held on Wednesday April 24th at the Blackheath Village Hall.

19:30 start

There will be a presentation from The Parish Council on the Village Survey as well as reports from local groups and charities. All are welcome. Drinks and nibbles after!

The Parish Website will soon be able to offer the opportunities to local groups, charities and non-profit organisations to “advertise “ their event, meetings etc on the website. The Community Notice Board will be free and open to all volunteer groups, social groups etc.

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU CONSIDER BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR

We are fortunate to live in villages that care about our environment and have many local organisations that help bring people together and strengthen our communities. Members of the Parish Council have a key role to play in driving or enabling new initiatives, holding other bigger Councils and public authorities to account, contributing to long-term policies such as the Waverley Local Plan as well as managing important assets such as our two community playgrounds, allotments and other, valued open spaces within the parish. Elections for a new Council are due in May 2019. Please think carefully if you can offer the time and commitment to serve our villages for the next four year period. Please contact our Clerk or go online, eg at <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/elections> for more information.

Wonersh Parish Council

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LOCAL GROUPS are encouraged by the local **Surrey Police** team to invite the local Officers to address their members. Subjects will include crime awareness, cyber crime, scam calls, property marking etc. Any group interested in having a short presentation should contact the Clerk.

01483 892601—clerk@wonershparish.org

Village Survey

The Village Survey was delivered to every household in the Parish and was available on line. Following a number of comments from residents on technical problems they experienced with the on-line version the Council have decided to make it available again, on-line and for a limited period. From February 26th for 14 days the survey can be completed by going on-line and following the link.

wonershparish.org



The events to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice to end the Great War were well received across the Parish. In support of these activities the Council provided the “there but not there” silhouettes to the Churches in the Parish.