

Residents' Association Committee meeting – November 2011

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 8th November 2011. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Michael Gosling, Ros Mill, Joan Spiers and Julie Tomlinson along with Surrey Police representatives PC Sue Roe and PCSO Mo Langley were in attendance.

In addition to formal matters –

Councillor Spiers reported on:

- The new recycling measures, which would be implemented in 2012 – following the purchase of the requisite new vehicles and bins. She added that Councillor Ellacott had retired from the Recycling Portfolio and had been replaced by Councillor Kay.
- The Redhill regeneration scheme and the possibility of there being a supermarket at each end of the town.
- The positive decision by the Icelandic Supreme Court, which should, in due course, lead to the majority of the funds deposited by the Council being recovered.
- The decision by the Council to “freeze” Council Tax for the third year in a row; although Surrey County Council was yet to make a decision.

PC Roe reported on:

- Recent thefts from a house in Beechen Lane along with some thefts of rural equipment. She added that all residents should be on their guard and the Police advised immediately of anything suspicious; of particular note was the number of recent thefts of scrap metal elsewhere.
- Recent Police shift changes, which made their attendance at the Association's Meetings/Surgeries difficult. She commented on the success of recent 'Meet the Beat' meetings held at the BP petrol station on the A217/Brighton Road.

Councillor Gosling reported on:

- The Local Government Boundary Commission's proposals relating to boundary changes within Surrey and he was hopeful that the Commission would take note of the objections to the suggested merger of Lower Kingswood with Merstham.
- The work being undertaken by the new Highways contractors and indicated that, whilst he was satisfied with their work locally, there was still a lot of “catching up” to be done elsewhere.
- The additional “one off” grant that was being made available by the Government to enable authorities to “freeze” Council Tax for a further year. He added that, in view of the potential long-term financial and/or service impact of this short-term scheme, the matter was still subject to further debate by Surrey County Council.

It was noted that only a few residents had attended the Surgery, held immediately prior to the Committee meeting. In view of this it was agreed that the Spring Surgery would be postponed and a decision made later in the year about holding an Autumn Surgery.