

Residents' Association Committee meeting – November 2018

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 13th November 2018. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Bob Gardner & Jeff Harris were in attendance.

Matters arising:

At the beginning of the meeting it was reported that a defibrillator had been installed (and was operational) at the Church Hall in Buckland Road, with the purchase price met by grants from Surrey County Council and the Kingswood Village Hall Trust. Thanks to the generosity of a local benefactor a further defibrillator would shortly be installed at the Evangelical Church in Smithy Lane.

It was also reported that the Bowls Club had closed and Cllr. Gardner commented that this was attributable to both the projected running costs and decline in membership.

Crime report:

It was reported that there had been two recent break-ins in one part of the village.

Councillor Gardner reported on:

- Cllr. Gardner noted the increasing financial pressures on the County Council in particular with regard to social care for both adults and children. It would shortly be consulting with residents on such matters as the closure of community recycling centres, concessionary fares, children's centres, special educational needs & disabilities and libraries; full details were shown on the Council's website and responses from residents should be submitted by early January.
- One particular instance of a parent's application for free travel to & from school for one of their children being denied was highlighted, when their other children were in receipt of such free travel. Cllr. Gardner stated that this particular concession cost the Council £27m each year, but added that appeals should be made in the event of unreasonable anomalies.
- Cllr. Gardner noted that speeding traffic along Chipstead Lane and the use of a "noise strip" were being monitored.
- Cllr. Gardner expressed concern over the parking and manoeuvring of vehicles around some commercial premises which was resulting in damage to verges and inconvenience to residents.
- Damage to a road sign in Beechen Lane was reported, Cllr. Gardner stated that this should be reported on-line via the Council's website.
- The issue of a particular site in the village where trees had been removed was highlighted and it was noted that, whilst the levelling work had been undertaken, rubbish was now being dumped in the locality.
- Cllr. Gardner noted that the recent drain maintenance work along the A217/Brighton Road appeared to have focussed only on drains that had actually been reported to the Council, but that the remainder should also be addressed.
- Finally, both Cllrs. Gardner & Harris gave warnings in relation to the usual spate of crimes which are committed around the Christmas period. Cllr. Harris added his own advice regarding the use of new types of door-bells which provided both video & audio facilities.