



LPC NEWS

Latest news & updates from Limpfield Parish Council



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Moving forward...

It has been another busy year at Limpfield Parish Council as we continue to move forward and implement a number of projects set out in our Limpfield Neighbourhood Plan.

I am very happy with the progress of our Conservation Area Assessment and Management Plan, our Footpaths, bridleway and cycle route improvements programme and work on the local heritage assets project.

Following Ashley Fosdike's resignation, we are very happy to welcome a new councillor, Jenny Williams (more details in the newsletter).

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we were unable to hold an Annual Parish Meeting, but we hope to be able to do so in May 2022.

Please continue to be safe, responsible and mindful of others, following government guidelines for the wearing masks .

***Wishing you all a Merry Christmas
and a Happy, Healthy New year.***

J. Thompson

A New Parish Councillor



At the end of September, Councillor Ashley Fosdike resigned her position. We would like to thank her for all her efforts for the Parish Council, particularly with her work on our footpaths upgrades programme and for organising and overseeing the safe transfer of our historical records to the Surrey History Centre. We wish her well for the future.

Following interviews and a vote by our elected recruitment group, we are very happy to announce that we have co-opted Jenny Williams as our new Councillor.

Jenny lives in Detillens Lane and has been a resident of Limpsfield her whole life. She has a background in finance and property, and we have no doubt she will be a very valuable member of the council. We would like to formally welcome her to the Parish Council and look forward to her contribution to the team.

We hope the other candidates will also take part in projects and are always happy to consider anyone wishing to be on a committee as a non-voting co-optee or who would like to volunteer for activities.

Councillors

John Thompson (Chair) • Laila Turner (Vice Chair) • Ann Osborn (LNP Committee Chair)
Mark Wilson (Planning Committee Chair) • Thomas Briggs (Finance Committee Chair)
Bernie De Haldevang • Bob Harvey • Philip Bailey • Jenny Williams

Planning Update

We've had a busy second half of the year with well over 100 new development applications submitted for the Limpsfield Parish over the course of the year.

We have objected to 17 applications to date that we felt contravened the criteria set out in the Limpsfield Neighbourhood Plan. Of those objected to and already determined, 9 have been upheld by Tandridge District Council, while 6 have been approved despite our objection. The rest were either withdrawn or awaiting decision.

We would like to reiterate the importance of the Limpsfield Neighbourhood Plan in planning and development of the Limpsfield Parish and would urge all residents and developers undertaking building works to please consult and adhere to the LNP planning criteria when they are submitting planning applications.



Local Heritage Assets Project

As part of the Government's 'Build Back Better' initiative, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) in association with Historic England provided funding to 22 areas to develop **local heritage asset lists**. Surrey is one of the areas to have received this funding.

A Surrey County Council-based project team is currently working with a number of boroughs and districts to produce a new/updated local heritage asset list for their area.

Submissions were invited until November 16th 2021 and The Planning Committee has identified 17 local structures for submission to the list for consideration. These consist of both notable houses, and also structures such as the Air Raid shelters, Detillens Horse Trough and fountain, the Royal British Legion building and several local ponds, and are in addition to British Heritage Listed properties and those within the Conservation Area which are already protected from certain types of development.

Once adopted, the lists will be used to inform the planning process and guide future decisions around the use and custodianship of local heritage assets. The information captured as part of this project will also be added to the Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER) managed and maintained by Surrey County Council.

Conservation Area Assessment Plan



As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Conservation Area Assessment & Management Plan is designed to take a look at the Conservation Area as it is now, and to identify the key features that need to be protected through the planning process. This will ensure new development is appropriate, reflects the character of the area and uses the correct materials. The appraisal will also identify actions or projects that would enhance the Area and suggest minor alterations to boundaries if required.

Chris Reynolds, Heritage Officer at Surrey County Council, in consultation with several members of the Parish Council has done a great job putting together the draft Conservation Area Assessment and Management Plan. The final document for consideration by Tandridge District Council has now been submitted and we await feedback prior to a consultation period early in the new year.

Hazelwood School & Wolfs Hill Congestion

Last month, members of both Limpsfield and Oxted Parish Council met with the Bursar and Chair of the Board of Governors at Hazelwood School to discuss the ongoing issue of congestion outside the school at drop off and pick up times, which was recently made worse by the A25 closure for resurfacing works.

It was a constructive meeting, and it is clear that while overcoming the congestion is still a work in progress, the school is very conscious of the issues presented to local and through traffic and has already implemented, and is looking at various other measures to try to improve the situation. It has also employed an external consultant to help with the matter. Several potential opportunities for improvement were identified and we hope to work closely with the school, Highways and local landowners to see what is possible.

We do advise that whenever possible, local traffic should try to use an alternative route, particularly in the afternoons between 4pm and 4.45pm.

Footpaths and Bridleways programme



We are continuing our programme to improve local footpaths and bridleways so that they are safer for pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists. We work closely with the East Surrey Walkers and the Friends of Limpsfield Common, with work including vegetation clearance, path renovation, gate and stile repairs.

Our policy is to take the least restrictive option when replacing stiles and we use self-closing gates where possible. However, landowners require kissing gates where the safety of livestock is the main consideration.

Grub Street Bridleway Resurfacing

Our most recent, large project has been to renovate the bridleway from the junction of Hookwood and Sandy Lane up to Grub street. This had become rutted and uneven with rain sending a deluge of sand and rubble down into the road. It is now much easier for hooves, feet and indeed 'wheels'.

The bridleway is part of the proposed Limpsfield Way, giving the opportunity for wheelchair users and families with buggies to walk from Limpsfield High Street up to the Forest School, Limpsfield C.E. Infants School and the Trim Trail, as well as to the British Legion for refreshments.

We have also had the old green barrier gate removed and wooden posts placed at the top and bottom preventing cars, vans and the odd lorry using it in error as a short cut from Grub Street to the lane below.

Stanhopes Pathway



With its new surface and new self-closing gate, the Stanhopes to Hookwood pathway is now a pleasure to use and the gate greatly reduces the likelihood of cyclists using this footpath, and indeed from careering into Stanhopes itself – a problem that residents had reported. This is a self-closing gate so that wheelchair users and buggies can get through. Many thanks to the Edison family and Stanhopes residents for placing bark chippings along the muddiest sections of the path.

We are very pleased that local landowners are supporting us to improve access to key footpaths and bridleways. We would like to extend sincere thanks to the Titsey Foundation for agreeing to fund a new kissing gate to replace the difficult high stile on the long-distance Vanguard Way path close to Pitchfont lodge, and to Richard Stilgoe at Trevereux Manor for agreeing to fund a kissing gate on the Surrey side of the Kent brook. These gates are due for installation over the coming months.

If you are walking in Limpsfield Parish, do let us know of any problems with footpaths or bridleways and we will do our best to help, or to report the matter to the appropriate department at Surrey County Council. Email clerk@limpsfield.org

Your Fund Surrey

We have submitted a detailed proposal and cost outline, together with further information to Your Fund Surrey for the Limpsfield Way and Family and Community Cycle Route project. Unfortunately, we have not yet heard from Surrey County Council as to whether we have been successful in our bid, but we have all fingers and toes crossed and are hopeful we will receive the money in order to start work in Spring next year.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project proposal.

New Trees for the Chart Orchard



Our little orchard on Limpsfield Chart (by the cricket pitch on Stoneleigh Road) is coming along nicely and has been regularly mown over the summer to make it more usable for next year. We have installed two more benches and Cllrs Bob Harvey and Ann Osborn have planted 350 daffodil bulbs for spring-time.

We have had two new trees donated for the orchard, one of which has already been officially planted.

This first tree is in memory of Paul Bedingfield, a member of the Tandridge Canoe and Kayak Club (TCKC), who sadly died at the age of 37 in December 2020. His family requested some trees be planted by his friends as a way of remembering him. The tree was donated by TCKC and planted on 20th November by two of its long-standing members, Christine Norris and Dave Exall.

The second has been donated by members of TICTOC, an ecumenical group of Christians from Oxted and beyond, who heard of the Limpsfield Chart Orchard when studying trees in the Lent course 'Care for God's Creation' and quickly offered to sponsor an apple tree while remembering the story of the Garden of Eden. This tree is due for planting over the next month or two.

We would like to thank Helen Ellson for her work tending to the orchard trees. Helen also runs the Limpsfield Community Orchard at Grub Street.

CCTV Project for Crime Prevention in Oxted



Oxted Parish Council and Limpsfield Parish Council, together with Tandridge District council, The Oxted Business Improvement District and The Trustees of Master Park are considering installing a CCTV system to help with detecting and preventing crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour in and around Oxted.

The cameras would not be monitored on a 24-hour basis but the recordings from the cameras could be viewed following any instances of crime, disorder or antisocial behaviour.

Cameras will cover Station Road East (part of which is in Limpsfield Parish) and Station Road West, Master Park and Hurst Green Shops.

The CCTV system would be jointly funded with Oxted Parish Council providing a significant share of the funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that it receives.

Oxted Parish Council and Limpsfield Parish Council are interested in your views on the provision of such a CCTV system and would appreciate you completing this questionnaire which is open until 7th January 2022. www.tandridge.gov.uk/cctv

On our website, you can also find a copy of the questionnaire to print and post to Oxted Parish Council, Salmons, Salmons Lane, Whyteleafe, Surrey CR3 0HB.

Your postcode will aid the analysis of any issues or concerns raised to determine if they relate to a particular area of the Oxted or Limpsfield Parishes.



Platinum Jubilee 2022

2022 is the official Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and there are various activities going on nationwide, including a national tree planting programme and street parties on Sunday June 5th 2022.

We have officially designated a Platinum Jubilee Committee and will be working with St Peter's Church and local businesses and residents in Limpsfield Village to organise a Street Party on Sunday 5 June.

We are also looking to instal a Jubilee Bench in the lower (Limpsfield) part of Station Road East near to NatWest / Paul James Jewellers.

Jubilee Tree - Get Involved!

On Sunday 21st November, a distinguished guest and long time volunteer of the Limpsfield Task Force ceremonially planted a oak tree on behalf of the Friends of Limpsfield Common. Brian Longley, aged 98 (pictured) did a fabulous job on behalf of the crowd who attended this very moving community event.

Limpsfield Parish Council will also plant a tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and we would like your suggestions as to where to plant one, and what type of tree. Please text Councillor Laila Turner on 0780 334 5757, or email her at lailat-z@outlook.com.



Renovation of Local Assets

We have identified a number of assets that are in need of renovation work and are making our way through them. To date we have renovated the roof and walls of the Parish Office at The Pound on Wolfs Row; the bus shelters opposite Limpsfield School, at the horse trough on Detillens Lane and on Station Road East next to the Tandridge District Council offices. The unused bus shelter on Detillens Lane has also been cleaned and tidied and further work will be done.

We will also be refurbishing other bus shelters, benches and noticeboards around the Parish.

Winter Management Plan

As part of our winter management plan, which aims to support the district and county council in keeping key pavements and pathways safe, we have ordered several new grit boxes for the village area.

We will also have two grit spreaders for use in the village area to maintain safe pavements through the village centre and up to the school. Surrey County Council will also be installing a grit box on the junction of Ridlands Lane and Ridlands Rise.

Please find grit box locations, local contacts, links to SCC's salting routes and 'snow code' on our website.



Gold for Limpsfield in Bloom

Limpsfield in Bloom was once again successful in the RHS community gardening programme, "In Bloom". Limpsfield In Bloom, led by our own Ann Osborn and Lilian Hindley entered for the 16th time this summer, with judging day on July 9th and won a very well-deserved Gold medal once again.

Congratulations to the whole team for their tireless work keeping Limpsfield looking lovely all year round.

New Ranger - Jeremy Saunders

Please extend a welcome to Jeremy Saunders, the new National Trust Assistant Ranger for Limpsfield. After a long career in magazine publishing, Jeremy decided to follow a lifetime dream to retrain and work in the countryside.

He studied Wildlife & Countryside Management at Plumpton College and achieved a Distinction.

He is initially working 3 days a week. Please say hello if you see him out and about!

He will be managing the Limpsfield Common taskforce which is usually out and about on Thursdays.

He can be contacted via email at:

jeremy.saunders@nationaltrust.org.uk





Light Up Limpsfield

We are once again asking you to Light Up Limpsfield this festive season to bring some Christmas Cheer to the parish. Please make another big effort to adorn your porches and front doors with twinkly lights and wreaths, particularly for those homes in the village areas.

Thanks to Northdown Nursery on Titsey Road who provide the trees every year.

In Memory of Geoff Dessent

We were very sad to learn of the sudden passing of our former clerk, Geoff Dessent last month. Following a career in the civil service, Geoff was Parish Clerk for three years from 2016-2019 and made a very valuable contribution to the Parish Council, particularly with the preparation, submission and adoption of the Limpsfield Neighbourhood Plan. Our thoughts are with his family and close friends.

How to contact us

Any enquiries, issues or suggestions to be sent to the Parish Clerk: Sophie Martin.

Tel: 07514 011355. Email: clerk@limpsfield.org.

Website: www.limpsfield.org

Social Media: [@limpsfieldparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/limpsfieldparishcouncil) (Facebook & Instagram) | [@limpsfieldpc](https://twitter.com/limpsfieldpc) (Twitter)