



The Ripley Reporter

RIPLEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE APRIL 2018

The plans for the new Ripley Village Hall have been progressing over the past few months with much work being undertaken behind the scenes, in particular on our business plan and funding and of course on maintaining the current hall. As most of you are aware, the Trustees had to withdraw the planning application until we can verify whether there is "bat activity" in the current hall. This report is due to be completed in mid-May (it is dependent on bat breeding season which starts in mid Spring) and depending on the outcome, we intend to re-submit the application to GBC shortly afterwards.

The Fundraising Committee and some very generous individuals have been doing sterling work organising many events over the past few months, all of which have been very well supported by our community. Just since January, the Ceilidh and the Valentines Ball were both a huge success and only last week the Golf Day (huge thanks to Stuart Shoosmith and friends) raised over £3,000.

We are always actively seeking more members to assist on this committee, so please contact info@ripleyvillagehall.co.uk if you can spare any time to help this very worthwhile cause.

Ripley Primary School

PLEASE hand in your consultation response by this Monday, 16th April to either the school or the Parish Office letterbox opposite the Co-op. We need to make ourselves heard as a community and you do not have to have connections with the school to comment. Ripley has had a school since around 1840 so we cannot see it go under on our watch, can we?

GBC Local Plan

Having put in their final draft to the Inspector at the end of 2017, he has been busy studying its contents and drawing up a substantial list of comments, criticisms and questions which he has submitted to Guildford Borough Council for a response. Their replies will be made public so they may have made Friday's Surrey Advertiser. His enquiries centre around there being insufficient housing numbers in Guildford town itself, with too much retail emphasis currently and serious concerns about the adoption of currently rural green belt sites for major housing projects instead of existing brownfield sites. The public inquiry will be opened by the inspector on 5th June and is expected to run for several weeks to allow all interested parties to have their say.

M25 J10

We hope that a good number of parishioners went along to the public consultation regarding the upgrading of M25 Junction 10. There are claims from some local bodies that the proposals under consideration will impact the local road network far more than Highways England seems to be aware of.

Some locals have claimed that the £250 million plan is wasteful of taxpayers' money, and that there is an overwhelming need for a detailed local impact assessment. Some parish councillors were told at the consultation that the plans would have to be reconsidered if the proposed development at the Former Wisley Airfield takes place. Your parish council also responded at length to the details they put forward. Our primary concern relates to the increased congestion in Ripley that will be a direct result of their plans. To alleviate these harmful effects we need South-facing slip roads off Ockham roundabout going north and south directly onto and off of the A3.

Your councillors believe that the figures quoted regarding the Royal Horticultural Society's Wisley Gardens are far below the figures expected by the RHS itself. Highways England's assertion that visitors heading south after leaving the Gardens would naturally circumnavigate the J10 roundabout rather than simply heading through Ripley was also rather puzzling.

Save the date - 19th April

At the upcoming parish council meeting on Thursday 19th April we will be welcoming Cllr Richard Billington and Cllr Matt Furniss, two prominent Guildford Borough Councillors, who are attending the meeting to answer any parish and borough questions and concerns that we might have. Their specialist areas are infrastructure and the rural economy. Please let the Parish Clerk know if you have any questions for the Councillors, so that they may be able to understand the unique issues we face.

The meeting, which is also our regular April meeting, will be held in the Church Room (to the rear of the Church) as we hope that there will be a good number of people in attendance. The meeting begins at 7:30 with Cllrs Billington and Furniss taking centre stage and discussing with us all your comments and concerns. We hope you will be able to come along and hear the discussions first hand.

Save the date - 3rd May

We'll be back at the Church Room again for the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 3rd May at 7:30. Following the update on progress with projects over the past year, we'll hear from Gill Haig-Brown about Ripley Village Hall and then from Jan Jewers on the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan. Both undertakings are forging ahead and will represent significant benefits to the village, so we hope residents will make it along to this rather more informal meeting. Join us for drinks and nibbles.

The Ripley Reporter

The parish council is striving to keep up with changing tastes in how we communicate with one another. We now have twitter and Instagram, both [@ripleyparish](#), and they're great for connecting with our elected representatives such as [@Jlles4SurreyCC](#), with other village organisations such as [@RipleyFarmersM](#), or for keeping up to date with the scores from [@RipleyVillageFC](#)

Our new initiative is to create a new weekly electronic noticeboard, *Ripley Reporter*, which will give details of upcoming meetings and events. The upcoming General Data Protection Regulation means that you have to opt-in to receive e-news. We can assure you that we only store necessary data and never pass any details on to other parties. Please email the Clerk to sign up.

Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan

The team are currently busy drafting the report so it is ready to be submitted for a final round of independent pre-Examination advice at the end of April. That will take 6 weeks to complete and then the responses will need to be studied and adopted where necessary, thus providing a final draft Plan by early July. There will then be the Regulation 14 public consultation process this summer, prior to any final amendment and lodging the Plan with Guildford Borough Council. The final independent inspection process will then follow.

Christmas is coming!

Sorry to be mentioning this subject in April, but there's nothing like forward planning! The Christmas Event Committee met recently and reviewed 2017's Fair. It is pleased to announce that monies raised more than covered the cost of Ripley's festive lights. A local professional photographer was very busy while the lights were functioning and has captured several modern and attractive images for 2018's parish council Christmas card. Thank you, James, for your help!

Clean-up day

Just space enough left to say a heartfelt thank you to the brave souls who faced down the second *Beast from the East* in order to take part in the clean-up day on 17th March. Thanks all, and particularly to Brianne for organising.



Contact Us

Ripley Parish Council
4 Rio House
High Street
Ripley
GU23 6AE
01483 224847

clerk@ripleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.ripleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Our printing costs have kindly been covered by local Estate Agents **Wills & Smerdon**