



Ripley Parish Council

The Parish Review

Spring
2015

**** Election special ****

Dear Parishioner,

I'm using the term 'Parishioner' here rather than 'elector' as the forthcoming elections are important to everyone, not just those who choose to vote. Many people choose not to vote, for a variety of reasons, but engaging with the process can be hugely rewarding.

On 7th May we have the chance to cast votes for Mole Valley constituency, Lovelace Ward, and Ripley Parish. My thanks go to all those who are standing for being prepared to represent the community. In my role I get to see just how much hard work is done by our Borough and Parish Councillors to make sure Ripley, and Lovelace Ward, remain such a great place to live.

The Parish Council will be fully elected. Please see overleaf for the candidate's statements, you can choose to vote for up to 7 Parish Councillors. (Please note: this is NOT a ballot paper!) The candidates are all volunteers and members of the community. Your Parish Council is the first tier of government and whoever you decide to vote for will consequently have a mandate to represent you.

In 2010, only 44% of people aged 18-24 voted. Politicians rarely speak to young people because they don't vote, whereas young people don't vote because the politicians don't speak to them about their issues and concerns... Using your vote can change the conversation.

Please encourage everyone you know, and particularly those whose first opportunity to vote this is, to get out and cast their ballot. The ability to participate in elections has been hard fought for and won and high voter turnout shows politicians that they're being held to account by the public. I hope you enjoy the drama of election day and wish you happy voting.

Jim Morris, Clerk to Ripley Parish Council.

Annual Parish Meeting

This year's Annual Parish Meeting will celebrate local institutions, with talks from:

Edna Millis– Ripley Over 60s Club

Steve Hill– Ripley Bonfire

Abbas Sheikh– Ripley Cricket Club

Keith Best– Ripley Bowling Club

Jamie Hogg– Ripley Pantomime

One of these institutions is of indeterminate age, whilst another has a long and well-documented history. One has been homeless for 25 years, yet others have been entertaining crowds for many decades. Which is which? Come along and find out!

The Annual Parish Meeting will be in the **Church Room** at Ripley Parish Church on **Thursday April 30th at 7:30pm** and some lovely refreshments will be available!

Nature Reserve

This may look like a patch of scrubland at the moment, but the Parish Council, along with help from residents, Hungry Hill Explorers, local metal detectorists, and Surrey Community Action, is working towards creating a natural space to encourage biodiversity and native species.



The cost of producing this newsletter has been kindly covered by Wills & Smerdon, local Estate Agents.

<p>AYEARS, Richard. During a second term on the Parish Council I have worked hard to represent the views of Ripley residents, helping the village to grow into the vibrant community it is whilst maintaining traditions and character it has built over many years through villager's own involvement. I chair the Planning Committee which is challenging in the current climate though very rewarding, allowing close involvement with the Neighbourhood Plan and the provision of truly affordable homes for local people.</p>	
<p>CLIFF, Jennie. I'm a born-and-bred Ripley girl! I work to promote, preserve, and enhance what is good about village life. Exciting projects are afoot; a new wildlife area, the ongoing development of facilities on the green for young and old, links with Ripley sports clubs and schools, and putting Ripley on the map with County and Borough, especially in the fight over the Wisley airfield proposal. Our community is special. If you value experience, stability and commitment, please re-elect me in May.</p>	
<p>CROSS, Colin. After 40 years of living in Ripley and 25 years on the Parish Council, I am always amazed by the vitality of people in our village and its community spirit. From the Ripley Good Neighbours to the Farmers Market, the Ripley Bonfire to the Christmas Fair, plus a lot more, what an active place we live in! I want to help protect Ripley from overdevelopment, either from within or externally, whilst providing small scale housing to meet our local needs. We can do it!</p>	
<p>HANCOCK, Caspar. I have been an active member of Ripley Parish Council for 4 years and am particularly involved with planning issues, Burial Ground, playground, and The Green, where I helped plant the wildflower areas and new hedgerow. I am the Shed Youth Club's treasurer, I help annually with building and marshalling Ripley Bonfire and I am also a member of Surrey Search & Rescue. I look forward to serving the community for another 4 years and I hope you will vote for me.</p>	
<p>MEALING, Lisanne. If re-elected this will be my third term serving as a Parish Councillor as part of a wonderful team. As well as learning so much and being privileged to work on your behalf, over this time I have been active on planning, communications and finance. The main focus for us all will be preserving what makes Ripley so special as a village, ensuring we continue to thrive whilst providing support to all parts of our community. I hope you will give me your vote.</p>	
<p>POWELL-CULLINGFORD, Suzie. I've greatly enjoyed being a Councillor for the past 4 years and would love to continue to do so. I believe we are a great team with many different strengths and skills. My interests include: development of the Nature Reserve; ongoing improvements to the playground, including a new skate ramp; and protecting of our village from large scale development. We are lucky to live in such a vibrant village and I'd be delighted to continue to work on your behalf and preserve it.</p>	
<p>RUDDY, David. Being born and bred in Ripley I feel I can offer a candid approach to being a councillor by representing the interests of the whole parish by listening to views from the wider community on elements such as traffic controls, parking, highway verges and maintenance within the village and a sensible approach to the development of Ripley and the surrounding area while maintaining the character of where we live, these points will help me to maintain a quality of life for you that we deserve in Ripley.</p>	
<p>WOOD, Vernon. I have been asked to write a few words about my hopes and dreams. My hope is that we as a council continue to work together as we have for the last 4 years. I am proud of the amount that has been achieved on The Green, the playground, wildflower meadow, with the help of village groups. We as villagers can all work together to make a lovely place to live. We need a small amount of social housing for our youngsters to stay in the village, and a secondary school close by. Vote Wood!</p>	