

Spring 2018

THE **B** BOOKHAMS
R RESIDENTS'
A ASSOCIATION

24 hour telephone line: 0300 030 9890

www.bookhamresidents.org.uk

Contents

Buses and Trains	2
BRA Noticeboards	3
Road Stewards Needed	3
AGM	3
The Grange	4
Petition for Great and Little Bookham postcode.	4
BRA and BCA - Do You Know the Difference?	5
BRA Membership Secretary - Can You Help?	6
Protecting Your Data	6
Litter Pick	7
Friends of Bookham Common	7
Bookham's Green Spaces	8
Surrey Wildlife Trust	8
Bookham Youth & Community Centre: Is the End Nigh?	9
South Bookham Space	9
Infrastructure - Drainage and Roads	10
The Silent Soldier	11
BRA Email service	12

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Peter Seaward

By the time this reaches you, winter should be well gone and the snow I see now a distant and bad memory. In this issue you will see that we continue to be busy and look forward to seeing many of you at our AGM in May. Please come and I promise to keep the formal part of this event short. This year we have the new Chief Executive Officer of Mole Valley District Council, Karen Brimacombe, as our guest speaker. Along with our Councillors Karen will be able to respond to the questions about what both MVDC and SCC are doing now and in the future.

Council Tax has gone up and SCC financial issues are well publicised, as are police budgets. We have challenged both organisations as it appears that we are all paying more for less services. The closure of the police front desk at Dorking, the lack of neighbourhood policing and the continual deterioration of road and drainage are questions you, like us, may want to seek answers to.

After many years of lobbying and technical inputs to SCC there is some good news as we are told at last solutions for the long-standing Dorking Road flooding and silting of gullies will be addressed in November of this year. On the negative side even though we fight hard for a solution the flooding at the bottom of East Street looks like being with us for many years yet.

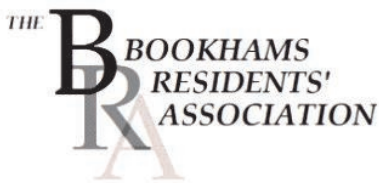
Elsewhere here you will see an article about the Bookham Youth Centre on Lower Road. Way back in 2007, with notice of closure, a combined village group got together and persuaded SCC to let the village run the centre. This has been successful, but SCC again are now threatening to close the building in 2019, without replacement. Along with others we are pressing SCC for solutions. Updates will be at the AGM and on our web site including, if necessary, how to respond to this news.

We now know the decision on the future of the Howard of Effingham school in that the Appeal was allowed. For Bookham this is important. 700 Bookham children attend this school, by far the biggest cohort of any local community. There may be a

(Continued on page 2)

DIARY DATE: BRA AGM - OLD BARN HALL - CHURCH ROAD

17TH MAY 2018 AT 7.30 P.M.



The Bookhams Residents' Association Newsletter is published twice a year in the Spring and Autumn and is distributed by a team of volunteers to all BRA membership households.

If you have any comments on the Newsletter or any additional reports you would like to see, please e-mail:

publicity@bookhamresidents.org.uk

Or call: 0300 030 9890

Calls are charged at a standard land line rate from either a land line or mobile.

Or visit our web site:

www.bookhamresidents.org.uk

On the web site you can sign up for our occasional e-mail service. (See the back page)

We also have social media presence on Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor. Search for "Bookham" for our pages where we post updates on a regular basis.

(Continued from page 1)

Judicial Review by either Effingham Parish Council or Guildford Borough Council which will result in further delays.

MVDC are preparing a new Local Plan and we are much involved. The Plan will probably propose up to 450 new dwellings per annum in Mole Valley the majority being here in the north. As MVDC at present only build around 180 dwellings per annum the scale of this challenge is evident. As I write this we here in Bookham have probably 100 new dwellings in planning or building, increasing pressures on an already stretched infrastructure.

On a better note, we planted further trees and carried out wide pruning; provided better Christmas lights and winter hanging baskets; have plans to complete the war memorial cleaning; assisted in the petition for better

recognition of both villages; are working on plans for improved plantings around the High Street and Church Road; and helped secure funds for the refurbishment of the cricket square in the autumn. There was even more participation by everyone in the litter picks and there were many other tasks some small but still worthwhile.

An example was the old Lloyds building where an alarm sounded for over ten days continuously. After many attempts we found a solution particularly helped by Rohallion Security in Church Road who kindly provided a technician to resolve what was someone else's problem at no expense. Thanks to them for this welcome support.

We have done more and please come to the AGM where we can discuss what else we could do.

I look forward very much to seeing you all in the Barn Hall in the evening of May 17th.

TRANSPORT

BUSES & TRAINS

Keith Francis

Since our Autumn 2017 Newsletter Buses Excetera had to withdraw the recently introduced 489 Leatherhead to Merstham bus service due to lack of passengers.

The 479 Epsom to Guildford service continues to serve our village, but from the 19th February 2018 the 16:10 bus from Epsom now runs 10 minutes later and, unfortunately again due to lack of passengers the last bus at 19:10 from Epsom to Effingham and the return bus at 20:04 to Leatherhead were withdrawn.

Trip to Ranmore Common

This trip mentioned in the Autumn 2017 Newsletter is still possible to do, but without using the 489 bus service.

Trains

Our train services continue to serve us and we await news of Crossrail 2 which will come to Epsom and how it could extend our connections.

A Pub Crawl!

This can be taken from either Great Bookham and Little Bookham via Effingham to East Horsley, or in the reverse direction. Don't forget to check the bus timetables and use the 479 for the return or outward journeys. But, the latest version of the free Surrey County Council timetable which is now available

from the libraries was published before the above-mentioned timetable changes.

From the centre of Great Bookham the first pub is Ye Olde Windsor Castle, Little Bookham Street, followed by the Sir Douglas Haig and The Plough in Effingham village and at the end of the journey is the Duke of Wellington, East Horsley. Maybe try doing it in sections using the several footpaths that link the villages well away from the A246.

COMMUNITY

BRA NOTICEBOARDS

Nick Forrer - Notice Board Administrator

There is no charge to place a poster on BRA Noticeboards, but there is a set of criteria which the Association use, in priority order, to determine what we put on the boards. They are:

1. Events that the BRA organise.
2. Information provided by the Council (Surrey or Mole Valley) or the Police. e.g. elections, libraries, public meetings etc.
3. Local events in Bookham, or nearby, organised by local charities.
4. Any other local events.

All posters should be:

- A4 or smaller.
- Be of interest to Bookham Residents.
- Be respectful to others.
- Be non-political.

For any event, I will not leave the poster up for longer than say two months or until the event date has passed.

Obviously if I am short of space on a particular board then I will remove posters in reverse priority order.

I have three main boards:

- At the southern end of the High Street next to the Co-op.
- Next to the car park entrance in Lower Road.
- In the Lower Shott car park next to the ticket machine.
- I also have limited access to other Community noticeboards making five in total.

If the poster is going to be on the noticeboard for longer than two months you might want to laminate it. This is to protect any colour, as the boards do get damp overnight.

COMMUNITY

Please email with your phone number then I can arrange with you delivery of your posters: noticeboards@bookhamresidents.org.uk

ROAD STEWARDS NEEDED: CAN YOU HELP?

Due to ill health and people moving from Bookham we now have some gaps in our network of 130 Road Stewards. The role of a Road Steward is to collect the annual £3.00 subscription and deliver the Spring and Autumn Newsletters. The job does not take up a great deal of time - probably a few hours each time. The roads where we need Road Stewards are :

- Beales Road (31-75 & 32-58)
- Beattie Close
- Beech Tree Close
- Bracken Close
- Brodrick Grove and Lower Shott
- Byron Close
- Blackthorne Road
- Chalkpit Lane
- Charlwood Close
- Dowlans Road (odds) and Dowlans Close
- Fairfield Close and Fairfield Cottages
- Gilmais (2-8 & Tall Pines-19)
- Gilmais (10-34 & 21-49)
- Kidborough Down
- Leatherhead Road (North side and Lyngarth Close)
- Little Bookham Street (27-63 & 42-66)
- Lower Road (209-251 & 216-238)
- Lower Shott & Brodrick Grove
- Manor Place, Mayfield Green & Beech Grove
- Oakdene Close
- Townshott Close
- Westfield Drive
- White Way/Christie Lane/Gardeners Walk

If you can help, either call 0300 030 9890 or send a message via the web site.

THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Company Limited by Guarantee - Company Number: 10053863

To: All Members

This is the formal notice of the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Bookham on Thursday 17th May 2018 at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies
2. Minutes of the 90th Annual General Meeting 2017
 - 2.1 Accuracy
 - 2.2 Matters Arising
3. Chairman's Report: Report on the activities of the Association during 2017
4. Treasurer's Report: To receive the Accounts for the Financial Year ending December 2017
5. Election of Directors
 - 5.1 To note any resignations from the Board
 - 5.2 To re-elect Andrew Freeman and Chris Pullan who retire by rotation under Article 55 and who offer themselves for re-election
 - 5.3 To elect new Directors
6. Election of Officers of the Company
 - 6.1 Election of Chairman
 - 6.2 Election of Vice Chairman
 - 6.3 Election of Treasurer
7. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2018
8. Determination of Membership Subscription
9. Any Other Business
10. Guest Speaker: Karen Brimacombe – Chief Executive, Mole Valley District Council

If you would like to nominate a Director for the Board of Directors please advise the Company Secretary, John Howarth, no later than 26th April 2018 in writing to the Registered Office address or by email to gvdhow@tecre.net.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and you would like to appoint a proxy to vote at the meeting please advise me no later than 8th May 2018.

If you would like to present Motions for Discussion please advise Andrew Freeman (Administration Director) no later than 4th May 2018 at Hylands, Crabtree Close, Bookham, KT23 4PQ or by email to: admin@bookhamresidents.org.uk

Those attending who are not members may join at the door. Subscription is £3 per annum.

Please note that there will be wine and soft drinks available after the guest speaker.

John Howarth

Company Secretary.

COMMUNITY



Marion Chow

As The Grange celebrates its 80th Anniversary this year, we are delighted to welcome Eloise Appleby as its new Chief Executive.

Eloise joins The Grange from Winchester Council, where she held a number of senior roles. She has worked closely with the voluntary sector over the past decade, assisting charities to work in new ways to make them more resilient and effective and hopes to use this experience in preparing The Grange for future challenges.

Eloise is not a stranger to Bookham, however: one of her earliest roles was in the National Trust's regional public affairs team, then based at Polesden Lacey.

Eloise joined just in time to meet over 100 regular supporters and guests attending a Bridge Tea event where the 80th Anniversary 80:80 Appeal was launched, aiming to raise £80K in our 80th Year. The event was a great success raising over £1200 which is fantastic. There will be a number of events taking place during the year. One of the main celebrations is a Summer Fete with an 80's theme which will take place on Saturday, 14th July, more details to follow on our website - hopefully we will see you there!

For more information about The Grange and our work, please look at our website or call:
Marion Chow: 01372 455231
marion.chow@grangecentre.org.uk
www.grangecentre.org

PETITION FOR GREAT & LITTLE BOOKHAM POSTCODE

Grant Woodham

Hopefully you will have seen signs on the BRA notice boards, received a flyer, or seen details on social media about the petition to get "Great" and "Little" re-added to our addresses. You may not realise, but when postcodes were created back in the 1970's, when they created KT23 for the Bookhams, they removed the pre-fixes of "Great" and



Eloise Appleby (centre) the new Chief Executive of The Grange

"Little" and they have gradually been getting more and more forgotten and disused ever since. This means that when your address is created using the postcode our village name is just Bookham.

I contacted Royal Mail about the issue, and they are happy to add Great and Little back onto Bookham addresses, and will conduct a written consultation to all affected addresses. In order for this consultation to start, Royal Mail need the approval of MVDC and our MP Paul Beresford.

MVDC have asked me to create this petition, in order to see what level of support there is in the Bookhams for Great and Little to be re-instated, before giving permission for Royal Mail to conduct their own consultation to residents.

You may wonder why this is important, but if we do not seize this opportunity to correct our village names now, it is unlikely that Royal Mail will consider taking the time to do this again in the future. Great and Little Bookham have partially merged over the years due to house building, but there is still a lot of the border between the two villages that is still open countryside. The only part that has merged with housing is along part of the east side of Little Bookham Street. To the north of Sole Farm Road there is Little Bookham Common, and to the south we have the fields in Rectory Lane, and the farm land of Polesden Lacey dividing Great and Little Bookham.

It would be a great shame for our two

villages to lose their historic identities. They both still have their own churches, village halls, commons, and schools. Our villages are no less deserving than East and West Horsley, Stoke D'Abernon or the Clandons, which are all small villages recognised correctly by Royal Mail, so please support our campaign to keep our correct village names, before they are lost forever. Future generations will wonder why we ever allowed them to be lost.

The online petition can be signed at the following address on MVDC's website, and paper petitions are available in some of the village shops, including Wishing Well, Cascade and the Post Office for anyone without internet access.

<http://petitions.molevalley.gov.uk/bookhampostcode/>



COMMUNITY

THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (BRA) AND THE BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (BCA)

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Ray Pritchard

For many years, there has been confusion about these two very important and active organisations, but the difference is very clearly defined.

The Bookham Community Association play a vital role in running the Old Barn Hall in Church Road and most of the funding for this historic part of the village is derived from the BCA's organisation and income from Village Week. The BCA also publishes and distributes the Bookhams Bulletin four times a year. Most organisations in the village are affiliated and appear regularly in the magazine.

The Bookhams Residents' Association, on the other hand, have an extremely wide range of responsibilities, such as working closely with the six local councillors in order to see that improvements are carried out, which often involves liaising with Mole Valley District Council.

Environmental matters, such as flooding and infrastructure, particularly roads, are carefully monitored by the BRA; in addition, a close eye is kept on planning applications via a small sub-committee and there are individual committee members dealing with education; health; transport; trees; Christmas lights and hanging baskets, the last two with invaluable help from a closely linked group of traders - the Bookham Retail and Business Association (BRaBA).

It also takes time to co-ordinate the increasingly popular BRA monthly litter-pick and another task that may go unnoticed is maintaining the village noticeboards; not forgetting the hours spent preparing and distributing The BRA Newsletter, which is published in the spring and autumn. A huge 'thank-you' is due here to over 130 Road Stewards who deliver copies to all our members.

Although the BRA and the BCA are separate in terms of administration and the roles that they carry out, there is a very close working relationship between them. One way of summing up the difference in the two associations is that the BCA have the pleasure of social events during Village Day and Village Week, as well as varying functions at the

Barn Hall, whereas the BRA have to deal mostly with problems that occur in the village on a regular basis. However, a lot of satisfaction can be gained when such problems are dealt with successfully.

The BRA and the BCA depend on their teams of volunteers and if you feel that you would like to help, even in a small way, please refer to the contact details below.

BRA – Tel: 0300 030 9890
www.bookhamresidents.org.uk

BCA – Tel: 01372 456307
www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org

BRA MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: CAN YOU HELP?

After eighteen years John Allen has decided to stand down as the BRA Membership Secretary. Throughout this time John has played a significant role in keeping our membership numbers up and recruiting over 130 Road Stewards. John would like to personally thank the Road Stewards for their help and commitment over all this time.

We are therefore urgently seeking a replacement for John. This is an important role within the Executive Committee and the ideal person will be organised, methodical, conscientious and up to date with modern technology.

The role involves keeping accurate records of all the members of the association, such as their address, phone and e-mail details; at present, these are divided into pre-arranged areas throughout the village, to enable easy distribution of the BRA Newsletters, issued twice annually.

The collection of subscriptions is under review at present and the successful applicant would have an important input into any future system.

This role provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know many more people in the village while at the same time, adding benefits to community life throughout Bookham.

If you would like to apply or receive more information, please contact the BRA Secretary, Andrew Freeman via e-mail: secretary@bookhamresidents.org.uk or telephone 07886 459908.

PROTECTING YOUR DATA

John Howarth

Company Secretary

Some of you will be aware that new Data Protection Regulations come into effect in the UK on May 25th this year. They are called the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). They are designed to replace the existing Data Protection Act and to give greater protection and rights to individuals in respect of organisations who hold personal information about them.

The Bookhams Residents' Association falls under these regulations since it keeps information about its membership.

It is the intention of the BRA to comply with the requirements of the GDPR. It is a legal requirement to do so and the ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) has powers to levy fines on organisations that do not do so.

The initial responsibilities of the BRA are:

- to inform its membership about the Regulations,
- to indicate to the membership its intention to comply, and
- to give a brief outline to its members as to what their rights are under the Regulations.

Hence this section in the Newsletter.

- As members of the BRA you will have the following rights under the Regulations:
- The right to be informed about the data held about you
- The right to have confirmation that the BRA is holding your data and that the BRA is processing your data lawfully
- The right to have the data corrected if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- The right to have your data erased from the BRA files
- The right to restrict how the BRA processes your data
- The right to object to how the BRA processes your data.

(Continued on page 6)

ENVIRONMENT

(Continued from page 5)

There are six bases for lawful processing:

Consent of the individual (the "data subject")

e.g. the organisation has asked for and has received permission (with evidence) to hold information about the "data subject"

Performance of a contract

e.g. someone has signed up to membership, paid a membership fee, and has expectations that a service will be delivered

Legal Obligation

e.g. the organisation has a legal requirement to keep the data

Vital Interest

e.g. disclosure of personal information in an A&E Department when it could save someone's life

Public Task

(This applies mostly to public authorities)

Legitimate Interest

e.g. informing the membership about new activities that the organisation is carrying out.

No single basis is more important than any other when it comes to defining lawful processing, and only ONE basis is needed to define lawful processing.

For the BRA the two most relevant ones are No. 3 – Legal Obligation and No 2. – Performance of a Contract.

Because the BRA is a Company Limited by Guarantee the Companies Act defines the information it keeps about its membership – hence the Legal Obligation; and because the members pay a subscription there is a Contract.

There is an implied assumption that by joining and paying the subscription individuals are giving their consent.



LITTER PICK

Margaret Lawson

A big thank you to all the Bookhams Litter Pickers who on 11th March collected 27 bags of rubbish (13 of which contained recyclable material), as our part of the Great British Spring Clean. In addition a broken bike, a vacuum cleaner and an electric fire were removed from places where they had been dumped.

The Litter Pickers are very grateful to the Group Co-op Store (opposite Boots) which has kindly donated many litter picking grabs to help us in our activities.

We meet in Lower Shott Car Park on the first Sunday of the month at 11:00.

All tools and safety equipment are provided. You are very welcome to join us in trying to improve the appearance of our villages.

Important request to the secret vodka drinker: Please would you take all your empty miniature bottles home with you, or put them in one of the litter bins in the village? Thank you.



Bookham Monthly Litter Pick

Join us on the first Sunday of the month and keep Bookham Tidy!

If you would like to join us in keeping Bookham clean, meet on the first Sunday of the month at the Lower Shott car park at 11.00 a.m.

Gloves, grabs, and high vis tops will be provided and a session usually lasts around 90 minutes.



Founded 1926
Registered Company No. 10053863

www.bookhamresidents.org.uk
Tel: 0300 030 9890

ENVIRONMENT



Full house at the Friends of Bookham Common Spring Buffet!

FRIENDS OF BOOKHAM COMMONS

Robert Hall

As we closed for press we learnt of a record attendance at the Old Barn Hall for the Friends of Bookham Commons AGM, when a report was given by the Commons Ranger Ian Swinney, concerning the Life on the Edge project to clear areas of the Commons to enhance wild life.

This followed a hot buffet supper provided by local caterers Home Cooking and with a fascinating talk from Matthew Oates, a well-known broadcaster and ecologist who spoke about Discovering the Purple Emperor butterflies. The evening was much enjoyed by some 170 members.



Ian Swinney and Matthew Oates

For more information about the Friends of Bookham Commons either pick up a leaflet on National Trust notice boards at the entrances to the Commons info@bookhamcommons.org.uk www.bookhamcommons.org.uk

Those who are interested on joining the Friends should call Robert Hall (453183) or Paul Gallard (459972).

BOOKHAM'S GREEN SPACES

Frances Fancourt

Mole Valley Parks team have planted two beautiful new Cedar trees on White Way. This follows the loss of the magnificent Cedar of Lebanon trees which were originally planted in Bookham Grove House in the 1700s. The last was felled to a large multi-armed stump in 2016; two were also lost in White Way in the Great Storm of 1987. The oldest in Britain is a mere 250 years old – in Turkey and Lebanon these trees live for up to 700 years. In 50 years' time our new trees will be sprightly young teenagers, showing off their beauty for our grandchildren. How sad it would be if we denied them that possibility.

Clearance work has also taken place around Bookham improving sight lines and removing dead or dangerous branches. We have commissioned this using an allowance from Surrey County Council who own our verges. The pathway along Dorking Road have been cut back, and the sight lines on the approach to Howard of Effingham School has been improved by the removal of undergrowth.

Although this is technically in Effingham, it is our scholars and their drivers using the Lower Road who will benefit.

After removal of dead trees and stumps we have also completed a small amount of replanting in Pine Dean, Tudor Close, Howard Road, Crabtree Lane and The



Cedar planted in White Way by MVDC.

Garstons, which in 5 to 10 years should repay us by showing off its succession of blossom and autumn leaf colour for all the residents of Bookham.

You can see a list of all of the 100+ trees that have been planted around Bookham with varieties and locations on the BRA web site. From the home page click on: Infrastructure, Environment & Transport > Trees

**Tree Wardens are:
Jenny Wilson: 01372 453573
Frances Fancourt: 01372 454000**

ENVIRONMENT



Claire Courtier

Volunteer Development Manager

**Education & Engagement
Department**

Norbury Park is set in beautiful open countryside and lies within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

An ancient site, Norbury may have been one of the Mickleham manors mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. The Locke family built the present Norbury Park house in 1774 and since that time the house has been altered and changed hands on numerous occasions. Although the house and its grounds are still in private ownership, Norbury Park itself is managed by Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Today the Park is managed to provide wildlife-rich habitats and a range of opportunities for public access and recreation.

The reserve is made up of a mixture of woodland, grassland and various areas of farmland. Due to the range of habitats it is an important haven for many plants and animals and a large part has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation.

Norbury Park Volunteer Group was set up in 2015, and local residents have been fundamental in helping care for the reserve. In the last year alone, the group have achieved so much, including clearing vegetation around a hedge that was planted as a legacy, removing old plastic tree tubes and re-instating electric

fencing for cattle grazing on the grassland in Walnut Tree Clump. They also did some sterling work upgrading the existing coppice protection fence in Blackberry Wood.

For a short time during this winter, the volunteers helped coppice an area of hazel in Updown Wood. In the past, areas of Norbury have been coppiced regularly - cut down to just above ground level and allowed to regrow - to provide bean and pea sticks and be used for hedge-laying materials. This is a traditional practice in woodland management that we use today to encourage diversity in wildlife. In springtime the woodland floor is covered with bluebells, which attracts numerous feeding insects.

The group also very recently cleared overgrown vegetation along the bridleway, near to the old London Road Bridge and repaired a broken bar way.

There has never been a more exciting time to get involved, whether you can spare a few hours or a full day. Volunteering provides a chance to get

involved in local wildlife projects and the opportunity to meet new people while making a positive contribution to looking after the local area.

Norbury Park Volunteer Group meets every third Friday of the month, carrying out various activities to preserve this invaluable area of Surrey countryside.

For more information, please contact the Volunteering team at: volunteers@surreywt.org.uk or sign up online at:

**[www.surreywildlifetrust.org/
how-you-can-help/volunteer](http://www.surreywildlifetrust.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer)**

A cold and snowy Norbury Park on 18th March. Not quite spring!



LEISURE

BOOKHAM YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE: IS THE END NIGH?

David Cox OBE—Bookham Youth & Community Association

Bookham Youth & Community Centre, situated opposite the Anchor pub on Lower Road, has been a valued and important part of the village for many years. But as reported over the years it has a finite life due to its ageing condition and the lease from Surrey County Council (SCC) expires in February 2019. It is run by trustees and other volunteers and incorporated into a charity, Bookham Youth & Community Association Ltd known to all as BYCA.

In 2010, with the support of Bookhams' County Councillor, BYCA started discussions with SCC. This included a meeting with the Leader of the Council, Cllr. David Hodge, on 30 March 2011. The agreed plan was that a new Community Centre would be built whilst the existing Centre remained in use. A site for this was identified. Then the land of the existing site, approx. 1 acre, would be sold to retrospectively fund the new facility.

The lease expiring next year was considered by SCC as more than adequate time to achieve this objective. Despite their optimistic message in early 2017 of a positive outcome that was relayed by County Councillor Clare Curran, BYCA raised concern at the lack of direct communication on progress given that there was less than 2 years to the expiry of the lease.

Despite chasing, no response was received and so BYCA wrote at the beginning of October 2017, requesting a new lease so that security of tenure was assured pending a new build decision.

After again chasing for a response, contact was made in December and in March BYCA was advised by an Officer of SCC that the lease would not be renewed. Also, concerning the provision of a replacement facility, her opinion was that it was unlikely "a solution will be found which will be viable and cost effective". Cllr Curran had not heard of this until she was advised by BYCA. Needless to say this was disappointing and unexpected news.

However, Cllr Curran, BYCA and BRA have escalated the matter to the responsible Cabinet Member of SCC to whom it was also news. The result has been a new impetus to find a long term

solution in the form of a replacement facility. The priorities are:-

1. An extension of the occupation of the existing Centre for as long as possible.
2. Provision of a new community facility to replace the much needed lost capacity of the existing Centre.

BYCA Chair & Cllr Curran met with & briefed the Cabinet Member at the Centre on 27 March and an extension of 6 months to August 2019 was confirmed with a further period remaining a possibility. The community value of the Centre was understood and he said SCC will now do all it can to provide a solution as a priority and minimise any transition period between existing & potential new facilities.

BYCA are very disappointed that SCC have taken eight years to get to this position, especially as it was exactly to prevent this situation that the work was initiated so long ago!

SOUTH BOOKHAM SPACE

GREAT NEWS! PLANNING APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION APPROVED!

Terry Gluck

Construction of a first floor extension to provide a new social meeting SPACE for classes, meetings and social events at South Bookham SPACE has received the green light from MVDC planning.

Thanks to prudent management, MVDC and Thomas Flack Foundation Grants, SPACE's own funds with those of Bookham Tennis Club provide over half the total funding required for the project.

The new Social SPACE - large enough for 20 to 25 people, will have its own kitchen facilities, a balcony overlooking the Outer SPACE multi-use games area and neighbouring Bookham Tennis Club courts, plus a covered area for parents to watch their youngsters at play.

This will encourage greater and better use of the venue, free up the existing small committee room for much needed extra storage and give disabled access to this new Social SPACE.

NOW – we will need to work very hard to raise the essential funds to pay the balance by huge local support in general but particularly for:

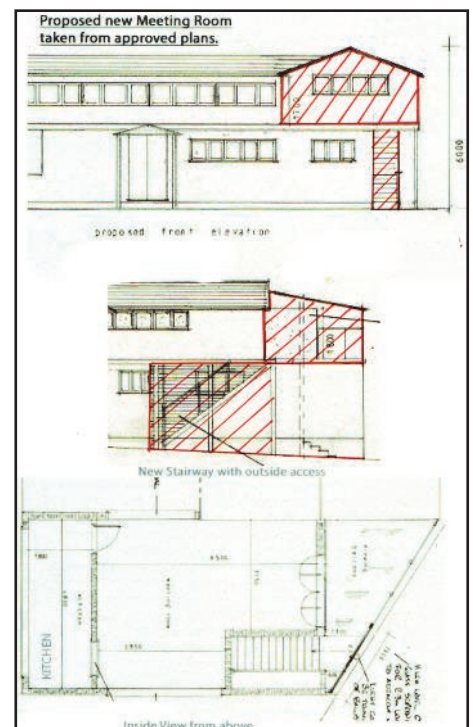
SPACE Quiz Night - Saturday 12th May at SPACE

Quiz, Raffle, Fish n'Chip supper and loads of fun for £15 pp.

To reserve a table (max. 8) or individual place please contact: Lorna Lock 01372 453953/07941 786999 or lornalock61@gmail.com

Bookhams Carnival Ball on behalf of SPACE - Saturday 30th June at The Old Barn Hall.

Buffet dinner, live band disco and carnival fun. Further details to follow.



For information on all that's going on at South Bookham SPACE

www.southbookham-space.org.uk

For more details: Terry Gluck 07860 357752

terrygluck@ntlworld.com

We are delighted to let all know that we now have the following Just Giving page set up. Please open:

<https://www.justgiving.com/southbookham-space-ltd>

INFRASTRUCTURE

DRAINAGE

Michael Agius

The BRA continues to try and resolve the villages' many historical drainage problems through the Bookham Flood Forum (BFF), along with SCC Highways (SCC), Thames Water (TW) and the Bookham Flood Action Group (B FAG). The last BFF meeting was held on 19th February 2018 and was followed up by a site visit on the 9th March.

Over the last few months very bad problems have been experienced with the foul drainage in Little Bookham Street (LBS) between Sole Farm Road and Burnhams Road. This has resulted in a surcharging foul manhole in LBS itself, foul drainage flooding gardens in Oakdene Road and even foul backing up inside properties in the area.

Following reports from affected residents and the BRA, TW came out and cleared the foul drain from Bookham Common back to Sole Farm Road. The line was jetted to remove heavy silt, rag, fat, oil, grease and other debris. This was followed by root cutting and a full CCTV survey. The sewer was left clear and free-flowing.

Further south on LBS, between Bennetts Farm Place and Lower Road, TW have been reminded that previously blocked and collapsed lengths of drain have yet to be jetted or replaced.

As a result of reduced County Council funds and resources, SCC Highways have yet to carry out further investigations on Lower Road between East Street and the Squareabout, which have been discussed in great detail in recent issues of the Newsletter.

The importance of completing the investigations and carrying out remedial works was stressed during the 9th March site visit and SCC will investigate other possible sources of funding e.g. from the Environmental Agency and other agencies.

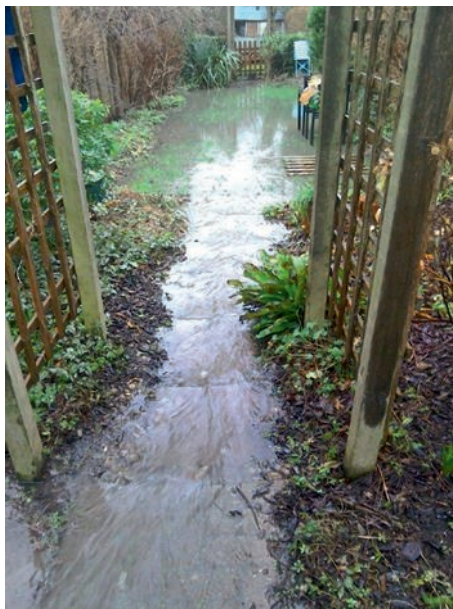
Proposals for drainage improvements at the Dorking Road junction with the Polesden Lacey access road have unfortunately been postponed until later this year at the request of The National Trust, so as not to affect entry to Polesden Lacey.

There are many other areas where the BRA continue to press SCC and TW for action, including:

- a ditch outfall at Fox Lane where



Thames Water contractor clearing the drains in Little Bookham Street.



Oakdene Road garden flooded with effluent.

flows from Preston Farm result in flooding.

- the central area of Bookham from the High Street/East Street to The Park/ Mill Close, where a study is proposed, subject to finding funding.
- the footpath from Greenacres to The Park where the outfall is blocked and has no adequate outfall.
- Kennel Lane/The Glade where there are root blockages in the main outfall to Fetcham.

These are just a few of the many areas under investigation. If anyone knows of areas that are subject to flooding as a result of drainage blockages, please email Michael Agius:

meagius@gmail.com

ROADS

Michael Agius

At the 14th March 2018 Local Committee, Colin Kemp, Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways, gave an update on SCC's programme of major road repairs called Project Horizon.

Unfortunately, as a result of funding cuts, the programme is slipping and the resurfacing of Eastwick Drive and Crabtree Lane are now only included 'for future consideration in future years'. The resurfacing of other roads that used to be in the programme i.e. Little Bookham Street, Meadow Way/The Copse [Eastwick Drive to The Copse], Willow Vale [The Copse to the end] are no longer mentioned. The BRA will press for these roads to be reinstated in the programme but in view of the funding cuts, implementation is likely to be in the distant future.

Under the programme of capital Integrated Transport Schemes (ITS), Developer Funding is included this year to provide kerb build outs and crossing ramps at the entrance to the Eastwick Schools on Eastwick Drive, in order to control parking and make safer crossing points.

The BRA will continue to press SCC for

INFRASTRUCTURE

the need to improve Rectory Lane, to provide a footway on the east side of the road from The Grange south to the A246 and widening of the carriageway to a consistent width. However implementation is dependent on land being acquired from the fields east of the road, as well as a fairly large amount of funding becoming available for construction. Funding is only likely to become available from Developer Contributions, should a major development be forthcoming in the immediate locality.

If you have any highways problems near you, the best way to report it is to go to www.surreycc.gov.uk and "Report It", or phone 0300 200 1003.

Please also email Michael Agius on meagius@gmail.com so that he can keep a record of the problems.

TRAFFIC SPEEDS IN EAST STREET

The behaviour of drivers using East Street and in particular their speeds, has been raised by residents living in the road. To gauge the extent of the problem, a speed survey was carried out by the Police between 3rd and 10th January 2018, when the total number of vehicles recorded was 15148, with 7,632 Northbound and 7,516 Southbound.

The average speed of all vehicles recorded over the 7 days was 23 mph the average Northbound being 22 mph and Southbound 24 mph, well below the 30mph speed limit. In addition the accident records show no personal injury accidents.

Finally signs have been erected to warn HGV drivers that the road is unsuitable for them to use. With all this in mind, it is difficult to know what can be done physically to improve matters.

However, in consideration for those who live in East Street, we would ask all Bookham residents who use the road, to drive with as much care and attention as possible.

RIPERIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

In previous editions of the Newsletter, the Riparian Responsibilities of residents in Childs Hall Road and Sole Farm Avenue who live alongside the ditch between the Lower Road Recreational Ground and Little Bookham Common have been emphasised.

Whilst some home owners maintain and have improved their lengths of the ditch, notably immediately north of Lower Road, other lengths are known to be overgrown and even filled in. This results in the flow of water in the ditch being obstructed and backing up, resulting in flooding of properties and infrastructure to the south, as happened at Lower Road in the winter of 2013/2014.

The BRA would kindly request all those who live alongside the ditch to ensure that it is kept clear at all times.



Well maintained ditch north of Lower Road

COMMUNITY

THE SILENT SOLDIER

Ray Pritchard

The BRA are supporting an initiative by Peter Wakeham of Surrey's branch of the Royal British Legion, in honour of British troops who fought and died in the First World War 100 years ago. Near life-size silhouettes of World War 1 soldiers will be appearing in the village during 2018, in memory of those in the armed forces who came home 'silently' from the war, as well as those who were not fortunate enough to return. The theme of this national campaign is entitled 'coming home' and the 'Silent Soldier' silhouettes will have at their base the words 1914-1918 Lest We Forget.

Businesses and local authorities are being invited to support the campaign by sponsoring and displaying one or more silhouettes until late 2018, when the nation will commemorate the armistice and the end of the war; any business or similar undertaking can buy and sponsor a silhouette and have its company name incorporated in the base.



BRA EMAIL SERVICE

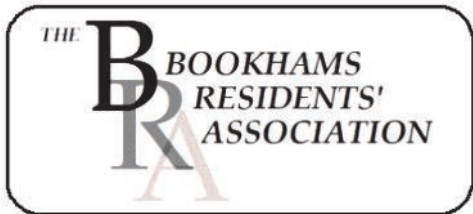
If you would like to keep up to date with news from the BRA you can easily join our email service. Just visit the web site: www.bookhamresidents.org.uk and complete the subscription request with your name and email address.

If your circumstances change and you no longer wish to receive the emails it is easy to un-subscribe.

The screenshot shows the website header with the BRA logo and contact information: www.bookhamresidents.org.uk and Tel: 0300 030 9890. The main content area features a news article titled "HOWARD OF EFFINGHAM PLANNING DECISION" posted on 23/03/2018. Below the article is a "JOIN THE BRA MAILING LIST" form with fields for "First Name(s)", "Surname", and "Your Email Address", and a "Click here to subscribe" button. A green arrow points from the text above to the form.

The screenshot shows an email interface with the BRA logo and the same "HOWARD OF EFFINGHAM PLANNING DECISION" article content as seen on the website. The email is addressed to "Les" and includes a link to read the Secretary of State's decision.

An example email that has been sent out recently.



ABOUT THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Bookhams Residents' Association (BRA) was established in 1926 and aims to represent the views of all who live in Great and Little Bookham on important local issues to the local authorities and other public bodies and is independent of all political parties.

The BRA has a membership of 3,000 households which represents 7,000 residents i.e. approximately 60% of Bookham's population. By having a strong membership embracing the whole of Bookham the BRA can ensure that members views will be respected, noted and acted upon by the local authorities and others.

BRA Membership is £3.00 per annum per household

The BRA Newsletter is published twice a year in the Spring and Autumn. In addition to the print edition the BRA website is updated regularly as and when new stories affecting the Bookhams become available and we also have a social media presence on Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor.

On the web site you can also register to receive occasional emails on BRA activities and village stories throughout the year.

There are also number of regularly updated Notice Boards around the village.

www.bookhamresidents.org.uk
If you prefer to speak to the BRA team please call 0300 030 9890 and leave a message and a team member will get back to you.