

# The Bookhams Residents' Association

[bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk)

Tel: 0300 030 9890

# Spring 2022

Working for Bookham since 1926



**AGM: 13th July**  
**Old Barn Hall,**  
**7.30 pm**



[bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk)

## In This Edition:

- Who we are, and what we do
- Youth and Community Centre project
- Community Infrastructure Levy projects
- MVDC updates
- Vehicle Activated Speed Signs
- Tree Matters
- Recycling Guide
- Litter pick
- Membership

## Chairman's Message

### Peter Seaward

[chair@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:chair@bookhamresidents.org.uk)

Each time I write my message I check back over the last few months to review what we at the BRA have been up to. The answer as ever is a lot!

I am sure you sometimes read this Newsletter and think "why haven't they sorted that out yet?"

But, oh dear the frustrations along the way to get things moving and progressing. The wheels of decision making in local authorities move slowly.

However it is good to see that some progress is being made on many projects including the Youth Centre, Tree Planting – please do walk around the village and see the new trees that have been planted, and at last the village sign has been restored! There is more information inside this Newsletter on these and other projects. I have also provided an update on the status of the Community Infrastructure Levy bids that we currently have underway.

As well as looking back we have to focus on the future and with my fellow Directors of the BRA we have spent considerable time setting out our strategy for the future. In doing this we have reconfirmed the purpose of the BRA and it is a useful read in this Newsletter

*(Continued on page 2)*

Chairman: Peter Seaward: [chair@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:chair@bookhamresidents.org.uk)

Administration: Andrew Freeman: [admin@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:admin@bookhamresidents.org.uk)

Communications & Newsletter: Les Huett: [publicity@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:publicity@bookhamresidents.org.uk)

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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](mailto: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](http://www.bookhamresidents.org.uk)

On the web site you can sign up for our occasional e-mail service and pay your annual subscription.

We also have social media presence on Next Door and Facebook:

[@bookhamsresidentsassociation](https://www.facebook.com/bookhamsresidentsassociation)

We post updates on a regular basis on our own page and other Bookham interest groups.

## Annual General Meeting

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 Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 commencing at 7.30pm.

### Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
  - 3.1 Accuracy
  - 3.2 Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report: Report on the activities of the Association during 2021
5. Election of Directors
  - 5.1 To note the resignation from the Board of Michael Agius
  - 5.2 To re-elect Dave Smith who retires by rotation under Article 55 and who offers himself for re-election
  - 5.3 To ratify the appointments to the Board of Simon Edge, Les Huett and Geoff Tranter
  - 5.4 To appoint new Directors (if any)
6. Election of Officers of the Company
  - 6.1 Election of Chairman
  - 6.2 Election of Vice Chairman
  - 6.3 Election of Treasurer
  - 6.4 Election of Honorary President
  - 6.5 Election of Honorary Vice Presidents
7. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2022
8. Determination of Membership Subscription for 2023
9. Any other business
10. Guest speaker—TBC

If you would like to nominate a Director for the Board of Directors please advise me no later than 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in writing to the Registered Office address or by email to [gvdhow@tecre.net](mailto: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 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

If you would like to present Motions for Discussion please advise Andrew Freeman (Administration Director) no later than 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at Hylands, Crabtree Close, Bookham, KT23 4PQ or by email to: [admin@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:admin@bookhamresidents.org.uk)

Those attending who are not members may pay on the door.

John Howarth

Company Secretary

*(Continued from page 1)*

to see the details of this and the work we are involved with.

I was honoured recently to be awarded the Mole Valley Chairman's Certificate. Whilst I accepted with pleasure, I believe it is really an acknowledgment of the tremendous work that all of the committee, our county and local councillors and all the other volunteers undertake on behalf of our village. A huge thank you to you all.

I do hope you can join us for our AGM. All members are welcome!.



## Community



*Computer generated image provided by Surrey CC. This is for indicative purposes only and not the final external design.*

### **Bookham Youth & Community Centre: Delivery Update**

**David Cox OBE. Chair of Trustees, Bookham Youth & Community Association Ltd. (BYCA)**

**Progress towards achieving a new Youth & Community Centre for Bookham has been frustratingly slow. We are getting there, but we still need your support.**

ONE YEAR ago Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) granted outline planning permission, with conditions, to Surrey County Council (SCC) to build a new Youth & Community Centre to the side of the Lower Rd Rec Ground. The new centre – the biggest investment in a community facility by our local authorities in Bookham for over 50 years – is a vital commitment to the future of our youth and wider community.

**What's been happening and why so long? The short answer is "process & bureaucracy".**

Since outline planning approval was granted, the relevant community groups (Leatherhead Youth Project: Bookham and Bookham Colts), with the active support of the BRA, have been working with SCC on the internal design of the new building to accommodate safeguarded youth

work and flexible community space, including Sports England and Early Years compliant facilities. All within the agreed outline plan and conditions. The design work was completed earlier this year.

BYCA's role will be to manage the new Centre on a "not for profit" basis under a sub-lease from SCC as owner of the building which in turn will have a ground-lease from MVDC which owns the land. MVDC is to continue to manage the pitches, play area and skateboard park.

The next stage, once the ground-lease had been agreed, was to complete the external design, cost the construction and commission the building of the new centre. At that point SCC planned to share the design with the community for information and feedback prior to a detailed planning application being submitted to MVDC in May 2022. Unfortunately progress stalled as, we understand, there were stumbling blocks over the proposed terms of the ground-lease to SCC, and thus the sub-lease to BYCA, bringing the viability of the whole project into doubt.

The good news is that thanks to interventions, largely instigated by BRA & BYCA, the issues were resolved with the involvement of senior officers of the two local authorities in late April. BYCA has yet to see a draft sub-lease but assurances have been given that it will

be on the same general conditions as that of the old youth centre but with a longer term.

Our understanding is that the two local authorities now plan a joint communication on the new Centre. We welcome MVDC and SCC working together, although at the time of writing this update, details of the joint communication have not yet been provided.

**We do not want to see further delays in delivering the new Centre.**

Hopefully, all the big hurdles have now been overcome. Every day of delay is a day when our youth and the community cannot benefit from the Centre. Not to forget the community volunteer time, and energy consumed as well as potential job opportunities delayed.

We will keep you informed via the BRA website. Please continue to make MVDC and SCC representatives fully aware of your support for the new Centre, and your expectation that we must ALL work together to get the job done !

Lastly, a big thanks to Peter Seaward, Chair of BRA for bringing BRA's expertise, contacts, encouragement and advice to support our volunteer efforts over the last 10 years in trying to get this project done for our young people and wider community.

## Community



### Award to Peter Seaward

Peter Seaward - Chairman of the Bookhams Residents' Association has been awarded the Mole Valley Chairman's Certificate for promoting Community Cohesion.

The citation reads:

*"Peter has been chair of the Bookham Residents Association for over fifteen years. He has led the association through the Bookham Neighbourhood Plan, the current draft local plan consultation and he has actively been involved with the Bookham Youth and Community Centre.*

*However he is involved in so many more ways. He continually and tirelessly represents, on a voluntary basis, the community of Bookham. He offers advice and guidance to many residents and Councillors. His knowledge regarding Bookham is seemingly endless.*

*His energy and willingness to represent and improve Bookham are boundless".*

Peter was presented with award by Cllr Chris Hunt - Chairman of MVDC.

**Well done Peter!**

### Village Sign

**Peter Seaward**

Finally, the village sign at the top of the High Street in Lower Shott has reappeared. H-Signs, the manufacturers kindly provided a new sign after a problem developed with the mounting of the original sign which had to be removed on safety grounds.

Local business DB Garden Services owned by David Belsham and his always willing team are to be thanked for the solid installation. This time we hope it will stay intact longer than the previous eight years.

We are trying to arrange some illumination for the sign in what is a darker part of Lower Shott along with other new services but currently have run into problems with MVDC in gaining access to power.

What should normally be a straight forward piece of work is yet another example of the wheels of our local authorities almost grinding to a halt. I am sure we will overcome them, but again this will take a little time.



The Bookhams Residents' Association is a voluntary membership organisation that is open to all residents and is independent of all political parties. We work closely with all Bookham Councillors irrespective of the political party they represent.

Read more on line at the BRA website:

[bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk)



## Community

### Updates from Peter Seaward

### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Whenever a new building is constructed in Mole Valley the Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) raise a levy on the developer to help pay for infrastructure improvements. The amount depends on the building size and is paid at so much per square metre.

Depending on where the construction takes place a sizeable proportion of this CIL is maintained by the Council for strategic infrastructure improvements and a smaller proportion is paid to the Parish Council or where there is no Parish Council is held by MVDC on the location's behalf.

In addition, if a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is in place as is the case in Ashted and Bookham then the smaller proportion is set at 25% and where there is no Neighbourhood Development Plan as is the case in Fetcham and Leatherhead the proportion is 15%.

The 25% set aside can be used for a wide range of infrastructure improvements and any organisation can bid to MVDC for a grant. In our case we have had many bids. Some are awaiting a decision and some have been agreed. An example is the cricket square at Chrystie Rec. The square was not in decent shape and an agreed grant was provided to re-lay it. As a result Bookham Cricket Club is now thriving, and the pitch is in heavy demand from other teams throughout Mole Valley.

Other bids we have, or are in process, are for improvements to the shopping areas in the form of planters and planting, horticultural improvement around the Village Sign and toilets at Lower Shott, and refurbishment of many of the thirty-five plus benches throughout the village.

We are also in the process of putting some larger bids together to improve

both Chrystie Rec and Lower Road Rec. There are discussions at Mole Valley to change the arrangements of CIL administration.

We are fighting to ensure that this neighbourhood portion is spent in the location it comes from and not pooled with other areas. Such a change would negate the arduous work we put into our Neighbourhood Development Plan and disadvantages us against Parishes who can spend their portion of CIL how they think fit without MVDC involvement.

### New BMX Track at Lower Road Rec Ground

On the Lower Road Rec the old skateboard park is to be removed as it is showing its age and is no longer fit for skate boarding.

When discussions took place with a number of young people through Mole Valley Youth Voice, Bookham Youth Project and the schools, a BMX track was the preferred replacement. This would be like the facility on the Kingston Road Rec in Leatherhead. So far, we have had simple outline discussions with MVDC who provided outline design indicator of costs and we are now in the process of turning these ideas into an acceptable CIL bid.

MVDC does not currently have funding for this project or likely soon so we will attempt to use CIL as a method of funding.

Note: This project is at an early stage.

### Bookham Allotments

We were approached by the organisers of the main allotment groups in Bookham, (Keswick Road and The Approach, Bookham Common) informing us that because of lockdown the demand far exceeds supply of allotment plots here in the village. We have discussed this with MVDC and although there is a disagreement about whether the

Council have allocated or not sufficient land for this purpose it is most unlikely that any more allotments will be provided.

We have known for some time that Polesden Lacey are keen to reinstate the vegetable garden which flourished there so many years ago when it was the private residence of Mrs Greville.

We met with the Management at Polesden Lacey who are always very receptive to any ideas we have and are also keen to be part of our village community.

Many new projects were put on hold by the National Trust during lock down as visitor numbers plummeted but in our latest discussions, they tell us that they hope to get this vegetable garden project started next year. Although different from owning an allotment it may appeal to some who would enjoy what will be a challenging but rewarding task.

### CCTV

We have good CCTV coverage of the High Street and would like to increase this to cover key parts of Church Road.

Last year we discussed this with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey (Lisa Townsend) as some policy changes about CCTV might have been introduced. This has not materialised but financial matters about who will in future pay for the monitoring of our and many other District and Boroughs CCTV's is now a problem.

This is being discussed between the Surrey District and Borough councils but we do not anticipate a quick outcome.

We have repeatedly stressed the value of our High Street units both at MVDC and with as many layers of Surrey Police we can interact with.

# About your Residents' Association

## Who we are, and what we do...

The Bookhams Residents' Association (BRA) is an apolitical voluntary membership organisation open to all residents of Great and Little Bookham.

The BRA is "of the community and for the community". Its purpose is to be a voice for resident's views on local issues, and to help get things done to maintain and improve life in the Bookhams.

To deliver its purpose the BRA works hard to:

- Understand local issues and views;
- Deliver recurring and strategic work, and make Bookhams views heard; and to
- Report Back to residents on what has been done on their behalf

### Understanding local issues and views.

The BRA does this by:

- Gathering local views through its monthly meetings, its website, social media and correspondence, word of mouth and common knowledge.
- Providing a consultative link between residents with councillors, public authorities and utility services.
- Working with voluntary and other organisations that are involved with the social, cultural, faith, business and entertainment life of the village.
- Co-ordinating voluntary services that are of environmental and amenity benefit to the community.

### Recurring work and making Bookham's views heard

The BRA delivers this in a variety of ways, including: reviewing, consulting, lobbying, advising, co-ordinating, linking, supporting, attending, and liaising on resident's behalf. The BRA does this by operating a number of specialist groups that focus on specific community interest topics:

<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>Reviewing all planning applications and commenting as needed to preserve the character of the Bookhams.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>Consulting with Surrey County Council (SCC) Highways and Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) on matters from parking to repairs, flooding, speeding, and improvements.</p>	<p><b>Infrastructure</b></p> <p>Lobbying statutory infrastructure providers for improvements and resolving local issues.</p>
<p><b>Environment &amp; Amenity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining a "tree watch" across the village. The Tree Warden provides advice and arranges for new and replacement trees to be planted.</li> <li>• Managing small-works contractors for MVDC e.g. pathway clearing; and co-ordinates litter picking.</li> <li>• In association with the Bookham Retail and Business Association, providing Christmas Lights in the High Street and Church Road and in the summer hanging baskets on lampposts.</li> <li>• Maintaining benches and other local features</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Youth, Education and Cycling</b></p> <p>Maintaining close links with village youth work and lobbying on education facilities</p>	<p><b>Health</b></p> <p>Supporting the Patient Participation Group for local medical practices, and attending NHS public briefing meetings.</p>	<p><b>Transport</b></p> <p>Liaising with bus companies and lobbying groups on Bookhams' bus services.</p>

## Our strategy for 2022 and 2023

## Community

### Strategic Work

Strategic work generally involves topics or work with longer timescales and complex multi-organisational working. The BRA's strategic projects, some of which we have reported on elsewhere in this newsletter, include:

### Flooding

Through the Bookham Flood Forum, the BRA will work with SCC Highways and Thames Water to monitor the effectiveness where remedial work has been undertaken and to bring to the forum any other flooding issues affecting the Bookhams.

### Youth & Community Centre

The BRA will continue to work with Bookham Youth and Community Association, SCC, MVDC, youth workers and local residents to see this much needed project completed.

### Vehicle speed.

The BRA has helped local residents liaise with SCC Highways and the Police to establish a Speed Watch scheme in Little Bookham Street. The next step is to install speed warning units in Little Bookham Street to advise motorists of their speed and encourage slower driving. We shall work with our County Councillor and Surrey Highways to identify traffic calming measures in the village.

### Eastwick Park Medical Centre.

The BRA is engaging with the Doctors, MVDC, SCC and the NHS to see what it can do to help the Doctors realise their plans. Our focus is on Eastwick Medical Practice as Fairfield Medical Practice has been upgraded in recent years.

### A multi-service Health Hub for North Mole Valley.

Alongside local GP practices there is felt to be sufficient demand to create a multi service health and welfare hub for the people of North Mole Valley (similar to Dorking's Medwyn Centre). This would involve joint working between the BRA and the residents' Associations of Fetcham, Leatherhead and Ashted, together with MVDC, SCC and the NHS with the aim of creating a North Mole Valley Community Health Centre.

### New strategic projects,

The redevelopment of Lower Shott, will come from MVDC's new Local Plan which is expected to increase substantially the amount of housing in Bookham. That will in turn place considerable extra strain on the local infrastructure including school places, health provision, roads, sewers, and drainage - infrastructure that is already straining to cope with current demands.

The BRA will continue to lobby MVDC, Surrey County Council and other infrastructure providers to make sure that the infrastructure is improved in order to cope with the extra demands placed on it.

### Reporting Back

We report back constantly, and in various ways, throughout the year:

Articles are placed on our website and in social media. We publish a Spring and an Autumn Newsletter packed full of reports on what has been done on residents behalf. We also have five regularly updated Notice Boards around the village centre, and of course there is also direct correspondence, and word of mouth.

### Eastwick Park Medical Practice

#### Simon Edge

The BRA has been talking with the Doctors at the Eastwick Park Medical Practice as they explore the options that might be available to them to improve the building they currently occupy, or relocate the practice to another site in the same part of Bookham. The current building is not large enough to meet the needs of the community, and its configuration is not an efficient use of space for a modern medical practice. Eastwick Park Medical Practice is very keen to engage with the community to explore all options and are so grateful for their support. Eastwick Park Medical Practice wants to work together to develop a modern, well equipped practice giving patients the best practice possible.

Most GP practices are owned by the GPs themselves and are set up as independent businesses that are contracted to the NHS. That all works well enough, but it means that the amount of bureaucracy that has to be gone through to develop a new practice is huge - not just things like obtaining planning permission from the local Council, but reams of forms and assessments to satisfy and get support from the NHS. It will be a long and complex project for the Doctors to manage, but the BRA has offered to help where it can by facilitating contacts and providing its backing in support of the Doctors plans.

The BRA subsequently engaged with senior Officers of Mole Valley District Council to raise awareness of the Eastwick Park Doctors' aspirations, and encourage assistance. Again, it is very early days, but the Council Officers were very positive about seeing what can be done to help. A round-table meeting will now be sought between key local government and NHS players, and we look forward to that meeting building momentum in support of the Eastwick Park Doctors plans.

## Infrastructure

### Drainage

#### Michael Agius

The BRA continues to try and resolve the villages' many historical drainage problems through the Bookham Flood Forum, along with SCC Highways and Thames Water. Meetings have continued to be held on Zoom.

The winter has been generally fairly dry, thus avoiding the intense rainfall and flooding that occurred in October. Despite that local members of the Flood Forum have been in communication with the SCC Flooding Team with regard to critical areas of the village's old drainage infrastructure, prior to discussing these further at the next meeting.

### Highways

#### Michael Agius

Mole Valley District Council's Integrated Transport Scheme Programme for 2021/22 - 2023/24 includes the following Bookham project :

- Eastwick Park Avenue - £25,000 for construction of pedestrian improvements outside the entrance to Eastwick Junior School, similar to those constructed outside the school on Eastwick Drive.
- The programme also includes schemes for future potential prioritisation from MVDC's Road Safety central budgets :

- Lower Rd/Little Bookham Street - formal pedestrian crossing. £100,000
- Church Road - traffic calming measures. £200,000

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

Please also email Michael Agius on [meagius@gmail.com](mailto:meagius@gmail.com) so that he can keep a record of the problems.

### Vehicle Activated Signs

#### Andrew Freeman

In the last newsletter we asked for some volunteers to help with erecting, and moving around, a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) (or Speed Indicator Device).

I'm pleased to report that we now have a small team of volunteers and we have installed the VAS on the A246, not far from the Lower Shott car park.

If a car is exceeding the speed limit it will light up with "Slow Down" and a reminder of the speed limit.

We have all the equipment needed but permission is needed to affix the VAS and posts need to be of a certain height. Unfortunately we can't use lampposts so we will need to get some new ones erected, which will come at a cost. However, we have two viable posts and hopefully more on the way.

Also, in Little Bookham Street, two VASs will be installed, hopefully in the coming months. These will be static devices so we can't move them around, but we are hopeful of getting a second mobile device at some point in the future.



If you would like to help, either call:

0300 030 9890 or send a message via the BRA web site.: [bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk)



[bookhamresidents.org.uk/contact](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk/contact)

## Mole Valley District Council

### Bookham's Hidden Eyesore

Do you recognise where this is? It is right in the heart of Bookham and is part of the Lower Shott complex.

The area is owned by Mole Valley District Council and Clarion, the main Housing Association throughout Bookham.

This looks a derelict place with the exception of one or two garages that are well maintained and we have tried over the past 15 years along with many of our Councillors to get this land turned into something more productive, useful, and attractive.

Although designated in the Local Plan for development because of the constraints and joint ownership, developers appear to be reluctant to get involved.

With our Councillors we want to mount more pressure on MVDC for them to make a considerable effort to use this land for the public good.

In a similar case near to this location unused small garages just like these were taken down and affordable housing put in their place. Why cannot this be arranged here too.

Please help us if you agree by lobbying your local MVDC Councillor by showing your support for getting a drastic change to this Bookham eyesore.

*Lower Shott eyesore*



### Mole Valley District Council Boundary Review

**Peter Seaward**

The review of the existing wards in Mole Valley by the Boundary Commission has completed its first stage. For Bookham and Fetcham, the changes recommended include a completely new ward which will cross the present boundaries of our villages.

This Ward will be called Eastwick Ward and encompass parts of Fetcham such as the Ridgeway and parts of East Bookham. In our submission to the Boundary Commission, we stressed the importance of the unique identities of Bookham and Fetcham. As the new ward structure must be evened out at around five thousand voters per ward the numbers argument outranked the location case.

We can challenge and comment at the second round of consultation which we will do. This change has come about because MVDC are determined to maintain local elections every three years so every ward must have three councillors whereas previous single councillor wards were permitted.

Should our arguments not prevail we have agreed that for both our Resident Association purposes (Fetcham and Bookham) the present boundaries between us will still apply. As many will know this is not an unusual case as we already have different Parliamentary constituencies, differing post codes and so on.

### Local Elections

In May local elections took place In Mole Valley and there has been a change to our Councillors.

**Bookham Councillors are:**

**Cllr Roger Adams: Bookham North**

**Cllr Sarah Chambers: Bookham North**

**Cllr Monica Weller: Bookham North**

**Cllr James Chambers: Bookham South**

**Cllr Elizabeth Daly: Bookham South**

**Cllr Nancy Goodacre: Bookham South**

We look forward to continuing to working with all our Councillors and welcome Monica Weller and say "thank you" to Richard Moyse, the outgoing councillor for his contribution to the community

### Local Plan

The next stage of the Local Plan is now underway with Government Inspectors appointed and dates set for when hearings will take place. The Inspectors issued a series of questions for MVDC to answer, and all this material is in the public domain. (These can be viewed on the BRA web site).

We, along with others locally, who objected are deciding how best to respond at the various stages the Inspector has outlined.

The BRA will be sending written comment shortly and asking that we speak at one or two sessions. These will be in public at the MVDC offices in Dorking later this year. As soon as these have been decided we will publish them on our web site along with other material that may be helpful.

## Environment

### Great British Spring Clean 2022

Margaret Lawson

17 people assembled at Lower Shott on Sunday 3rd April as part of Bookham's contribution to this year's event organised by Keep Britain Tidy from 25th March to 10th April. The volunteers fanned out to various locations in Bookham in search of litter and returned with a total of 11 bags together with several larger items.

Individual "Womblers" also collect litter in their area. The Bookham group was formed in 2016 with equipment supplied by both Mole Valley District Council and Bookhams Residents' Association and meets monthly.



We meet at Lower Shott car park starting at 11.00 am and usually the session lasts around 90 mins. Safety gear, bags and equipment supplied.

Any litter pick queries you can contact Margaret:

[litterpicking@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:litterpicking@bookhamresidents.org.uk)  
or 0300 030 9890

### Tree Matters

Frances Fancourt

#### Bookham's Wonderful New Trees

Spring has brought us a bumper crop of blossom. The Tree Wardens gave away 30 Front Garden Trees at last year's Village Day and many have rewarded passers by this spring with their beautiful flowers. Each tree is being recorded on the Queen's Green



*Residents Sally and Mario Viscione with their Front Garden Tree from Village Day 2021: Prunus "The Bride"*

Canopy website and map with a photograph and rough location.

Surrey County Council has also come up trumps with a refreshed impetus towards street tree planting with the lovely cherry avenue outside the Lower Road Recreation Ground, four Sorbus trees in Oveton Way, and new trees on the Garstons triangle. And with this new impetus we hope to extend the tree planting throughout the village over the coming few years.

Please visit us on the Bookhams Residents' Association stand on Village Day where we will be holding a Tree Raffle to be drawn during Bookham Open Gardens the following week. We will also be on hand to discuss any tree planting ideas you may have.

### Garstons Triangle: New Benches

Doug McCann

Some two years ago we all feared that the triangle might be lost to development, posing a threat to Village Day and Bookham's public outdoor events. Through the combined action of local residents, the BRA, the Bookham Community Association, and liaising with both Surrey and Mole Valley Councils, we have now secured this area as a public space complete with benches and plantings.

One of the benches was donated by Angela Smith in memory of her husband, former Councillor Jim Smith, who served Bookham for many years. It is near to her home and we hope that she will be able to enjoy these benches for many years to come. Angela is pictured at the far left in the photo of the inaugural "sitting",

Also in the photo are Chris Cunningham who was responsible for the tree and shrub planting; Doug McCann who helped to get the Triangle designated as a "Local Green Space" and Fran Pyatt who, with her family, raised funds with a bake sale.

## Environment



### New Free Recycling Guide released by the BRA and Plastic Free Bookham

Diane Poole and Les Huett

As part of the *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle around Bookham* initiative by Plastic Free Bookham, the Bookhams Residents' Association and Plastic Free Bookham have combined resources to develop an automated guide to local re-cycling services.

This free online service enables residents to simply enter the product they want to recycle and the guide automatically shows you if and where the product can be recycled. The

guide not only includes Mole Valley District Council street collections and Community Recycling Centre but also other recycling organisations for a complete picture.

Some recycling can produce funding for the benefit of a charity or community groups and this is also shown in the guide.

A major recent development is that many branches of supermarkets like the Co-op (including Bookham!), Sainsburys and Tesco now offer soft plastic recycling and this is a welcome

option to avoid some of the sorting needed for the Terracycle collections – a few Bookham Terracycle collections are still listed.

Diane Poole of Plastic Free Bookham researched and provided the content and Les Huett from the BRA built the service.

The service works on desktop and mobile devices.

**To use the guide start typing in the 'Search' box. The service immediately shows you all the entries with the search phrase in them.**

**Click in the right-hand column to see more details of what your options are.**

Show  entries

Search:

Type of Product	What is accepted - click on link for more details	Where to take - click on the code or link for drop off details
Aerosols		Black wheelie bin
Aerosols	<a href="#">Check with staff member where to put them</a>	<a href="#">Community Recycling Centre</a>
Air freshener products	Air freshener fragrance candles & reeds, glass cartridges	Black wheelie bin
Air freshener products	Plug-in air fresheners	<a href="#">MVDC Small Electricals doorstep recycling</a>
Air freshener products	<b>All brands:</b> <a href="#">Air freshener fragrance twin pack plastic sleeves</a>	<a href="#">A, C, D, DWA, F, LT, LWA</a>
Air freshener products	<b>All brands:</b> <a href="#">Air freshener plastic containers and cartridge caps and plastic car air fresheners</a>	<a href="#">C, D, LT,</a>
Aluminium foil and trays	<b>Note:</b> <i>Must be clean and dry. Foil n</i>	

To access the service go to [recycle.bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://recycle.bookhamresidents.org.uk) or scan the QR code.



The Bookhams  
Residents'  
Association

bookhamresidents.org.uk  
Tel: 0300 030 9890

# Please help the BRA to continue its work for our village

Throughout this Newsletter you will have read about the many examples of how the BRA continues to champion many initiatives in the village.

The BRA is run by volunteers who give their time freely and for free but some of the work we undertake costs money.

For just £5.00 per year per household you can help us to fund our work on behalf of our village and you will be a BRA member.

## Ways to Pay

Many of you will be familiar with our Road Stewards who call once a year to collect the annual subscription along with delivering the Newsletters.

However a number of our roads no longer have a Road Steward so below we have listed the ways you can pay.

Even if you do have a Road Steward why not try one of these other ways to pay – it will save them from having to call.

## Ways to Pay

**Use the QR code** – scan with your smart phone and be taken to the BRA website payment page.

**Pay online** – visit the BRA website at [www.bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://www.bookhamresidents.org.uk) and head to the Subscriptions page. You can use a credit or debit card to pay through our secure payment system.



[bookhamresidents.org.uk/subscriptions](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk/subscriptions)

## Pay by telephone using a credit or debit card.

Call the BRA helpline on 0300 030 9890 and leave your Name, Telephone Number and a "code word" of your choosing (something simple like a pet's name is ideal).

One of our volunteers will ring you back and will input your payment card details into our secure payment system during the telephone call. Your payment details are not retained.

## Standing Order

If you would like further details to pay by standing order please email Email us at [membership@bookhamresidents.org.uk](mailto:membership@bookhamresidents.org.uk) or call our helpline on 0300 030 9890 for further details.

**Thank you to those residents who have already paid this year and don't forget if you have already paid your subs sign up for our occasional email service on the BRA website or follow us on social media to keep up to date with village news between our Newsletter print editions.**

## Want to get involved?

We are always looking for new members, and for people who want to help "do something positive" to help their local village. We currently have four specific roles that we need volunteers for:

### Noticeboard Administrator

We have five noticeboards to be updated with new village notices and typically this will be weekly. The boards are all around the village so an element of walking is required between the sites. It would suit two people working together.

### Minutes Secretary

Committee meetings are held eight times a year and we have four directors meetings. They are held on the first Monday in the month and the second

Monday following bank holidays. Meetings start at 7.30 pm and are face to face (occasionally they may be Zoom calls). The Minutes Secretary will produce the minutes and actions at the meetings. A PC /laptop will be required to produce and email minutes.

### Contact Administrator

We have an online and telephone messaging service for residents to contact the BRA. The Contact Administrator will receive these contact messages via a BRA email account, and forward them on to the relevant BRA committee member for follow up. The administrator should have access to a laptop/PC to manage the messages of which there are two or three a week.

### Road Stewards

Our team of Road Stewards are responsible for the delivery of the BRA Newsletter twice a year and collection of the annual BRA subscription.

Unfortunately we do not have Road Stewards for all roads in Bookham which means we do not have volunteers to deliver Newsletters or collect subscriptions, to you and your neighbours.

All we need is a commitment of a few hours in the Spring and Autumn to deliver to around twenty homes.

**If you are interested in any of these positions please contact us via the BRA website: [bookhamresidents.org.uk](http://bookhamresidents.org.uk) or call 0300 030 9890**

