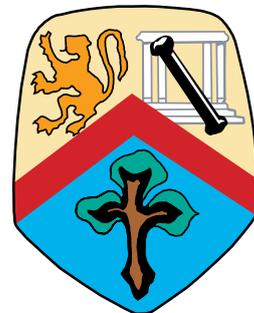


Sandhurst Pride

The newsletter of Sandhurst Town Council



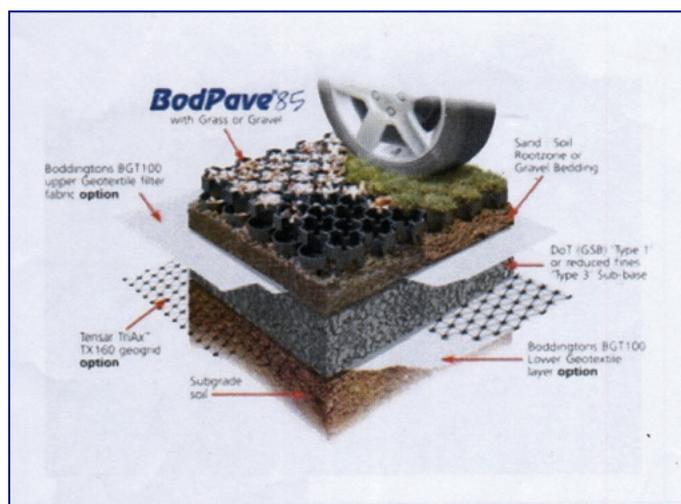
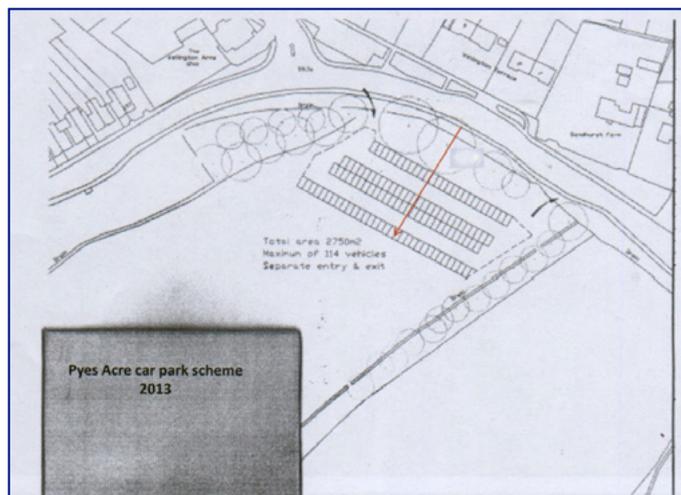
July 2013

For some time we have been aware of the growing pressure for additional parking spaces on the Memorial Park. We have investigated several options and carried out feasibility studies which have come up with various obstacles such as access, underground utilities, proximity of trees, to name but a few.

This last Winter/Spring have brought many complaints where inconsiderate drivers have driven across the pavement on to the grassed areas. This has caused considerable damage to the grass and flowers that have been planted there. We are also concerned about the potential risk for pedestrians and cyclists.

As a result we have re-examined some of the previous options and the most appropriate place for additional parking is at the road end of Pyes Acre (opposite Rackstraws). As it is subject to flooding, this area is not used for organised games. There are already entrance and exit points and it is close to the sporting facilities on the Park.

Our proposal is for proper drainage and a surface that will not be out of place on the Park – the last thing we want is to put tarmac there. This would also allow events that depend on parking in that area to go ahead where currently they may have to be cancelled due to the boggy ground – an example would be the annual Donkey Derby. Later we may look at some extra spaces by the Gardening Club Hut and the Scout Hut. This would involve relocation of the gate to make this area accessible for parking but that is for the future!



Do you agree that there is a need for additional parking?

YES

NO

We would welcome any constructive comments that you may have.

Please return your response to Sandhurst Town Council, Yorktown Road, Sandhurst GU47 9BJ by 31 August. Or let us have your views on www.sandhurst.gov.uk

Respect, Responsibility and Rights

Appointment of new Mayor

On 02 May our Mayor, Dale Birch, handed over the baton to our new Mayor, Michael Brossard.

At the handover ceremony, the Mayoral chain was presented to the new Mayor whilst the councillors appointed Pauline McKenzie as Deputy Mayor for the municipal year of 2013/14.

Michael in his introductory speech thanked Dale for his indefatigable work over the last two years on behalf of our Sandhurst residents. As evidence of his commitment to this role, comment was made on the 75 events he and his consort, Gill Birch, had attended over the last 12 months. Dale's theme was 'inspire a generation' based on:

- The Queen's Jubilee celebrations
- The Olympics
- The Paralympics

His chosen charity for the last year was ABF – The Soldiers' Charity where donations reached £1000 (this is in addition to the £3248 donated the previous year where Dale's charity was Keep Mobile).

For many of us the highlight of this year was the visit to Sandhurst on 25 April of his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. All present agreed that the organisation was exemplary with the Memorial Park and surrounding areas looking at their best. Thanks must also go to the retailers who enhanced their shop fronts with bunting.

Michael understood the responsibility that comes with the role of Mayor and assured his fellow councillors and members of the public that he would work tirelessly to promote Sandhurst at all events (see page 4 for the list of forthcoming Sandhurst events).

In closing, Michael thanked the Sandhurst residents for participating in the residents' survey which was undertaken last December (see page 3 for the summary of the feedback received from our residents)



Dale Birch (previously Mayor) with Michael Brossard (Mayor)



Michael Brossard (Mayor) with Pauline McKenzie (Deputy Mayor)

Result of residents survey return



Many thanks to the Sandhurst residents who took part in the survey either on line or via the questionnaire contained in the winter edition of Town & Country.

This survey takes place every two years and is of help in planning for future resident needs both in Sandhurst and the surrounding Parishes.

The independent auditors, QA of York, analysed the returns to arrive at conclusions. They commented positively on the return level of 11% (this compares with a typical return of 3% - 5%).

Salient points from the survey

(to view the full Residents Survey2012 results report go to www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/residentssurvey2012results)

- Volunteering by our residents estimated at 30%+ (compared to 22% overall for the Borough)
- Satisfaction with services – this ranged from 90% for College Town to 94% for Central Sandhurst
- When asked what our Sandhurst residents most value, you commented:

Little Sandhurst/Central Sandhurst/College Town:

- Parks and open spaces
- Libraries
- Recycling facilities

Owlsmoor:

- Parks and open spaces
- Libraries
- Schools

Access to Broadband: 85% (lowest was 72%, highest was 93% across our Borough)

Significantly when asked for additional comments, residents responded with the following comments:

- Regulate roadside parking particularly at junctions
- Keep grass areas free of parking vehicles - these result in eye sore of mud instead of grassed areas
- Improve parking – create more spaces as not enough parking for residents let alone other people i.e. football days, making parking impossible and driving dangerous. Also obstruction to garages where people use garage block to park due to lack of spaces

Based on the above sentiments, can we encourage you to complete the front page questionnaire which seeks your views of the provision of 114 additional parking spaces on Pyres Acre.

STOP PRESS

As we will see from the list of forthcoming events, we are delighted to welcome back the Surrey Farmers Market.

Those of you who supported this enterprise commented positively on the quality of food on offer along with the provenance of the fresh products.

Unfortunately the wet conditions over the last few months may have discouraged residents from venturing out to the detriment of the viability of the market.

A new plan has been prepared which proposes instead a Saturday presence along with attendance every two months. This (along with greater publicity) should be the formula which will ensure a presence this year and beyond. Please show your commitment to this social enterprise by visiting and more importantly spending!

The dates are:

Saturday 31 August

Saturday 30 November



Helping keep Sandhurst clean

Although we have the Clean Team in the form of Heather and Wendy, there are opportunities for Councillors to 'get stuck in'.

When Sandhurst Town Council learnt of a Bracknell Forest Council litter pick initiative, our Environment Committee rose to the challenge.

Having designated the location for the 'Big Clean' on Saturday 23 March we were thwarted in our endeavours by a combination of snow and flooding.

Our team of three Town Councillors were not deterred choosing instead Saturday 06 April. The location selected was the Greenways, a park adjacent to Sandhurst Sports Centre.

Armed with litter pickers and bin liners, we set to work collecting the usual debris such as cans, plastic bottles, fast food packaging etc. Within 90 minutes our task was complete, mission accomplished.

Of greatest disappointment was the discovery of c.200 free newspapers which had been discarded in the adjacent woods. These were collected by our team as they were a blight on the landscape. The distributor has recovered the papers where the offender/s can expect a visit from their agent!

All in all a good outcome where we will undertake a similar exercise in other areas of Sandhurst which are deserving of a spring clean.

Our thanks to Carole Cupper, Pauline McKenzie and Michael Brossard.



Michael Brossard and Carole Cupper
(Chairman of Environment Committee)



Carole Cupper and Pauline McKenzie

Councillor contact list



Central Sandhurst

Graham Birch 07708 984280
Michael Brossard 01252 873826
David Evans 01344 779233
Bob Piggitt 01344 762138
Graham Ramsey 07867 900479
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College Town

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Andy Blatchford 01344 777211
Carole Cupper 01344 771431
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Paul Widdowson 07802 898160

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Adrian Ronca 01252 873862
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Owlsmoor

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Cliff Thompson 01344 775349
Philip Wallington 01344 778824

What's on at the park in 2013?

July 20 Charity Cricket Match
July 21 Dog Show – British Association of German Shepherd Dogs
July 27 - Aug 4 Love Parks week
August 31 Surrey Farmers Market
August 31 - Sep 1 Lewis Marsh Football Tournament
September 7 Sandhurst and District Gardening Club Show
November 10 Remembrance Service
November 30 Surrey Farmers Market
November 30 Turning on of the Xmas lights
November 1 Xmas Craft Fair
December 8 Carol Service let by Churches Together 5.00 – 6.30pm

Please view www.sandhurstpride.co.uk for more information

Respect, Responsibility and Rights

Tell us what you think.
Please complete the
Evaluation Survey which you
will find on our website of
www.sandhurst.gov.uk
Your comments will help
shape this project going
forward. The closing date for
responses is 20 September.