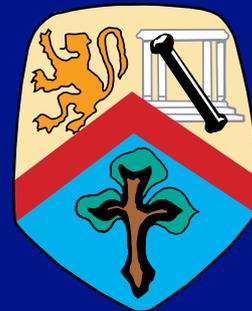


Sandhurst Pride

The newsletter of Sandhurst Town Council



September 2013

On behalf of Sandhurst Town Council can I thank the hundreds of residents who took part in our two recent consultations.

We are anxious to engage with our community to ensure that we take the right decisions now and in the future.

You may remember that our first consultation (January 2013) sought your views on a proposal by the Corps of Drums to construct a building comprising a new band/ community hall on the Memorial Park. The building would be located behind the Gardening Club building and Pistachio's café.

The responses were overwhelmingly in support of this proposal, the results being:

In favour: 90%
Opposed: 10%

This represented the returns both from the tear off section of the Sandhurst Pride along with Web responses.

Encouragingly there was a very high level of feedback (both for and against) showing that you share our desire to enhance our facilities in a sympathetic manner. There were concerns expressed at the cost to the Council. Can we emphasise that any costs (architects, planning application, construction etc.) would be funded entirely by the Corps of Drums. There would be no Council funding where instead the Corps of Drums will seek funding from Grants, fund raising etc. As at today, this is Work in Progress.

Turning now to our second consultation (July) this related to a possible addition to our car parking provision. As many of you will have observed, we are severely constrained with parking provision particularly during popular football weekends. This results in overflow parking in the nearby streets, adjacent Day Centre and (inconsiderate) parking on the grass verges on Yorktown Road. It was for this reason that we have installed wooden bollards along Yorktown Road to protect our amenity land/ preserve the daffodils, crocus etc. planted by our Town Councillors.

Again we received a high level of response, divided as follows:

In favour: 73%
Opposed: 27%

Those against this proposal made the following observations:

- Bollards should be installed (done)
- Ample parking in the local area
- People should be encouraged to walk or cycle
- Why ruin a green space for occasional use?
- More measures to stop people parking on the verges (done)
- Local participants could walk or car share
- People should use public transport

A Working Group will now be set up to explore the resident comments to plan the next stage in this possible project. Rest assured that we will update you on an as and when basis as we seek a consensus view on the merits of this proposal.

Sandhurst Town Council 01252 879060 www.sandhurstpride.co.uk

Respect, Responsibility and Rights

AU REVOIR CHRIS



Friday 26 July marked the last day at Sandhurst Town Council for our Executive Officer, Chris Smith. It was that day that Chris retired after 18 years loyal service to our council.

It was appropriate that this momentous event should be recognised by us. Consequently 70 guests comprising councillors, Bracknell Forest Council management and residents came together in the Kitty Dancy Room.

This was an opportunity for one and all to wish Chris a long and happy retirement.

As Mayor I was privileged to open the proceedings by recognising the contribution by Chris who had

enriched our town of Sandhurst. Knowing that Chris would expand on the changes since his arrival in 1995, I chose to elaborate on three key areas which would be recognised by our community.

They were:

1. the close working relationship which we have cemented with the Royal Military Academy. This was evident in key events such as:
 - a. Sandhurst Freedom March where we celebrated the creation of the RMA here in Sandhurst 200 years ago.
 - b. The role of the RMA in support of our annual Remembrance service in November each year
 - c. The visit back in April of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh. Those who attended this auspicious event all commented on the superb arrangements which ensured the day was an unqualified success
2. the award for the 10th. Year in succession of the Green Flag award. This recognises the outstanding facilities we have at both the Memorial Park and Shepherd Meadows. Each year the organisers raise the bar. Each year Chris and his team rise to the challenge
3. the creation of the vision of Respect Responsibility and Rights. This theme has been embedded in all our schools

in the belief that our children will share our belief that this will lead to higher ethics to the benefit of our community.

In seeking to encapsulate the sterling work carried out by Chris, I took as a reference an extract from a poem quoted at the start of the Olympics last year. This was a poem by Lord Alfred Tennyson called Ulysses – the words were

‘To seek, to strive and not to yield’

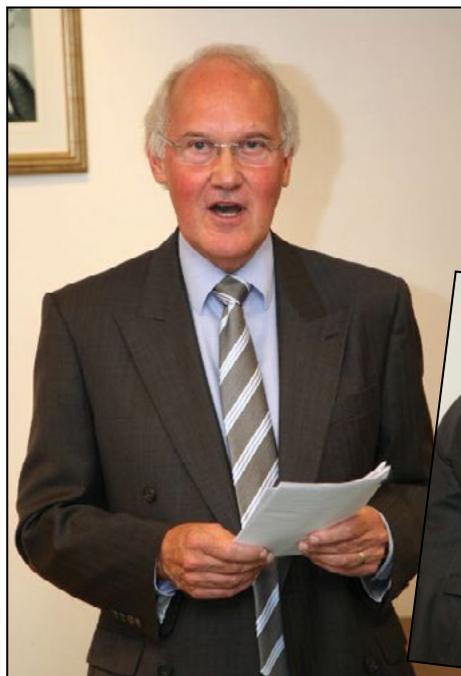
Chris then shared with us his belief that Sandhurst is a good place to live with great facilities supported by loyal staff. These ingredients augur well for his successor, Stephen Chown.

The highlights were undoubtedly the handover of multiple presents consisting of:

- two reclining garden seats donated by the community
- a picnic basket and a garden gnome donated by Council staff (see photo)
- a clock donated by Sandhurst Football Club
- a cheque donated by the Sandhurst Residents Association
- bouquets to his wife Janice, daughter Katie and granddaughter Lily

Last but not least a special thank you to Jean Bettison for the splendid cake along with the edible STC plaque.

All present wished Chris a long, restful and happy retirement after 18 years of indefatigable work for Sandhurst Town Council.



Mayor's engagements (just a selection)

29 May Donkey Derby

02 June 60th. Anniversary of Queen's Coronation at Reading Minster

15 June Tug of War national competition

16 June RMAS function

29 June Nepalese function attended by High Commissioner

06 July College Town Scouts AGM

08 July Owlsmoor Scouts AGM

09 July Jennett's Park Scouts AG

19 July retirement of Diana Pidgeon O.B.E. as Chair of Governors Uplands School

24 July Kids Combat at RMA



26 August Awards ceremony to commemorate achievement of visiting foreign students at Wellington College

Sandhurst in bloom

Many of you have commented favourably on the quality and quantity of hanging baskets in the shopping area comprising Kings etc. Using funds from our Environment budget, we have installed posts in Owlsmoor to support additional hanging baskets. I know you will share our view that they look splendid .



Parking 'tickets'

Sandhurst Town Council have started issuing reminder stickers to the inconsiderate motorists who park on grass verges alongside our car park. You will, I am confident, agree that this is the right course of action as these parking abuses constitute environmental vandalism.



What's on at the park in 2013?

November 10 Remembrance Service
 November 30 turning on of the Xmas lights
 December 01 Xmas Craft fair
 December 08 Carol Service let by Churches Together 5.00 – 6.30 pm
 for details of over 30 events on the Sandhurst Memorial Park each year go to www.sandhurstpride.co.uk

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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.

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