

# Ellisfield Parish Council

## Parish Newsletter November 2007

### May 2007 Elections

All existing Parish Councillors were returned un-contested last May and are therefore elected to serve for the next four years. Tim Guinness was re-elected as Chairman at the Parish Council's Annual Meeting and Councillors Special Interests were confirmed.

### Contact Details

Caroline Cazenove;  
Brocas, The Green. 381279

Steven Gould;  
3 Park View, Green Lane. 381471

Tim Guinness;  
Widmoor Farm, College Lane. 381348

Peter Hopwood;  
The Acorns, Axford Road. 381321

Alison Swanston;  
Oak Hill, Green Lane. 381171

Rose Taplin;  
3 Hill Farm Cottages, Green Lane. 381417

### Special Interest

Burial Ground

Basingstoke & Deane District  
Association of Parish & Town  
Councils, Land & Property

Chairman, the [ellisfield.gov.uk](http://ellisfield.gov.uk)  
web site & College Lane  
telecommunications mast.

Highways &  
Neighbourhood Watch

Memorial Hall & Environment

Environment

Parish Clerk - Jacqui Matthews (Mayfield, Green Lane, Ellisfield RG25 2QL) she can be contacted on 381149 or at [clerk@ellisfield.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ellisfield.gov.uk). See also [www.ellisfield.gov.uk/council](http://www.ellisfield.gov.uk/council).

### Highways - Furzen Lane & Axford Road

We continue to lobby HCC to make some progress with the plans for Traffic Calming on Axford Road. You may also have read the notice at the top of Furzen Lane that notifies HCC intend to close the road for a period of several weeks to allow resurfacing of the stretch of road closest to Church Lane. We have argued that the money (quite a large sum) would be better spent on traffic calming. HCC have rejected our logic - these are separate budgets and the money is not transferable –

but our representations do seem at last to be having an effect and we are having a “summit” with HCC officers on Axford Road in November.

We will also hopefully get an update on our application under a recent HCC initiative called **Village 30**, which aims to help action restricting traffic on roads through Hampshire Villages to 30 mph where villages so request. Whilst we applied in good time, there were 20 applications in this area with only sufficient funding for one third of this, so our application has not yet been properly considered.

### Local Recycling Initiatives

These continue to be a success, the number of people in the village who have volunteered to provide a collection point for various items that can be recycled has increased. You will find a receptacle at the gate or porch of each property: Please take advantage of this and many thanks to all involved for taking the time and trouble to undertake this activity.

**Printer Ink Cartridges:** Ted Dowson, Woodpeckers, Axford Road. Only proprietary brands please, not refills. Please note that thanks to the efforts of Hannah Houstin-Lacey, we can now recycle Epsom cartridges. *Cartridges are now being donated to raise money for The Woodland Trust.*

**Batteries:** Seumas Foster, Northgate Cottage, Northgate Lane. *Batteries are particularly harmful if disposed of in landfill as they contain highly toxic heavy metals that contaminate soil and water courses, thus protecting us and wildlife and help to protect the environment.*

**Mobile Phones:** Tony Matthews, Mayfield, Green Lane. Any make of Phone with or without chargers. *Phones are now being donated to raise funds for the newly commissioned Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance*

**Brita Water Filter Cartridges:** Jenni Krauklis-Gould, 3 Park View Cottages, Green Lane. *Brita cartridges only to be returned to Brita and prevent more plastic going into landfill.*

**Printing:** This newsletter has been printed on recycled paper.

### Hill Farm Pond

Further to our application for a grant to fund work to improve this pond we continue to research its ownership. Following research conducted by Cllr Peter Hopwood and Hannah Houstin-Lacey it now looks as if it is, in effect, common land. It is not registered with the Land Registry and is not claimed by any of the landowners sharing a boundary with it. We are minded therefore to register it as common land and would be interested if any villager would be opposed to this.

## Allotments

The upper allotments have now been marked out and divided in to four plots; two of which are being prepared by new allotment holders for next season. Two new plots remain available and anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk. We continue to work towards securing funding towards high costs associated with both fencing and providing a water supply.

## Affordable Housing

We continue to work on this, although progress has been slower than we would wish; our favoured scheme is to build something like four houses on the land on Green Lane next to Farrier's Field. On the critical path; we have been trying to work out who to partner with from the point of view of achieving a good build quality and visual design result for Ellisfield. We have had meetings and detailed exchanges with three Affordable Housing bodies – Hyde, Hastoe and The Rural Housing Trust. At the moment we favour Hastoe's approach (locally they developed the Affordable Housing in Herriard; their headquarters are in Poundbury in the Duchy of Cornwall) – we think they have the strongest credentials in the area of sympathetic visual design but the process is ongoing. Once we have established the most effective partner and the details of a scheme are worked up, further consultation will take place with all local residents.

## Litter Picking Vacancy

We are looking for a young person over 14 interested in keeping the village tidy; payment for this role is £28.95 a month (for six and a half hours work). Please contact Jacqui Matthews as soon as possible. Many thanks to Becky Swanston who has kept the lanes at the lower end of the village looking smart and litter-free for the past 3 years.

## Burial Ground

Burial Ground charges have recently been reviewed to ensure running costs are covered by revenue and do not necessitate any further increase in precept. A schedule of charges is displayed on the village website or a hard copy is available from the Parish Clerk.

## South East Plan: EiP Panel Report Published

The report of an independent panel of inspectors on the South East Plan was published on 29 August by the Government Office for the South East. Government will now consider the inspectors' report before consulting on changes to the South East Plan recommended in the report. Further consultation is expected at the end of this year. For more information on the report visit [http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan/plan/inspectors\\_report.html](http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan/plan/inspectors_report.html)

## Ellisfield Volunteer Group – help to keep Precept low

The mowing roster for 2007 show that, excluding committee members, 18 volunteers have done one or more sessions on Lower Common, The Gravel Pits and The Burial Ground; please do go along to the AGM on Friday, 11 January at 8pm and volunteer for next year, as we do all benefit from the work done by volunteers, in fact if we found ourselves in the position where we had to pay outside contractors to do the work, the parish precept would probably have to be doubled.

## Planning

From this month you will be able to access details of any planning applications made in Ellisfield via our website. You will find a link from the [www.ellisfield.gov.uk](http://www.ellisfield.gov.uk) homepage.

The following planning applications have been received or decided since the last newsletter:

**Merritt's Farm, Bell Lane** - Appeal against decision to refuse permission for applications BDB/63357 & BDB/61551. **The Planning Inspector's decision has just been announced and whilst the application for B8 permission has been rejected - B1 permission has been granted with restrictions.**

**Land to the rear of The Walled Garden** - Erection of building forming stables, tack room, log store and hay store. Change of use of the land for the keeping of horses, sheep and goats. **Approved**

**Sylven Lea, Green Lane** - Erection of a single storey side extension to workshop. **Approved**

**3 Cannon Close, Green Lane** - Creation of new vehicular access. **Approved**

**Northgate Farm, Northgate Lane** - Erection of a rear conservatory and retrospective single storey rear extension. **Pending**