



Loxwood Parish Council

Spring 2011

Parish Council Elections

Have you considered becoming a Parish Councillor?

The 5th of May 2011 sees the Parish Council Elections held in North Hall, Loxwood. Several of our current Members have indicated their intention to stand down from the Parish Council in May leaving us with vacancies to fill.

Parish Councillors are the grass roots of local government, at the heart of the community and are in prime position to know what is going on and what is needed.

There are no specific qualifications required to be a Councillor other than to be 18 or over and a British Citizen, or Citizen of the Irish Republic, the Commonwealth or another member state of the European Union. You will have :

An interest in your community, its affairs and the local government.

A willingness to get involved, ask questions and seek answers.

The enthusiasm to maintain and improve the quality of services and facilities in our Parish.

If you are interested in standing for Election to join Loxwood Parish Council, please contact Chichester District Council for a nomination pack. Packs are available from Monday 21st February 2011, with CDC accepting nomination papers from Tuesday 14th March 2011. Closing dates for nominations is noon on Monday 4th April 2011.

For further information on becoming a Parish Councillor please contact the Clerk..

North Hall Grand Opening Ceremony! Saturday 7th May 2011

To celebrate the completion of the new extension, the Village Hall Management and Fundraising Committees invite you to an afternoon and evening of festivities!

From 2pm there will be activities for all in the main hall including a May Princess Competition, indoor tennis and children's craft activities. The official ceremony will see the unveiling of a new foundation stone to mark the occasion followed by an afternoon tea dance with sandwiches, cakes and drinks.

Whilst looking around the new premises you will also be able to see displays of all the many activities going on in Loxwood, plus fascinating local archives illustrating the history of the village. We have a village to be proud of. Come and see what has been and is being achieved! During the afternoon the bar will be open selling drinks including wine and real ale.

Let's party!

In the evening our very own Simon Bates has organized one of his party bands to perform for us, with his special guests Alvin & Julie Stardust. A huge marquee on the side of the hall will ensure there's plenty of room for dancing, and once again the bar will be open and food (included in the ticket price) will be available throughout the evening.

For more information visit www.loxwood.org.

Tickets will be available on a first come first served basis from the Loxwood Post Office. These tickets will sell very quickly, so don't delay!

Business Broadband: West Sussex County Council needs your help. Please complete the survey by 28th March 2011.

We are asking businesses in the County to help us to understand which geographical areas are affected by poor Internet connections. By completing a questionnaire on behalf of your business, you can provide the information that will help the County Council to persuade network operators and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to invest in badly needed improvements to the Broadband infrastructure. We are keen to gain as many responses as possible so that local businesses and the local economy can prosper from the opportunities a fast Broadband connection can bring.

As superfast Broadband is being rolled out across the UK, there is a risk that less commercially viable areas will be left behind, creating a "digital divide" which could damage businesses that are left on the "wrong side".


Please take this opportunity to complete the questionnaire – it will only take about

10 minutes and the information you provide will be used as a basis for both lobbying for improvements and as the basis for bids for funding that could help to bring improved quality Broadband to your area.

For those who have access to the Internet, an online questionnaire is available at:

<http://westsussex.gov.uk/broadband>. Printed copies of the questionnaire are available from your nearest library or call 01243 642119 and a copy will be sent to you.

North Hall Interior Decorating - Please Help

In order to save some of the cost of decorating the interior of the extension to North Hall it has been decided to do some of the work using volunteer labour. If you could spare some time during the first three weeks of April to wield a paintbrush or a roller please contact David Wellington on 01403 753100' 

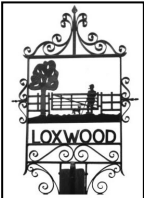
CONTACT:

Would you like to keep in contact with the Parish Council by email—if so please email your details to the Clerk.

Contact Us: Parish Clerk is Jenny Hartley. 88, Rusper Road, Horsham RH12 4BN. 07814 788407
Email: loxwood@pcouncil.co.uk

If you wish to contact the Parish Council, please address all correspondence, whether letter or e-mail, to the Parish Clerk.

Parish Council minutes and agendas are available from the Clerk, preferably by e-mail, or on the Loxwood Village website: www.loxwood.org



Loxwood Parish Council

40mph Experimental Speed Limit for Guildford Road

On 21 February 2011 West Sussex County Council brought into effect an experimental 40 MPH Speed limit on Guildford Road, running from the northern end of the existing 30 mph limit in the village, to the West Sussex County boundary. Surrey County Council have also made a similar Order on part of their length of Guildford Road running northwards from the county boundary.

The effects of the Order on the speed of traffic on Guildford Road will be closely monitored and after an initial 6 month period, the Order will be reviewed to see if it should be made permanent. During the initial 6 month period the matter will be open to public consultation and West Sussex County Council would welcome any comments on the experimental speed limit, whether they be positive or negative. Anyone wishing to formally comment can do so by sending an email to tro.team@westsussex.gov.uk or in writing to TRO Team, West Sussex County Council, Northleigh Tower Street, Chichester, PO19 1QT.

Speed Watch Update

We hope to launch Speed Watch officially in the Spring. We finally have approval from both WSCC Highways and Sussex Police for a site in central Loxwood (on the bridge by the Onslow Arms) where volunteers can use the Speed Indication Device (SID). They are also looking for a suitable location along the stretch of the experimental speed limit either side of Alfold Bars. If you've already offered to help you will be contacted shortly, otherwise if you are interested in helping with Speed Watch please contact the Clerk.

Horsham Walk and Talk Group.

Enjoy our beautiful countryside whilst keeping fit and healthy with the Horsham Walk and Talk group. Walks are free and range from 3 to 10 miles. Walks are held on a Sunday morning with some other days available. Please see the website www.loxwood.org for more info.

Wey and Arun Canal Trust

WACT have now obtained the detailed designs for the brick parapets from their consulting engineers and these now require final costing. The fundraising for the parapets is going well. Three fundraising cruises are planned (see information below) and in addition to these, WACT are hoping to hold a summer raffle in aid of the parapets fund. In addition, the Wey and Arun Canal Trust have been offered a donation to cover the difference between the funds raised and the cost of the brick parapets.

The planned visitor centre was discussed at the February PC meeting, objection to it was unanimous and a letter to this effect has been sent to Chichester District Council.

Forthcoming Events:

Whisky Cruise: Saturday 7th May at 5.30pm. Come and sample some interesting malts with background explanation by Chris Parker, MD of London and Scottish International Ltd. Tickets £21.

Cream Tea Cruise: Wednesday 18th May 2011 at 2pm. Includes a short talk of Canal Interest. Tickets £10.

Cruise with Quiz Friday 10th June 2011 at 6pm: Followed by a BBQ by Brewhurst Lock. Licenced bar. Tickets £15.

All cruises start at The Onslow Arms. Tickets for all the above cruises are available from Jean Lightman 01403 763117 or Len Milsom 01403 752032

Dog Fouling—Bin It!



Dog owners are being warned to bag and bin their dog's mess or face a £75 on the spot fine.

Dog fouling is a major concern to the public and generates many complaints. It can also be linked to health risks including 'toxocara canis'.

Roundworm eggs are found in dog mess, which can easily be picked up by young children. This causes stomach upsets, sore throats, asthma and in rare cases blindness. The eggs can remain active in the soil for many years, long after the dog mess has weathered away.

The council is encouraging residents to inform it if:

They have witnessed people leaving dog mess and they know who they are. Any information is protected under the Data Protection Act.

They are aware of a hotspot where people consistently offend. We need information we can act on, such as times offenders walk, a description of them, their dog or a vehicle. Our dog wardens will then target this area.

Residents should call 01243 534604 to report problems with dog mess. The council's Customer Care Centre also sells biodegradable dog bags. These can be purchased for £1.70 for 30 bags.