

Bramley Parish Council

serving the community since 1894



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BRAMLEY UPDATE

May 2020

News from Bramley and Grafham brought to you by Bramley Parish Council

Welcome to Bramley Update! Something you'd like to put into the next edition, or comments about what you'd like to see in it? Email bramleyparish@gmail.com.

Friends or family in Bramley? Think they'd like to see this email? Please suggest they subscribe (see below). Do you belong to a society or club? You can use this to publicise your events. There's no charge for subscribing or contributing to Bramley Update.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Bramley Parish Council update

Although the Parish Council has not held a formal meeting since lockdown began, we have adapted our way of working and are catching up via a weekly conference call to discuss any matters that need to be addressed. In particular, the local planning system continues to operate and the Parish Council is reviewing all new Bramley applications and submitting comments to Waverley. Notes of each of these meetings are posted on our website at www.bramleyparish.co.uk/community/bramley-parish-council-15042/meeting-minutes/.

It is now legally possible for Councils to hold formal meetings remotely (by using a technology platform such as Zoom), but we have not planned to do this at the present time. Our next planned Council meeting on Thursday 14th May will not be taking place, but we continue to review the need to start to hold meetings remotely. If restrictions are not lifted sufficiently within the next month to allow us to hold a meeting in person, it is likely that we will hold a remote meeting sometime in June. We'll confirm our decision in the next issue of Bramley Update and on Facebook. If there's anything you would like to raise with the Council in the meantime, do contact the Parish Clerk on bramleyparish@gmail.com or 07976 290211 who can raise it during one of the weekly calls.

The Village Hall and Library have understandably been closed since late March. We will open them up again for business just as soon as we can, with rules for social distancing if needed.

We continue to co-ordinate the community support network for residents of Bramley who need help. To date, 72 people have been helped by our group of 103 volunteers. We'd like to reiterate our sincere thanks to all those who have volunteered to help with shopping, prescription collection, etc. You are a lifeline to those residents who are not currently able to go out.

If you are vulnerable or self-isolating and need some grocery shopping doing, a prescription collecting, have a dog to be walked, etc, please do contact us by either emailing bramleyresponse@gmail.com, or telephone one of our Parish Councillors between 10:00am and 12:00pm as follows:

- Monday – call Tom Hughes on 01483893766
- Tuesday – call Bob Stern on 01483 893856
- Wednesday – call Richard Seaborne on 01483 890550
- Thursday – call Maurice Byham on 07710 411817
- Friday – call Francesca Stern on 01483 893856
- Saturday – call Patrick Molineux on 07770 880104
- Sunday – call Tony Coleman on 01483 898711

We can then link you up with a volunteer to help you.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Local shops

Our excellent range of local shops continue to serve our community where they can during these difficult times. See the April issue of Bramley Update for details of when and how they are open (you can download it from:

www.bramleyparish.co.uk/shared/attachments.asp?f=fde2d515%2Dc2f9%2D4ff0%2Daab5%2D985740eea758%2Epdf&o=Bramley%2DUpdate%2DApril%2D2020%2Epdf).

Select Convenience has informed us that when they receive deliveries, the shop has to close for a few hours for the safety of the drivers. This is normally on a Monday and Thursday. You'll know when this happens as there'll be a large lorry parked in the layby. They would like to apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

As well as offering contactless shopping for wine, Taurus Wines has also linked up with Tandem Catering, a family-run catering company that supplies food for weddings and events throughout Surrey, West Sussex, Hampshire and West London. Taurus Wines is now stocking a range of delicious handmade frozen ready meals. The range will be changed on a monthly basis and comes in generously sized portions and convenient packaging. It is available for collection from Taurus Wines or free local delivery with your wine order. Further details can be found at www.tauruswines.co.uk/index.php?route=product/category&path=110.

Whilst The Botanical Company at Whitley Manor Farm has had to close their new shop temporarily, the owner Liz has been able to get fresh stock of some outdoor plants and large bags of compost. Delivery is available to the local Dunsfold, Cranleigh, Godalming and Guildford area from £5.00. Whilst stocks last.

- Pink Hydrangea Plants (approx. 40cm) - £15.95 each
- Lilac Lavender Plants (approx. 30cm) - £4.95 each
- White Lavender Plants (approx. 30cm) - £4.95 each
- Clematis Plants (approx. 70cm) - £10.95 each
- 70L bag of compost - £11.95 each

Contact Liz on 01483 323411 or info@thebotanicalcompany.co.uk.

Advice from Citizens Advice Waverley

Citizens Advice Waverley is still available to help people in the community. If you have been affected by the current pandemic, advice is available on a range of issues including employment, claiming benefits, paying your bills, housing problems and relationship breakdowns.

Although the Citizens Advice Waverley offices are closed at the moment, you can contact the team of more than 60 home-based Advisors:

- Email – for a fast response, please complete the online form at: <https://waverleycab.org.uk/enquiry-form/>
- Phone – if you need to speak with an Adviser, call the Adviceline: 0344 848 7969

Their advice is FREE and INDEPENDENT.

The South West Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach Team (www.swsda.org.uk/) is continuing to provide support during this period. The Domestic Abuse Team includes qualified independent domestic violence advisers who provide practical advice and emotional support. You can call them on 01483 898884 (Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm) or email swr@swsda.org.uk.

On-line support

You can also access a huge amount of on-line self-help material on the Citizens Advice Waverley website (waverleycab.org.uk/). Advice on the most popular topics relating to the impact of Coronavirus is available through the following links:

- If your employer has told you not to work (www.citizensadvice.org.uk/work/coronavirus-if-your-employer-has-told-you-not-to-work/)
- Check what benefits you can get (www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/coronavirus-check-what-benefits-you-can-get/)
- If you can't pay your bills (www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/if-you-cant-pay-your-bills-because-of-coronavirus/)
- If you're self-employed (www.citizensadvice.org.uk/work/coronavirus-if-youre-self-employed/)

There is also further useful advice on the National Citizens Advice information site: Coronavirus: What it Means for You (www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/).

No Bonfires Please!

We have had reports of an increase in bonfires, presumably to get rid of increased levels of garden waste as we all have a little extra time on our hands at the moment. There are no laws prohibiting you having a garden bonfire or burning material on a fire pit, or when they can be lit. However, you must not cause a statutory nuisance to others. A quick burning bonfire that does not emit smoke is unlikely to cause problems. Other bonfires giving rise to smoke can cause problems. Consider your neighbours, particularly now whilst government guidelines require we stay at home. The smoke can cause distress especially to those with medical conditions such as asthma or heart disease, as well as causing air pollution.

Garden fires can be dangerous and get out of control. Our emergency services are under pressure during the coronavirus pandemic. Please, do not light fires and add to that pressure.

We have noticed that some residents whose properties back on to the Downs Link have been lighting bonfires on the grass verge to the side of the path to get rid of their garden waste. We would like to point out that, as well as being a fire hazard to neighbouring properties and users of the Downs Link, this land is not part of your property! Surrey County Council owns the entire width the Downs Link, including the grass verges either side of the paved path. The verges should not be used as an extension to your garden, nor should you lay concrete pathways to the footpath from your garden gate without permission from Surrey County Council.

If you're bored at home, do contact the Parish Clerk who can suggest a number of small but helpful jobs to be done in the village!

Community recycling centres

Plans are being finalised by Surrey County Council which will see a phased reopening of Surrey's community recycling centre (CRC) service. The service will need to have social distancing measures in place and there will be limits to the number of people on each site, which is essential to protect visitors and staff. However, to help as many people pass through the sites each day, it's likely that only a handful of different types of waste will be accepted but site opening hours will be extended wherever possible.

Although recycling centres are still closed at the time of this email, you can keep an eye on the CRC web page at www.surreycc.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/community-recycling-centres for updates.

If you can't wait for the centres to be reopened, Waverley Borough Council urges residents to be careful of using private waste contractors to take rubbish away. Your waste could end up being fly tipped and damaging the local environment and you could be liable to a fine of up to £300 or face prosecution. Make sure you check that it is a licensed contractor before you engage their services.

You should ask the waste carrier to provide a full address and telephone number, and ask to see their waste carrier licence or check the Environment Agency's Public Register to see if they are registered:
<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/index>.

Waverley Borough Council Enforcement Officers regularly patrol the borough and use mobile CCTV cameras in order to identify the source of fly-tipped waste and issue fines to those responsible.

Advice on how to select a reputable trader, or how to report rogue traders or cold callers can be found at www.surreycc.gov.uk/business-and-consumers/trading-standards/finding-a-trader. To report fly tipping, please visit www.waverley.gov.uk/reportit.

A temporary Bulky Waste collection service is now available via Guildford Borough Council. Find out more by visiting <https://guildford.gov.uk/bulwastc>.

Update from Wonersh U3A

On 16th March the Prime Minister announced that everyone over 70 and those with underlying health issues should self-isolate for a period of at least 12 weeks. Virtually all of members of the Wonersh U3A are OAPs, and as the programmes are based on group events, it is with great regret that all activities of Wonersh U3A have been suspended for at least that length of time.

This suspension includes all group meetings, outings and social events and will remain in force for the foreseeable future until advised otherwise. The U3A looks forward to re-commencing its activities when they are informed it is safe to do so. However some groups are keeping in touch via the internet; for example, members of the Tai Chi group can follow their exercise regime online with videos on the instructor's website.

Meanwhile, for further details of Wonersh U3A and its 'normal' programme of activities for the retired/semi-retired of Wonersh and surrounding villages, please contact Cilla Morris 01483 892348, or visit <https://u3asites.org.uk/wonersh>.

Update from Holy Trinity Bramley

Holy Trinity is delighted to announce the 'virtual' arrival of the new Vicar of Bramley, Reverend Andy Davis. Andy was licensed on Thursday 23rd April by the Bishop of Guildford (all done over Zoom). Once social distancing is lifted, Andy and his family will move to Bramley. Meanwhile, Andy conducts Sunday services at 9:45am over Zoom. Should you wish to join the Sunday Service please email office@holytrinitybramley.org.uk. If you need to talk to a priest you can contact Rev'd Andy on 07709 919602, email: revd.andydavis@gmail.com or call Rev'd Graham Smith on 0333 1121906.

The annual Open Garden and Cake Sale at Summerpool House is cancelled this year. The Plant Sale is still taking place though on Saturday 7th May! You can check the church website at www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk/snowdenhamopengarden.htm for the list of plants and seedlings on sale before calling Ann Campbell on 893234 to place your order. You will then be given an allotted time to collect your plants from Summerpool House. There will be an honesty box to pay for your plants as you leave.

News from St Andrew's Grafham

While the church building remains closed, St Andrew's Grafham has found new ways of worshipping together as well as supporting each other and the wider community.

Each Sunday they have a service of Holy Communion by Zoom at 10:45am and starting in May they will have their usual summer Evensong at 6:00pm (3rd May; 7th June; 5th July; 2nd August and 6th September – they might even be back in church for some of them).

They also send out a Sunday newsletter each week and a mid-week 'Thought for the Week'. If you would like to be included on the mailing list and to receive the link to the Zoom services, please contact office@standrewsgrafham.org.uk.

If you do not use email or Zoom but would still like to receive their mailings or if you would like to speak to a priest for any reason please contact The Reverend Camilla White, Priest in Charge (01483 892645 or camillawhite@waitrose.com).

We hope everyone stays safe during this difficult time. Don't forget, if you need help **please ask!**

Bramley Update is usually circulated between the 4th and 7th of each month. If you have a contribution to the content of a future issue, please send it to bramleyupdate@gmail.com by the end of the preceding month.

Details about future events taking place in Bramley and its immediate vicinity are welcome, as are news items that would be of interest to residents of Bramley. Adverts for job opportunities and information about events outside of our area will not be published.

Best wishes

Bramley Parish Council
www.bramleyparish.co.uk

If you wish to SUBSCRIBE, email bramleyupdate@gmail.com including your name and address in the email.

If you wish to discuss any matters with a parish councillor, their full contact details are available on the parish website www.bramleyparish.co.uk.

Bramley Update is intended to be as accurate as possible but readers should satisfy themselves before relying on the information, not least because dates do change. The content does not necessarily represent the views or policies of Bramley Parish Council unless specifically identified as such.