

Bramley Parish Council

serving the community since 1894



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BRAMLEY UPDATE

December 2023

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Bramley Parish Council

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 bramleyupdate@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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Sunday 10th December - Bramley Village Carol Service at 6.00pm Holy trinity church.
- Thursday 14th December - Full Council meeting and Planning Review committee meeting 6.00pm, Bramley Village Hall Meeting Room. All welcome.
- Saturday 23rd December 2023 4.45pm - Bramley's Biennial Outdoor Nativity Play. Summerpool House

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Bramley Parish Council update

At the Parish Council meeting in October, a number of matters were discussed, including:

- Surrey Councillor Kevin Deanus has highlighted budget constraints impacting tree maintenance, community projects, and highways. He pointed out the limitations in the tree-cutting budget, stressing that Waverley won't assume responsibility for the playground trees as Bramley Parish Council leases them from Surrey County Council.
- Councillor Troy Saunders highlighted two accidents near Gosden House School and the Infant School on the A281. He addressed the consideration of deploying speed cameras to monitor and evaluate average speeds, with potential eligibility for a speed awareness course for offenders. Additionally, Councillor Troy Saunders will discuss taking over the responsibility of speed watch from Councillor Francesca Stern. Councillor Jane Austin confirmed she has formally requested Surrey CC review the speed limit heading north out of Bramley Village with a view to decreasing the speed limit at this location. Additionally Councillor Kevin Deanus has requested the phasing on the traffic lights near the library be reviewed

- This week, the initiation of plans for speed camera installations is underway, aiming for completion in early 2024. Councillor Francesca Stern suggested a review of speed watch sites after the camera installation, as there will be overlaps with current measurement locations.
- The Department for Housing and Levelling Up has confirmed that Waverley Borough Council(WBC) is no longer under threat of designation for below target performance for non-major planning applications, as WBC planning department's planning performance (for speed matters) has improved. Councillor Vivian had pointed out this was reported in an update from WBC portfolio holder for Planning and Economic Development, Liz Townsend sent to Town Councils and Parish Councils just before the last BPC meeting.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Saturday 23rd December 2023 4.45pm Bramley's Biennial Outdoor Nativity Play. Summerpool House (the Georgian house at Bramley crossroads)

Primarily for accompanied children of 7 and under. All welcome but no adults unless accompanied by a child. Real sheep and donkey, so no dogs please. Warm clothes, boots and torch. Light refreshments. Free entry but a collection in favour of Bramley Helping Hand.

News from Bramley Library

As the final month of the year is here, Bramley Library prepares for Christmas. Come and see our lovely tree and do our evergreen favourite bauble hunt.

We are holding an after-school craft event on Tuesday 12th December from 3.15pm for an hour. The age guide is 3-7 but siblings are welcome.

And as you may now have your 2024 diaries to hand, may we give you advance notice for a Storytime event 13th February at 10.30am until noon. A special early evening event is being planned for youngsters that half term too, as well as an children's author's event in March.

Rhymetime is held every Friday the library is open.

The library will be closed the 26th and 27th December but thereafter we resume our normal opening hours.

The library offers free wifi, the local newspaper and hot drinks for £1. Anyone is welcome to stay awhile in the warm, perhaps doing one of our jigsaw puzzles.

News from Bramley Highways

Don't forget you can report any issues with local roads for example pot holes and blocked drains to Surrey County Council by using this [link](#)

Bramley Fuel Leak Update

Councillor Jane Austin is working with Waverley Borough Council's Environment team, the Environment Agency, Thames Water, UK Health Security Agency, Petroleum Enforcement Authority (Buckinghamshire & Surrey Trading Standards), and Highways (Surrey County Council) to support ASDA's Environmental Consultants' EPS to investigate and remediate petrol contamination. Jeremy Hunt MP is also liaising closely with the EA and Asda and meeting them on-site soon.

EPS provided a summary of ongoing investigations and actions, please see [EPS Bramley Summary \(bramleyparish.co.uk\)](#) including the installation of boreholes in the village, with more likely in due course.

Contaminated water is going south towards the stream. Notably, it is following the line of ducting that has been laid for utilities where shallow groundwater is also having an impact. Following heavy rainfall more contaminated water is likely to reach the stream. Most utility assets follow the High Street towards the stream.

People have complained about odours in the area. Monitoring by the Petroleum Officer in response to complaints has shown the levels of petroleum products in the air have been significantly below any explosive levels. However, there have been occasions when the fire service has been asked, as a precautionary measure only, to assess the situation. If anyone is ever concerned about petroleum type odours inside a property, they should open the windows and doors and contact the Petroleum Enforcement Authority so they can investigate, telephone number 0300 123 2329.

Thames Water have been supporting investigations and testing water supplies. Results show there has been little impact on drinking water apart from two properties (sharing the same supply pipe), however, they will continue to monitor water supplies in the area. Any complaints about the quality of drinking water should be referred to Thames Water, telephone number 0800 316 9800.

Works started last week to try and resolve the water supply to the affected property. Works stopped as it was clear remediation of contaminated water in the ground was required first.

Investigations and remediation will inevitably continue for some time. A further update will be provided by EPS in December.

Thames Water Outage

Following the water outages there are two public meetings coming up:

Waverley Borough Council is hosting a meeting on 8th December at 7pm at The Burys in Godalming. Click [here](#) for further details.

Jeremy Hunt MP and Angela Richardson MP are hosting a public meeting with the CEO of Thames Water on the 15th December at 5:15pm at The University of Surrey. Please click [here](#) to register.

Bramley Helping Hand

We continue to fill the Community trolley which lives in the porch of Holy Trinity Church. If you are able to make any donations to the trolley before Christmas that would be much appreciated. Please click on this [link](#) for the Trussell Trust list of items to donate, but as it is Xmas any little treats you may be able to donate would be appreciated.

Please do email bramleyhelpinghand@gmail.com if you know someone who may need assistance.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Bramley Helping Hand Committee

1st Wonersh Scouts - Beavers

1st Wonersh Scouts are seeking passionate and adventurous individuals of all ages to join their ranks and help Scouts discover their true potential.

Your enthusiasm and guidance can shape the future of our Scouts and contribute to a stronger more resilient community. Beavers are age 6-8 and there is a role for everyone.

For more details please email 1stwonershgs@gmail.com

Bramley Ball - Saturday 16th December

A few tickets are still available for this village fundraiser on the 16th December - email bramleyfete@gmail.com if you are interested.

Eastwood Road Playground

The Eastwood Road playground Committee met. The Committee reviewed the survey responses and agreed to progress with a shortlist of equipment options. The committee also agreed to set up the ability to fundraise via a Charitable Association, with a view to acquiring and refurbishing the playground in phases.

News From Bramley Infant School

November has been an eventful month here at Bramley Infant School. Once we returned to school from the water closures, the children spent time remembering all service men and women past and present ahead of Remembrance Sunday. The worship team helped the children lay a wreath at the Bramley Memorial, and the school then held a 2 minute silence as a mark of respect.

The children had lots of fun on Crazy hair day, taking the opportunity to show their individuality through coloured hair and crazy hairstyles!

More recently, the school children had a fantastic day at St Catherine's School watching Wintershall's travelling crib, where they got to deepen their knowledge on the nativity alongside meeting some friendly animals. We are looking forward to Christmas and the celebrations that brings including our own nativity shows!

The Villages Wednesday Club are looking for new members.

Fancy a tasty lunch and a friendly chat? Why not join the Villages Wednesday Club.

We meet at Blunden Court, Bramley every Wednesday from 10am to 2.30pm. For only £5 you get morning coffee, a freshly prepared lunch, entertainment and afternoon tea.

For those living in Shamley Green, Womersley, Bramley and the surrounding villages it's a lovely day out and a chance to meet with people and make new friends. Transport can be arranged if you need it.

For more information and to arrange a taster session contact the manager Nicola Mendelssohn on 07711 043665 or email manager@fourvillages.co.uk

Waverley Borough Council are preparing a new local plan.

for more details see [here](#)

News from South West Surrey Citizens Advice.

Supporting local charities please click [here](#) for more details

The Wintershall Nativity Journey 13-18 December 2023

For more details please visit their website [Home | Wintershall Estate](#)

Gosden House School are looking for new learning assistants.

For more details please see their [website](#)

News from Holy Trinity, Bramley

Please feel free to contact the Revd Andy Davis revd.andydavis@gmail.com
07709919602 01483892109

Village Carol Service

Our Carol Service is Sunday 10th December at 6.00pm. Our choir plus guest singers are working hard to help make it a special night. After the service, there will be mulled wine (and mulled cider) with mince pies.

Our Monthly Sunday Luncheons – Christmas! The next (Christmas!) lunch is on Sunday December 17th in our Parish Room at 12.30pm. The cost will be £10. For catering, we ask that you **please sign the list at the back of the Church**. We look forward to seeing you!

CHRISTMAS EVE – Sunday 24th December

4.00 Crib Service

Children! Do come dressed as shepherd, angel, king....or even Mary or Joseph!!

11.30 Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY – Monday 25th December

8.00 Holy Communion

9.45 Christmas Communion

Do have a look at our [website](#), for all church and community information.

You can also find "Holy Trinity Bramley" on Facebook.

Love and blessings to everyone.....

News from St Andrew's, Grafham

There is a service every Sunday at St Andrew's at 10.45am. Everybody is always very welcome at any of the services.

Join us to celebrate Christmas at St Andrew's

Tuesday 19th December – Carol Service at 6pm

Traditional readings and carols as we hear the Christmas story together. The service will be outdoors in the lower churchyard, weather permitting, so please wear warm clothing and suitable footwear. Bring a rug or even a hot water bottle if you'd like to.

You are invited to stay for mulled wine and mince pies after the service.

Christmas Eve – 24th December – Midnight Mass at 11.30pm

Christmas Day – 25th December – Family Communion Service at 10.45am

Additional parking will be available at the Grafham Room on all three days. Please bring a torch if you are coming to the Carol Service or Midnight Mass.

With best wishes for a blessed and joyous Christmas from everybody at St Andrew's.

Please see the website www.standrewsgrafham.org.uk for more details or contact the Revd Camilla White on camillaezwhite@gmail.com or 01483 892645.

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.