

# Bramley Parish Council

serving the community since 1894



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## BRAMLEY UPDATE

June 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](mailto: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**

As lockdown continues, the Parish Council has continued to meet regularly via telephone conferencing to discuss and address ongoing business. The frequency of these calls has now changed from weekly to fortnightly. Our next call is scheduled for 11th June, so if you have any matters you would like to be brought to the attention of the council that you feel cannot wait until normal meetings in public can resume, please email the Parish Clerk at [bramleyparish@gmail.com](mailto:bramleyparish@gmail.com). You can read the notes from the calls held to date on the Parish Council website at [www.bramleyparish.co.uk/community/bramley-parish-council-15042/meeting-minutes/](http://www.bramleyparish.co.uk/community/bramley-parish-council-15042/meeting-minutes/).

Members took the decision recently not to plan to hold a formal meeting remotely in June (by using a technology platform such as Zoom). As lockdown restrictions are beginning to ease at the time of writing, there is some hope that a meeting in person may be able to take place – with social distancing of course – in the not too distant future. We will let you know when this decision has been made.

We continue to co-ordinate the community support network for residents of Bramley who need help. To date, 85 people have been helped by our group of volunteers. Requests for assistance have tailed off over recent weeks, but support is ongoing for those in need in all corners of our parish through established contacts between volunteers and neighbours.

As there are fewer requests for help, we have decided to change the contact arrangements for those who are vulnerable or self-isolating and need assistance. Instead of contacting one of our Councillors, we ask that all requests are now made directly to Kathy Victor, the Parish Clerk. You can contact her either by email at [bramleyresponse@gmail.com](mailto:bramleyresponse@gmail.com), or telephone on 07976 290211. Kathy can then link you up with a volunteer to help you.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### Downs Link

It is great to see so many people continuing to use the Downs Link through the parish. We are trying to keep up with the rate of vegetation growth to cut the overgrowing areas back to aid social distancing. But we'd like to make 2 special requests:

- If you are cycling, please consider other users of the footpath and cycle slowly when nearing pedestrians. Remember that some walkers are elderly, with perhaps less than perfect hearing, so may not hear your bike approaching from behind. A quick ring of your bell or a cheery greeting will alert them of your presence.
- Dog walkers ... please, please take your full dog waste bags either home with you or dispose of them in public litter bins. We implore you not to drop the bags on the ground, hang them from trees or put them in the dog waste bag dispensers!  
If you notice that any of the bag dispensers are empty, do send a quick text to the Clerk on 07976 290211 and she can arrange to have them restocked.

### Library update

Last week we heard the news that Surrey County Council is planning to start reopening some libraries from 6th July. We have no news as yet about which libraries this will be, nor whether this will include Bramley Library or not ... as soon as we hear anything further, we'll let you know. The priority will be staff and customer safety, which means the libraries will have to operate in a different way with a reduced service, limited capacity in buildings, additional cleaning measures and guidelines in place for social distancing.

Despite the buildings being closed, Surrey's libraries have seen a huge increase in membership with numbers up 110% compared to a similar period last year, as people join online from home. Library members have been enjoying a varied offer of digital services, with over 11,000 e-books and audiobooks downloaded since lockdown began. Videos on the popular Surrey Libraries Facebook channel ([www.facebook.com/surreylibrariesUK](http://www.facebook.com/surreylibrariesUK)), including online Rhymetime sessions, craft and science activities and even an online Lego club, have reached over 230,000 people. Videos have been so popular that the Surrey Libraries have launched a new YouTube channel.

If you are not a Library member, you can join online at [arena.surreylibraries.org/web/arena/selfregistration](http://arena.surreylibraries.org/web/arena/selfregistration) and discover like many others the enjoyment of accessing e-books, audiobooks, comics and magazines.

You can find lots of activities and resources for both children and young people, as well as adults on the Surrey libraries web pages at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/your-library](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/your-library) and details about online events being run by our volunteers at Bramley Library are posted on their Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/BramleyLibrary/](http://www.facebook.com/BramleyLibrary/)).

### Wey & Arun Canal Trust

The Wey and Arun Trust is planning to restore the canal and lock through Hunt Park (the section of the Downs Link from the A281 to Gosden Aqueduct and all the land to the South of it) and they hope to present a planning application to Waverley Borough Council in the near future. Although the land in question is not in Bramley parish, it is immediate adjacent to the boundary.

They are holding a Consultation session in Shalford Village Hall (in the small, upper hall) on Saturday 27th June from 11:00am to 3:00pm. There will be a one-way system in operation to ensure distancing by visitors. A briefing sheet will be handed out, plus an exit questionnaire that people can take away with them to complete and email back. Due to present circumstances not everyone will feel able to attend, so notices will be displayed to inform people of where the online plans can be accessed in due course.

On another note, 3 members of the Wey & Arun Canal Trust have cleared all the timber from the Aqueduct at Gosden so that in the unlikely event of very heavy rainfall, water will not back up to Bramley. The result is that there are a large number of logs in two piles. Residents are invited to take as many as they would like.

The Parish Council would like to thank the Trust for carrying out this work, which we have been asking the Environment Agency to do for some time,

### **Godalming Community Store**

Godalming Town Council has collaborated with the Farncombe & Godalming Coronavirus Assistance Group and the St Mark's Food Bank to open the Godalming & Villages Community Store to support those in need. Visit [godalming-tc.gov.uk/community-store/](http://godalming-tc.gov.uk/community-store/) for more information.

The Store takes in donations and makes them available free of charge to others. If you would like to support the Community Store, this can be done by taking donated goods to Bramley Infant School on Tuesday mornings between 9:00am and 11:00am. Details on types of goods to donate can be found at the link above.

### **CRCs to start accepting more types of waste**

From Monday 1st June, residents are able to take more types of waste to Surrey's community recycling centres (CRCs). Ten of Surrey's CRCs were reopened on 11th May, but only for black bag waste and garden waste. Now more materials, including wood, scrap metal, small electronics and white goods, will be accepted once again.

The full list of what can be taken is available at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/recycling) or by calling 03456 009 009. Unfortunately, the sites won't be able to accept chargeable waste (soil, rubble, plasterboard or tyres), as staff are unable to safely process payments, or textiles, as reprocessors are not currently able to take it.

Whilst this essential service to residents is offered, it is important that social distancing measures are maintained for the safety and wellbeing of staff and visitors to the sites. There are clearly marked walkways and only one person will be able to be on the gantries to access the containers at any time.

As a result of the social distancing measures, the number of people allowed on the site at any one time is limited. It's expected that only a quarter of cars will be able to pass through the sites, compared to the typical peak time visitor levels at this time of year. Therefore, queues are expected and people should only visit the CRC if it's essential. If you do travel to the CRCs, please follow instructions from traffic marshals.

The five smaller sites that are currently closed (including Cranleigh) will remain closed for the time-being as it is not possible to safely open them with social distancing measures in place. Surrey County Council will continue to review this and open them when it is possible to do so.

Residents using a van, pick-up or trailer are able to visit the sites again from 1st June, but will still need a van permit, as usual. Due to social distancing measures, staff will not be able to assist you in unloading your vehicle, this includes white goods. So please only bring to site what you can carry yourself.

Unfortunately, the Revive re-use shops remain closed at this time and the sites do not have capacity to store items for re-use, so please hold onto these at home for the time-being.

### **Update from Holy Trinity, Bramley**

The team at Holy Trinity are sorry that the church building is closed due to the Covid-19 virus. They are still accessible though, and their Sunday service is available to you online.

If you would like to join them for the service, or receive a link to watch a recording afterwards please contact the new vicar, Andy Davis. He would be delighted to hear from you, for any reason!

The Revd Andy Davis BSc BD  
[revd.andydavis@gmail.com](mailto:revd.andydavis@gmail.com)  
07709 919602

Andy is living in his previous Vicarage in Gosport, Hampshire until an easing of Covid-19 restrictions allows him to move to Bramley.

More details can be found at [www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk](http://www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk).

#### **Update from St Andrew's, Grafham**

St Andrew's, Grafham is continuing to hold a service of Holy Communion by Zoom at 10:45am every Sunday and also Evensong at 6:00pm on 7th June; 5th July; 2nd August and 6th September.

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](mailto:office@standrewsgrafham.org.uk).

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](mailto:camillawhite@waitrose.com)).

#### **Message from Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust**

As the number of seriously ill patients with Covid-19 in the hospital continues to decline, staff at the Royal Surrey are now able to make arrangements to safely see and treat more patients, including those who need to be seen face-to-face in hospital, from the beginning of June.

They will continue to offer outpatients appointments via phone or video, but will also re-introduce face to face appointments where necessary.

They understand that the thought of coming into the hospital may worry patients, so they have changed the way they see patients to make sure you are safe. They will reduce the number of patients who are seen face-to-face at the same time and have adjusted waiting rooms and clinic rooms to ensure social distancing is possible.

They will also clean the corridors more frequently, introducing a one-way system in many areas, and reducing the number of patients using the main hospital entrance. The drive-thru services which was put in place to combat Covid-19 will continue to run.

The safety of patients and staff remains their priority. They urge everyone to seek help when feeling unwell. Remember, you can access a lot of advice and guidance online at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk), from freephone NHS 111, your pharmacy or GP.

Although many NHS services look a little different, they are there for when you need them. For more information on the re-introduction of services, please look on their website. If you are on social media, you can search on Twitter and Facebook (search @RoyalSurrey) for the latest news and information from the Trust.

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](mailto: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](http://www.bramleyparish.co.uk)

If you wish to SUBSCRIBE, email [bramleyupdate@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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.