

Headley Parish Council

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014

OVERHANGING VEGETATION ON FOOTPATHS...

We do our best to keep the footpath network of Headley clear. Our contractor strims the pathways at the beginning and end of each season, and Surrey County Council *should* strim once in between.

One of the problems though, is vegetation/shrubs and even sometimes trees, from private landowners' properties which overhang and impede the public footpaths.

We are keen to keep the footpaths clear, and would like to hear from you if you experience or know of any paths which are difficult to pass due to vegetation from nearby properties and gardens.

We are already in discussion with some landowners regarding this problem, so do get in touch if you know of any overgrown paths....

If you yourself have vegetation from your property which abuts a public footpath, please try to keep it clear of obstruction – to be fair to everyone using the paths!

If SCC has to remove vegetation from private properties due to footpath obstruction – they will pass the charge on to the landowner!

Playground complete - almost!



We hope you are pleased with the new playground – which is in frequent use every day! We have received many positive comments about the playground, and are delighted that it is being used so frequently – including for children's birthday parties! We had a fantastic open day on 17th May, with around 100 people attending – great fun was had by all.

We are aware of the problems with the path, due to the recent heavy rainfall. Playdale will shortly be coming to site to look at the problem and carry out repairs. There were also some initial teething problems which Playdale readily solved – replacement of a couple of split sleeper steps, replacement log on the embankment ramp, and a new "leg" on the rope swinger. We also know that the turf is wearing round the Supa Nova spinner – we plan to install some more Grasslok safety surfacing when Playdale next come to the site.

We are now fundraising to replace the very tired football goals, with a combined football and basketball facility. We have received many requests for basketball to be re-introduced, since our old basketball post was removed several years ago due to safety. Here is the new design which is in green combined with wood, to fit in with the rural scene of Headley – we hope you like it!



John Jenkins ran an ultra-marathon in June to raise funds for the new goals – our grateful thanks to him, and to everyone who has made the playground project possible.

If you are able to contribute anything at all – however small so that we can get the second phase installed as soon as possible, it would be very welcomed. We are looking to raise around £2,000 more. Please send to 'Headley Playground Steering Group' at Church Cottage, Church Lane, Headley.

We hope in our next newsletter to report that all is complete, just leaving everyone to enjoy it!



A date for your diary

Police Crime Commissioner for Surrey, Kevin Hurley is coming to Headley!

Kevin Hurley will be visiting us on **Monday 24th November** at 7.30 p.m. in Headley Village Hall.

Kevin is coming to address any issues that are of concern to residents of rural communities; and the evening will be solely dedicated to his visit – and to your questions. Whether your concern is crime, cycling, speeding etc. – please take this opportunity to come along and raise issues of concern. The evening is yours!

Remaining Parish Council meeting dates 2014 (7.30 p.m. Headley village Hall)

Monday 29th September Monday 1st December
(1st December replaces 24th November for normal business – see item above)

All meetings are open to the public and start with an Open Forum where residents can raise any issue of local concern.

Parish Council elections 2015

In May next year, it will be time for the election of Headley Parish Council.

At least one of our Councillors, after long and loyal service, will be retiring - so we will be looking to fill at least one vacancy, possibly more.

It is an interesting and rewarding role, and you will know from our newsletters and from what you see happening around you, that you really can make a difference to your community - yet without the role being too onerous and taking too much time.

If you think it is something which could interest you, do get in touch for more information:-

chairman@headley-pc.gov.uk or
clerk@headley-pc.gov.uk

◆◆ Headley Court ◆◆

Most residents will no doubt be aware of the MOD's decision to relocate the entire operation of Headley Court to the Midlands. We understand how worrying and frustrating the situation is for those directly employed or involved with Headley Court, including many residents in the MOD properties.

Lots of residents have asked us about the future of the site, what facilities will remain there if any, what will happen to the grounds, the houses etc. Once the MOD leaves the site, its future will be in the hands of the Headley Court Charity Trust. At the moment we have no information about the Trust's intentions for the site, but we will share any information when we get it.

We have made contact with the Trustees, who have agreed to meet with us in September, but it is very early days, and the meeting is likely to be an informal discussion to touch base and make a connection between them and ourselves, rather than to receive any conclusive information. The Chairman of the Trustees has advised us that under the terms of the lease, the MOD are not required to wholly vacate the site until 2021, but has indicated that an agreement is likely to be concluded before that date.

We will keep you informed as soon as we have any information but if there are specific points that you would like us to raise during discussions with the Trustees, please e-mail chairman@headley-pc.gov.uk or ring David Preedy on 01372 361151 ◆

Footpath repairs to Tar Path - hopefully!!

We have been aware for a long time of the appalling surface of the affectionately known "Tar Path" - which links the top part of the village (i.e. the pub!) to the southern part - Tot Hill.

Do you use it?? Do you have difficulties with a buggy or wheelchair? Would you use it if were in better condition?

SCC has been asked to resurface this path for many years - the answer is always "no money". They have now though, given a reasonably firm commitment to provide some funding to resurface it next year, and have asked if we can contribute in some way. We hope to do this and do have some possible funding towards it, and may look at obtaining a grant as well.

Please let us know your views and thoughts on this path - it will really help our cause and enable us to get it refurbished for all to use safely!

WW1 Centenary Woodland Project



The Woodland Trust, the UK's leading woodland conservation charity, has purchased land at Langley Vale, which is proposed for a WW1 Centenary Woodland.

Plans are still in their infancy, but it is proposed that there will be 200,000 native trees planted within four years, with good hedgerows for bird life, wild flower meadows with a dominant theme of poppies, multi-user paths, bridleways and a formal memorial area.

There will be volunteering opportunities and the Trust will work closely with schools and other organisations.. The cost of the project is around £9million and it is hoped that £100,000 of this will be raised locally.

For more information or to get involved, visit:

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/donate/centenary-woods/>



Headley is at long last connected!!!

An optical fibre link has now been connected to a new BT cabinet near the Forge in Church Lane. Several residents have already been connected and have noticed a dramatic increase in Broadband speeds.

The fibre is connected to the Headley BT box though, not to individual properties. Residents will need to contact their Internet provider (ISP) regarding costs of connection for the Superfast service - it is not automatic.

Connection from the cabinet to individual properties will still be by copper wires; the distance from cabinet to property determining the Broadband speed, with best speeds being to properties nearest the cabinet.

For further information about Superfast broadband, go to:- <http://superfastsurrey.org.uk/>

Updates....

Church Lane nursery site - there have been no further plans put forward by Tudors or the site owner. Following the MOD's decision to close Headley Court, MVDC may resist any more Affordable Housing in Headley, until the future of the properties in Dale View is clearer ◆

Parish Plan - we should by the end of September, have input all results from the survey forms you kindly returned and will be in a position to publish and deliver the results to all properties ◆



Village email list



If you are not yet on our email contact list, please let us know so that we can add you! We always send emails by Bcc to protect your privacy and security. Email our Clerk at clerk@headley-pc.gov.uk to be added to the list so you can receive those important updates! ◆