

SHALFLEET PARISH NEWS

Shalfleet Parish News is produced and published by Shalfleet Parish Council

Issue 4

September 2005

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

At the May elections all six Shalfleet parish councillors stood for election and were duly returned un-contested. Bill Burt our previous chairman of seven years was elected to serve on the Isle of Wight Unitary Council and due to pressure of office declined re-election as Parish Council chairman. At the July meeting of the Parish Council I had the honour of being elected chairman to succeed Bill.

Parish councils are the first tier of local government and they serve as the first platform for local residents concerned about local issues, they also serve as a conduit to higher forms of local government and at times central government.

There is a communication section to this news sheet which lists telephone numbers of your councillors and also gives the dates, times, and venues for the regular monthly meetings of Shalfleet Parish Council which are open to the public and always have a spot on the agenda for public questions. Cllr Colin Hedgley.

PARISH WEB SITE

Following an announcement at the Annual Parish Meeting work is currently being carried out to create a parish council web site which will enable computer access to a number of information sources and links. The minutes of previous council meetings will be posted on the web site and there will also be a local diary and link to the IWC Local Planning Authority site. It is hoped the web site will be live on the net from Sept/Oct and the web address will be confirmed soon.

COMMUNICATION NOTES.

Future Council Meetings: 14th September, Newbridge Social Club 7-15pm
12th October, Wellow Institute 7-15pm 9th November, Shalfleet Parish Hall 7-15pm
14th December, Newbridge Social Club 7-15pm.

Contacting your Councillor

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QUALITY PARISH STATUS

Following the production of this fourth edition of *SHALFLEET PARISH NEWS* your council has resolved to apply for *Quality Parish Council* accreditation. The Quality scheme was set up by central government (DEFRA) in 2003 and to date out of 28 Island councils just three have achieved this benchmark they are Wootton Bridge PC, Brading Town Council, and Rookley PC. You may ask what advantages does this accreditation bring? In the words of the Minister of State Rt.Hon Alun Michael :

-By acquiring Quality Status, parish and town councils can demonstrate that they are representative, in touch with their communities, competent ,and capable of taking on an enhanced role. This assurance of quality is helping to smooth the way for the formation of partnerships with principal authorities enabling projects and initiatives which reflect the needs and preferences of the community."

WATCH THIS SPACE!

DO YOU KNOW?

At Parish Council meetings all highway defects such as subsidence, potholes, defective road signs etc are noted during a section on the agenda titled "Councillor's Reports," Following the meeting the Clerk submits reports of these defects to the IWC Highways Department, this is then placed on a computer database which in turn signals inspections from IWC Highway Superintendents and is then subject to action according to its priority.



"He's so part-time he can't afford to be a minute late." (UOG resources)

WATCH OUT FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF SHALFLEET PARISH NEWS***

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