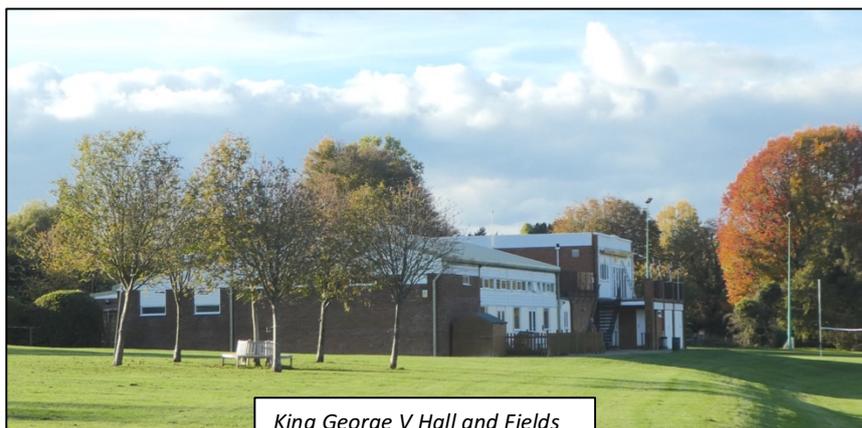




**All Effingham residents are cordially invited to attend
Effingham Parish Council's Annual Meeting on
Tuesday 9th April 2019, 8pm, KGV Hall, Browns Lane, Effingham, KT24 5ND
to hear a report back on the council's activities during 2018/19**

2019/20 Precept

When setting the precept, that part of your council tax which is raised by the Parish Council, parish councillors consider, very seriously, the need to provide local services for Effingham residents. For 2019/20, our major challenge has been to fund the recreation facilities available at the King George V Hall and Fields (KGV).



King George V Hall and Fields

The KGV, at Browns Lane in the heart of the village, offers parkland and playgrounds open to all without charge, together with sports pitches and a village hall which is home to local clubs and activities. It is managed by a charity, Effingham Village Recreation Trust (EVRT), with a Board of Managing Trustees, all volunteers. The major regular users, including the sports clubs and organisations using the KGV Hall, pay a share of the costs of these facilities. However, that leaves a gap in funding to pay for the public facilities which are free to residents but are an expense for EVRT to maintain.

The KGV Hall, opened by Sir Barnes Wallis over 50 years ago, is showing its age. We expect EVRT to have the opportunity to rebuild or refurbish the Hall with the £2.645 million provided by Berkeley Homes to improve community facilities. This follows the appeal decision by the Secretary of State to allow the building of the new Howard of Effingham School and 295 houses in Effingham. This new funding will be a wonderful opportunity to develop a new village facility that will benefit all residents.

The Parish Council has taken the view that we must do everything we can to ensure a sustainable future for the KGV and to support EVRT through the current challenges. To do this, we have agreed to provide funding of £34K, for each of the next four years, from the precept to enable the charity to continue to provide the public facilities at the KGV and to invest in improvements. In addition, the Parish Council will make available up to £22K, for each of the next four years, to fund increased administrative and managerial assistance to the Trustees, subject to the agreement of an action plan.

This increase in funding for the KGV will mean a 19% increase in the precept component of your council tax bill (for a Band D property) for 2019/20. We hope residents will agree that this increase, which amounts to about £13 a year for a Band D property, is worth paying to protect the future of this much valued local asset.

Jon Short – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

The Parish Room, 3 Home Barn Court, The Street, Effingham, Surrey. KT24 5LG

Tel: 01372.454911 email: clerk2010@effinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk web: www.effinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council Services

Later this year, the Parish Council intends to carry out a parish-wide survey of residents to seek your views on Parish Council services, which range from allotments and recreation facilities to Neighbourhood Planning and protecting our Conservation Area.

Parish Council Elections

There are parish council elections in May. Parish councils influence decisions on many matters that affect the local community including planning, highways, transport, environmental and community matters.

The Parish Council is active in supporting local community organisations and initiatives through its Community and Sprucing-Up funds. It also encourages village events, such as the recent Commoners' Day on Effingham Common.



As a parish councillor you become someone your community will look to for advice and guidance, and a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve.

If you are interested and wish to understand more about the role of parish councillor please contact the Parish Clerk, Jon Short. The Clerk's contact details are below.

Berkeley Homes / Howard of Effingham School

A detailed planning application for the new school site is expected in early 2019.

The Parish Council has been participating in a liaison group with Berkeley Homes co-ordinated by our borough councillor (and parish councillor) Liz Hogger. We have been discussing designs for the school site, highways matters and parking, amongst other topics. The objectives of the liaison are to try and ensure that the building design, layout, highways and parking matters are appropriate to our village and that there will be the minimum possible disruption to neighbours and villagers during construction and after development.

The Sir Douglas Haig

One of the aspirations of the Neighbourhood Plan is to register Assets of Community Value (ACVs) in the parish. Under the leadership of Cllr Alison Mayell, the Sir Douglas Haig has been included, subject to review, on Guildford Borough Council's ACV list. Once listed the local community will be informed if the asset comes up for sale during the 5-year listing period. Residents could then enact the Community Right to Bid, which gives a moratorium period of six months to determine if we can raise the finance to purchase the asset.

Effingham Conservation Area Appraisal

Effingham's Conservation Area Appraisal is well under way at Guildford Borough Council and we have been promised their initial draft in the next few weeks. At the request of Cllr Mayell, a "walk-about" took place around Effingham's Conservation Area in September with Guildford's Conservation Officers and members of: the Parish Council, Effingham Residents Association and Effingham Local History Group. The Conservation Officers were impressed by the knowledge and enthusiasm expressed by the group and listened to concerns raised.

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This has been a very positive collaboration between different organisations in Effingham to help the Borough Council produce an important new document which, with our Neighbourhood Plan, will give our Conservation Area important protection from unsuitable development.

Village Magazine

This new venture is planned to arrive through your door in the spring. Our intention is that this publication will stimulate the formation of a "not for profit" enterprise that will make this a regular periodical that encourages and invigorates our community activities. Local groups will have the opportunity to promote their activities and local business can advertise their services.

If you would like to get involved, place an advert, submit an article or post an event then email Cllr Cliff Hackett at hackettcliff@outlook.com or call him on 01372 459113 or 07973 428002.

Draft Local Plan and the former Wisley Airfield

Guildford Borough Council Leader, Cllr Paul Spooner, and Deputy Leader, Cllr Matt Furniss, attended the July meeting of the parish council to give an update and answer questions about the Local Plan. The parish council has consistently opposed the draft Local Plan's proposals for extensive building on the green belt, and strongly opposes the inclusion of the former Wisley Airfield as a site for development of a new town of 2,000 houses.

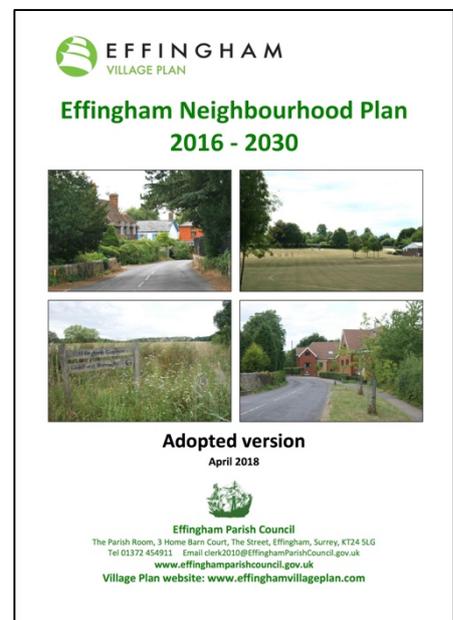
The housing target in the Local Plan has not yet been finalised, and the Planning Inspector will be holding further public hearings on this in February. Updated statistics about population growth in Guildford borough have recently been published and it is hoped that a decreased housing target may reduce the need to build on the green belt in our area. The parish council will continue to represent local views on the draft Local Plan and former Wisley Airfield.

Parish Council Activities

Planning – the Parish Council is a statutory consultee on all planning applications within the parish. During this year we have not only been applying national and borough planning rules in our comments but also the planning policies contained in the Effingham Neighbourhood Plan, which now carries full weight in the Borough Council's planning decisions. This has meant that councillors have needed to research each planning application to a deeper level than ever before, and we have set up a working group of all parish councillors to help with our deliberations. The decision and our response to all planning matters is then made at our monthly meetings.

Residents who would like to have their say about a planning application should inform the Clerk that they would like to address the council.

Major Planning Applications – Millgate Homes attended the October meeting of the council to present the case for their planning application for 23 houses on land at Church Street. Although this was a site allocated for development in the Neighbourhood Plan it was designated for no more than 9 homes, which should be small-scale and in keeping with the Conservation Area. The parish council has objected to Millgate's application on several grounds including the over-development of the site.



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Effingham Commoners Day - along with Guildford Borough Council and the Friends of Effingham Common the parish council organised, in September, the biennial celebration of Commoners' Rights which help to safeguard the Common. The Mayor Cllr Mike Parsons and Mayoress Jean Parsons were present and judged the St Lawrence School art competition. Over 540 people attended Commoners Day this year and it was especially pleasing to see so many children and young people attending and enjoying themselves.



The Mayor and Mayoress at Effingham Commoners Day, with GBC Countryside Manager Hendryk Jurk (left) and EPC Chairman Ian Symes (second left)

Community Fund – the Parish Council has made a number of grants from its Community Fund to local organisations and charities including: the toddlers' playground at the KGV, St Lawrence Church lighting, Heritage Day and the Great Village Harvest weekend. It has also made small donations to the British Legion for the silhouettes, sited in The Street, in remembrance of those who lost their lives in the First World War, and to the Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance which was unfortunately needed in the recent accident in Lower Road.

We welcome applications to the Effingham Parish Council Community Fund from organisations situated in Effingham and supporting residents. In the first instance please contact the Clerk for an application form.

Other Activities – the Parish Council also manages and coordinates the allotments, burial ground, refilling of the green salt and grit bins, regular consultations with other authorities, local highways matters and green spaces. We have also been active over public rights of way, and this has included opposing the closure of two local footpaths – one successfully resolved, one still a work-in-progress. Using its concurrent funding grant from Guildford, the council is improving and making more attractive the area in front of the shops and providing bollards and gates for safety at the KGV.

EVRT Trustees

There is a vacancy for a parish council appointed EVRT Trustee. Trustees are the leaders and decision-makers who manage the EVRT charity. If you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk, Jon Short – his contact details are below.

Ian Symes,
Chairman, Effingham Parish Council

Details of Clerk and Parish Councillors

Cllr Ian Symes, Chairman	Cllr Tony Jones
Cllr Paula Moss	Cllr Alison Mayell
Cllr Keith Cornwell	Cllr James Nicholls
Cllr Cliff Hackett	Cllr Arnold Pindar
Cllr Liz Hogger (also Borough Councillor)	Councillor Vacancy
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Jon Short; telephone: 01372 454911; email: clerk2010@effinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk ; web site: effinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk	