

MINUTES of GENERAL MEETING
04 February 2011

1. WELCOME

President Sue Cartwright welcomed Guest Speaker, Local Officers and approx. 45 members and visitors present.

2. SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION

Colin Wilson, .Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust.
"Blackwater Valley and its Birds".

Mr. Wilson spoke about some of the birds found in the Blackwater Valley, from its source in the Rowhill Nature Reserve, Aldershot, northwards over 20 miles to Swallowfield where the river joins the River Loddon (eventually flowing into the Thames). He described many species, illustrated and accompanied by the sound of their calls.

His relaxed and informative talk reminded us of the variety of wildlife around us for the looking. He answered questions, and encouraged us to support the Trust through household membership.

Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust
www.blackwater-valley.org.uk/bvc_trust.htm.

3. TEA & COFFEE BREAK
RAFFLE

4. SOCIETY BUSINESS

4.1 Alan Barnett.

There was a minute of quiet reflection, remembering Alan, who died on 23rd January, aged 87. He was a founder member of the MFG&D Society in 1960, also a local councillor and Mayor, and later Chairman of the Society. He is remembered as a true gentleman, his friendly personality and commitment to working for the local area coming before his political views.

4.2 Chairman Kevin Daley's Report

- Surrey Heath Core Strategy, and Deepcut Supplementary Planning Document. Society is representing residents' issues, the Public Hearing commences on 15/02/11.
- Surrey C.C. Bus Review. We have expressed concern over the proposed changes which will reduce the number of choices through the villages and sever links eastwards towards Brookwood and Woking:
 - withdrawal of bus 48 between Farnborough and Pirbright,
 - withdrawal of bus 35 linking Frimley Green, Deepcut and Lighwater,
 - replaced by new bus 11 linking the three villages with Farnborough and Camberley.
- Farnborough Airport. We are waiting the Inspector's decision over the appeal by T.A.G. to increase the maximum number of flights permitted.
- Basingstoke Canal Towpath. We have expressed concern over the poor state of repair near Frimley Lodge Park. All are encouraged to sign the petition on the Surrey Heath Borough Council website for payment of promised funding, at <http://petitions.surreyheath.gov.uk/BasingstokeCanal>.
- Approach railings on Sturt Road railway bridge (road over rail). Network Rail has confirmed the railings are safe, but at present have no funds for painting - and no objection if the community paint them!
- Accident at One-Stop, Frimley Green. We are concerned regarding the manoeuvring of the large delivery lorry, but understand the matter is awaiting court action. The lady injured is recovering well.
- The email database is growing, members with email are encouraged to join to simplify communication.

4.3 There will be a Line Dance Marathon, Mytchett Community Centre on 05/03/11, in aid of Help for Heroes.

5. QUESTIONS to LOCAL OFFICERS

5.1 Fergus Smith: concern over the slow progress with repairing potholes (even on the A331) after last December's snow and ice.

Cllr. C. Pitt: Major highways are government responsibility. Surrey C.C. is liaising with Highways Agency. Reports may be given on the Surrey C.C. website (contact@surreycc.gov.uk) which will be acknowledged with a reference and can be tracked, and Cllr. Pitt requests a copy.

5.2 Brian Payne: What about the state of pavements?

Cllr. M. Drew: They are also Surrey C. C responsibility (per the SHBC website).

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5. QUESTIONS to LOCAL OFFICERS (continued)

- 5.3 Sgt. Castell reported on the Neighbourhood Policing concept. The Police have completed their move into the Council offices at Camberley, and are organised as follows: Response Team attends incidents, the C.I.D. deals with crime, and the Neighbourhood Support Team engages and works with the local community to resolve local matters. The Neighbourhood Support Team comprises 1xSergeant, 5xPCs (with further 3xPCs to be recruited) and assists the local neighbourhood initiatives. Residents are encouraged to support local Police 'surgeries' (meetings) which is our opportunity to have our own input to local issues.
- 5.4 David Parsons: concern over road safety and speeding motorcycles in Deepcut Bridge Road.
Sgt. Castell: Review of accidents in the Borough, including Deepcut Bridge Road, Pirbright bends and Mytchett Place Road is being co-ordinated with Guildford Borough.
Cllr. D. Whitcroft: Surrey Heath B.C. is liaising with their Casualty Reduction Officer, Clive Munns.

6. Meeting Closed.

President Sue Cartwright thanked all present, with an appeal to members:

- using your email address, if you have one, will simplify and speed up communication, notice of meetings, etc. Please let Chairman or Treasurer know, ideally on the form provided.
- payment of subscriptions by Standing Order is convenient, leaves you in control, and helps us to keep up to date. A Standing Order Request Form is available from the Treasurer.

7. DATE OF NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Friday 20th May 2011.

A.G.M.

We shall be seeking volunteers/nominations for the Committee.

Speaker: Mary Bennett, who will talk on and show Fred Penhallow's views of Frimley, Frimley Green, Mytchett and Deepcut.

Local Officers Present

Councillor Duncan Clark	Surrey Heath B.C.	Frimley Green Ward
Councillor Mike Drew	Surrey Heath B.C.	Mytchett & Deepcut Ward
Councillor Anji Patterson	Surrey Heath B.C.	Frimley Green Ward
Councillor Alan Whittart	Surrey Heath B.C.	Frimley Green Ward
Councillor David Whitcroft	Surrey Heath B.C.	Mytchett & Deepcut Ward
Councillor Chris Pitt	Surrey C.C.	Frimley Green & Mytchett
Sergeant Jon Castell	Surrey Police	

Committee Members Present

Sue Cartwright	President
Kevin Daley	Chairman
Carol Drew	Treasurer
Howard Hyde	
Roy Norman	
Bruce Smith	
Cathie Whitcroft	
Heather White	
Martin White	