

Mytchett, Frimley Green & Deepcut Society

MINUTES of Public MEETING 18 October 2013

1. WELCOME

President Sue Cartwright welcomed the Guest Speaker, Local Officers and approx. 50 members and visitors.

2. SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION

Frances Halstead, Environmental Group Support Officer from Surrey Wildlife Trust presented a talk entitled: '**Gardening for Wildlife and the work of the Surrey Wildlife Trust**'.

Some of the main points were as follows:

- 2.1 Surrey is the most densely wooded county in England. SWT cares for 9000 hectares of the county's countryside for the benefits of people and wildlife. Even so, we are losing "species" at an enormous rate. Although it is a charity with paid officials, it does rely on lots of voluntary workers.
- 2.2 Surrey contains 20000 hectares of gardens; if all the owners did a little to nurture wildlife then we could stem this loss.
- 2.3 Frances then went on to list what we should or should NOT do in our gardens to help native plants, insects, birds, reptiles etc.
- 2.4 Frances provided several handouts and also packets of wildflower meadow seeds.
- 2.5 More information at website <http://www.surreywildlifetrust.org/about>

3. Presentation of the 'New Member's Prize Draw'.

3.1 Unfortunately the winner,????????, was not present to receive the prize and get her picture in the paper. It will be presented at another time.

4. TEA & COFFEE BREAK

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM KEVIN DALEY.

Some of the issues the society has worked on, on behalf of the community, were:

- 5.1 Keeping abreast of the Princess Royal Barracks (PRB) development in Deepcut, responding where necessary and especially being involved in traffic discussions for the Frimley Green area. The Outline Planning proposal was accepted by the council but as of this date, no further actions/decisions have been made with any 'next steps'.
- 5.2 Involved with the Farnborough Aerodrome Consultative Committee (FACC). There will now be controlled airspace in the vicinity which should translate to a reduction of low-flying aircraft above Farnborough.
- 5.3 Objected to a number of planning applications and was part of a group that successfully defeated TESCO's plan to open up another store in Mytchett; HOWEVER at the last minute, TESCO lodged an appeal and we are waiting to find out the date for the hearing. A member of the audience then said that she would actually like to have the TESCO shop in order to get more choice. Paul Deach then said that he had received a number of correspondences about the shop and only one was against it, i.e. many were in favour! Another from the audience said that he had bartered in the small shops to get the prices down! Perhaps the society should poll its members about the issue.
- 5.4 Involved in the plans for a garden designed for elderly and/or handicapped people at the Mytchett Community Centre (MCC). We have succeeded in getting a grant for 6 thousand pounds but another 4000 is required. Anyone wanting to get involved (donating money and/or time) should contact the society.

6. QUESTION TIME WITH LOCAL OFFICERS, Chris Pitt & Paul Deach

- 6.1 Chris mentioned the absence of Alan Whittart .. he has recently had family illness and so was not available for this evening's meeting.
- 6.2 Chris also advertised several events: AGEUK Carol Service at Guildford Cathedral on Dec 16th; PRB Development meeting on 5th (not 12th as previously publicised) Dec. at ??????????????; Basingstoke Canal (Centre) now open; improved children's playground now open at Frimley recreation ground.
- 6.3 Paul Deach also advertised several events: Camberley Farmers Market happening every month in the centre; a new 'Surrey Heath Life Question Time' – the first one is Oct 21 but if successful could be a regular event.
- 6.4 A question from the floor regarding unloading big lorries at the new Morrisons in Frimley Green .. recently this happened and caused traffic jams, are there any restrictions on such activities. Paul answered ... no! There was some discussion about how /where people would park if they wanted to use this new store. The answer was .. 'with difficulty. The small car park opposite is always full. Perhaps it should be a 'pay and display' with say the first 2 hours free (as in Frimley)? It was decided that this should be investigated by the Society.
- 6.5 A question from the floor about recent roadworks in Frimley Green ... the temporary traffic lights caused traffic CHAOS, is this a sign for what will happen when PRB development takes place? The general opinion was ... probably!

6.6 A question from the floor about the filming taking place at the church on Deepcut Bridge Road .. seems to be causing traffic jams, how much longer? Paul said about 2 weeks.

6.7 There was a question about flooding under the railway bridge at Sturt Road, a recent flyer indicated that more work was being done to mitigate the situation. Chris said that since previous work, there had not been any serious flooding for 3 years, but silting up of culverts still caused some water backlog so more work was required.

6.8 Chris mentioned that the government was interested in more areas becoming Parish Councils and that there were grants available to set them up. He thought that the idea should be investigated for this area as being a Parish leads to many advantages. There was some discussion about whether this would be more expensive for the residents .. opinions were divided!

7. POLICE REPORT FROM JON CASTELL, SURREY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD SERGEANT.

8.1 Jon asked for a show of hands of who had been a 'victim of crime' recently or even knew of a victim... none! Essentially crime is quite low in Surrey Heath.

8.2 HOWEVER, Jon did say that there is normally an increase in burglaries over the winter season. Over the whole Surrey Heath area, he would expect 15-39 cases. Mostly during the day with access at the back through unlocked doors/windows. His recommendation is 'Prevention' so BE VIGILANT.

8.3 Neighbourhood Watch Groups are very active throughout the area. He mentioned the numbers we should call if there is a problem:

999 if the the problem is imminent or active

101 if the problem as happened already

8.4 There is a new bike registration system and he recommended to do it ... 100 thousand bikes were stolen through the UK last year but only 5% of those found could be returned to their rightful owners. Paul Deach mentioned that 14 hi-tech bikes had been stolen from Deepcut residents during one night a few weeks ago!

8.5 Jon brought several handouts on crime prevention to be distributed to the audience.

8. RAFFLE and MEETING CLOSE.

Local Officers Present

Councillor Chris Pitt Surrey C.C. Frimley Green & Mytchett & Surrey Heath B.C. Frimley Green

Councillor Paul Deach Surrey Heath B.C. Mytchett/Deepcut

Local Officers NOT Present

Councillor Alan Whittart Surrey Heath B.C. Frimley Green

Councillor David Allen Surrey Heath B.C. Frimley Green

Councillor Joanne Potter Surrey Heath B.C. Mytchett/Deepcut

Councillor Craig Fennell Surrey Heath B.C. Mytchett/Deepcut

MFGD Committee Members Present

Sue Cartwright (President) Kevin Daley (Chairman) Carol Drew (Treasurer)

Chris Main Daphne Knowles Howard Hyde

Duncan Clark Jaques Olmo Sarah Kingsley (Publicity Officer)

Rod Carroll (Website Administrator) David Brown (Minutes Secretary)