

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 14 MAY 2014

I have reflected on what has happened in this last year and realise that the Parish Council have had to work extremely hard to try to represent the village of Normandy in all of its five hamlets. Who would have thought that the very things that irritate us as a settlement village, our lack of services, no shops, no pub, no comprehensive travelling system will have served us as arguments against the Borough Council's proposals to put 2,000 to 3,000 of the houses they want over the next five years in the greenbelt around our village. The fight goes on.

The Parish Council has arranged a number of meetings both within the village and with others in order to test views, galvanise support and contribute to the overall debate but protesting on behalf of those of us who live in the greenbelt area surrounding Guildford. It is not just Normandy that is under attack; Worplesdon and Send are having to deal with huge numbers of housing that will increase the size of their settlements substantially. At least, they have some infrastructure before they start.

Despite the fact that having corrected the Borough's assessment of Normandy and Flexford, we now appear much lower down in the hierarchy of what is described to be sustainability' the Borough Council's contractors have glibly referred to the fact that as part of the development the Borough Council could provide money for shops and other services. So having lived for years without it, we can possibly get it if we give in to their evil plans for the development of suburbia

Those of you who have read the documentation we have placed on our website and which has been sent to the Borough Council as part of the consultation prior to the production of draft reports of local plan, will know that we have worked hard to put our evidence in place. All of that has been taken into account and yet the Borough Council still seem determined to place housing in Normandy and the reason for that is their desire to expand on the economic success around the university and research park near the hospital. There is a huge demand and need for key-workers. I am told that of the 500 nurses the Royal Surrey County Hospital trained in the last few years only a few have stayed to work in the area because of the cost of housing and the like. Obviously that is an issue but we are a university town and the university has done very little to provide accommodation on its own substantive plot. Cheaper housing around Guildford Park and Westborough has been taken up by students and yet that is ideally placed for young couples and key-workers or indeed anybody who wants to travel to London.

We have a long haul ahead of us and the only way we can fight back in my view is by trying to seek to have some of those areas designated as conservation areas. The only comfort we can take is the published intention to use the land in our village as some sort of backup if other tracts of land fail to become available. That in truth is no comfort at all because we will still have lost our green belt protection

Pirbright is a **Conservation Area** based in part on the fact that Lord Pirbright lived at Henley Park which you may remember is in Normandy!!! They make much of the fact that they are next to the SSSI that runs along the Pirbright Road but that too lies in

Normandy. The SSSI is also part of and protected under the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. This is an important habitat and there is a planning strategy document which requires LAs to insist on ecological survey information being provided. All these 'protections' fall away into nothing when accepted risk strategies are adopted. We have to achieve some other sort of permanent protection beyond that which the label 'green belt' has traditionally provided

The benefit of being a Conservation Area to Pirbright is that the status gained prevents excessive development. We have a number of small conservation areas across Normandy Common and of course the churchyard. Your Parish Council is commissioning an assessment by the Surrey Wildlife Trust in order to help us to manage the common but also to try and find out what species of flora and fauna can be found there. It surely follows that if our Village Pond is a Special Nature Conservation Area that the rest of the common must also be pretty fab! We have Ancient Woodlands at Pusseys Copse but not even this has excluded it from the proposed development area.

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The Parish Council has encouraged and supported the formation of a Wildlife Working Group who it is hoped will meet to gather information about what lives alongside us in Normandy and I am grateful to the Normandy Historians for

providing me with a copy of a list of all those Grade I and Grade II listed buildings that we have in our area.

I think there is a potential to argue for about 3 separate Conservation Areas in Normandy

We do need volunteers however if we are to go down this path. I have in mind that there should be three areas of conservation:-

1. Across Normandy Common.
2. The land facing Westwood Place (which is Grade II listed).
3. Around the Flax Pond at Flexford which is a Grade I.

If there is anybody here who is interested in their area and is willing to become involved in drafting documentation to support this then do please come forward.

Enough said about our struggle with the local plan.

You will hear reports from each of the Parish Councillors who have taken on responsibility for aspects of village life and the running of the Parish Council. We work together as a team. Each of us values the other's strengths and we try each to make up for each other's weaknesses.

We run a hugely successful bonfire with the help of volunteers. It is becoming more and more successful as each year goes past but we still need more volunteers to assist us to replace those who leave. Parents with teenage children are encouraged to apply!

With regard to our Fete this is just getting bigger and better, providing a wonderful fund raising opportunity for our clubs and charities as well as our few employers.

Last year the Councillors felt that we had done more than we would be able to do again and by this I mean we were completely exhausted.

We need helpers to manage the car

parking more effectively

There are simply not enough people helping us to clear up at the end of the day....break down the marquees and return the chairs and tables to storage etc

We need volunteers.

We are all sadly getting older and despite the fact that our clerk appears to have the energy of at least two people at his age I'm afraid I don't feel quite so fit!

I am grateful for the efforts of my Vice Chair, Pat Tugwell, who not only ensures that we look after our finances very carefully indeed but is also the driving force behind the fete, the World War I activities. Outside of the Parish Council she is also our poppy sales organiser and does numerous other important things; I don't know where she finds the time.

I am grateful to Nick Norton who is our number cruncher and researcher and who has provided us with the information we need in order to make representations on your behalf for the local plan. quite apart from his technical skills and IT ability which again has assisted us throughout the year. I am also grateful to our husband and wife team, Alan and Val Cheeseman, not only for their amazing energy but the fact they seem to know everything and everyone in Normandy. Alan of course is the Chair of the Land Management Working Party, whose knowledge regarding trees and wildlife has added massively to the quality of the decision making of the Parish Council. Not before time Darryl Taylor for his commitment to planning and his determination to put in a presence at as many planning appeals as he can.

I also thank David Simmonds for his efforts at Manor Fruit Farm and of course as you know he continues to work hard in support of the Normandy Youth Club although that is not associated with the Parish Council.

Finally, a number of residents this year were put forward for the Mayor's Award by the Parish Council and were successful in

obtaining them ...quite rightly so. Bill and Jill Stanworth for their work on the Traditional Orchard on the common.

Brian Starkey for his commitment to the Village Pond and of course as you know he is a trustee of the Therapy Garden and Alfie Gregory who at every outdoor event for the Parish Council and indeed for the church provides children's amusements but also the power cables and other infrastructure such as the ramp which he knocked up to allow the classic cars to display behind the Village Hall this year without losing their chassis.

TAXI – AIRPORTS
DEREK 07990 532161
FLEXFORD RD, NORMANDY

I suppose I also have to thank our clerk whose advice is still appreciated by each one of the Parish Councillors who sit before you; whose efforts, connections and knowledge have allowed the Parish Council to make use amongst other things of the Community Service Payback Scheme in such a manner as to have saved us tens of thousands of pounds over the year. Our ditches have been cleared, flooding along the Guildford Road relieved as a result in my view, paths have been widened, vegetation cut back, you now have more useable space and our walks and recreational facilities are more accessible.

On top of that these are the people who help us to put up the marquees, the bunting and so on in preparation for our Fete and I suppose a small thank you needs to go to them.

Finally this year we have protected the Manor Fruit Farm by having it accepted as part of the Queens Jubilee Fields in Trust Scheme.

This land is now held in Perpetuity for recreational purposes.

We have permission from Guildford Borough Council to hold a Market on

Manor Fruit Farm and it is very much a work to be progressed

We continue to seek to move the Football Club to Manor Fruit Farm and Guildford Mavericks, a Baseball Team will now share the Football Club's facilities.

We also have interest in a Stool Ball and Rounders Club starting up. None of those things would have been achieved without our Clerk's enthusiasm, knowledge and skill. So thank you Lt Col Clarke.

Peta Malthouse
Chair, Normandy PC

NORMANDY VILLAGE FÊTE Bank Holiday Monday August 25th

Last year's Fête was so successful it is going to be a 'hard act to follow' but **together** we can make sure it is **better than ever**.

2014 is a special year as 100 years ago in 1914 the 'War to End All Wars', WW1, started and to commemorate this centenary Normandy Parish Council has planned a special programme of events to mark this and to honour those who fell in conflict. We are having a Fête with a **WW1 theme** and would like stall holders, participants and those who attend to dress appropriately with something from the period if possible.

Following last year's success, the Produce Show will offer the chance for you to show your skills in gardening, baking, cooking, art and craft. It includes some classes to reflect the War Years. The fruit and vegetable section has a class entitled 'Dig for Victory' and for those who enjoy baking a WW1 Trench Cake and ANZAC Biscuits are included in the schedule. For the Floral Art this year we would like you to depict a song from WW1 and the Art and Craft sections have a similar focus for entries. **For a copy of the Schedule and the recipes please contact Pat Tugwell 01483 811328 pat.m.tugwell@gmail.com**

We are looking for teams of 8 people to

take part in the **Tug-of-War** competition, it was such a popular event last time, let's see if we can double the number of teams taking part this year. The winning team will be presented with a special trophy so please contact me for more details so that you can come and join in all the fun.

The **Fun Run** will be open to children over

the age of 10 and adults so if you are one of those active people who enjoy a run during the day, come rain or shine, then you will be able to take part this year at the Fête. The ever popular **Dog Show** will give all the dogs in the area a chance to show off their good looks, charm and skill at 'putting their best paw forward'. We thank Vicky, who is organising this for us again this year. Normandy Artist's work will be on display and you will be able to enjoy a cup of tea and a delicious homemade cake surrounded by all their exhibits.

This year the bar is being run by the Normandy Players and delicious sausages and beef burgers made and cooked by Hunts Hill Farm will be available as will the usual ice cream treats from our local provider. Fun for the children will be available on the popular rides and there will be stalls representing and run by many of Normandy's clubs, associations and organisations selling a variety of home made goods including craft, cakes, jewellery and fancy items. Lucky number programmes will be on sale on the day giving you a chance to win a superb prize.

If you would like a stall to sell your wares, or to run a game for children , adults or both to raise money for your club, organisation or favourite charity then contact me on the number below or by email and I will forward the necessary forms. Details of the Tug-of-War, Produce Show and Fun Run are available on request so if you would like to take part in one or all of these events please contact me for more information.

We are always looking for people who are able to help with the many tasks that need doing before the day, on the morning of the Fête, during the Fête or with the clearing up afterwards. If you are able to spare a little time (just an hour would be great) and energy to help ensure that this year's Fête will be our very best ever then please contact us. Thank you so much.

Pat Tugwell
Tel. 01483 811328
pat.m.tugwell@gmail.com
or Leslie Clarke, Parish Clerk
normandyparishcouncil@btconnect.com



NORMANDY BOWLING CLUB

Short mat bowling at NBC Clubhouse
Manor Fruit Farm

Currently Tuesday 7pm to 10 pm

Wednesday 2pm to 5pm

Friday 2pm to 5pm & 7pm to 10pm

Friendly and League matches

Friendly club with lively social calendar

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1914 WW1 CENTENARY 1918 NORMANDY VILLAGE COMMEMORATION EVENTS

Normandy has a very special programme

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of forthcoming events to commemorate the WW1 Centenary. During meetings with local clubs, associations and St Mark's Church ideas were discussed and from these discussions a varied series of activities have evolved. Hopefully there will be something for everyone. Normandy Parish Council hope to plant a **Peace Garden** on Manor Fruit Farm, an area of beautiful plants, roses and decorative shrubs. There will be a stone memorial with suitable plaque and a bench to enable people to sit quietly and reflect.

The **programme of events** will start with a **special service at St Mark's Church** on 3rd August commencing at 5pm. The **Village Fête** on August Bank Holiday Monday, 25th August will have a special **WW1 theme** and it is hoped that stall holders, participants and visitors will dress appropriately, if possible. Some activities and competitions will reflect the theme.

On 11th November 2014 there will be a special **Remembrance Service and Party** at the War Memorial and the Royal British Legion Hall for the children in **Years 5 and 6 at Wyke Primary School.**

On 21st June 2015 in the Village Hall there will be a special **exhibition of work by Normandy Artists.** There will also be an exhibition of **photographs, and relevant items** relating to WW1 presented by the **Normandy Historians.** The **Village Fête**

in 2015 will include a **photographic display and art exhibition by Normandy Youth Club**, which will have reference to times of conflict. The Youth Club will also be presenting evenings of **themed poetry and story reading** as part of the Village programme. In **October 2015 the Normandy Players** will be staging a **production** illustrating life during times of war. **Normandy Football Club** will re-enact the **historic football match** played on Christmas Day 1914. The match will be on **16th December 2017**. It will be a fun event for families with a barbecue, hot and cold drinks, stalls and games and will offer something for all age groups.

Our final event of this Commemoration Programme is a **Grand Concert** to be held in the **Village Hall on 2nd and 3rd November 2018**. The Farnborough Royal British Legion Band, The Aldershot Military Wives Choir and the Rushmoor Male Voice Choir will be entertaining us with music and song. This promises to be a very special concert and will be in aid of the Service Charities. The complete programme of events can be viewed on the Normandy Parish Council's Website:-

<http://normandyparishcouncil.co.uk>

If you would like more information, to help or take part in any of these activities please contact:-

Pat Tugwell 01483 811328

pat.m.tugwell@gmail.com

or Leslie Clarke 01483 811108

normandyparishcouncil@btconnect.com

NORMANDY WILDLIFE GROUP

It has been decided to form a Normandy Wildlife Group, facilitated by the Parish Council but not run by the Council. The main objective of the Group is to record the abundance of flora and fauna that we are lucky to have in Normandy and to seek measures to protect it. If we can fully list all the flora and fauna in the Village it will be most useful as ammunition in the Parish Council's fight against the over development of Normandy.

The first meeting of the Group is being held 12 June 2014 at 1900 hours at the Parish Chairman's house, Oakdene, Westwood Lane. Please feel free to come along but also please let Peta know that you are going to do so by emailing her on; peta.malthouse@ntlworld.com.

HELP WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS

All readers of the Villager must have noticed all the ditch clearance (which has reduced flooding), tree coppicing and general clean up that has been carried out around the Village over the last year. All at no cost to the Village tax payers. The Community workers are in Normandy almost every Saturday and Sunday supervised by Probation Service Officers.

However volunteers are required to meet them, conduct them to where they have their breaks and serve them tea, coffee and biscuits which of course are provided by the Parish Council, and, explain to the Probation Officer supervisor the work that they are scheduled to do that day. How long does it take? The guys arrive sometime between 9 and 10 o'clock. You direct them to the tea and coffee facility, serve tea and coffee, liaise with the Probation Officer about their break times show the work to be undertaken, serve their tea and coffee at break times, clear up and return the victuals to the Parish Clerk which takes a maximum of about 4 hours each time. All the arrangements are made by the Parish Clerk who will deliver the coffee, tea, keys etc to you the day before you are on duty. At the moment it is all done by the Parish Clerk, Parish Councillors and a couple of non Council volunteers.

Please consider sparing four hours every couple of months to help out and help keep our Villager looking good. If you are willing to help, please contact the Parish Clerk, Leslie Clarke on 01483 810492.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2014

We would like to thank all societies and organisations who attended the Parish Council's Annual Assembly on the 14th May. It was interesting to hear the reports from all of Normandy's valued clubs and societies.

At the meeting the new Parish Council was also elected. Councillor Peta Malthouse was elected Chairman and Councillor Pat Tugwell, Vice Chairman. Councillor Darryl Taylor was elected Chairman for Planning with Councillor Norton as Vice Chairman. Councillor David Simmons was elected Chairman for Manor Fruit Farm Working Party with Councillor Cheesman as Vice Chairman and Councillor Alan Cheesman was also elected Chairman of Land Management Working Party with Councillor Taylor as Vice Chairman.

As always, the Parish Council endeavours to work hard towards providing the best interests and consideration to all residents of Normandy.

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FLY TIPPING IN NORMANDY

As everyone knows Fly Tipping spoils our lovely Village and if it is not removed it quickly encourages others to Fly Tip in the same place. If you notice Fly Tipping please report it to Guildford Borough Council who will remove it,

usually within 48 hours, on 01483 444999. If it is not moved within the 48 hours, please let the Parish Clerk know at: normandyparishcouncil@btconnect.com.

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY FETE 25 August 2014 - Manor Fruit Farm

This year the Fete will hopefully include: Photographic Competition; Model Railway Display; Normandy Artists Exhibition (Ann Adey's group); Brass Band; Fun Fair for the Children; Craft Stalls; Produce Show; Hot Dog Stall and BBQ; Dog Show; Vintage Bus Display; Local Produce; Tea and Cakes; Ice Cream and Licensed Bar.

We are in desperate need for volunteers to come and set up the fete and clear up after the fete. Please contact Councillor Pat Tugwell on Pat.m.tugwell@gmail.com if you could spare one or two hours to help out or for further information.

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DOG FOULING

Please can the Parish Council remind all dog walkers that dogs are not allowed to foul anywhere in either of the children's play areas. Reports are still being received that there is dog fouling in the Children's Play Area near the Normandy Tennis

Courts. Dog fouling notices are installed in this area reminding people not to let their dogs foul in these areas. We would like to thank all of those responsible owners who do pick up after their dog. However there are still faeces being seen on pavements and in the play areas, which means it is still a problem and a potential danger. Not only is dog faeces disgusting and harmful to the natural environment but it is also extremely dangerous if a child accidentally comes in contact with it. Please do not leave dog faeces on the grass or footpaths.

would be interested in, please contact Wyke Primary School.

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NEW ROAD SIGNS IN NORMANDY

You may have noticed new warning speed signs in and around Normandy. There are 30 mph roundels on Glaziers Lane and Bailes Lane warning motorists that Normandy is a 30 mph area. Wyke Primary School has had considerable success with the flashing lights system, however, they have had no luck in assigning a lollipop person to help school children cross the road at the start and end of the school day. If this is something you

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