

# Sunningdale Parish Council

## Parish Newsletter February 2011

### Big Society Focus Group 17<sup>th</sup> February at 19.30 @ the Village Hall

Since our earlier Big Society open events in September, the opportunities offered by the Big Society have become clearer. Local people can help direct policy by bringing their ideas forward to the Parish Council. A more localised planning policy is emerging which takes on board local views on the built environment and ASCENT is launched with the remit to carry forward sustainable ideas and build our capacity to cope with rapid change. Devolution to Parishes is being strongly mooted along with every effort to promote volunteering. Never before has local opinion counted for more. Email us to book a place [anne.martin@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:anne.martin@rbwm.gov.uk)

### Climate Week 21-27<sup>th</sup> March:

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March "Climate Change – the scientific evidence"** 16:00  
Dr Manoj Joshi, Senior Researcher at the National Centre for Atmospheric Science, University of Reading.

### 27<sup>th</sup> March – Census day

**30<sup>th</sup> March** Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall – come and hear all we are planning to achieve for Sunningdale in the year ahead. Sarah Ball, Team Manager, Planning and Development Unit, RBWM, will speak.

**29<sup>th</sup> April: Royal Wedding** – lunch party organised by Holy Trinity church

**5<sup>th</sup> May** Local Elections for Borough and Parish Councillors. Find out more about putting your name forward as a Parish Councillor.

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**Police Alert** There has been a spate of local crimes around sheds, garages, bikes and insecure windows and doors. Our local PCSO, Becky Harris, encourages you to be vigilant and lock up your property securely.

**British Legion Poppy Appeal** – Sunningdale, Sunninghill and Ascot raised a record £10,454.92 during Remembrance tide 2011. Thanks to all the volunteers, and especially the schools, HSBC and Sunningdale Park

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Parish Council: February 8<sup>th</sup>, March 8<sup>th</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup>, May 10<sup>th</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup>  
Planning meetings: Feb 23, March 23, April 20, May 18 and June 15

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**Parish Council office hours** Mon- Thurs 09.00 – 14.00

Fridays: 11.00 – 14.00

**Planning surgery** Tuesdays: 10.00 – 12.00

Contact: [The Pavilion, Broomhall Lane, Sunningdale SL5 0QS](#)

Tel: 01344 874268 e-mail: [Sunningdale.parish@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:Sunningdale.parish@rbwm.gov.uk)

Website: [www.sunningdale-pc.org.uk](http://www.sunningdale-pc.org.uk)

The Parish Council is pleased to announce a reduction in the Precept from £30.39 last year to £28.00 per Band D resident. This allows the Parish Council to begin implanting its vision to improve the appearance of the street scene, ensure appropriate development; develop ideas for Sustainable Sunningdale and engage with and listen to the public and provide good services. All this fits comfortably within the changes that are taking place – the Big Society, devolution to the Parishes and Localisation Bill.

Christine Gadd, Chairman of Parish Council

### Neighbourhood Planning Strategy

The Localism Bill currently going through Parliament heralds a ground-breaking shift in power to councils and communities. "The Bill will enact new rights allowing local people to shape and influence the places where they live, revolutionising the planning process by passing power down to those who know best about their neighbourhoods"

Greg Clerk, Decentralisation Minister

The opportunity exists to create a Neighbourhood Planning Strategy in conjunction with Sunninghill and Ascot Parish Council and RBWM which includes radical proposals to hand powers down to local people to shape the character of their neighbourhood and the future built environment. Come to our Big Society Focus group to hear more and give your views.



## ASCENT – Ascot Community Environment Network

Council has agreed to support the newly launched ASCENT, a Transition Initiative which focuses on Climate Change and Peak Oil, geared to helping our communities respond to a rapidly changing, low carbon environment. It is bringing in a range of different people with a great range of skills and leadership to offer. The ASCENT website is being constructed and will be linked to the Parish Website. **Come along on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 16.30 to find out more** – at the Parish Council office.



The activities of ASCENT begin in Climate Week, a national week to encourage events and activities across the UK, showcasing the solutions and positive steps that will help combat climate change.

### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March “Climate Change – the scientific evidence”

16.00 at the Village Hall. Dr Manoj Joshi, Senior Researcher at the National Centre for Atmospheric Science, University of Reading will be speaking and answering your questions. The Parish Council is hosting this. Also we are organising a bike power demonstration during the week. Discover how much power is required to make a smoothie! *Bring your ideas to the Parish Council or the ASCENT meeting.*

### Census 27<sup>th</sup> March

The census matters to everyone who lives in your area. Census population estimates inform the allocation of resources to policy making and service planning at national and local level. Your questionnaire will be posted or delivered to you in time for Census day. The Office for National Statistics needs the help and support of local councils, using our grassroots knowledge to promote the census locally.



You can come into the Parish Office any day in the week of 28<sup>th</sup> March for help answering any question (office open till 14.30 or by appointment). Taking part in the census is compulsory and everyone should be included. Census information is strictly confidential, protected by law.

## Spring Holiday Plans

The schools break up on 8<sup>th</sup> April – and with the exception of the 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> April – the rest of the month is holiday. The Parish Council plans to reopen our Community Café, offering teas and snacks, every weekday. The Ceramics Café will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the holiday 10.00 – 17.00 – create your own plate, mug or gift.

### Holiday activities:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 15.00 *Music with Mummies* – for under 5 years. Other activities planned for the under 8 year olds during that week, including jigsaw session, story telling, and animal rescue event. On 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April there will be “Get Active” sessions 12.00-16.00 for 8-13 years organised by the Youth Services – sports, inflatables, parachute games, circus skills, Tsumo wrestling and much more. 12.00 – 16.00. 21<sup>st</sup> April “Get Active” session for 13-18 years 12.00 -16.00. You are encouraged to sign up for the age appropriate. **All sessions free** – bring money for refreshments. More details to follow on the notice boards.

### Tennis at the Rec

To improve our tennis facilities and encourage many more people to enjoy the sport, the Parish Council is entering into an agreement with Charters Tennis starting in April. A membership scheme will be introduced and on-line booking system so you can know when the courts are free. The long term aim is to become a Beacon site recognised by the LTA. Part of the criteria for that is walk-on tennis will still be allowed. A tennis coach will be on hand with the overall aim of increasing community playing of tennis.

### Community Garden

The objective this year will be to demonstrate how to cultivate a range of vegetables, herbs and some fruit in a relatively small area. Occasional free formal sessions will be given by Graeme Kennedy, our Grounds Manager. The garden will be open daily and you can simply wander around. Graeme will be on hand at set times to help with any questions that you may have. Watch out for further information in the coming weeks.

**Sunningdale Library** Would you be interested in coming to the library on a Saturday morning? The mobile library on Fridays may also be staying open on a Saturday morning – if there is the demand. Please collect a form from the library and give us your views or any aspect of the library service or visit [http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/libraries\\_container.htm](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/libraries_container.htm)

**Wood** – have you got a branch or tree down and wonder what to do with the wood. The Parish Council would love to hear from you since we power our heating on locally sourced wood.