



# ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2018

Presentation from the  
Parish Council

In the last year we have held:

9 Full Council meetings

18 Planning Committees

8 Leisure Committees

Street Fayre and Summer Party Meetings

We also attend outside meetings, such as Parish  
Conference, as required.

I'm going to ask some of my fellow Councillors to talk us  
through some of the work we have completed this year  
as well as some of our ongoing projects and future  
plans.

We will also take a look at the financial health of the Parish.

During 2017 we conducted a Parish survey in order to compile a Parish Plan to cover the next five years.

I'm going to ask Councillor David Hilton to take us through the details.

# Parish Plan Questionnaire

In order to shape its plans for the future, the Parish Council wished to understand residents concerns and aspirations.



**PARISH PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

This is YOUR chance to influence the future development of YOUR Parish.

What would you like to see? What do you want to see protected? This is your opportunity to engage and help to shape improvements in Ascot, Sunninghill, South Ascot, Cheapside and Woodside.

Fill in the online questionnaire at [www.sunninghillandascotparishcouncil.co.uk/survey/](http://www.sunninghillandascotparishcouncil.co.uk/survey/) or collect your paper copy from Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council office (next to Ascot Library). Please return your completed questionnaire by 8 December 2017.

[www.sunninghillandascotparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.sunninghillandascotparishcouncil.co.uk)

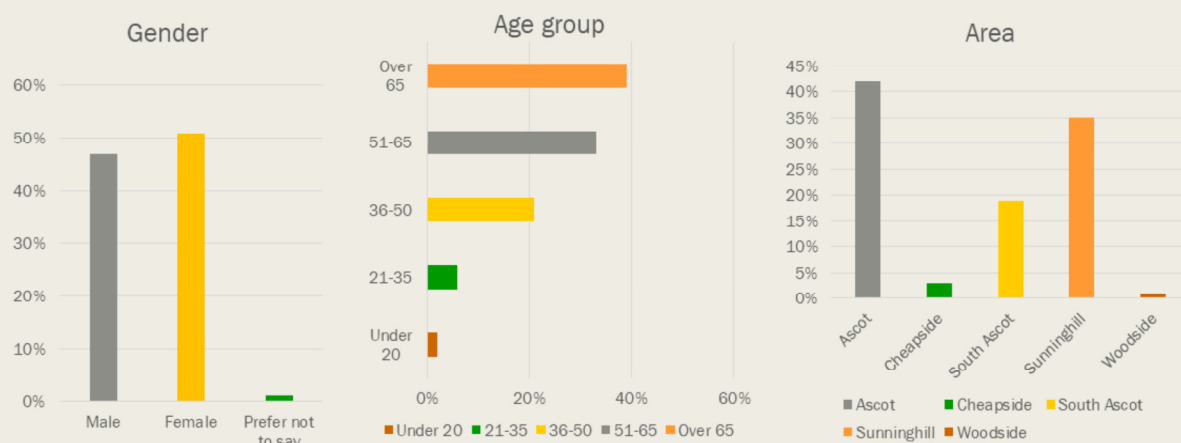
**SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT PARISH COUNCIL**  
The Courtyard  
(Ascot Racecourse)  
High Street  
Ascot SL5 7JF  
[enquiries@s-a-pc.com](mailto:enquiries@s-a-pc.com)

The poster features a collage of four images: a building with a sign that says 'SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT', a street scene with a building, a street scene with a building, and a street scene with a building. To the right of the images is a blue vertical bar with white text listing the following topics: Neighbourhood Plan, Rejuvenation of Ascot, Community Facilities, Environment and Heritage, and Parish Services. At the bottom of the bar is the Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council logo.

At the end of last year, the Parish Council carried out a survey.

398 parishioners replied

954 comments received



We gained nearly 400 responses which is as many as the Borough Council gets for some of its Boroughwide consultations.

There were 9 free format sections and 954 individual comments were made which have been a challenge to analyse.

Roughly the same percentage of male and females responded

As usual mainly older people responded.

There was a balance of respondents from all areas of the Parish.

# Key questions

- Effectiveness of Neighbourhood Plan
- Rejuvenation of Ascot
- Infrastructure
- Parish / Borough services
- Is the area better or worse to live compared to 10 years ago?



Just over 75% were aware of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) which was included because the Parish Council promoted it, Parish Councillors were on the steering committee, the Parish Planning Committee quote its policies when considering planning applications. And the NP is effective in protecting the character of the area, particularly at Planning appeals.

The rejuvenation of Ascot represents the most significant change in the past 20 years. The proposal, based upon the Prince's Foundation document, is for the Ascot Centre to better reflect the Grandstand and Ascot racecourse whilst retaining its leafy character.

The question on infrastructure reflects the fact that 25% of the Community Infrastructure levy monies due from development in the Parish will be available for the Parish Council to decide how to spend.

We also asked about Parish Council and Borough services.

More than 85 % of those who had a view were satisfied with the Parish Allotments, the Cemetery and recreation areas. However, residents would like the Parish Council to do better in dealing with their individual concerns and planning matters.

The Borough scored highly in dealing with waste, Libraries, education and the

environment but there was a general dissatisfaction with planning and highway matters.

We asked if the area is better or worse now than 10 years ago. 45% said the same or did not know. Of the remaining 55%, 80% thought it worse with parking and traffic congestion being the main negatives.

# What we learnt

## Residents are concerned about

- Parking and congestion (both now and in the future)
- Development, housing, affordable homes
- Infrastructure (GP Surgeries, Schools, Police)
- Loss of green space and trees



Lots of concern was expressed about the lack of parking with specific concerns from Sunninghill and in South Ascot residents who said they did not like commuter parking.

There is a fear that in Ascot parking will be worse once the rejuvenation project is completed. Cllr David Hilton stated that as principal member for Ascot regeneration he was determined that this fear will not become reality.

There is a general concern about congestion. The Borough will be undertaking an A30 corridor study as this is a very busy trunk road and a study of Ascot High street from Heatherwood Roundabout to the Winkfield Road Roundabout. This will help inform the Ascot regeneration project and their highway design.

On development there are tensions between those who would rather not have it and others who wish there to be homes that their children can afford to buy. The Borough will be taking a harder line on the provision of affordable housing including housing for rent.

People believe they will not have enough GP Surgeries, this is the responsibility of the Clinical Commissioning Group and a new hub is proposed to sit alongside the new Heatherwood Hospital. A new surgery in Sunningdale has been talked about for years and one can image this coming forward at some time soon.

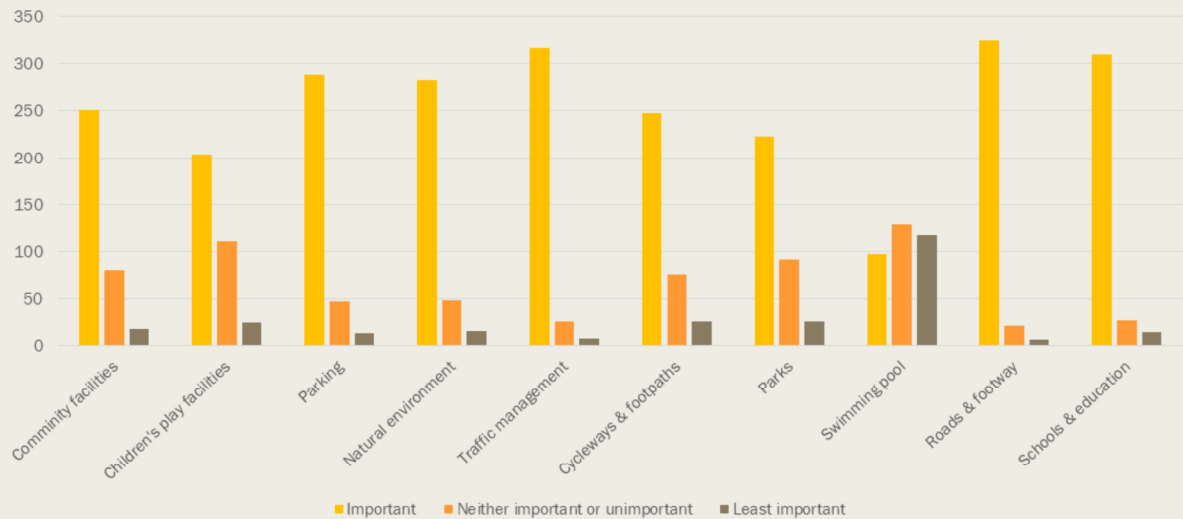
A significant concern was expressed about places for children in schools. The Borough has a statutory responsibility to provide school places and over last year and this year is spending £4.3 million to add another form entry at Charters and in excess of £1M to expand Cheapside school. To put education in perspective, across the Borough, we estimate £280 million will need to be invested between now and 2036 to provide new school places.

On policing we are deemed to be a low crime area but Cllr David Hilton continues to make the point to the Local Police Area Commander that we need a police presence to promote prevention in order to maintain those low crime levels.

There is no doubt some green space will be lost but the Parish Council has been proactive in seeking and obtaining Tree Preservation Orders for valuable trees that were perceived to be at risk.



Q13: 25% of Community Infrastructure Levy will be available for the Parish Council to spend.  
Resident's priorities are;



By and large this mirrors responses one might see across the Borough. Roads are always a priority. It is good to see the natural environment is right up there.

# Actions

- Parking
  - *Form a Sunninghill Action Group*
- Housing, affordable homes
  - *The Bridge Road site, Sunningdale Park and Shorts site have been out at public consultation and the Heatherwood site has been granted outline planning permission.*
- Schools and education
  - *RBWM obligation in law to provide school places.*
- Ascot Rejuvenation
  - *Development brief will go to public consultation*
  - *Community facility likely to include Library & Parish Council office*
  - *Cinema, Performance space? What would people like to see to build a community heart?*
- Infrastructure
  - *Parish Council will use its share of CIL promote the highest priority projects*
- Parish Council Services
  - *Recreation grounds*

So, what can be done?

Not all the issues raised are in the gift of the Parish Council to resolve, but good working relationship with Borough Councillors will help resolve some issues outside of the Parish Council's remit.

Ascot Rejuvenation.

A number of stakeholder meetings have been held with the Developer Consortium and they are planning a public consultation on a Development Brief before the start of the summer.

A Community Building will be provided as part of the regeneration. We have done some work on governance models and have sought input from organisations that might like to use it. The survey showed an interest in a small cinema and performance space. Our ambition is that the community building should help create a heart for the community. There is more work to do, particularly with younger people, but once complete proposals will be presented hopefully at the Consortium's public consultation.

Victory Field and South Ascot Recreation Grounds are well liked and the survey revealed a number of suggestions for improvements. There will be further consultation with interested groups, including young people, before final proposals are adopted.

There will be lots more conversations and consultations but this is the only way the Parish Council can be certain it is working to your priorities.

# Leisure Projects



We are responsible for overseeing, maintaining and improving 4 recreation parks.

**Blythewood**, has a small organised children's play area set in a natural woodland of about 2 acres with a woodland walk backing onto the Blackmoor stream. We have started a long term programme of works to maintain and improve the wildlife area thinning out areas of woodland being strangled by undergrowth and allowing in more light.

**Cheapside**, this has an area of play equipment designed for toddlers and small children and has a grassed area for informal play.

## **Victory Field.**

At the VF which is our largest recreation park we have a football pitch, 2 tennis courts which are maintained regularly and has a multicourt which is used for basketball and other activities which has been resurfaced in the recent past.. We also have a wide range of children's play equipment which we are constantly maintaining, improving and replacing when necessary. Recently we installed a table tennis table which will be there for all to use.

Last year we added to our very popular skate park, this is very well used by people both local and those from further afield. This idea was proposed by users who first created the demand and came up with the basic design they wanted. This was useful and

necessary as none of our current PC's use a skate board.  
We are in the process in conjunction with the borough of having the footpath from Oriental rd. to the VF improved so that it is both safer and easier to use.

**Tom Greens Field** We are continuing with our 10 year scheme to improve TGF opening the area up so that it is more welcoming for all species of both animal and plant life and humans. Recently Tom Greens widow Pauline died and her family have had a bench placed here in her memory.

Our aim at the PC is to have our parks used by as many people in the parish as possible. Another recreation ground we oversee and maintain is the SA RG known locally as the REC. The facility is actually owned by SFAT now known as the ST. We are at present in the process of organising a new lease on this land so that we are able to continue to offer it for use by our parishioners.

## Resurfaced paths and War Memorial at St Michael's Church Cemetery



**The Cemetery.** We have now completed improvements to the pathways in and around the cemetery leading to the Garden of Remembrance which has been landscaped and has a pleasant seating area. We have sited a memorial to all those who have given up their lives from our area throughout the various wars. I would like to thank Mick Wallis who gives up his free time to tend to this garden as a volunteer. Last year he planted snowdrops and they have been greatly admired this year.

## New fencing and gates at Allotment site



We are continually working to improve the site for our tenants. This last year we have replaced the old fencing along the green lane boundary and improved the appearance and security by fitting new gates to both the vehicular entrance and the pedestrian access.

We have created 2 new plots and all plots are now taken. The level of cultivation is much improved and we continue to work with tenants to maintain a high standard overall.

## Best Kept Allotment 2017



The winner of the Michael hunter shield for best allotment in 2017 went to Michael Moody with Richard Paige second and Keith Usher 3<sup>rd</sup>. We particularly congratulate Richard who took over an abandoned and overgrown plot in the same year. We are in the process of arranging this years judging and hopefully we will see some of our newer tenants taking the honours.





## Victory Field Pavilion

We have submitted plans for the reconfiguration of the pavilion at Victory Field, to include timber cladding, new timber security doors, changes to the roof finish and alterations to the fenestration. The pavilion will contain a small community room, toilets and storage.

## Planning 2017/18 to date

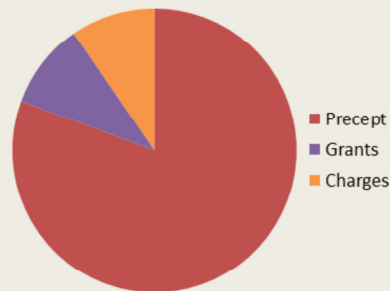


The Planning Committee considered 259 planning applications, 18 of which were decided at appeal of which 72% were dismissed.

There are a number of significant developments such as at Heatherwood Hospital, Lynwood development, Sunningdale Park, Shorts site and Gas Holders site that the Parish Council has considered in detail.

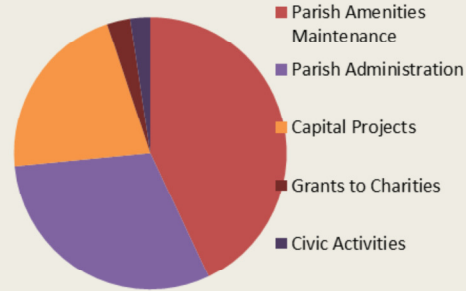
# FINANCE

Parish Council Income  
2017-2018



Total  
Income  
£206,390

Parish Council Expenditure  
2017-2018



Total  
Expenditure  
£206,257

**Zero increase in the precept per household for  
2018-19**

Our income comes mainly from the precept for parishioners, but also from certain users of facilities such as pitch fees, tennis court hire , cemetery fees  
We keep a tight control on costs whilst spending to keep facilities in good condition

For next year the precept has been kept at the same level as the previous two years at £26.27 for an average household.



The Parish Council has supported a number of local charities.

# Community Events

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 - Party in the Park  
&

18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – Sunninghill Victorian Street Fayre

