



## **BLETCHINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT – October 2015 to December 2015**

**Allotments** – All plots are currently occupied with some being chased in relation to cultivation state. We now have a short waiting list. Anyone interested in having a plot should contact the Parish Clerk to get their name on the list. Any vacancies mid-year or at renewal time will then be allocated to the next person on the waiting list. The water has been turned off at both sites.

**Finance** – We have now agreed the budget and forecast for 2016/17 and we are glad to report that we were able to keep the precept at the same level for the 5<sup>th</sup> year running.

**Grange Meadow** - Progress continues to be made with funding being sought for the improvement of facilities for Grange Meadow. Updates on progress will be given in future issues of the magazine, but if you want more information, or can provide any assistance or suggest any fundraising ideas, please contact Linda Baharier on [lrbaharier@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lrbaharier@yahoo.co.uk) or Mike Stone [mike.stone1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mike.stone1@hotmail.co.uk)

**Tilgate Common** – There was some minor tree work undertaken late in the year to raise the canopy of some of the trees and remove some of the dead wood. Please continue to keep the Common clean and tidy and report any concerns to the Parish Clerk.

**Mercers Quarry** - To much relief, the road works on Nutfield High Street associated with making the access to Mercers Quarry were completed in November, ahead of time. Next, the access road connecting the quarry with the A25, the site offices and a car park will be constructed. Sand extraction will not begin until well into 2016. This is expected to continue until 2030.

**North Park Quarry** - The application to keep the quarry open until 2020 has been permitted, extending the original deadline by 6 years. However, Sibelco have assured us that each face will be restored as soon as it is worked out. Thus we hope that most of the site will be returned to agriculture or woodland before the deadline.

**Affordable Housing:** Tandridge District Council have held their consultation event at St. Catherine's School and in December submitted their planning application for 10 dwellings. We are awaiting the outcome of this.

**Cemetery** – We are in the process of transferring all the burial records onto a purpose built database with associated mapping system. This process however is time consuming as the records date back as far as 1850 and the work is not expected to be complete until mid 2016.

**Airports** - The Parish Council has received notification from Biggin Hill Airport of a consultation in relation to a change of flight path for some of its arriving aircraft. The consultation lasts until mid February. Currently the flight path for Biggin Hill Airport does not pass over the village. At first blush, the Airport appears to be proposing that the flight path be extended westwards and southwards, so that aircraft would fly over the village. Your Parish Council will be responding to this consultation; however those interested might wish to

look at the website <http://www.bigginhillairport.com/acp/> that contains an animated illustration and make their own representations. It should be noted that the altitudes shown are “above mean sea level” so the aircraft will be lower above the ground than shown.

Sally-anne Ray – Chairman