



Windlesham Parish Council

Windlesham Lightwater Bagshot

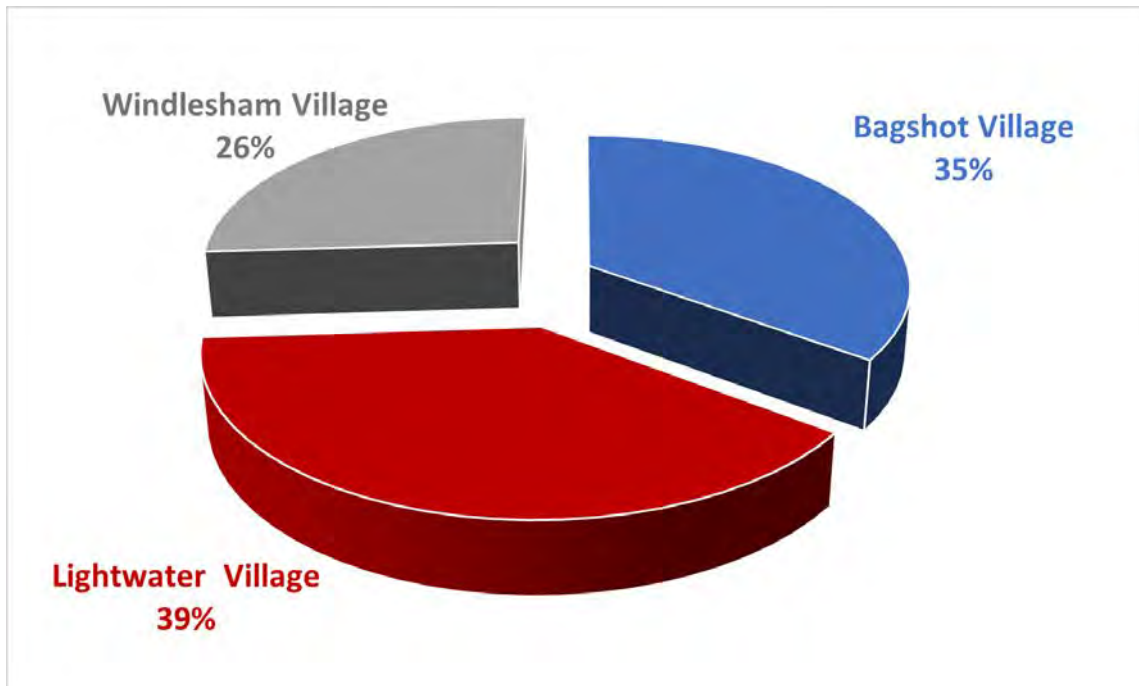


ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

Who is Windlesham Parish Council?

Consisting of 3 villages (Bagshot, Lightwater and Windlesham), Windlesham Parish Council is one of the oldest parish councils in England, originally established in 1894 with the passing of the Local Government Act, which took the administration of the Parish out of the hands of the Church (at the time Lightwater was primarily heathland and Bagshot residents had to travel to the only church in the parish - St John the Baptist - for this reason the parish is called Windlesham).



During 2021-22 the main areas of the Council's work have been covered by the Full Council and 4 Committees:

- Bagshot Village Committee
- Lightwater Village Committee
- Windlesham Village Committee
- Personnel

Full Council meets a minimum of 6 times per annum while the Committees meet once a month (except August and December). All meetings are open to the public and we encourage residents to attend.

A full schedule of meetings can be found at:

<https://www.windleshampc.gov.uk>

Your Parish Councillors

18 councillors represent the 3 villages in the Parish with elections taking place every 4 years. Elections took place in May 2019, with a revision to the numbers of Councillors elected per village, after the Boundary Commission review of Surrey Heath in 2017. Following a Community Governance Review carried out by Surrey Heath Borough Council in 2019-20, the Boundary Commission has now granted a request to alter the parish ward boundaries, which will come into effect in May 2023. Currently the Parish is operating a village committee structure to ensure all villages are represented in accordance with the upcoming parish ward boundaries.

Your current Councillors are:

Bagshot Village Committee



Cllr White



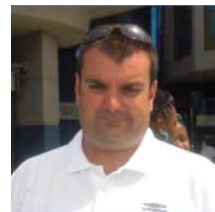
Cllr Willgoss



Cllr Manley



Cllr Bakar



Cllr Gordon



Cllr Du Cann

Windlesham Village Committee:



Cllr Goodman



Cllr Stacey



Cllr Hansen-Hjul



Cllr Sturt



Cllr Hardless

Lightwater Village Committee



Cllr Galliford



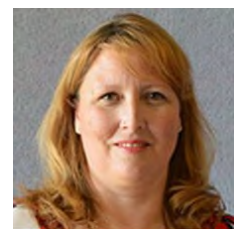
Cllr Barnett



Cllr Hartshorn



Cllr Harris



Cllr Jennings-Evans



Cllr Malcaus Cooper
Chairman of the Council



Cllr Halovsky-Yu
Vice Chairman of the Council

If you wish to contact one of your Councillors please email them using the following email protocol: [cldr.\[insert surname here\]@windleshampc.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.[insert surname here]@windleshampc.gov.uk), alternatively call the council offices on 01276 471675.

Governance



In preparation for the upcoming changes to the parish ward boundaries in May 2023, the Council agreed to change its internal workings to move to a village aligned committee structure, where each village group will be largely responsible for its own budget and focus solely on the issues important to their residents.

These structural changes were implemented in May 2021 and the Village Committee's now meet regularly to discuss village centric issues.

2021-2022 has also seen changes amongst the Officers supporting the Council and in July 2021, the then Clerk to the Council moved on to pastures new.

Without doubt the last 8 months has been a challenging time for the Council. Implementing a new structure, which required a complete change in procedural operations, whilst operating with significantly reduced resources, has challenged both Councillors and Officers alike.

However, all involved have risen to that challenge and are working tirelessly to ensure that Council business continues, whilst establishing a firm focus on developing a strategic direction that will deliver for the residents of the Parish, not just in the short term, but for many years to come.

Council Facilities

Play Areas

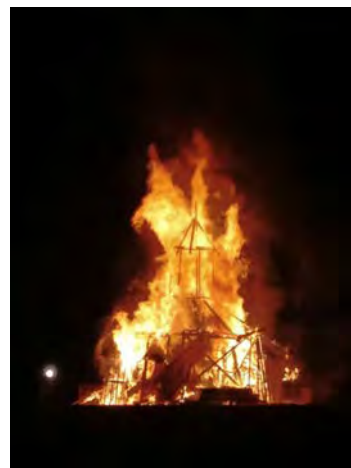
The Parish Council owns and manages 5 recreation grounds: School Lane Field and Freemantle Road in Bagshot; Lightwater Recreation Ground and Windmill Field and Kings Lane in Windlesham.

Looking forward to 2022-23 the Parish Council is embarking on a refurbishment programme for the play areas at School Lane Field and Lightwater Recreation ground, which we hope will brighten up the existing equipment as well as provide new and exciting equipment to explore.



Open Spaces & Allotments

The Council grants free of charge access to Lightwater Recreation ground for community events. Unfortunately during the pandemic, neither the Lightwater Fete or the Lightwater bonfire and fireworks were able to take place. Both are very popular and well-attended local events, which the Council is looking forward to supporting in 2022.



The Council also owns the south side of High Curley in Lightwater, which is a heathland area of special scientific interest; Bagshot Chapel, Lightwater Memorial Gardens and numerous small open spaces throughout the Parish.



In addition to the above Council provides allotments at Hook Mill Lane for more than 50 residents of the parish.



Burial Grounds



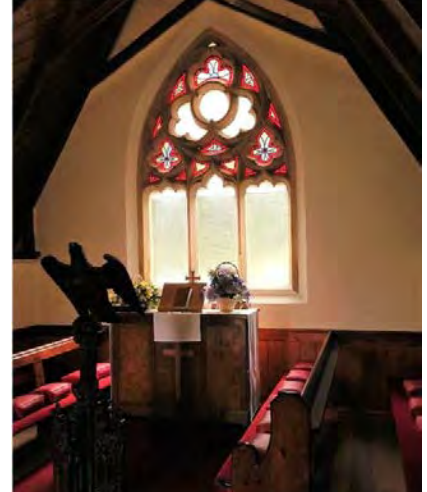
Windlesham Parish Council owns and manages three burial grounds. Bagshot is a closed burial ground but ashes are accepted for interment at the memorial wall. Lightwater and Windlesham are popular choices for the final resting place of many residents, ex-residents and non-residents. Between April 2021 and March 2022, we have managed 28 burials and 33 ashes interments.



Heritage - Bagshot Chapel

Bagshot Chapel and Cemetery have been in the care of Windlesham Parish Council since 1962 and whilst the Chapel building is not listed, it is a structure of some significant architectural interest and for that reason is listed by Surrey Heath Borough Council on their list of historical buildings with local significance.

Following a year of virtual viewings during the pandemic, Windlesham Parish Council was once again pleased to open Bagshot Chapel to the public in September 2021 for the nationwide Heritage Open Days.



War Memorials & Remembrance

All three of the war memorials in our villages are Grade II listed and each year the Parish Council marks Remembrance Sunday by displaying silent soldiers and large poppies on the lamp-posts.

In November 2021, Councillors White, Galliford and Sturt were very pleased to lay wreaths on behalf of Windlesham Parish Council at the Remembrance services held in the villages.



Hanging Baskets

Hanging baskets were again supplied to the 3 villages and provided beautiful displays of dazzling colour throughout the summer months.

The Council are always delighted to hear the lovely comments from residents about the displays.



Grants

Each year the Council sets aside a sum of money which can be given as grants to local groups or voluntary organisations requiring financial support.

During 2021/22 the Parish Council has awarded £18,978 to support 13 different local organisations with a wide variety of projects or requirements.

Bagshot Committee - £5,267 total

Curley Park Rangers £1,750.00 - Towards pitch maintenance and line marking

Valley End Cricket Club £167.00 - Towards the Christmas Chari-Tree Project providing hampers and presents to local families in need.

Bagshot Playing Fields Association £950.00 - Towards open space maintenance

Bagshot Society £60.00 - Towards winter planting

Bagshot Big Bash £1,500 - Towards the Bagshot Christmas event

Windle Valley Fundraisers £600 - Towards a community Christmas dinner

Windle Valley Fundraisers £240 - Towards the Easter Bunny event

Lightwater Committee - £6,174 total

Curley Park Rangers £1,750.00 - Towards pitch maintenance and line marking

Valley End Cricket Club £167.00 - Towards the Christmas Chari-Tree Project providing hampers and presents to local families in need.

Lightwater Village Improvement Society £224.00 - To supply winter bedding plants for the village centre and to replace 4 planters

Lightwater United FC £2,500.00 - To develop a permanent hard standing area by the side of the pitch to facilitate a multi-purpose technical area.

Lightwater Memorial Gardens £1,133 - To supply and install a memorial soldier bench
Windle Valley Fundraisers - Contribution towards the Easter Bunny event.

Lightwater Darby & Jone Club £400 - Contribution towards a coach trip and meal for the over 60's

Windleham Committee - £9,167 total

Valley End Cricket Club £167.00 - Towards the Christmas Chari-Tree Project providing hampers and presents to local families in need.

Darby & Jone Club £800.00 - Towards activities for the over 60's

Windleham Field of Remembrance £2,400 - Contribution towards the replacement of play equipment

Windleham Field of Remembrance £2000 - Contribution towards waste collection at the field

Harper Asprey £3,800 - Contribution towards equipment for the vet/ICU

How your money is spent

Council Tax

Each December, the Parish Council sets a budget for the next financial year which includes the amount to be raised via Council Tax (precept).

The net budget for 2022/23 is £490,251 of which £327,000 will be collected through the precept as part of the overall Council Tax demand. This equates to a 5.3% increase, resulting in an annual charge of £39.77 on a Band D property

In 2021-22 there were 8,877 precepting parishes in England, of which Windlesham Parish Council is one of just 577 larger councils (i.e. with a precept over £250,000). With a precept demand of £37.76 (2021-22) per household compared to a national average of £71.86 for (2021-22), Windlesham Parish Council offers exceptional value for money.

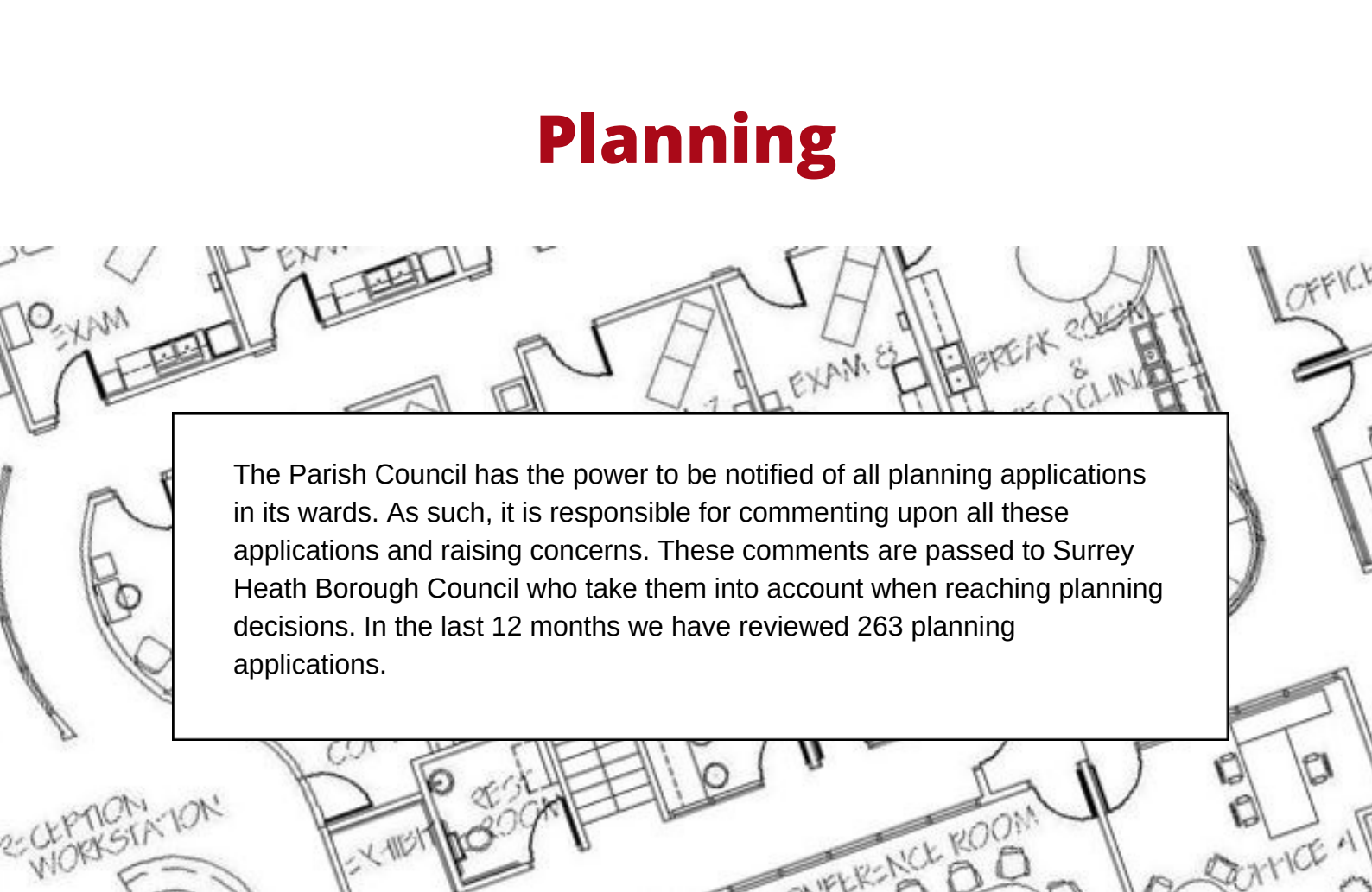
*NB: At the time of printing 2022-23 data had not been published.

Partnership Working

The Parish Council plays an important role working in partnership with other local authorities and organisations and during the last year we have:

- Collaborated with SHBC on Christmas tree recycling for the 6th consecutive year.
- Liaised with Surrey Heath Police—on burglaries, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour.
- Surrey County Council is responsible for highways matters and Surrey Heath Borough Council for planning matters and the Parish Council continues to advise both authorities on matters of local interest.

Planning



The Parish Council has the power to be notified of all planning applications in its wards. As such, it is responsible for commenting upon all these applications and raising concerns. These comments are passed to Surrey Heath Borough Council who take them into account when reaching planning decisions. In the last 12 months we have reviewed 263 planning applications.

Community Infrastructure Levy

When housing development takes place in the Parish area, the Parish Council receives Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). CIL is paid by the developer to the Borough Council, and the Parish Council receives 15% of this for developments in Bagshot and Lightwater and 25% for developments in Windlesham, as Windlesham has an adopted Neighbourhood Plan. The money must be used 'to support the development of the local area by funding':

1. the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure;
or
2. anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area

CIL receipts represent a great opportunity to enhance/enrich the parish area and provide a greater selection of amenities for all ages and tastes. The Parish Council has an agreed policy that the CIL generated by a village is to be retained in an ear marked reserve for projects within that village. During the year 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022 the Parish Council has received £181,976 of CIL, of which £157,695 was attributable to development in Bagshot and £24,281 to development in Lightwater.

Christmas 2021

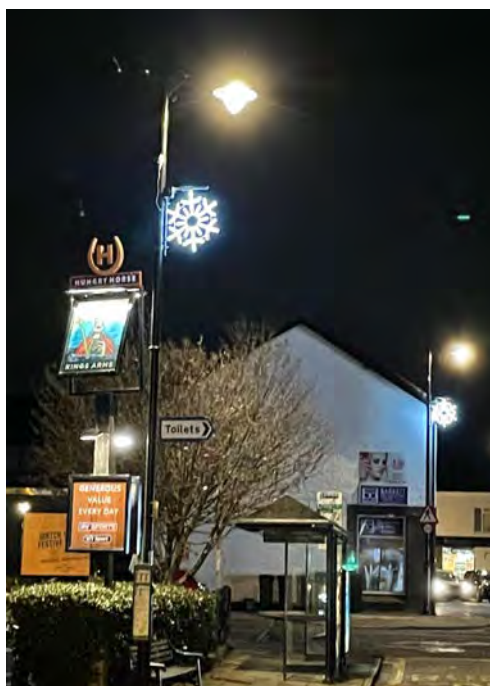
This year the Council once again organised 3 lovely Christmas trees for the villages. All were beautifully lit and gave each village a real focal point for Christmas celebrations. Extra festive cheer was also brought to each village with the addition of festive lighting.

Lightwater



Christmas 2021

Bagshot



Christmas 2021

Windlesham



The Council welcomes views from residents and people working here on any aspect of life in the 3 villages.

Please contact your local Councillor if you have any issues you wish to discuss.

The Parish Council Offices & Chamber
The Avenue, Lightwater, GU18 5RG.

Tel: 01276 471675



Email: clerk@windleshampc.gov.uk



Website: www.windleshampc.gov.uk



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