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The Bookhams newly twinned with Narnia!

(with apologies to C. S. Lewis)

Simon Edge – BRA Chairman reports:

What a year of weather we have had! Like Narnia, forever trapped in winter, the Bookhams have been stuck in the cold and wet of autumn since last autumn, with only a brief glimpse of summer in between.

That feeling of living in a fantasy world was further emphasised when on 15 October 2024 Mole Valley District Council voted to adopt its new Local Plan by 28 votes in favour, 5 against, and 1 abstention. Although a number of Bookham's local Councillors asked questions and commented positively on issues residents are concerned about, Those present voted in favour of the Plan. There is an argument that having a

current Local Plan is better for a district council as a whole, than not having one, and there is truth in that. However, back in June the BRA told the Council and the Government appointed Planning Inspector that we wanted a "Fair Deal for Bookham". That included the Bookhams taking their fair share of new building (through redevelopment and infilling) but saying a clear NO to inappropriate

development in the wrong places, and especially not in the Green Belt.

The "deal" that has subsequently been imposed on the Bookhams is not, in our opinion, "fair", and the Local Plan remains unsound.

So, what happened to the enormous amount of feedback contained in the 252 letters of representation sent by individual Bookham residents and organisations to the Council and the Inspector?

What happened to Bookham's issues about over-development, and inadequate infrastructure, and the deep concerns about: traffic generation and highway safety; not removing land from the Green Belt; and, increasing the risk from flooding and surface water? Well the short answer is, sadly, that the Bookham's feedback was largely disregarded by the Council and the Inspector. In Narnia it might make perfect sense for a council and an inspector to disregard the existence of chalk streams running through a proposed development site, despite having been given a

map compiled by experts showing where the streams are. Similarly, the astounding conclusion that future traffic volume along the Lower Road and surrounding road network will not be a substantial problem following the development of 405 homes in Effingham and 200 more on Preston Farm, would probably make perfect sense to the White Queen. Meanwhile, back on our side of the Wardrobe door. Residents of the Bookhams will have to cope with the negative impacts of the decisions made by the Council and the Inspector.

The Council has been instructed by the Inspector to review the Plan again in three years time. So we won't have long before consultations start all over again. Next time, against what we have been told, will be even greater Government housing targets.

The BRA will redouble its efforts to get the views of Bookham residents heard. Hopefully next time our elected representatives and the Inspector will do more than listen, they will act to deliver on



**Simon Edge
BRA Chairman**

residents views. This Newsletter provides further planning related updates, and updates on the other work the BRA does for the communities of Great and Little Bookham, which I hope you will enjoy reading about. We have many volunteers working in lots of ways for the benefit of the community. Please join me in celebrating the work they do, and better still get involved yourselves, new volunteers are always welcome.

In particular may I thank David Smith for his contribution who at the BRA AGM in July stood down from the Board of Directors after an eight year term. David along with his wife Michelle continues to volunteer as our Noticeboard co-ordinators.

Best wishes for a happy Christmas and New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon" with a horizontal line underneath it.

Simon Edge - BRA Chairman

The Bookhams Residents' Association Newsletter is published twice a year in the spring and autumn and is distributed by a team of volunteers to all Bookham households. You may contact the BRA via our website:

**www.bookhamresidents.org.uk
Or call: 0300 030 9890**

Our website is updated regularly with BRA news and local authority information. You may also sign up for our occasional e-mail service and pay your annual subscription online.

Newsletter Editor: Les Huett

MVDC Bookham Masterplan

Keith Whale - Chair of BRA Planning Committee reports

**Have your say on Concept Ideas
for Bookham Village Centre**



ARUrbanism MoleValley District Council Funded by UK Government

Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) has obtained Government funding to create "Master Plans". One for the Bookhams, and one for Dorking. A condition of the funding is that the Master Plans must be completed by March next year, so MVDC and its team of consultants are proceeding at speed.

The BRA was not consulted on the Scope of the Master Plan, which includes considering ideas for: improving streets and public spaces, encouraging walking and cycling, and redeveloping or enhancing allocated sites. However, the BRA has since been working with MVDC by providing initial written comments which you may read on the BRA website and further thoughts at two "steering group" meetings with MVDC Officers, Consultants and Local Councillors. We are also helping to raise awareness of MVDC's Public Consultation with residents and local businesses which started with an exhibition on 24 October, and runs on-line **through to 5th December**.

You may see the Master Plan in Bookham Library and pick up a printed copy of the survey. Or call 0306 885001 and ask for a copy. You may also view the consultation and submit your comments online at:

**www.molevalley.gov.uk/planning-building/bookham-dorking-masterplan/
Or via the QR code above.**

The BRA encourages as many people as possible to comment on MVDC's proposals. Have your say now, to hopefully influence the decisions MVDC makes.

We feel it would be particularly helpful for MVDC to hear your thoughts on the following:

Ambition vs Deliverability.

We should be ambitious for the Bookhams, so including projects for which funding is not currently available, or which a "delivery partner" says are in the "too difficult" pile, is legitimate. However, nobody wants a Master Plan that is simply a list of aspirational projects a large number of which are never going

to be delivered. We want to see projects being proposed that are equitable, beneficial, affordable and deliverable. If residents give their time to respond to MVDC consultations, they deserve to be consulted on realistic options with realistic chances of happening. All projects proposed for consultation should therefore be assessed for equity, benefit, cost and deliverability, and labelled accordingly so that residents and businesses can make better informed decisions about which projects to support.

Co-ordination is vital.

To deliver a number of the proposed projects, MVDC and Surrey County Council (SCC) will need to work closely together. All proposed projects will also need to work with the Local Plan, Bookham's Neighbourhood Development Plan, the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, and other relevant plans and service providers. The draft Master Plan recognises this, but is not yet clear as to how the final Bookham Master Plan going to ensure this.
Continued on page 4

Tell us about Heartwood Inns

We're an award-winning collection of 26 pubs with seven in Surrey and are part of Heartwood Collection which also operates Brasserie Blanc.

What are your plans for The Old Crown?

We are looking forward to restoring and bringing this landmark building back to life. We focus on carefully restoring and renovating our pubs to preserve them for future generations and take a very individual approach to each renovation that we undertake. We want it to become the heart of the local community and the refurbishment of the pub will have gentle nods to its history and the local area.

We want to create a space that will

Continued from page 3

Controversial Options and Equity in balancing Residents/Business needs.

Inevitably there will be projects proposed that residents and/or businesses will see as controversial. Pedestrianising the High Street, reducing car parking spaces, or introducing new street layouts/features, could be such projects. Getting an equitable balance between the needs of the various users of the Lower Shott, High St, and Church Road (pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, commercial deliveries, differing levels of mobility) will be a key success criteria. These criteria must be carefully considered and catered for by MVDC in developing a sound Master Plan delivered through sound projects. Please keep an eye out for controversial projects and comment on them before MVDC takes any decisions.

The Crown Redevelopment

We ask Heartwood Inns Communications Manager, Emma Martin, what we can expect.



be warm and welcoming to everyone, whatever the reason. Whether our guests are popping in for a drink, enjoying a casual meal or celebrating an occasion, we want them to feel at home. Guests visiting the pub can expect cosy snugs in the bar, a spacious and airy dining room and a fully landscaped and refurbished garden that will be perfect for al fresco dining in warmer weather.

What can we expect when dining at the pub?

We offer a seasonal menu that is created from scratch by our highly skilled chefs. We work closely with our suppliers to create dishes that celebrate the best of British produce and source ethically. We hold a three star rating from the Sustainable Restaurant Association, the highest rating possible and everything we do across the business aligns with this.

On Sundays, guests will be able to enjoy a classic Sunday roast with all the trimmings. Young kids can enjoy their own bespoke menu whilst older children will be able to enjoy half portions of selected mains from the a la carte menu.

And the drinks?

We have a carefully selected wine list that showcases smaller independent wine growers. We also have a great selection of beers and ales and will always have a local beer on tap. We also have a great range of cocktails and spirits including Surrey-based Silent Pool.

Are you dog-friendly?

Yes! Your well-behaved canine companions will be welcome in the pub and the garden. We provide water and treats alongside a gourmet menu from Sir Woofington.

Anything else?

We are really excited to be opening in Great Bookham and are really looking forward to getting to know the village and understanding how we can work with local businesses and the community as we get ready to open the pub. At the moment we expect to open in spring 2025.

The BRA welcomes Heartwood Inns to the village and its contribution to the Christmas lights.

Bookham's new Youth and Community Centre

David Cox reports

The Bookham Youth & Community Association (BYCA) and BRA have been working together and with MVDC and SCC to get the new, and long overdue, Youth Centre built in Bookham. We promised to provide updates to keep Residents in touch with developments, and we now have three pieces of news.

1) Surrey County Council which is funding the building of the Centre, has completed the design stage of the project with input from the BYCA, the Bookham Youth Project (BYP) and the BRA.

2) Back in May 2021 MVDC granted Outline Planning approval to SCC to build the new Centre on a corner of the Lower Rd recreation ground. Sadly, various delays meant that approval expired. However SCC's Officers tell us that they will be seeking planning permission for the new Youth Centre between autumn and spring 2025. **Yet another disappointing delay which we urge SCC to quickly resolve.**

3) The new single floor Centre will still be situated on the Lower Rd Recreation Ground. MVDC, which owns the land, has worked with SCC to agree terms of a lease. The BYCA will manage the new Centre, as it did with the old centre, on a sub-lease from SCC at a peppercorn rent. We are hoping that the new centre will be completed by the end of 2025 or early 2026.

Despite the delays youth work continues. In Bookham this undertaken by the BYP, a branch of



Lucy Hicks
Community Youth
Worker for Bookham



the Leatherhead Youth Project (LYP). The BYP is a vital resource - investing in our young people and improving the social cohesion of the community. The BYCA and BRA will continue to support and facilitate the work of the BYP and would encourage anyone who cares about Bookham's young people to do the same.

During the difficult times without a dedicated Youth Centre, young peoples' support needs, and school absences, have increased. However, the LYP has continued to support our young people, wherever possible, with the BYP running smaller sessions at local venues and continuing to work with local schools. The positive impacts on pro-social behaviour and sense of engagement by otherwise "bored" young people have been clear to see.

When the new Youth and Community Centre is built, the demands on the BYP team will increase as young people will have their "own place" where they can seek and be provided with help by

qualified youth workers. That will place more demand on the BYP's resources.

And there is good news... our new Community Youth worker has been appointed.

Jude Crome, Chief Executive of the LYP has told us:

"LYP are delighted to welcome Lucy Hicks our new Community Youth Worker for Bookham. She will be providing youth services for all young people in Bookham. LYP run a youth cafe two days a week as well as a number of additional projects to help young people feel supported, empowered and safe. We're looking forward to expanding these services once the new Youth Centre is built. This will allow us to increase our provision and enable us to work with more young people."

Welcome Lucy!



BRA Community Improvements

Project Director Geoff Tranter reports

As Autumn turns to Winter thoughts turn to the festive period. For the BRA however that process has to start much earlier with planning for the Christmas lights actually having to take place over the summer. Being able to put on a display of Christmas lights in the village requires a lot of collaboration and support with the BRA working closely with MVDC, SCC and local retailers.

Each year the BRA seeks to build on the work done in previous years and create an ever more festive shopping experience, but this does mean that costs are increasing. We expect the 2024 Christmas light display to cost in the region of £4,600 so we would like to take this opportunity to thank those retailers who have contributed to the cost of the Christmas lights and whose support is invaluable and also Cllr Monica Weller who has assisted in raising awareness with retailers and also to thanks to MVDC and SCC for their grants.

In the last newsletter we updated you on our programme of work to refurbish and replace some of the benches and that work has continued over the summer. The bench between Lower Shott and Allen Road has been refurbished and a new bench is in place opposite the new Little Bookham mini market (provides a perfect spot to enjoy the Weales clock!). As with so many of the projects we undertake, the speed with which

we can complete this work is largely driven by funding and the BRA continues to apply for grants to help us but is also looking for other ways to raise funds. Keep an eye out for our forthcoming Adopt-A-Bench initiative.

And finally we continue to work with SCC on upgrading our noticeboards, with the one in Lower Shott being next on the list. We have again applied for funding to enable us to commission the work and we will let you know how this is progressing in our next newsletter.



Refurbished bench - Lower Shott and Allen Road



Christmas Lights - 2023

Turning back the clock...

BRA has recently 'turned back a clock' through its work in restoring Weales' clock.

If you want to see the clock you will need to take a trip down Little Bookham Street and, if you are heading towards the station, you will see a new shop and café on your left (called the Bookham Mini Market) and this is where the clock is located. In the past this was a General Store and Post Office which for many years was run by the Weales family, and they purchased the clock, hence the name. Whilst we don't know the exact year that the clock was installed, we do know, from archived photographs that it was somewhere between 1915 and 1951. The General Store and Post Office closed down over 20 years ago and it is at that point, with the agreement of the Weales family, that the clock came into the care of



the BRA.

The history of the Weales family and their importance to Little Bookham is well documented. We know they have had a long association with the village dating back to at least 1866 and playing an active role in the community

We are all volunteers!

Everything we do at the Bookhams Residents' Association is volunteering.

Frances Fancourt - BRA Tree Warden & Environment

This autumn we have had an additional volunteer: Nathan D'Aubney is working towards his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, under which he spends three months volunteering. This gave us the ideal opportunity to improve our green spaces and provide Nathan with a volunteering opportunity at the same time. He has helped to weed, plant, water, feed, cut back and clean up. He has done this with both pride and enjoyment. With the winter planting season imminent we have spring bulbs and plants on order which he will help us plant over the next five weeks until his volunteering role comes to an end - altogether making Bookham a prettier place. **Thank you Nathan!**



Have you spotted Bookham's 66 new trees?

Earlier this year we shared details of how to request a Highways Tree from SCC. A number of residents followed up and in the last week of October SCC planted 66 trees in Bookham verges. The variety of tree specified by SCC will have minimal impact on footpaths etc. Requests have closed for this year, but if you would like to register for 2025 go to:

www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/permits-and-licences/planting-trees

If you would like to volunteer for anything that we do around Bookham do make contact through the BRA website.



from 1871 meaning that the shop and latterly the Post Office was in their family for over a century.

As the clock is synonymous with the role of Weales family in the history of Little Bookham, the BRA decided that it was important that this was not only retained but also restored. Finding an horologist to get it working and to restore it was

something of a challenge but after some research and a few phone calls, a specialist repairer was found.

The reopening of the former post office as a village shop and café in 2024 has meant that Weales clock, now restored to its former glory, has a home again and can once again be enjoyed by the community of Little Bookham.



Several years ago BRA Tree Wardens and Surrey County Council worked together to plant cherry trees on Lower Road. Now fully established they make a wonderful sight all year round!

Bookham Heritage Walking Trails – two self guided maps

Neil McDowall reports

Have you noticed the two-legged winged dragon (a Wyvern) at the Squareabout or wondered why there is a line of yellow bricks on the High Street pavement? Which pub's rent once included a red rose and a quart of lampreys, and in which church can be found features that were built a thousand years ago and from recent times the birth of a rock legend?

Well the answers to all of this, and much more, can be found in the self-guided map leaflets for the two Bookham Heritage Walking Trails that are now available on the BRA website. These have been produced by Mole Valley Together. There is a 2/3m 1km "Great Bookham Village Trail" and a 5m/8km longer "Eastwick and Little Bookham Trail".

These are fascinating documents simply to read on the website but they really come alive if you actually do the walks (you can print a pdf version to accompany you). Or you can follow the route on your mobile.

They give a great sense of what it means to live in Bookham and its place in history.

To find out more just visit the BRA website homepage where you will find a link "Bookham Heritage Walks and History". This provides the walks details together with much more historical information on the Bookhams over the centuries

Ideal for a late Autumn walk!



Great Bookham Village Trail

Great Bookham High Street is the core of the old village, but its busy commercial heart extends into Church Road, Lower Road and Lower Shott. With a variety of pubs, restaurants, coffee shops and independent retailers typical of a busy vibrant village, the High Street is a hub for shopping and community, popular with residents and visitors alike.

Nearly half of Great Bookham Parish is open space owned by the National Trust, Polesden Lacey and Rammore Common to the south, within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the three Bookham Commons to the north. The total length of this trail is approximately 1.5km (1 mile).

Start in the Lower Shott car park, just off the A249, long way a tumbledown road between Leathershead and Outfield. You are standing in what was once the front garden of Bookham House.

After crossing the Saracen & King Inn, many Chypps find the Victoria Temperance Hall. It built in 1860 and it had door an Englands Cottage. A half timbered Tudor house related to the left and now split in two. Further down you will see 18th century brick house with its bulging mansard roof. The terrace of Tudor cottages next to it connect with the core of the Royal Oak public house, whose rent once included a red rose and a quart of lampreys.

Cross the High Street. Look back from the entrance to the Royal Oak, you will see some of the old houses that remain above and behind the shops, including the medieval hall. Houses half-timbered here.

Cross back over the High Street and enter the small courtyard of the Old Crown public house. It is built in 1827.

Looking back up the High Street, the two-story concrete building is known as the shop. It has been a building for banking for well over a century.

On the roof of the shop at the corner of Lower Road and Church Road, you can spot the flag-shaped like a television system in two separate buildings.

At the end of the High Street turn left and follow Lower Road to the Baptist Church. Built in 1821, the Christy Memorial Hall was leased by the public in 1910 and later bought and located on both sides of the street. It was one of the first buildings to be built in the village.

Walk up to the top of the medieval village. The public house on the right is designed by William Butterfield in 1845. One of the houses in the village as a school by the Victorian Duke of Devonshire. It was in memory of her son who died in 1827. It remained a school until the 1930s.

Walk back to the crossroads. Cross Lower Road at the traffic island and follow the first walk to the left down Church Road.

Across the road, the house with a small front garden is called the Wyvern. The public house on the right is after its 1865 owner. Its brick front conceals an older timber frame. The glass-paned windows of Gothic House display an early 19th-century building.

The 18th century cottages next to the churchyard were originally a single house. The small shop on a first floor built in the terrace behind, dated 1734.

The 17th century Gables Cottages later housed the staff for Bookham Colliery, a coal mine. The original bar services within modern extensions. Another team was moved on rollers to form the first house of the development.

Replace your drink and go through the churchyard gate.

St Nicolas' Church. It shows features from each century of its expansion from the 13th through to the 19th. Walk inside the Norman and Transitional arches with older windows shown in the nave and the beautiful Lombardic setting of Abbot Mather's choir rededicated stone of 1210 in the chancel.

Walk through the graveyard with the church on your left and go through the gate.

The Hermitage across the road used to be called Fairfield Cottage. It stood in the field where the Malthouses for stock until c. 1800. The author and diarist Frances Bury lived in the 17th century one between 1754 and 1802 after she married General Alexander Mordaunt.

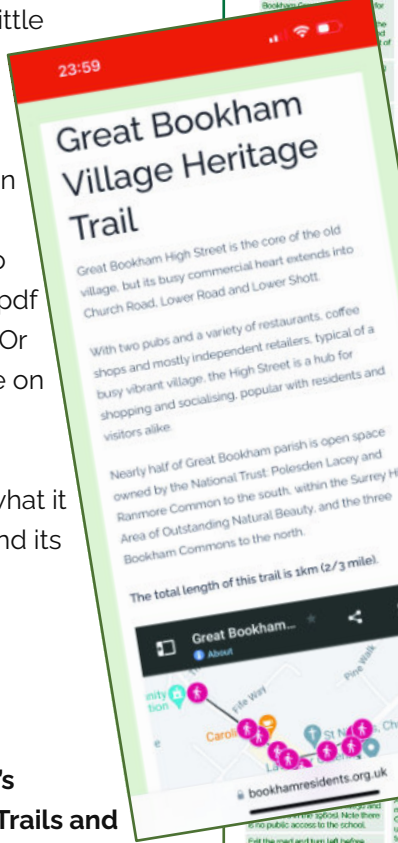
High Garden Cottage is a contemporary half-timbered house to the left. It is named across the original use of the land on which it stands.

Cross Lower Road and turn up East Street, the other back lane of the medieval village.

The houses on the left stand in the field where the annual fair was held. Between the varied buildings on the right you can catch another glimpse of the medieval hall house.

Turn right at the end of the road. Cross the High Street and follow the path to return to the car park.

High Street, westward of the Royal Oak public house to the right of the Victoria Temperance Hall. © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. This map is reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey under licence. All rights reserved.



Scan for Bookham's Heritage Trails and History.

Bookham Village Trail

Unlike its bigger neighbour, All Saints, the small Norman church of Little Bookham has stood over the years - see the beechy spire on either side of the porch. Protected by the metal fence, the green tree is said to be even older than the church. The high back aisle, the centre part of the Manor House, dates from the 18th century but has been a school since 1827.

Unlike its bigger neighbour, All Saints, the small Norman church of Little Bookham has stood over the years - see the beechy spire on either side of the porch. Protected by the metal fence, the green tree is said to be even older than the church. The high back aisle, the centre part of the Manor House, dates from the 18th century but has been a school since 1827.

Retrace your steps to Manor House Lane. Turn left and then right, along Lower Road. Cross over at the roundabout and turn down Little Bookham Street.

First on the right is Half Moon Cottage. It formed in 1870, then it was followed in the 1890s. It was originally a single-story five-bay hall house. James Cottage on the left-hand half-timbered house on the other side of the road, dates from the 16th century, the earlier part being that to the left. School House was one of several schools in the street at different times and has doubled in width since 1854.

The front part of First Cottage, beside Polesden on a back lane, dates from about 1700. The two parts of Ross Cottage can be identified by the brickwork; the younger part is fairly marked with L.M. 1720 above one window.

The Old Windsor Castle public house has a Tudor farmhouse at its core. When Mrs. Wicks took over the licence in 1870 she started a private store at one end, it sadly no longer exists.

Where the road narrows, Old Round Cottage is of three periods: its oldest part, next to the brick half-moon Cottage, of 18th century, the middle part of the brick half-moon Cottage, of 18th century, the youngest part is fairly marked with L.M. 1720 above one window.

Granville Cottage, next to the shop, was an 18th-century farmhouse. The 'Widge' Hall, was also built by Henry Chryse after she bought and stood the Fox Inn here. Below the road to the right is the Tudor farmhouse, with Bookham River (one of a stream) running through its garden.

Further on, see Madeline Farm's 18th-century towered black barn. Turning right, you arrive back at the railway station and car park. The footpath opposite the station takes you back to the middle of Great Bookham.

High Street, westward of the Royal Oak public house to the right of the Victoria Temperance Hall. © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. This map is reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey under licence. All rights reserved.

Adopting Bookham Station!

A small team of residents, lead by Hilary Fitzpatrick have "adopted" Bookham station and on the London bound platform have added some planters and artworks to brighten up the station. (approval was given by South Western Railway (SWR).

Along with the new Railway Stop cafe, new train and bus timetable displays, new bus stop seating that we reported on in June, that the BRA and Cllr Andrew Matthews facilitated (using CIL funding), the station is looking a lot better.

Now if only SWR would increase the frequency of services...

Transform Leatherhead

Simon Edge reports

Over the summer, MVDC engaged in an extensive consultation regarding its Transform Leatherhead (TL) initiative, hosting roadshows in Ashted, Fetcham, and Bookham. TL aims to revitalise Leatherhead, benefitting not only the town but also, potentially, the surrounding areas including the Bookhams. However, concerns about TL's chances of success remain.

For Leatherhead to thrive, the town must be easily accessible and pleasant to navigate. Currently, the road and pathway infrastructure is inadequate, making it frustrating for drivers and dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. To create a cohesive environment rather than



isolated developments, The BRA thinks TL needs to focus on three key areas:

1 – Road System Redesign:

The existing gyratory system should be overhauled to facilitate easier access to, from and through Leatherhead for all traffic types.

2 – Parking and Facilities:

There must be sufficient, affordable car parking, secure bicycle storage, and fast-charging points for electric vehicles to accommodate visitors and residents.

3 – Safe Routes:

A network of safe cycling, walking, and wheelchair-friendly routes is essential. This includes two new foot/cycle bridges over the River Mole, one to connect Fetcham and the Bookhams with Leatherhead's schools, and the train station; and one to connect the "riverside quarter" and other parts of the town with the Leisure Centre and riverside walks. The current pathways, along Waterway Road, and over the historic Town Bridge

are inadequate and unsafe.

Simply installing basic measures such as new crossings and speed limits are insufficient. A comprehensive road layout is necessary to connect TL's various development pockets effectively.

A key success factor for TL will be the extent of collaboration between MVDC and SCC and whether they can create a unified vision for transportation. Strategic coordination of TL's Master Plan, the Local Plan, and cycling and walking infrastructure is crucial for safe mobility across all transport types.

With such a vision, Leatherhead has the potential to be transformed; without it, it may not fulfil its potential .

You can read more updates on the Transform Leatherhead project at:

news.molevalley.gov.uk/category/transform-leatherhead

Digital Surrey

Do you need help with your digital skills?

Digital Buddies are available to people across Surrey looking for help navigating the digital world. Buddies are at Bookham Library every Tuesday from 10am Please book at the library desk



BSCC have drop-in sessions on the first Wednesday of the month (except August) from 2.30pm to 4.30 pm at Little Bookham Village Hall. The club runs informal sessions and training courses where you can get help with any problem you are having, or questions that you have about PCs, tablets or smartphones. Visit their website for more information:

www.bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk



Traffic Safety Measures for Church Road

Cllr Clare Curran reports

Surrey Highways' plans and designs are now well advanced for a safety scheme for Church Road. The plan is to improve pedestrian safety and confidence using the narrow pavement and crossing the road, especially by the shops and the church and to install measures that will reduce the speed of traffic.

It is planned to extend the 20mph zone from only East Street to the whole area approaching the squareabout, including Lower Road, High Street and the southern part of Church Road.

The safety measures are to extend along the length of Church Road, from the squareabout as far as the station, as traffic surveys have shown that there are significant numbers of drivers who exceed the 30mph speed limit as they drive down towards the tunnel car park, sometimes causing difficulty for drivers wishing to turn into Church Road.

Designs include a number of engineering solutions, compatible with Church Road being a bus route and used by vehicles of a range sizes.

Final designs are expected before Christmas and will be the subject of a public consultation to raise awareness so that as many residents as possible can express their views on it.

Digital Device Loans, Training, and Further Support

Clarion Digital Skills and Support

Whether you're new to technology, looking for a device loan, or want to improve your existing skills, Clarion have resources and support available to help.

Website: myclarionhousing.com/help-and-guidance/digital-skills-and-support

Tech Angels

Providing devices, digital literacy training and confidence-boosting support to people in Surrey.

Website: surreycoalition.org.uk/areas-of-work/technology/tech-to-community-connect/

Call: 01483 456558

Text: 07908671402

Email: getconnected@surreycoalition.org.uk

AgeUK

Helping Older People Make the Most of their Digital World

Website: ageuk.org.uk/our-impact/programmes/digital-skills/

Email: servicesdigital@ageuk.org.uk

Digital Surrey

Providing help to anyone needing technology to allow them to engage fully with digital services and learning.

Website: digital-surrey.co.uk/finding-tech/

Email: syheartlandsicb.digitalinclusion@nhs.net



BRA services for the community

UK Shared Prosperity Projects in Bookham

Cllr Claire Malcomson reports

MVDC is progressing with a solar carport project at Leatherhead Leisure Centre, aiming to use it as a demonstration for wider adoption across MVDC car parks. MVDC is also exploring the installation of solar panels on the building's roof in partnership with Community Energy South and GLL.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is supporting climate projects, including solar panel installations at Ashted Village Hall and Bookham Community Association, which received £20k for solar panels and battery storage, reducing energy costs and emissions. MVDC is also collaborating with the BRA on a project to improve public toilets at Lower Shott.

Further, MVDC is updating its website to provide climate change information and is developing an Asset Management Strategic Plan to assess opportunities for carbon reduction and biodiversity enhancement across its assets. They are also investing in energy efficiency measures for Dorking Halls and Pippbrook House.

www.molevalley.gov.uk/environment-sustainability/

The BRA has a number of activities and free services and to make day-to-day community life in Bookham just that little bit easier and to enjoy living in Bookham. To find out more visit the BRA website.

www.bookhamresidents.org.uk



Community Event Calendar

Advertise your your one off or regularly occurring events on the Events Calendar.

Service Requests and Reporting Portal

Not sure who to report a street cleaning request or overhanging branches or a pothole to, or seen something suspicious on your video doorbell? Our Service Report portal has all the links to the relevant authorities.

Village Noticeboards

We have five noticeboards around the village. We accept A4 and A5 posters. For more details on how to submit and what we accept are available on the BRA website

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Not sure if you have something that is recyclable but isn't accepted by MVDC ? With our simple tool you can enter the item and it show if the item can be recycled locally by other recycling groups.

Join the BRA Litter Pick will
Keep Bookham tidy!

We meet on the first Sunday of the month at the Lower Shott car park at 11.00 a.m. If it's a Bank Holiday weekend, then we meet the following Sunday.

Gloves, grabs and high-vis tops will be provided and a session usually lasts around 90 minutes.

Litter Pick Hero

The Bookhams Residents' Association
bookhamresidents.org.uk
Tel: 0300 030 9890

Please note participants must be aged 16 or over or if under 16 assisting as part of a recognised organisation or with an adult

Still time to pay your subscription or
make a donation!

And a huge thank you to those residents who
have already paid this year.

Throughout this Newsletter you will have read about the many examples of how the BRA continues to champion many initiatives in the village. The BRA is run by volunteers who give their time freely and for free but some of the work we undertake costs money.

For just £5.00 per year per household you can help us to fund our work on behalf of our village and you will be a BRA member.

Ways to Pay

Many of you will be familiar with our Road Stewards who call once a year to collect the annual subscription along with delivering the Newsletters. However, a number of our roads no longer have a Road Steward so below we have listed the ways you can pay. If you can help by becoming a Road Steward, please get in touch.

Even if you do have a Road Steward why not try one of these other ways to pay – it will save them from having to call.

Use the QR code – scan with your smart phone and be taken to the BRA website and click on "Join the BRA and pay 2024 annual subscription" button.

Pay online

Visit the BRA website at www.bookhamresidents.org.uk and head to the Subscriptions page. You can use a credit or debit card to pay through our secure payment system.

Select subscription or
subscription and
donation amount if you
are able to



After entering your
card details please
remember to enter
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you do not do this
you will get an
"Invalid Card"
message. Your
postcode is used
for validation
purposes only.

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Subscription payment

Subscription only

Subscription + donation of £5

Subscription + donation of £10

Subscription + donation of £15

Subscription + donation of £20

Please select this button if you wish to make a donation only.

Important: When entering your card details below, please enter your postcode in the last box where it says "Postal Code". WS11 1DB may appear when you click in the box. This code is for guidance only. If you do not enter your post code you will receive a "Card Invalid" message. The use of your post code is for validation purposes only.

Once you have entered your post code click on "Submit" to complete your subscription. Thank you.

Payment

Card number		Subscription payment
Expiry date		- Subscription +
Security code		donation of £5
United Kingdom		Amount Due: £10.00
Postal code		

Pay by telephone using a credit or debit card.

Call the BRA helpline on 0300 030 9890 and leave your name, telephone number and a "code word" of your choosing (something simple like a pet's name is ideal).

A volunteer will ring you back and identify themselves with your code word and will input your payment card details into our secure payment system during the telephone call. Your payment details are not retained.

Standing Order and Bank Transfers

If you would like further details to pay by standing order or bank transfer please email us at: membership@bookhamresidents.org.uk or call our helpline on 0300 030 9890 for further details.

If you pay by this method please put as your reference your surname and the LAST 3 digits of your postcode e.g. Brown3NL. This helps us to record your membership against your address.

Pay your subscription online at:
bookhamresidents.org.uk

Or scan the QR code on your mobile

