

## Old Windsor Parish Council Report 2009/10

The last year had been a busy time for the Parish Council. The way in which business is conducted has been updated to allow the Council to react more quickly to changing requirements.

Financial systems have also been improved to allow greater budgetary control and improved insight into areas where financial flexibility might exist.

The Council now meets every two weeks and deals with Finance, Environment and Planning matters at one meeting, thus greatly speeding up decision making.

Although the Parish Council has no statutory responsibility for flooding matters, it has recently chaired two meetings with the Environment Agency and Borough Council Officers to clarify responsibilities for the maintenance of village water courses. These proved most productive and resolved some of the conflicting advice previously obtained from the Agency.

Major concerns currently, are the poor level of Borough support for the Youth Club, poor drainage at the Crimp Hill cemetery and obtaining confirmation of the Councils responsibilities for the maintenance of the Parish Churchyard, and particularly at this time the boundary walls.

John Lee has now joined us as Trainee Parish Clerk and is studying for the relevant Certificate in Local Council administration (CiLCA) qualification. John has lived in the village all his life and is a well known figure in the local community. We are delighted he has chosen to join the team.

Recent Parish Council debates have included possible improvements to the children's play equipment on the Recreation Ground, additional facilities and support for the village Youth Club and improved maintenance of public open spaces and cemeteries.

The replacement of the stone capping to the wall bordering the Church Road cemetery and the repainting of the iron railings has improved the appearance of this village landmark.

Aspirations for the future are improvements to, and the reopening of, smaller public toilets in St Lukes Road including provision of a larger and more accessible Police post and a central Parish Council office which will be more accessible to villagers.

The Parish Council have also been active in representing the interests of the residents of Lyndwood Drive following the approval of plans to demolish Randall Court and build 5 affordable houses and 11 flats for the elderly on that site. Preparatory work will start in mid March and demolition will commence in mid April.

**Old Windsor Parish Council**

15.01.10