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SP NEWSLETTER

October 2022



Thank you to 2Drones for providing us with
this beautiful image of our Parish

Shinfield Parish Council sends their sincere condolences to our King and all of the Royal Family



HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

21st April 1926 -
8th September 2022



HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

Long live the King

NEW Electronic Newsletter available now

1st edition available now - see below; visit
www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/newsletters

Edition 1, Oct 2022

SP NEWSLETTER

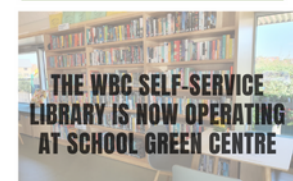
WHAT'S ON

****4th October **we will be
starting the build on the new
multi-use games area at
Spencers Wood Recreation
Ground**



MEET OUR NEW FACILITIES MANAGER

Paul Gudge joined the Parish Team in Aug 22 and is responsible for maintaining all our facilities. This is a brand new post created by SPC in response to taking on new premises. Paul has a background in estate & facilities management across a wide range of commercial properties.



**THE WBC SELF-SERVICE
LIBRARY IS NOW OPERATING
AT SCHOOL GREEN CENTRE**

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Since April 2019, we have awarded over
£125,000 in grants to the local Community**

Supporting Schools, Volunteer Groups & the Queens Platinum Jubilee

SPC PARISH PROJECTS SPENCERS WOOD RECREATION GROUND WORKS COMPLETED

**Outdoor Gym installed and ready to
use for all abilities**





- **New outdoor fitness equipment at Spencers Wood Recreation Ground was installed in July 2022**
- **We now have planning permission to install a new Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Spencers Wood Recreation Ground**
- **We are in the early stages of developing new ideas for additional recreation facilities at Millworth Lane - after cricket has moved to a new ground at the Manor in Spring 2023**

Shinfield Parish Council's vision is to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives, works and travels throughout Shinfield Parish, both now and in the future. As we progress these new ideas we will keep you informed through an electronic newsletter including letting you know when and how to get involved in the process.

Chairman's Update 2022

At the AGM Andrew Grimes Chair reported on the previous year and the future. Andrew highlighted:

- **Face to face Council Meetings have resumed - the public are always welcome at these meetings**
- **School Green Centre opened, incorporating Robyn's Nest Café & WBC Library**
- **Shinfield Parish Council (SPC) have taken on Millworth Lane**
- **New walking & cycling route maps throughout the parish are now available**
- **The parish grew by 360 new households in 2021**

**For the full report visit
<https://shinfieldparish.gov.uk/your-parish-council/annual-reports/>**

Important News

We had hoped to bring you news of some new activities being organised by your Parish Council but the sad death of HM The Queen Elizabeth II meant we felt it appropriate not to print these and pay tribute to both our Queen and our new King Charles III. There will be more information on these activities in our new electronic newsletter.

Looking After Your Money

In 2021/22 our revenue expenditure was:

Staff:	£199k
Estates:	£180k
Other Expenditure:	£208k
Total Revenue Expenditure:	£587k

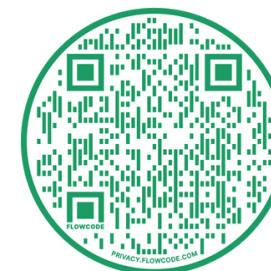
This was funded from:

Precept:	£489k
Rental Income:	£49k
Other Income:	£7k
General Reserve:	£42k
Total Funding:	£587k

We received just over £2m of Community Infrastructure Levy (contributions from developers) in the year which will pay for capital projects



About this newsletter



The Parish Council will be sending a yearly printed newsletter but the rest of the year it will be electronic, sign up to receive this



visit

www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/newsletters/
or use the QR code

Sign up to our Newsletter here

Name

Surname

E-mail Address

Sign up

example of sign up form on our website

Or visit our website, noticeboards or School Green Centre for a hard copy; please let us know if you would like to receive regular hardcopies either by e-mailing info@shinfieldparish.gov.uk or calling 0118 988 8220

Meet the Parish Team

Our new Clerk, Bruce Winton started in April this year, and has lived locally for 30 years. He is excited by the discussions he's already been involved with & for the role the Parish Council can play in the community.

The rest of the Parish team is

Currently recruiting - Deputy Clerk

Paul Gudge - Facilities Manager

John Westmoreland - Grounds Maintenance

Jane Mason - Finance Manager

Francesca Lane - Allotments

Lynda Hope - IT & Comms

Front of House Team

Jo Marshall, Sally Herring & currently recruiting



0118 988 8220

clerk@shinfieldparish.gov.uk
bookingenquiries@shinfieldparish.gov.uk
info@shinfieldparish.gov.uk

School Green Centre was completed in FY 21/22 at a total cost of £3.2m; all of which was provided by developer's contributions.

The School Green Centre has become very popular since it opened in November 2021 and we expect it to soon be achieving room hire income of over £100,000 per annum

CIL is contributions from developers that comes direct to Shinfield Parish Council and allows us to fund major improvements in the parish. In recent years these have included the School Green Centre, the new pavilion at Spencers Wood and recreation ground improvements. We are developing further plans which will include Millworth Lane Recreation Ground.

 To view our full annual accounts visit www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/finance 

If you have any further questions about Parish finances please contact clerk@shinfieldparish.gov.uk and Bruce or Jane will get back to you.

Walking & Cycling within the Parish

Shinfield Parish Council wants to encourage residents and visitors to use the wide range of footpaths & cycle routes we have in the parish.

Detailed maps are available for PDF download on our website and on display at the School Green Centre and Spencers Wood Pavilion.

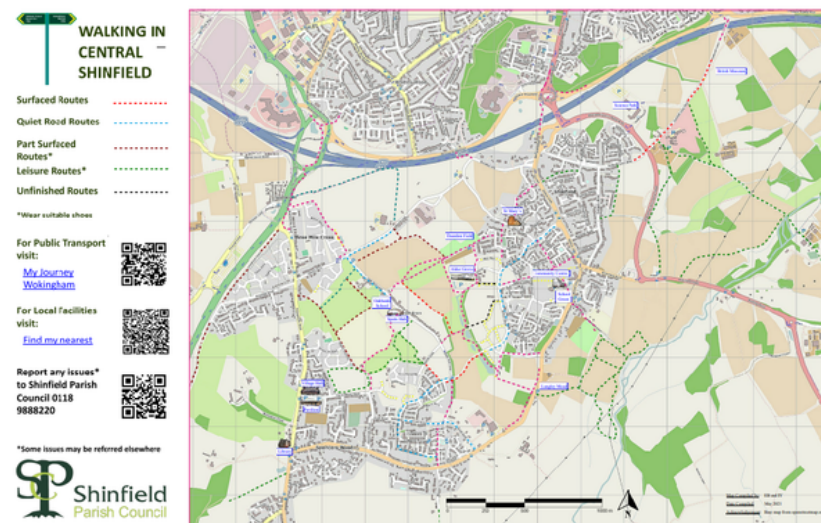
We also produce a range of leaflets on specific walks and these are available from the same source.

Visit

www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/shinfield-parish-volunteers/footpaths-cycleways-parish-walks/



Why not remove and keep the bus leaflet?



Above is the walking in central Shinfield map
Below is one of our walk leaflets - many more on our website

SHINFIELD PARISH EASY HISTORY WALKS FOR ALL

Nº 1: St. Mary's Church and Deardon Orchard

St Mary's is a Grade I listed church and the oldest building in the parish. It was built after the Norman conquest at the command of William FitzOsbern, one of William I's generals. In 2019 it celebrated 950 years since its foundation.



Starting at the church porch, this walk takes us through one thousand years of history, from the 11th century to the present day. From Deardon Orchard you can return to the start or continue to the Viewpoint.

The walk is about a mile to the viewpoint. The paths are all suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

There are seats in the churchyard, in Deardon fields and along the route.



Louisa Parsons

In 1916 a magnificent military funeral took place at St Mary's. The coffin was on a gun carriage pulled by the Duke of Wellington's black horses, followed by a company of soldiers, and buglers playing 'The Last Post'. This was the funeral of Louisa Parsons, a British Army nurse, trained by Florence Nightingale, who received medals from Queen Victoria for her life-saving work in Egypt and the Boer Wars. She was also the founder of the Maryland School of Nursing in the USA and is highly regarded there. A new retirement home, Parsons Grange, in Shinfield Meadows has been named after her.

Deardon Orchard

The community orchard was planted by Shinfield Parish Council and the University of Reading in 2014. The fruit trees are described on an information board in the playing field. You can help yourself to an apple or two, or whatever other fruit is in season, to enjoy whilst resting on the nearby seating.

To Find the Start:

Reading Buses nos. 3 and 8 stop on Hollow Lane (former A329) at the junction with Church Lane. From the bus stop, walk along Church Lane and follow it round to reach St Mary's Church. Cars can be parked near the church gate and along one side of Church Lane.

Any problems or queries should be directed to Shinfield Parish Council
0118 988 8220
E-mail: clerk@shinfieldparish.gov.uk



St. Mary's Church

St Mary's is on a hilltop surrounded by new housing developments. The brick wall of the churchyard has been rebuilt over the centuries. Walk through the gate and along the avenue of yews to the porch and the church door. The church is normally open every day from 10am to 4pm.



The first church was mostly rebuilt in 1170 and the massive crown-post timber roof beams date from this time. The South Aisle was built in the early 1500s and the Martyn Chapel along the south side was added in 1596. The Martyn family were Lords of the Manor then. The current brick tower, possibly built in 1630, was reputedly damaged by canon fire during the Civil War and restored in 1664, as noted on one of the bricks. It originally had three bells, being strengthened as more bells were added, until by 1830 there were six bells. The church is well-known for its bell-ringing.

There used to be a pub by the church, but the riotous behaviour of the drinkers when the sixth bell was installed was so noisy that the pub was banished down the hill to the north, where it remains. It's called 'The Six Bells'.

A restoration of the church in Victorian times was led by the architect George Gilbert Scott. Newer work includes the millennium window (2000) and the Loddon screen to the vestry.

