MARESFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP

November Newsletter 2015

Chairman report

Due to ill health Michael Wheeler has resigned as Secretary of the Conservation Group. He has held this position for 11 years but unfortunately is now unable to fulfil the work involved. Michael has worked tirelessly for the Group and has given valued service to the community, which is greatly appreciated.
Ken Ogden is taking over as Acting Secretary.
The Group will be concentrating over the next few months on managing the grass cutting, attention to footpaths, holding Clean – Up days and general maintenance around the village. We will also assist the Village Hall with projects to preserve the building and improve comfort in the hall. The Church may require assistance with the creation of the long awaited Garden of Remembrance. There is also the ongoing maintenance of the Church Car Park which is used by so many in the Village. The involvement with Bonners School continues and as mentioned previously the pupils and staff assisted with the initial planning and design for the refurbishment of the Play Area at the Recreation Ground. This is now nearing the installation phase hopefully in the spring of next year.
The Christmas Market on Saturday 5 December is a fund raising event followed in the evening by the Lighting of the Christmas tree. As in previous years the Conservation Group will fund the purchase and

decoration of the tree. The next social evening is our Winter Supper in the Village Hall on 9 January. Please join us for these events. All are welcome.
The Committee with undertaking the maintenance work around the village always appreciates help. Please encourage everyone to keep our village clean and tidy and to observe the newly introduced 20m.p.h. speed limit.
Contact details for the Committee are included at the end of this Newsletter.

Sheila Cumming
Chairman

CHRISTMAS TREE 2015

LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS TREE WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT THE LODGE, MARESFIELD (OPPOSITE THE CHURCH) STARTING AT 6PM WITH A SHORT CAROL SERVICE FOLLOWED BY LIGHTING IF THE TREE AT 6.20PM

**********ROAD CLOSURE**********

PLEASE NOTE:
Access roads into the centre of the village will be closed in the evening between 5.45pm to 7pm. This will mean no access from The Lodge Gate exit, the Parade, the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground

during these times. This is primarily to ensure the safety of the many children attending this event. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but trust you will understand the reasons for this action.

Pat Palmer
Maresfield Conservation Group

Treasurer report

Subscriptions

As we approach the end of 2015 I have received and banked nearly all the subscriptions. Once again we have received approximately £2.5k showing the strength of our membership. This achievement was due to the hard work of the Membership Secretary, Michael Wheeler and the dedication of the small band of Collectors. In addition to the subscriptions we claimed £455 from HMRC in Gift Aid for last year, which highlights the importance of completing the Declaration Form.

Subscriptions & Gift Aid, plus the proceeds from our fundraising events gave us a considerable sum of money to fund projects within the village. In the last 12 months we have provided significant support to the Village Hall. In addition to the annual donation of £500, we gave £1000 towards the insulation work and spent over £800 on new furniture.

As in the past, we gave £250 to St Bartholomew's Church for grass cutting at School Hill Graveyard and

paid nearly £600 for ironwork repairs around graves in the Cemeteries. Finally, we provided nearly £700 of outside furniture to Bonners Primary School and a £100 donation to the Companions Lunch Circle for a new food mixer. Your Committee are always looking at new projects to improve the village and would welcome any suggestions.

Roger Wilmer
Treasurer

Secretary

With Michael stepping down owing to his health our sincere thanks go to his efforts over the years.

However our group has been running for some 25 years and with new help will continue, we have worked with county highways over time, and our latest scheme of traffic flow looks to be a good result, as 30 years ago the A22 up school hill had 12,000 cars a day on it, then the by pass reduced it to 8,000 per day and now to be confirmed at 4,000 with less HGV; and most observing the 20 MPH;

The business Park is progressing every day after 40 odd years of all sorts of problems lets hope local employment.

Ken Ogden
Secretary

MARESFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP DIARY 2015/16

2015

November	**11**	**Committee Meeting**
December	**2**	**Committee Meeting**
	5 Saturday 11am – 2pm	**Christmas Market**
	5 Saturday 6.00pm	**Christmas Tree Light up**

2016

January	**6**	**CommitteeMeeting**
	9 Saturday	**Winter Supper**
February	**3**	**Committee Meeting**
March	**2**	**Committee Meeting**
	12 Saturday	**Quiz Night**
	19 Saturday	**Village Clean Up Day & car park Maintenance**
April	**6**	**Committee Meeting**
May	**4**	**Committee Meeting**
	30 Monday	**Village Fete**
June	**1**	**Committee Meeting**
July	**5 Tuesday**	**AGM**
	9 Saturday	**Summer Supper**

Dates are subject to change in certain circumstances

MARESFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP COMMITTEE 2015/16

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