



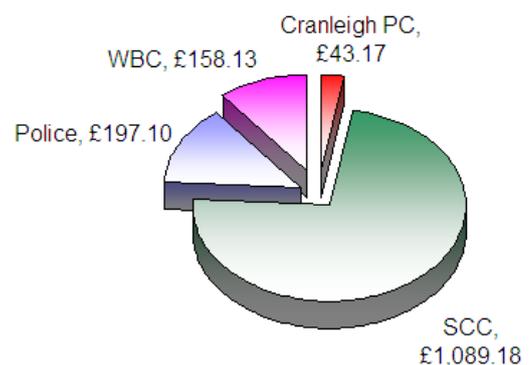
## CRANLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT 2009

The Parish Council is pleased to report its achievements over the past year, which have looked beyond our core responsibilities of the Village Hall, cemetery, recreation ground and the High Street flowerbeds, and reflect the ongoing commitment of your elected councillors to lead the community in their vision of maintaining and improving Cranleigh as vibrant place to live, work and play.

The Parish Council receives income from fees and charges, reserves and interest on those reserves, the compensatory grant, other grants and the parish precept. Whilst the Parish Council raises money from the hire of the Village Hall, its sports facilities and burial grounds, none of these assets are run at a profit, and the Council is reliant on public money in the form of the parish precept to be able to provide services for our community. The 2009/10 parish precept was set against a background of the current harsh economic climate and falling revenues. Exceptionally low interest rates and a cut in the Recreation Compensatory Grant from Waverley Borough Council resulted in an annual increase in the 2009/10 precept of 7.76%. For a council taxpayer at Band D this equates to £43.17 per year, representing an increase of 6 pence per week from the previous year. Excluding the effects of the low interest rates and the reduced grant, the underlying increase in the precept was 1.39%, and when viewed against the backdrop of the full Council Tax payment it is clear that the Parish Council element provides excellent value for money.

**Cranleigh Precept 2009/10**



During 2008/9 the external decoration of the Village Hall was completed, concluding the major work scheduled undertaken on the Village Hall over the last few years. The Village Hall is well used and we are fortunate in having our own caretaker, who gives great assistance to users and makes Cranleigh one of the few manned Village Halls in the area.

No major work was undertaken at the cemetery this year, but considerable work has taken place on our recreation ground. A new youth shelter, funded by the Parish Council, was installed in summer 2008 - the design being chosen by the young people in Cranleigh who worked together with the Parish Council to achieve this very popular and well-used asset.



The award of a Big Lottery Grant of £50,000 for improvements to the playground at Snoxhall, achieved by working with Waverley Borough Council, allowed two complete zones of the four zoned Snoxhall Play Park to be built within six months of the start of the project, and a further cash injection of £15,500 from the Parish Council has allowed a third zone to be completed. We learned recently that the young people of Cranleigh working with Waverley Borough Council had secured a further £10,000, and this funding will purchase a new piece of climbing equipment called Bloqz. This leaves only ongoing landscaping and one further large piece of equipment to be funded. When originally planned, the Snoxhall Play Park was expected to take five years to complete at a predicted cost of £125,000. However, by working with various organisations and through successful grant applications, the project is more than three quarters complete within less than one year of the project start. This is a massive achievement for the Parish Council and its partners, with no significant impact on the parish precept and local council taxpayers.

Work to improve Snoxhall pavilion, including disabled access and toilet facilities, improved storage provision, and welfare facilities for our ground staff was started earlier in the year and is almost complete. It is hoped to build on our previous success in working with the sports clubs who use our sports facilities to obtain further grant funding. During 2008/9 Cranleigh Football Club gained funding for new fencing around the senior pitch, and the fencing is being installed by the Young Offenders Team at no cost to the community. Funding for practice cricket nets is being explored, together with other opportunities to improve the facilities and services we provide.

The Parish Council is committed to those opportunities which we believe will be of benefit to the wider community. We continue to fully support the plans for the new community hospital, and it is hoped that a decision regarding the new hospital will be made by the PCT later in 2009. The Parish Council's small grants budget of £3,000 is used to support local organisations requiring capital funding, and during 2008/9 we have given grants to the Youth Centre, Cranleigh School, Cranleigh Sub Aqua Club, Crimestoppers, the Royal British Legion, and the Surrey Hills Society. We have gained grants for essential repairs to the War Memorial, and this work will should be completed before Remembrance Day this year.

The Parish Council supports networking and joint working with its surrounding villages and the Clerks of those parish councils meet in Cranleigh on a regular basis to exchange ideas, share expertise and to explore any opportunities where economies of scale may give mutual benefit.

The Parish Council and its staff are proud to be working for the Cranleigh community, providing local services for local people.

Your Parish Councillors are –

Cranleigh East, Brian Cheesman, Jean Dodd, David Gallacher, Rosemary Hurtley and Ken Reed;  
Cranleigh West, John Bainbridge, Vivienne Dawes, Brian Ellis (Chairman) and Patricia Ellis;

Cranleigh Rural, Brian Arendell;

Cranleigh North, Mary Foryszewski

Elmbridge, Cyril Baily.

Clerk – Pauline Whitehead MILCM

To contact the Parish Council Offices telephone 01483 272311.

The Parish Council would like to thank the Challenger for working in partnership,  
and donating this page for community information.



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