

# Newdigate Parish Council

The Parish Council meeting on 10 June was attended by fewer residents than usual owing to constant rain and wind. Saturday 8 June had also been a washout weatherwise, but the Village Day had been a reasonable success with a good turnout. A vote of thanks was given to James Penfold, Tina, Susan and the whole team who put a lot of effort into organising such a good afternoon for residents and visitors.

It was reported that a noise monitor has now been installed at Ewood Lane to monitor Gatwick flight noise. Once it is up and running a link will be provided to monitor it. If residents are interested in knowing which planes are flying in their area at any particular time of the day, a free App can be downloaded. The Plane Finder Lite app shows planes landing and taking off at Gatwick, including the flight numbers.

The ongoing use of Newdigate's roads for cycling events was discussed. Replies had been received from Mole Valley and the Police in response to the Parish Council's letter of complaint following the Dulux cycle event on 11 May when hundreds of cyclists packed Newdigate's roads, intent on enjoying themselves, with no regard for the rights of the residents who wish to enjoy the peaceful rural environment and go about their normal lives without interference. Cyclists do not need permission to use public roads for their sporting events and the organisers had given no advance notice to the Police, or Surrey County Council, or Mole Valley District Council, or the Parish Council.

Hot on the heels of the Dulux cycling event, Newdigate's roads were also included as part of the route on the Crawley Wheelers annual cycle race on the afternoon of Saturday 8 June. This being classed as a race, rather than an event, it was properly run with marshalls. I spoke to the organiser and asked why he had not consulted with the local council before setting the date, or given advance notice of the race to anyone. He said that sometimes these events are notified to the Surrey Constabulary, but not on this occasion. The race involved closing roads several times over the course of the afternoon during which the Village Day was taking place, to enable 60 cyclists to take part in the race.

Still on roads, large events held at the Surrey Oaks have been growing in popularity and there have been complaints about overflow parking obstructing the footpaths. This matter is being actively considered currently and it is hoped to provide overflow parking in a nearby location for future large events.

Other matters considered at Monday's meeting included the decision to engage a local craftsman to make two oak noticeboards, as ready-made boards constructed of composite materials would have been more expensive. Various roadworks are taking place all over the area currently, several of which are having to be postponed owing to the rainy weather. Let's hope that this horrible weather, similar to that suffered by the troops at the D Day landings in June 1944, will be followed by a sunny July!

**The next Meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 8 July at 8pm**

**Public attendance at our meetings is very welcome**

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Clerk to the Council  
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